



Volume 87 • Issue 2 • February 2017

MESSENGER



“Sermon on the Mount”
at Herzogenbuchsee Reformed church

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Pastor's Ponderings

by Rev. Sandy Olewine



When my vacation plans last month took a turn due to severe weather in Yosemite National Park and along the Central California Coast, I scrambled for some ideas of local things to do. A friend shared an internet list of 30 “quirky” Los Angeles sites to prod my consideration. One was the ‘Chandelier Tree’ in Silver Lake.

A quick fifteen minute evening drive from downtown Pasadena, my friend and I made a serendipitous trip to find this quintessential LA-kind of thing. As we turned left from Rowena Blvd on to West Silver Lake Dr., the tree was easy to spot and brought an immediate gasp of delight from both of us. The Cypher tree has over 30 chandeliers hanging in it. Different styles and shapes adorn the branches, all softly glowing in the night. Parking the car, we got out to enjoy the tree up close. A couple walked by and they also stopped to wander under the branches, asking if we could take a picture of them in front of the tree. As I stood beneath the various lights, I could imagine dinner tables beneath them, hear the clinking of glasses and the laughter of guests. It was so peaceful under the tree. Love itself seemed palpable.

The owner of the home, Adam Tenenbaum, started with three chandeliers that he got when material was being trashed from a show on which he had worked. After hanging them up, he realized how wonderful it would be if the chandeliers actually worked. Having electrical training, he took the lamps apart, rebuilt them and hung them again. His vision began to develop. He thought 30 chandeliers felt like the number that would honor the old tree, looking beautiful without being gaudy.

Initially the lamps were on branches over his property. But, it all changed when he added one to a branch hanging over the street. He understood that this was a public space and hanging a chandelier there invited comment about the tree from others. And comments did come. People were filled with joy. People found it inspiring and whimsical. Neighborhood children began naming the lamps according to what they looked like. A few years ago a donation ‘meter’ was added so the public could contribute to the electric bill for having the light shine for four hours every night.

In a short video a neighbor made, Tenenbaum said, “There is something about light that is magical, that cuts across generations. All the neighbors and kids come by and feel free to play here, hang here. You get young, old, middle who just come by because they feel welcome here; my home becomes public domain.” (<https://vimeo.com/69527636>)

His words about light and community struck a chord with me. We are in the season of light. In these Sundays after Epiphany, the scripture texts highlight how Jesus is the Light of the World. They invite us to recognize how that Light causes us to see the world differently, to be in the world differently. This month, we’ll focus our attention on what we’ve come to call the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). It is, in essence, Jesus’ manifesto. Borg and Crossan, in their book, *The First Christmas*, share that in these three chapters Matthew establishes Jesus as the new Moses, giving a new law. He doesn’t abolish the old law but fulfills it, expands it, and radicalizes it. In these verses, Jesus describes what those who live in Light are able to do - should do - through the power of the Spirit and the strength of God’s grace as children of the Light. In essence, the Sermon on the Mount calls us to create community where all are welcome to ‘hang’ and know acceptance and joy.

Just like under the Chandelier Tree, when we gather in the true Light, we experience a space of safety, of delight, of inclusion. We discover an intergenerational, life-giving community. When we share the Light, it makes people want to see it, to wander in its presence. When we live in the light, it brings laughter and imagination to life. When we witness to the Light, people want to contribute, to share what they have, so that others can know the Light.

In these last weeks after Epiphany, before we begin our lenten walk, we ask ourselves whether we are becoming children of the Light. Are we shining with it in such a way that others are drawn to it as the magi were so long ago? Will we stretch ourselves to live in the Light, creating a just, compassionate, merciful, forgiving and loving community? Will we give our resources so that others can come to see the Light?

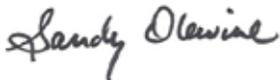
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As my visit to the Chandelier Tree ended, I ran back to the car to gather all the quarters I had to put in the donation meter. I had to be part of helping to sustain these lights so others could experience this wondrous tree. My prayer for this month is that each of us will feel that same type of eagerness to be in the Light, to tell others about the Light, and to share our resources so others can experience the Light.

