
Once a Methodist minister, Assemblyman Gordon now represents the heart of Silicon Valley. Previously he served for 13 years on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, and before that spent two decades creating one of the most effective non-profits serving youth in the county. He continues to work toward government accountability, environmental protection, effective regional partnerships (including the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust), accessible health care coverage and quality public education. A remarkably high percentage of his introduced bills are signed into law by the Governor. Rich is a fourth generation Californian—born and raised in San Mateo County.

July 17 — Dr. Jennifer Martinez: Politics of Poverty.

Since 2001, Jennifer has been an organizer with the PICO National Network and now serves as Executive Director of Faith in Action (formerly PIA). Jennifer has a BA from Stanford University and an MA and PhD from the University of Nottingham in England. Her graduate research focused on social movement strategies in the struggle for housing and land rights in Venezuela and South Africa. Jennifer has several published works and, in addition to being a participant in faith-based movement-building, continues to write about the ways in which social movements transform people and places.

July 24 — Peggy Jensen: Local Politics and the Jobs and Housing Gap.

Deputy County Manager Peggy Jensen’s assignments include the Health System, Human Resources, Office of Sustainability, Child Support Services, the County’s agile organization, affordable housing, homelessness and livable wage initiatives. She also sits on the Health Plan of San Mateo’s Health Commission, the San Mateo Medical Center Board of Directors and the San Mateo County Library Joint Powers Authority Operations Committee.
JULY 31 — MIKE ARMACOST: US POLITICS FROM A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE.

Mike Armacost has served as a member of the National Security Council to handle East Asian and Chinese affairs under the Carter administration, U. S. Ambassador to Japan, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, and Ambassador to the Philippines during a critical period of political upheaval during the Ferdinand Marcos presidency. He also served as Acting Secretary of State from January 20, 1989 to January 25, 1989. Later Armacost also served as president of Washington D.C’s Brookings Institution, the nation’s oldest think tank and a leader in research on politics, government, international affairs, economics, and public policy.

AUGUST 7 — JIM GRANUCCI: THE POLITICS OF GUN OWNERSHIP.

Jim has experienced many downsides of irresponsible gun ownership including his young cousin being killed in a gun accident, being shot himself, and witnessing the tragedies of murders and suicide by guns. When Police Chief of San Carlos, Jim sponsored a measure to require gun owners to install safety locks on their weapons—until NRA threats killed the proposal. After forty years of carrying a gun as a police officer, he directed the San Mateo County Forensic Lab through a coveted international accreditation. Now he serves as Law Enforcement Liaison for CORA (the county’s domestic violence prevention agency) and coaches track at San Mateo High School.

AUGUST 14 — SENATOR JERRY HILL: CURRENT POLITICS IN CALIFORNIA.

Senator Hill joined the state Legislature’s upper house with a strong track record of leadership consisting of over 20 years of public service as an elected official—as the mayor of the city of San Mateo, he served on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and he was a member of the state Assembly. While serving in local government he preserved thousands of acres of open space, established one of the state’s first anti-smoking ordinances, expanded health care coverage for over 17,000 children in the county, and created a new homeless shelter in San Mateo County.

AUGUST 21 — JOE DUNBAR: WAR ON DRUGS... OR RACE?

If each of us volunteered as much as Joe Dunbar, just imagine what the world would be like! He racked up over 300 community service hours during high school—not counting all his hours at CCSM and with UCC youth programs. Oceana High required an extensive “Senior Exhibition” that he will share with us (so we don’t have to read his 25-page research paper). Once you hear him, you will understand why his teacher said he “knocked it out of the park.” This fall Joe heads to the California Maritime Academy to study International Business, with hopes of future involvement in national politics.

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

July 10  I Wait For You. Nicole Lamarche preaching. CHURCH PICNIC.
July 17  How to Plan the Perfect Dinner. Jorge Perry Bautista preaching.
July 24  Unexpected Companions, Unexpected Blessings. Penny Nixon preaching.
July 31  Making Agreements  Penny Nixon preaching.
Immediately following services on Sunday, July 10, join us for an all-church BBQ at San Mateo Central Park! CCSM is providing the BBQ and we’re asking everyone else to bring sides as follows, based on last name:

- A-I: starchy sides (rice, beans, pasta)
- J-R: dessert
- S-Z: green or fruit salad, vegetables, fruit

This event is a fun one for everyone and is such a great time to meet and chat with old friends and new. Please join us!

What gifts does your generation bring to the world? Are you from the Great Generation, a Baby Boomer, Gen X or a Millennial? Come for a fun and inspirational sermon series with each week featuring the music and ethos of each generation and a look at the spiritual gifts each brings to community.
TALK TO ME!

