



The Pine Tree

The Congregational Church of San Mateo

United Church of Christ

225 Tilton Avenue · San Mateo, California 94401

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A Word from Penny

On Sunday, June 14th, we experienced an amazing concert by our music department. Children, adults, and artists alike gave us a beautiful performance of the Song of Wisdom of Old Turtle. By the end of the performance we were inspired with the message: "God is all that we dream of and all that we seek and all that we came from and all that we can find. God is all that we dream of and all that we seek and all that we came from and all that we can find. GOD IS!"

God IS in each of us, in all of us.

Peace, Penny

LISTEN to Penny's sermon on Charleston here: http://ccsm-ucc.org/pod/sermon_2015_06_21.mp3



STAY CONNECTED

As we head into summer, I hope you enjoy good books, good friends, time with family and some old fashion relaxation. Tune in for sermon podcasts, take in a few moments to meditate on the poem in mid-week connections, call a church friend for coffee... and if you are out in nature, take in the beauty all around and remember the presence of spirit in all things.



Summer Speaker Series

July 12-August 16, 9:30am

We have a great group of presenters this year for our Summer Speaker Series. Join us at 9:30 a.m. before our worship service to engage topics from climate change to design innovation and to learn from folks in our community who are doing interesting things!

Here is what we have lined up so far:

- July 12:** *Memory and Alzheimer's*, presented by Peter Bailey
- July 19:** Doug Henton to present his research on Silicon Valley
- July 26:** *Capture, Compute, Create: The Future of Making Things* presented by Brian Matthews
- August 2:** *Big Foreign Policy Challenges for the Next President*, presented by Mike Armacost

Contact Joliene Wade Gatlin if you have questions, a topic to present, or if you would like more information (joliene.wade@gmail.com).



SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

- June 28:** *Wisdom of Generations*. Bonnie Rambob.
- July 5:** *Shake It Off!* Joliene Wade Gatlin
[Church offices are closed on Monday, July 6]
- July 12:** *No Pressure*. Bill Dunbar. Special guest: Singers of the Street. Church picnic.
- July 19:** *Ain't I a Woman*. Raj Rambob.

***** SNEAK PEEK *****

Stay tuned for previews...

Sermon series in August:
Holy Hollywood: Movies That Move Us

Special guest on August 2:
Franc D'Ambrosio (Phantom of the Opera) returns to CCSM to inspire us with his music once again!

Children, Youth and Families



Peaceful Ways: Interfaith Stories of Peace Heroes

Children's Ministries is hosting two Godly Play classes during the summer, one for children finishing PreK-1st grade and the other for children who have finished 2nd -4th grade. Both meet in the Betsy Woodward Building immediately following the children's story in worship.

JUNE/JULY STORY SCHEDULE:

- June 28 The Story of Badshah Khan: Nonviolent Soldier of Islam
- July 5 The Story of Martin Luther King, Jr.: Nonviolent American Christian
- July 12 The Story of Abraham Joshua Heschel
- July 19 The Story of Aung San Suu Kyi
- July 26 The Story of Peace Pilgrim

In August, the stories will be from movies which are yet to be determined. Stay tuned.

If you would like to teach a church school Godly Play class this summer, we are still in need of storytellers and doorkeepers (greeters and storyteller assistants). Please contact Michelle O'Brien, mobrien@ccsm-ucc.org or Bonnie Rambob, brambob@ccsm-ucc.org, for more information.

45 Minutes: New Summer Program for Mid High

For students who have just ended the school year as fifth through eighth graders, the mid high teachers are launching a new summer program called 45 Minutes. During their regular church school time, students will go to the library to meet an "older" member of CCSM (20s and up) and swap stories of what it is/was like to be a pre-teen/young teen. After swapping stories, the youth will enjoy a time of game-playing fellowship. 45 Minutes will run every Sunday during the summer, June 21 – Sept. 6 and it provides a great opportunity to invite friends. If you are interested in working with this age group, please talk with Bonnie Rambob, brambob@ccsm-ucc.org.