If we do, then we'll all be able to gather under the Tree of Life, lifting our glasses, laughing and loving one another, as we bask in the feast illuminated by the Light of the World.

Peace,



Rev. Sandra Olewine



PASSIONATE WORSHIP



February 5 (Fifth Sunday after Epiphany) “Getting in Shape”

Rev. Sandra K. Olewine preaching, Primary text: Matthew 5:1-12

Starting today, Rev. Olewine begins a four-week sermon series based on selections from the Gospel of Matthew known as the Sermon on the Mount. These three chapters, in many ways, are Jesus’ marching orders to all who would seek to follow him. The Beatitudes, which are read today, provide an overview to the foundations of being a disciple of God’s Living Word.



February 12 (Sixth Sunday after Epiphany) “Have a Righteous Day”

Rev. Sandra K. Olewine preaching, Primary Texts: Isaiah 58:1-12 and Matthew 5:13-20

The Beatitudes remind us that Jesus’ call to follow begins in blessing. We are beloved of God. But recognizing that reality immediately calls us to a new way of life, one that honors who God has created us to be. However, that way of being can feel daunting. It is certainly easier to be “salt stuck in a shaker” or a “light under a bucket.” But, Jesus wants more for us, more from us, than that. He desires that we live a righteous life so that we glorify the God who blesses us each day.



February 19 (Seventh Sunday after Epiphany) “A Matter of Life and Death”

Rev. Sandra K. Olewine preaching, Primary Texts: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Matthew 5:21-24, 38-48

The next sections of the Sermon on the Mount get “into the weeds” of living a righteous life, Jesus-style. Examining the acceptable ethical and moral benchmarks of the day, Jesus sets the bar at a completely new level. Walking the walk isn’t for the faint-hearted, but it is for those who want to live as part of God’s new covenantal community. What we choose to do is a matter of life or death!



February 26 (Eighth Sunday after Epiphany) “Built to Last”

Rev. Sandra K. Olewine, preaching; Primary Texts: Isaiah 49:8-16 and Matthew 7:7-14, 21-29

In our day, planned obsolescence is the norm. Stuff is designed to fail and to fall apart. But Jesus says in the closing words of the Sermon on the Mount, that his manifesto provides a foundation that will last, surviving every storm, every twist, and every season. Isaiah says we need not worry whatever may come, because God has inscribed us on God’s palm, never to be forgotten or forsaken.

Hannah Goodman Moving Onward and Upward

At the end of January the Chancel Choir said ‘goodbye’ to Hannah Goodman, their soprano section leader of nearly three years. Hannah’s singing career is taking off in new and exciting directions. Last fall she appeared in “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” at La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts and will be traveling to several similar long-term engagements across the country in the coming year. Sadly for us, her success makes it impossible for her to be present with the choir every Thursday and Sunday. We will miss her beautiful voice and also her grace and collegiality.

Hannah adds, “It has been an honor and a pleasure to sing at FUMC Pasadena for the past three years. So many of you have touched my life in so many ways, and I truly thank you for welcoming me so warmly into this wonderful community.”

Auditions for a new section leader are underway. Watch next month’s Messenger for more details.



Third@First Features Organist Hans Hielscher

Organist Hans Hielscher will perform at the Sanctuary organ on Saturday, February 18 at 4:00 p.m.

Hans has been the organist and carillonneur at the Marktkirche in Wiesbaden, Germany, since 1979 and is an internationally-known concert organist. He studied

at the Detmold State Academy of Music as well as in Paris/Rouen, France. He has performed in all European countries, the United States, and in many other countries around the world. He has been featured on radio and television broadcasts, 22 CD recordings, and is a published author and composer. We are grateful that he has included the Third@First Concert Series in his tour of the U.S. this month.