RECLAIMING CONVERSATION
Saturday, August 27 at CCSM
10 AM- 1 PM, Lunch provided

Join Penny Nixon and Zoe Mullery as they team up to bring you a lively and engaging morning focused on Sherry Turkle's book Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in a Digital Age.

Renowned media scholar Sherry Turkle investigates how a flight from conversation undermines our relationships, creativity, and productivity—and why reclaiming face-to-face conversation can help us regain lost ground.

We live in a technological universe in which we are always communicating. And yet we have sacrificed conversation for mere connection. The book is not an anti-technology creed by any means, but a call to intentionality and wisdom in the ways we (and our children) use technology to communicate, and to be thinking well about the practices that support genuine community and intimacy.

Please RSVP to pmasters@ccsm-ucc.org.

You guessed it—we'll also use Reclaiming Conversation as our August Book of the Month. We have copies in the church library for you to sign out.

ORDINATION OF JORGE BAUTISTA
SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 2:00 PM

Five years ago I joined the UCC and started seminary. Now I have finished seminary, and completed the ordination process in the UCC. I am finally going to be ordained in the life of the United Church of Christ! It has been quite a journey and I am so proud to be ordained in the UCC.

All of you are invited to the service on Saturday August 20th at 2 PM. So, please join me for my ordination because your presence will be a great blessing to me. Most importantly, thank you all for the support and love each one of you have given Rebecca and me these past few years. Look forward to seeing you there.
Peace,

Jorge P. Bautista

Learn to Ring

Have you ever been curious to see what it’s like to ring a bell with the bell choir? If so, we have several sessions set up to come and learn to do just that. Our members of the bell choir and I would love to teach anyone interested in learning the art of ringing bells.

Join us for one of the following Thursdays:
July 14, 28 & Aug. 11 & 25 from 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Ability to read music helpful, but not required and ages 10 & up are welcome. Any questions, please contact Lynnelle Bilsey at: lbilsey@lifemoves.org.

Learn to Sing

Vocal Boot Camp with Carl—learn the basics of singing in a safe group environment. Learn about intervals, reading music and how to use your voice. Most of all, have fun!

Wednesdays, August 17 and 24 at 7 pm

CCSM 101: Inquiry Class

Sunday, August 28th, 11:45 a.m.

We hope you’ve been enjoying CCSM's extravagant welcome. We are hosting an inquirer's class on Sunday, August 28th at 11:45am, right after worship. Lunch and childcare will be provided. The class send at 1:30 PM.

If you want to take the next step in your journey with CCSM, come enjoy lunch, conversation, and a presentation on who we are and how you might fit in. Hope to see you there!

RSVP to Penny at pnixon@ccsm-ucc.org or 650 343-3694.
In case you missed the annual meeting......

From Your Moderator

On behalf of the Board of Ministries, I am delighted to announce that at our annual Congregational Meeting on June 12th the congregation voted to call Jorge Bautista as our Minister of Community Engagement!

Upon returning to the meeting to learn the results of the vote, Jorge was met with resounding applause and cheers by those in attendance. We are thrilled to have been able to support Jorge on his journey to ordained ministry and look forward to his upcoming ordination service.

With this call, Jorge's role will remain the same. He will continue in his current capacity, with his pastoral responsibilities at CCSM and working closely with the Latino Ministry Team, to explore the potential to create a Latino ministry at CCSM, oriented to serving Latinos in our neighborhood and elsewhere in San Mateo. Jorge’s passion for this ministry work and for building a Latino congregation linked to CCSM is quite evident and palpable.

Please join me in congratulating Jorge and stay tuned for information on his upcoming ordination service on August 20th.

Jeanne

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT CHURCH SCHOOL THIS SUMMER!

We would love your support on Sunday mornings as a volunteer in our Church School classes. Adults are welcome to volunteer as Storytellers and Doorkeepers. High School youth are welcome to volunteer as Doorkeepers for our preschool/kindergarten class and for our grades 1-5 class. Middle school youth are welcome to volunteer as Doorkeepers for our preschool/ kindergarten class.

If you feel called to help out at Church School, contact Cynthia to explore whether this might be a good fit. cstarborn@ccsm-ucc.org
New

Backpacks
Build Self-Esteem

No back-to-school clothes shopping for the farm workers’ children! With so many hand-me-downs, those kids don’t sparkle on their first day back to class—unless they sport a new backpack. So let’s encourage the kids’ enthusiasm for learning by donating backpacks for them to tote their supplies. Puente is hoping for 100 for kindergarteners through high schoolers.

Can we do it? Yes, we can!

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS
The church office will be closed on Fridays for the months of June and July. Please stop by during regular office hours, Monday-Thursday.