



# THE PINE SEED

CCSM Family Connections

JULY 2017

## LOVE ME...

In 1982 when I was chaplain at Hillcrest Juvenile Hall, one of the detainees at handed me his adaptation of a Walter Rinder poem. I no longer remember the boy's name but his poem stays with me, maybe because of his sincere words or the earnest longing in his eyes. For him, love must have been in short supply.

### Love me...

- Love me...as I try to touch life but find my knowledge uncertain.
- Love me...in the shadows of my indecision, as I strive to gain experience.
- Love me...for the feelings in my heart, not the fears in my mind.
- Love me...in my search for truth though I may be misled by falsehoods.
- Love me...as I pursue my dreams sometimes confused by illusions.
- Love me...because I seek God's harmony, not man's discord.
- Love me...because we are the same even as we are different.
- Love me...with understanding, not with expectation but with encouragement.



## PLANTING SEEDS

And growing children! This summer the children are gathering outdoors for Children's Church—to create a spiritual garden within themselves and ultimately in front of the CE Building. So far activities have focused on our interconnections with all of nature, worms that turn organic leftovers (something worthless) into rich soil (something vital), and seeds that patiently wait for the best growing environment before they flourish. Together let's create that optimal environment for our "little seeds" to sprout at CCSM and home.



## CE BUILDING UPGRADE

After four years of meetings, the final decisions have been made and construction started to create a brand-new youth room designated *for teens only*—with their own microwave, ping pong table, mini-fridge, colorful bean bag chairs, and sink with hot water. The old youth room will now be the updated Multipurpose Room for larger gatherings, Music School, Girl Scouts and more. The new kitchen will sparkle. Thankfully Sue Bullis gave the seed money, and others have donated generously—but we are still short about \$45,000. Please consider investing in your children's future here at CCSM.



## JUNE and JULY COLLECTION: BACKPACKS

for the farmworkers' children at Puente



## FIFTEEN GO TO CAZ

More than the disciples! More than a dangerous dozen. Wonder what stories these CCSMers will tell when they return—experiencing God at Vesper Point, raiding another cabin, outwitting yellow jackets at mealtime? Actually, we should wonder what tales Patrick will share after he directs Junior Camp!



## MID-HIGH MEET-UPS

This summer mid-high students will meet fascinating church members for conversations, stories and occasional wacky advice. So, on Summer Sundays, mid-high students should head for the Fireplace Room after the Children’s Message in worship—except the first Sunday of each month, when they hang out with Patrick in the back row of the balcony.

## HIGH SCHOOL: JULY SPLASH

“Bring Your Bathing Suit to Church” Sunday on **July 16<sup>th</sup>**. After church, high schoolers will carpool to 136 Warren Road (near the Burlingame border) for lunch around Gary Steele’s pool (with a diving board!), singing karaoke, and playing foosball or basketball (or you can meet us there about noon). Patrick will send more details soon.

Then save **August 12**, for canoeing on the Russian River. Families welcome!



## WHAT IS HOTTER THAN HADES?

Fresno in the summer! In spite of the heat, the high schoolers moved a room full of donations down from a second-floor storage room at the Fresno Interdenominational Refuge Ministries (FIRM)—including a kitchen sink! They learned about how the drought had contributed to the death of hundreds of trees in the Sierras. They marveled at the diversity of cultures in a town seemingly in the middle of nowhere. They worshiped with Community UCC. Thank you, Fred Tileston, Sara Graves, and Patrick for the fun experience!



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## WHO IS OFF TO COLLEGE?

With blessings and scholarships from the Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Ministry, Jeremy Chang-Yoo, Kayla Hann, and Cammy Caverly trust their CCSM roots as they launch.