Choirs of Two “First Churches” in Lenten Concert

The Chancel Choir of First UMC, Pasadena, will combine with the choir of First UMC, Glendale, to offer two free concerts featuring Maurice Duruflé’s Requiem:

Sunday, March 12 at 4:00 p.m. at First UMC, Glendale (134 N. Kenwood St.)
Accompanied by orchestra; Nancy Sulahian, conducting

Saturday, March 18 at 4:00 p.m. at First UMC Pasadena
Accompanied by organist Aaron Shows; Gregory Norton, conducting
(part of the Third@First Concert Series)

About 45 minutes in length, the Requiem is a Mass of remembrance composed by the French organist Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) in the 1940’s and dedicated to the memory of his father. As with much of Duruflé’s music, the Requiem is based on ancient Gregorian chant melodies and this give the music a peaceful “ancient/modern” quality that is very appealing. This has contributed to the piece’s popularity with singers and listeners alike.



Youth Choir Cabaret 2017

Friday, February 24 and Saturday, February 25, 6:30 p.m.

Tickets go on sale Sunday, February 5!

Enjoy a delicious dinner followed by selections from the Broadway stage, past and present, featuring our talented youth. Your attendance makes possible this year’s choir tour to Washington, D.C.

\$20 Adults with dinner, \$10 Children under 10 years, \$10 Show without dinner

RISK-TAKING MISSION & SERVICE



Bad Weather Shelter

There is one more month planned for the Bad Weather Shelter. On Tuesday nights in February, FUMC will continue our support. The Shelter provides a safe, dry and warm place for homeless individuals during the winter season on rainy nights or when the temperature drops below 40 degrees. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to be Christ's hands and heart in action.

Volunteers need to arrive at the Pasadena Covenant Church (539 N. Lake Avenue) at 6:30 p.m. to set up

tables for dinner and finish preparation of food. Guests enter the hall at 8:00 p.m. and are registered. After the hot meal, volunteers help put away the tables and set up the cots.

If you can be present on one or more Tuesday evenings this month to serve, or could prepare and deliver a meal for this important ministry for our homeless neighbors, please contact Mikala Rahn, 626.688.7961, mikala@learningworkscharter.com.



Shepherds Ministry Looking for Shepherds

Do you have the gifts of presence, of listening, of companionship, of time? The Shepherd's ministry is a way to keep folks connected to the community of the church who no longer are able to come to worship, classes or fellowship groups. The Shepherds have "lambs" whom they visit on a regular basis – usually once a month. On

special occasions they take gifts such as flowers or treats, and at times share the sacrament of Holy Communion with them. The ministry also needs Shepherds that can keep up correspondence by phone calls and cards. If this ministry appeals to you, please contact Pastor Connie Millsap, cmillsap@fumcpasadena.org.



GYTTE Team

On January 27, eight intrepid members of FUMC left for a 10-day work-study team experience with "Give Ye Them to Eat," an Advance Special Project of the United Methodist Church, (number 07629A). The eight team members are: J.P. and Diane Harris, Tommy Elrod, Noelle Boardman, Doss Jones, Connie Millsap and Rosalie Niemann. Joining us is Sheldon Haase from Glendale FUMC. In the fall of 1997, Rosalie went on her first of these teams representing FUMC, so that is why this team is billed as the Twentieth Anniversary Team!

Working with Mexican and American Methodists, this program, based outside the city of Puebla is an integrated development program for the rural sector of south-central Mexico. The team experience is known as the AWARE program (Alternative Work/study And Reality Experience). In our 10 days team members will witness the reality of life in rural Mexico, looking at the needs of villagers and farming families as well as the church's response to those needs.

Work the team may do will include: adding cobblestones to a dirt road, clearing land for planting crops, painting the new look-out tower, and sewing projects at the "Tree of Life" Training Center, a 40 acre farm and classroom complex a few minutes from the little town of Tlancualpican. In addition, members may help with the construction of a structure at the high school in nearby Axochiapan.

We are fortunate that Noelle is staying longer in Mexico to act as a GYTTE staff intern for the UMC group from Virginia that will come two weeks after our team. So her return will be February 26, 2017.