Baptism of Mitchell Johnson in April, with proud parents looking on

PEACE VILLAGE Postponed

Unfortunately, because of transitions and timeframes, **Peace Village will not take place in August as previously planned.** We are very sorry for the inconvenience of wondering, waiting to hear, and now having to make a change in plans.

The commitment to Peace Village is very strong from each of the faith partners: CCSM, Peninsula Temple Beth El and the Muslim Children's Garden School. Bonnie and Penny have set meetings with the Peace Village Planning Team to make plans for the future of Peace Village San Mateo. No doubt there will be exciting information to share following the meetings.



August 16 is Back to School Sunday

To celebrate the first week of school for students in the San Mateo school district, CCSM will be hosting a special Back to School themed Sunday. Children and Youth will step up to the next church school class according to their grade levels. Following worship and church school, there will be lots of fun activities on the lawn and loggia for kids of all ages. We will be inviting the whole surrounding community to celebrate the new school year with us, so please mark your calendars!



Young (ish) Adult Group Forming

If you're in your 20s or 30s and are interested in getting together with other folks in your age bracket to grow your spirit, make friends, and enjoy San Mateo and the Bay Area, please get involved. We have a great group of spirit- and justice-oriented people looking to create meaningful relationships. So far we've had dinner and discussion at Hummus and a day enjoying the Downtown San Mateo Festival. More to come! We hope you'll join us. Contact Joliene Wade Gatlin (joliene.wade@gmail.com)

Greetings From Your Moderator

Hello!

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me... yet. My name is Jeanne Back—wife to Greg, mom to Lauren and, as of June 7th, CCSM's new moderator. I am looking forward to serving you and to supporting our clergy, staff and lay leaders as they work to create opportunities for us all to live our work as a strong voice for Progressive Christianity, a beloved community, and a leader in social justice.

For the many of you who volunteer as our greeters, our ushers, our children's teachers, our choir members, our coffee hour organizers, our front office workers, our affinity group leaders... thank you for giving so generously of your time to nurture our beloved community. For the many of you who give of yourselves to our extended community, whether it is around the corner or around the world... thank you for making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

I look forward to a great year together!

Warmly,
Jeanne Back



Youth trip to
Costa Rica...
on their way!

The Meditation Group

The Meditation Group that has been meeting in the library every other Sunday at noon will be taking a summer break and re-grouping in the Fall. For information call: Bob Jarmusz: (650)787-8324 or email: bobjarmusz@gmail.com

BACK A CHILD, BACKPACK A CHILD!

Could you help a student in the farming community of Pescadero get excited about the first day of school? Children and youth in Pescadero need lots of encouragement to succeed in education—they don't speak the "right" language, they have changed schools repeatedly, they can't afford basic supplies (even if they could, stores are miles away). Also, can you imagine showing up for school with a ratty backpack or none at all? If you are willing to buy a backpack for a student (K-12), please sign up on the logia, email msj@ccsm-ucc.org or call the church office (650-343-3694). Send kids to school with enthusiasm!



ALL CHURCH PICNIC Sunday, July 12

Come to the annual All Church Picnic, July 12, immediately after church at Ryder Park. The park has a wonderful picnic area, and children's playground (plus water play area!), access to the Bay Trail and more.

CCSM provides the BBQ; side dishes are assigned as follows: If your last name begins with A–I, please bring starchy sides (rice, beans or pasta,) last name J–R, dessert, and S–Z, green or fruit salad, vegetables, or fruit. If your dish is either gluten-free or vegan it would be helpful if you would mark it so.

This event is a fun one for everyone—a good time to meet and chat with old friends and new!





CCSM's newest members, joining in the beloved community on June 7, 2015.

CALLING ALL PLATTERS, SCOOPERS, AND TONGS!



by Frank Frazee

During the past several years the wonderful kitchen has been utilized by so many groups. Coffee hour, receptions, youth cooking activities, pick-a-par-

ties, outside rentals, Home and Hope are just a few. Unfortunately, there have been losses. Measuring spoons and cups, large pots and pans, platters, glass dishware have grown legs. Serving pieces, ice cream scoops have strayed. (It is rumored that the dishes have run off with the spoons). Those who use the kitchen should not need to bring their own equipment to be able to cook in our wonderful facility.