Please keep these members in your prayers for safe travel, wisdom and flexibility, strength, courage and love.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT



You're going to Love this month!

February is one of our biggest month's of the year! We have two large events: 1) Winter Camp and 2) Cabaret Weekend. Winter Camp will take place over President's Day Weekend at Sky Meadows. The theme for this year's Winter Camp is "Rooted and Grounded in Love." Cabaret will consist of two nights, followed by a community Cabaret the next day! It's going to be a great time; the youth and their families have been working incredibly hard. Come enjoy the festivities!

- 2.5 - Choir Rehearsal Only
- 2.12 - Choir Rehearsal + Etiquette Training
- 2.18-20 - Winter Camp (\$75)
- 2.22 - Special Wednesday Cabaret Rehearsal
- 2.24-25 - Cabaret
- 2.26 - Cabaret Away



Intergenerational Baking Party

On Tuesday, February 7, from 6:30 to 8 pm in the kitchen and Fellowship Hall, all families and kids and any other members of the church family who would like

to join in are invited to come for a light dinner and baking activities. Items prepared will be sold on Sunday, February 12 at the children's annual cupcake sale to benefit Friends In Deed.



Directories and Name Tags

We will be updating the directory with new member information and your information if it has changed – send information to cmillsap@fumcpasadena.org by February 12.

If your name tag is worn out, misplaced, or you have never had one now is the time to get one made (if you are a regular worshiper we would love you to have one). Send your name to cmillsap@fumcpasadena.org *and*

[Maggie Audley maudley@fumcpasadena.org](mailto:MaggieAudleymaudley@fumcpasadena.org) so we can order one for you.

We have a wonderful ministry of greeters and ushers who are the front line of "welcome" to God's house of love. In reality, we are all the front line of welcome to the many guests who come and worship God among us. One of the Ways to facilitate welcoming is to wear your name tag.



Intergenerational Valentines Party

Four-weeks of Tuesday Family Fun Nights will begin with a Valentine's Party in Fellowship Hall on February

14 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. with cooking and craft activities. Everyone is invited. A light dinner will be served. Eat cookies. Have fun!



Spring Drama

What's this spring's "drama" production? It's time again for the All-church Talent Show! This is a "heads up" to dust off your trumpet, dig out your dancing shoes, practice your vocal solo or memorize your favorite poem so you can be

part of this spring's intergenerational, all-church talent show. The date is yet to be determined but will be in March and all ages are welcome to join in. Invite your friends. For more information, contact pamelamarx@sbcglobal.net.



New Discipleship Classes

Spring opportunities to grow in discipleship:

- **New Attitude** meeting on Tuesday nights, from 7:00-8:00 p.m., from February 14 – April 4, in the Library (open to teens to 90s). Are you ready to start the year off with a new perspective, with a New Attitude about life and faith and how to address the challenges that confront your living a healthy and fulfilling life and a new way to address faith building? We'll stretch out the week's kinks and tensions (seated, low impact stretches; good for sharpening the mind). We'll share affirmations and joys. We'll learn about what's behind various challenges, and how to recognize them so they can be avoided. We will learn a new way to view adversity - as an opportunity to see a new way to handle the unexpected. It's a class for building empowerment of our most precious assets - our lives and our souls. We'll become self empowered and more confident.
- An adult six-week **Lenten Study**, Tuesday evenings, March 7-April 11, 7-8:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge following the opportunity to join a light supper in Fellowship Hall with the children and family ministry.

OTHER CLASS OPPORTUNITIES will be coming as we move into March and April: *Five Marks of a Methodist* and *Disciple Fast Track – New Testament*.