In order to maintain the asset that the kitchen is to our our community, I will be working over the summer to inventory what still exists and to restore items to their proper locations. Later we'll hold a "kitchen shower" for specific items that we need. Please feel free to contact me about your kitchen concerns.

Dawn "KP" Graves (Kitchen Pixie)
twinquilt@comcast.net

MUSIC AND ART RETURNS IN THE FALL

Music and Art, a CCSM affinity group, is planning a wonderful series of programs for the monthly meetings of the 2015-16 season. We share the talents of both CCSM members and outside guests to bring interesting programs featuring music, art, theatre and more to enrich our members. We invite you to join us for our next meeting on **Friday, September 18 at noon** in the Buckham Room. Carl Pantle, Director of Music will be our first program presenter. Mark your calendars now. For further information, contact Pat Pepper, 650-343-4286, or Bonny Armacost, 650-315-2999.



WANTED: HELP WITH THE PINE TREE MAILING



The Pine Tree

A newsletter for the families & friends of the
Congregational Church Of San Mateo, U.C.C. #

If you are reading this mailed edition of our "The PineTree", you need to know how it gets into your hands. Each issue is copied,

assembled, labeled, and mailed by a small, yet dedicated team of volunteers. This team needs new helpers to ready the almost 300 copies each month.

If you have the TIME (about two hours usually the third Tuesday morning of each month) and the TALENT (inserting papers, applying address labels, counting), please contact Susan Campo phone: 650/544-0272 or scampo312@gmail.com.

This is a great way to help in a very easy way, meet some new people, and contribute to our church community.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF JOY...

Andrew Lind is leaving Liberia and moving to Bangkok, Thailand! There he will finally be living with his wife, Margherita, and his position will be Shelter Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, International Organization for Migration. After he gets settled, his first assignment will likely be Nepal. Thank you for all your prayers this last year in Liberia.

Stephanie Liberty Zheng and Chris Cooper were happily married on May 27 at the City Hall in San Francisco. **Haywood** served as ring-bearer and little **Davy** observed.

Several baptisms were celebrated recently: **Mitchell Johnson** on April 26, **Ismael Boigues** on May 17, **Mercy Moyo, Olivia and Sophia Gross** on June 7.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT...

Our heartfelt prayers are offered for members of the **Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church** in Charleston, where 9 people perished when a shooting broke out during a prayer meeting on June 17. We lift up all who are affected by this tragedy. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, provide comfort.

Our hearts go out to the **people of Nepal** as they face the incredible suffering after the devastating earthquakes.

Betty Brookes, a faithful member of CCSM and lover of music, passed away on June 8, 2015 at the age of 94. Please pray for her family as they mourn her loss.

Sandi Twisselman, sister of Karen Stern, passed away on May 20, 2015. May Karen feel God's loving presence and our prayers during this time of remembrance and loss.

Alice, beloved niece of Maggie Alegria, passed away tragically on March 17, 2015. May God's tender mercies sustain Maggie's family during this time of loss.

Roger Brandt, dear friend of Sandi Blodgett and friend of CCSM, passed away on May 15, 2015 after a three-year journey with cancer. May God's peace be with his loved ones during their time of grief.

PRAYERS OF HEALING AND SUPPORT...

Carol Glasmann was hospitalized for knee surgery. She is now resting at home and welcomes our prayers for healing.

Everly, **Genel Morgan's cousin's 3-week-old baby**, has been hospitalized in Hawaii for undiagnosed reasons. Everly and her parents, **Cory and Kara**, are in need of prayers during this frightening time. May the medical team tending Everly be able to diagnose and treat what is ailing her so that she may have a speedy recovery.

Penny Sullivan, Kay Harris' sister, has been released from the hospital after undergoing treatment. Please pray for Penny, her husband, Rick and Kay as Penny regains her strength and continues her treatment for cancer.

Janet Bower is at home healing after a successful surgery. She is grateful for our prayers for healing and encouraging notes. Janet looks forward to returning to church and ministry.

Barbara Karesh, sister of Jon Karesh, is undergoing tests to determine the cause of her heart palpitations. May God comfort Barbara and Jon during this time of uncertainty.

Helen Fong, mother of Lucy Lee, fractured her spine and is now paralyzed from her waist down due to a fall. Prayers for Helen as she recovers from surgery and for Helen's family as they serve as caregivers for multiple generations.

Marilyn Williamson, a neighbor of Mel Thrash, fell while walking her dog. She is in Stanford ICU and has yet to regain consciousness. Prayers are requested that she may feel our support and experience God's healing.

Dori Barton welcomes prayers about her job that is at risk. Dori has three daughters in college who need her support.

Please pray for **Janice Kennedy (cousin of Margaret and Gordon Smith), Kate Engelberg (Holly Allen and Camille Grant's friend), Deborah Brodhag (daughter of Tom Banks), Paula (sister-in-law of Kirsten Smith), Randy (nephew of Stan Higgs), Bill Daniels, and others** as they walk their unique journeys with cancer.

Continuing prayers for **Cathy Latta, Rae and Tom Banks, Ruth Black, Marjorie Griffin, Penny Gahagen, Martha Grannis, Lorraine Gustafson, Martha Imai, George Kromhout, Rosalee Lower, Jim Lowrie, Phyllis Mead, Adrienne Mitchell, Genevieve and John Parsons, Fred Petri, June Schutte, Betty Stout, Virginia Weir.**

THE PASTORAL STAFF WANTS TO THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR JOYS AND CONCERNS WITH US. There are many that we pray for each week; some we can share with the congregation and some we are asked to hold in confidence. Please know that all of your joys and concerns are important. You may contact the church office or email care@ccsm-ucc.org if you need support during the week.

HALF-DAY CHURCH RETREAT

Saturday, August 29, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Lunch included • childcare available

The Bond of Peace: Building Authentic Teams

We live in a time when teamwork and collaboration are essential skills. At home, work, and in our own CCSM community, so much is done through teamwork, and its success rests on the authentic relationships between the members of that team. Those relationships, in turn, form the foundation of a cohesive and unified body and ensure the “bond of peace” we read about in Ephesians 4:2-3: *Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*



Sounds great, right? Easy? Not so much. How do we foster a “bond of peace” within our teams in real and practical ways? How can we be more intentional about creating authentic relationships with those with whom we share a common purpose?

Join us for a lively facilitated workshop that will focus on these themes through the lens of Patrick Lencioni’s* work on building cohesive teams.

*Patrick Lencioni is the best-selling author of the New York Times best-selling book, *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* (and many other business communication titles including *The Advantage* and *Death by Meetings*.)

Facilitators:

Alicia Santamaría



As principal of adelante coaching+consulting, Alicia’s mission is “facilitating people, teams, and organizations forward.” A trainer, coach, facilitator and organizational consultant, Alicia has over 20 years of professional experience across a variety of sectors, including work at the Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center and for the City of San Mateo. She is also a core faculty member for the Presidio Institute’s Cross Sector Leadership Fellows Program and a trainer at CompassPoint Nonprofit

Services. She is also adjunct faculty at the Notre Dame de Namur University School of Business and Management, where she develops and teaches courses on leadership and organizational development topics. A trained mediator and experienced conflict resolution practitioner, Alicia holds a master’s degree in communication. She is an accredited Associate Certified Coach through the International Coach Federation.

Holly Allen



Holly Allen leads the San Francisco-based product development team at Wiley Publishing Company. Her work at Wiley is focused on developing products that teach teamwork, leadership, and other soft skills within organizations. She has worked with best-selling business authors in creating content for corporate and non-profit training programs and assessments to improve the workplace. Her career in publishing educational materials

for adult learning spans 29 years.

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