ON-GOING INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT GROUPS welcome newcomers in their fellowship and study

- **Spirit Seekers** just started a study of *Three Simple Rules*, by Philip Job. All adults are welcome to come on Sunday mornings, 8:50-9:50 a.m., in the Church Lounge. Contact: Jean Parham, jparhamlr@aol.com.
- **M & Ms** – Monday Mornings meet weekly from 10:30 a.m.-noon, Library. Contact: Rosalie Niemann, niemann007@sbcglobal.net.
- **Young Adults** meet on Tuesday evenings, 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Aldersgate Room, are currently studying *The Letter from James*. Contact facilitator: Stephanie Jones, sljase@gmail.com.
- **Agape** – Parents of Young Children meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month, in the Library at 9:15 a.m. This is a time for spiritual support and fellowship. In addition to celebrating milestones in each other's lives through social events, and opportunities of outreach.
- **Sunday Night at the Movies** – The last Sunday of the month is movie night with a light supper beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Church Lounge. The movie begins at 6:15 p.m. and is followed by a brief discussion time. February's movies is *The Chosen*.
- **Thursday Lectionary Bible Study** – From 12 noon - 1 p.m., Pastor Sandy facilitates a discussion on the lectionary tests that will be drawn upon for the net week's sermon. Join us whenever you can over the lunch hour in the church lounge.



Building Blocks for Local Church Vitality

On Saturday, February 25, 8:15 a.m. - 4 p.m., Cal Pac Annual Conference

Lay Servant Ministries presents **Building Blocks for Local Church Vitality** at Claremont United Methodist Church (211 W. Foothill Blvd., Claremont, CA 91711).

This conference will promote lay servant awareness and encourage lay servants and other laity to explore ways to bring more vitality to their local churches through the use of prayer ministries, small groups, inspirational music and improved ways to deliver a message. Energize the church

from within in preparation of taking Christ's message into the world.

The keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Jacqui Thomas King whose address will be "Embrace Vitality." There are also four class sessions available including one led by our own Rev. Gregory Norton.

Registration is due Friday, February 17 and costs \$45. For more information and online registration please visit calpacumc.org/ism.



Mardi Gras Pasadena Style

It's time for a party! On Tuesday, February 28, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. on our Colorado Blvd. patio we

will gather for our Third Annual Mardi Gras Pasadena Style Celebration. We'll dance, play, create and eat as we prepare to turn our hearts and lives to a Holy Lent the next day on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

This is a great intergenerational evening of fellowship, pancakes and lenten crafts. We'll decorate this year's Alleluia Banner, preparing to 'bury it' until Easter Sunday. Come whenever you can – activities and food will be ongoing until 7:30 pm, when we will close with a short worship activity.



United Methodist Women

The UMW pin is very special. It is given out with discretion to those who have shared their gifts of initiative, passion and vitality to make a difference within our church and the community near and far. Recently, it has been an honor to give out this pin to Willa Dalrymple and Pam Marx.

The official emblem for the United Methodist Church combines the cross and a flame symbolizing the Holy Spirit. The emblem for United Methodist Women (UMW) likewise includes the cross and the flame.

The cross and the flame are ancient symbols of the church dating back to the days of Christ and Pentecost. Each evokes images of sacrifice, witness and service. They

remind us of both the opportunities and obligations of discipleship. Paul's ancient words to Timothy have fresh and contemporary meaning: "... I now remind you to stir into flame the gift of God which is within you..."(2 Timothy 1:6a, New English Bible)

The shape of the emblem is likewise symbolic. It is fluid and free-flowing, suggesting change and mobility. As organized groups of women, this has been our heritage. UMW is often at the forefront of movements for change, at times supporting the projects initiated by others, but always aware of the times and striving to move with them rather than be overwhelmed by them.

-Bev DeVoy, Privileged Leader UMW

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY



Muleji Village High School Update

by: Deb Sheperd

Thank you, everyone, for your support of the Muleji Village High School in the Democratic Republic of Congo! We have built six classrooms for \$40,000 over the past two years. Classes are being held for all students from grades 7 through 12! We are now on the home stretch, making great progress to finish the school. For this final phase of the construction we are building a computer room/library, administration office and storage room, and bathrooms for a cost of \$30,000.

Our fund raising events over the Christmas holidays to build the Muleji High School were a resounding success!

Our Africa Ministry Market, headed by Eric Frey, raised \$644. Our Alternative Christmas Market, spearheaded by Wanda Gae Stefansson, raised \$1755 and our Christmas offering raised \$5365 bringing the total to \$7764. Finally, in January, we had additional contributions of \$3200 from Florida, Ohio and California, bringing the grand total to \$10,964! We are more than a third of the way to our goal of \$30,000 and finishing the school.

Thank you all! Please, don't forget our Muleji School as we continue the push to complete the school – building new opportunities and relationships between Africa and America!



Realigning Responsibilities for Better Effectiveness

To better manage work flow and effectiveness, the Pastor and SPRC in consultation with three of FUMC's lay employees, are realigning responsibilities for the Business Manager, Office Manager and Communications Coordinator.

Tim Sun, Business Manager and Treasurer, continues as Treasurer for FUMC but will have new responsibilities for Stewardship Growth and Legacy Gift Development. Maggie Audley will become the Building Manager, supervising custodial staff, coordinating with the Building

and Grounds Committee, and handling all scheduling and facility use requests. Steve Vredenburg will now manage all communication production, including the weekly Sunday bulletin.

These changes help eliminate duplication and error by assigning all work in an area to one person. The transitions were begun in January and should be fully complete by the end of this month. We ask for your patience as we live into these changes and make adjustments as needed.



Thanks to Pancake Breakfast Volunteers

The 2017 Parade Day pancake breakfast was a huge success because of the hard work of many volunteers. More than 850 people were served breakfast on the morning of January 2, with an estimated \$5,800 raised from presales through Sharp Seating and at the door. The most commonly heard comment from volunteers and visitors was, "I can't believe how well organized you are and how smoothly everything has gone."

Thanks to the following people who helped make this event a success:

Fran Banta, Jonathan Bias, Cathy Boardman, Steph Burke, Thelma Calantes, Scott Carpenter, Suzanne Carpenter, Neal Dougherty, Jim Doyel, Curt Elrod, Tommy Elrod, Daniel Enriquez, Paul Floyd, Irmgard Frey, Bernadette Fritz, Larry Fritz, LiAnna Fritz, Marilyn Fritz, Regine Fritz, Charmaine Fritz, Junko Ueno Garrett, Jennifer Gaylord, Barbara Gorton, Woody Hain, Diane Harris, J. P. Harris, Mary Beth Hayes, Brian In, Kendall In, Danny Jamall, Ryan Jamall, Shaun Jamall, Adrian Johnson, Andreas Koese, Bill Larson, Emilee Larson, Ben Martin, Pam Marx, Tricia McRae, Meg Middleman, Connie Millsap, John Nieto, Greg Norton, Sandy Olewine, Marco Palma, David Parham, Jean Parham, Carl Peron, Gerry Poulin, Mikala Rahn, Wayne Schenck, Deb Shepherd, Aaron Shows, Ricardo Soto-Lopez, Wanda Gae Stefansson, Isaac Sun, Naomi Sun, Josiah Sun, Sue Sun, Juli Thompson, Gary Webster, Wendell Webster, Nadine Wittry, Sarah Wright, Heinz Zaiser, Rosemarie Zaiser, Pat Zeider, Steve Zeider.





2017 Budget Approved

The Finance Committee presented the 2017 Budget for Mission and Ministry to the Church Conference on January 8, 2017. The clergy salary and compensation packages were approved at the Charge Conference in November 2016, so separate action was not required on that item. The budget was adopted unanimously and allows for new staffing in Christian Education, additional funds for evangelism & hospitality and increases in lay staff salaries. Because the new staff position doesn't begin until July, the Finance Committee will use the first

quarter of the year to a) request the Trustees consider contributing an additional \$15,000 and b) raise an additional \$13,000 from the congregation. If those funds are not forthcoming, the Finance Committee will make adjustments in the budget in consultation with the SPRC.

Below is the summary 2017 budget. If you have any questions or would like to see the detailed budget, please contact Tim Sun, tsun@fumcpasadena.org, (626) 796-0157 or Roger Wilander, chair of Finance, rwilander@aol.com.

Account Number	Revenue Account Description	2016 Budget	2017 Recommended Budget	Notes for year 2017
40001-00-00-00	General Contributions	570,000	545,000	
40001-00-00-00	Quasi-Int'l/Gen. Contributions		13,000	
40001-00-00-01	Church Pkge	8,000	8,000	
40001-00-00-02	Sunday School Offering	400	400	
40001-00-00-02	Parish Forum Offering			
41005-00-00-00	Foundation Pledge	440,000	449,000	Foundation Income withdrawal \$50K
41005-00-00-00	Trustee Pledge	250,355	252,994	Trustee's vote for 6%
42001-00-00-00	Facilities Use	100,000	140,000	
44001-00-00-00	Catholic Ministry Grants	250	250	
44002-00-00-00	Mission & Evangelism			
	Additional Trustee Grant		15,000	We request will be used to the trustees, if it is accepted.
44005-00-00-00	Misc. Income	5,300	5,300	
Total Revenue		1,381,905	1,428,944	
Expenditures				
Expenses				
Personnel	Sub Total	293,302	293,215	
Administration	Labor	137,459	148,913	
	Non-Labor	79,990	68,136	
	Sub Total	217,449	217,048	
Worship Committee	Sub Total	12,000	12,000	
Reconciling Ministry	Sub Total			removed it to Mission
Children Ministries	Sub Total	3,700	5,800	
Youth Ministries	Sub Total	14,500	14,500	
Adult Ministries	Sub Total	4,800	4,200	
Young Adult	Sub Total	2,000	1,500	
Camp Ministry	Sub Total			
Evangelism/Hospitality/Outreach	Sub Total	16,100	18,100	
Library	Labor	4,698	4,472	
	Non-Labor	750	750	
	Sub Total	5,448	5,222	
Rector/Vice Ministry	Labor	10,514	-	
	Non-Labor	40,000	3,000	without increasing
	Sub Total	50,514	3,000	
Communications	Labor	33,027	33,118	
	Non-Labor	29,457	22,315	
	Sub Total	62,484	55,433	
Music Department	Sub Total	134,989	147,741	
	Programs	18,600	21,250	
	Sub Total	154,289	168,991	
Miscellaneous/Cont. Appropriation	Sub Total	147,294	158,133	
Finance, Justice & Mission Board/Sec.	Sub Total	17,000	17,000	
Building & Grounds	Labor	104,864	87,127	
	Non-Labor	366,422	371,120	
	Sub Total	471,286	458,247	
Total Expenses	Labor	675,084	714,585	
	Non-Labor	752,454	717,803	
	Grand Total	1,427,538	1,432,388	
Church Grand Total Net Revenue Over Expense		(36,232.91)	(3,444.18)	

Why Do We Do It That Way?

Brief discussions about the way we worship at First United Methodist Church

Prayers of the People by Gregory Norton

It is no obvious or “natural” matter to resituate our lives with reference to the holy power and purpose of God. But that is what we do in prayer. And when we pray, we find our hearts opened, our secrets exposed, and our desires known. We arrive at a readiness to love God perfectly and to magnify God’s name in the world.

—Walter Brueggemann in *Prayers for a Privileged People*



The pattern for the Prayer of the People is worked out in many published versions found in the prayer books of various churches. Our clergy here at Pasadena First spend time weaving a prayer that incorporates the basic pattern with the week’s specific concerns and themes. In smaller churches, the prayer may be built right in the context of worship – as the gathered people informally name the joys

and concerns in their hearts and minds that day. The process is less important than the prayer itself – that it be focused on others and that it directs our minds to those things that we believe as a community of faith. Such a prayer adds our ascent to the Word that we have heard proclaimed and prepares us to re-connect with the concerns of the world as we go forth from worship.

Walter Brueggemann describes it this way:

As we acknowledge our privilege, name our anxieties, and recognize our brothers and sisters, we are surprised by a call from God. Rather than autonomous agents of self-regard in the world, we are gifted by, belong with, and answer to another. This other, the Holy One, sends our life off in new directions . . . out beyond our privilege. Thus, such prayer is a summons to get our minds off ourselves, to ponder the God who gives us life, and who dispatches us for the sake of the lives of others.

—from *Prayers for a Privileged People*

Like me, you have probably heard people say, “prayer changes things.” When I was a child my understanding of prayer was that somehow God was listening for my request to “change things” and would magically intervene in my world. I have outgrown that understanding of God, but I still believe in the power of prayer. Prayer takes many forms in the private lives of believers. But it is also one of the things we do together every time we worship.

The “Prayers of the People” is usually among the longest prayers each Sunday. In the order of the service it follows the proclamation of the Word of God (scripture readings and sermon) and begins the section of the service when we respond to having heard that Word. (Other elements of that section might include the offering of our tithes and gifts, welcoming new members and the sacraments of Holy Communion and/or Baptism.) It is a prayer we make together, giving thanks to God and naming petitions and intercessions before God. As we pray we lift up our sisters and brothers in the Church – in our denomination and beyond. We pray for our political leaders, for our nation and for the world at large. Our prayers of intercession focus on those we hold dear – friends and family who are ill or grieving we pray for by name. We remember those who have died and give thanks for the witness their lives made in our midst.

The Prayers of the People remind us that Christ calls us to live in community. When we re-order our thoughts and priorities toward the needs of others we are changed. That change in us has the power to transform the world. This is why we worship. This is why “prayer changes things.”

On the Horizon

February 7

Intergenerational Baking Party

February 14

Tuesday Family Fun Valentines Party

February 18

Third@First: Hans Hielscher

February 18-20

Youth Winter Camp

February 24-25

Cabaret

February 25

Building Blocks for Local Church Vitality

February 28

Mardi Gras Pasadena Style

Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

8:55 AM SpiritSeekers
Church Lounge
9:00 a.m. Children, Youth, and
Young Adult Sunday
School

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

After Coffee Hour
Fellowship Hall

MONDAYS

7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
Great Hall

TUESDAYS

10:00 AM Social Services
Great Hall
Norma's Nook
3rd Floor

WEDNESDAYS

9:30 AM Prayer Quilt
Church Lounge

SATURDAYS

9:30 AM Quilt Ministry
Church Lounge

FUMC Prayer List

for healing:

Harry Audley, David Beach, Susan Beckett, Joan Bothast, Jane Bousel, Brent Bowers, David Brooks, Eric Brubaker, Liz Brummel, Nancy Bumb, Marcus Chone, Peggy Cox, David Cupp, Willa Dalrymple, Juliet DeGuzman, Mike Devlin, Emily Dommel, Joyce Dorn, Penny Eiker, Nancy Elrod, Brandi Figari, Carlos & Katie Figari, Khan Fischer, Steve Gothold, Sofia Hain, Sallie Higginbotham, Marilyn Lemp, Fidella Mackey, Viola Mallory, Rev. George Mann, Rev. Alan Mark, Brittney Medina, Dick McDonald, Yolanda Peña, Oswaldo Ramirez, Susan Rehm, Tim Sun, Carol Tavis, Rev. Mark Ulrickson, Howard Underwood, Phyllis Underwood, Deb Waskowiak, Becky Williams, Eric Wolf, Benny Woodell, Sarah Wright

in Memoriam:

Anne Zeiss;

Virginia Mischevich, grandmother of Ali Mischevich, friend of Kendra Millsap



We are a Christian community seeking intentionally to welcome all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, and education, socio-economic or marital status. We practice God's ministry of reconciliation through worship, devotion, compassion, and justice for all who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination. Our greatest challenge and only hope is to receive and share God's all-encompassing love.



FIRST UNITED
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