

The Pine Tree

The Congregational Church of San Mateo

United Church of Christ

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The 20s/30s team cleaning up our neighborhood for Earth Day

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

- June 5** *Communion and blessing those who do Children's and Youth Ministry. **The Fear Factor.** Bonnie Rambob preaching. John 14:1-3.*
- June 12** *ANNUAL MEETING. **Know Your Why.** Penny Nixon preaching. Matthew 26:6-12.*
- June 19** *Father's Day. **Picking Up the Mantle.** Penny preaching. II Kings 2:1-11.*
- June 26** ***You Are Not Alone.** Penny preaching. I Kings 19:1-9*
- July 3** ***The Ethos of Independence.** Penny preaching. Psalm 96.*
- July 10** *CHURCH PICNIC. **I Wait For You.** Nicole Lamarche preaching. Psalm 25.*
- July 17** ***Unexpected Companions, Unexpected Blessings.** Penny preaching. I Kings 17:1-16.*
- July 24** ***The Ultimate Power Play.** Penny preaching. I Kings 18:17-24.*
- July 31** ***How to Plan the Perfect Dinner.** Jorge Perry Bautista preaching. Luke 10:38-42.*

SNEAK PEEK AUGUST SERMON SERIES: GENERATIONAL GIFTS

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.

A Word from Penny

We recently had a day-long staff retreat where we planned the upcoming year. We grounded our work at the retreat in our CCSM vision and mission. As we approach our annual meeting, I thought it would be helpful to remind all of us what it means to be a spiritual hub.



hub |həb| noun

1. the effective center of an activity, region, or network
 2. a thing or place that is of greatest importance to an activity or interest
- "CCSM is the spiritual hub of the San Francisco Peninsula."*
- synonyms: core, heart, base, nerve center, central

Here's what I wrote three years ago about a spiritual hub:

In thinking, reflecting, soul searching, and praying, and in listening to you as a congregation over the last six years, I began to dream about CCSM becoming a spiritual "hub" on the peninsula. By hub I mean a center of activity where people come and are inspired to then go out and make positive change in their sphere of influence. By hub I mean a gathering place characterized by authenticity, creativity, and vitality buzzing with people who are on a journey of personal transformation and dedicated to creating more peace and justice wherever they can.

I dream of us getting out our progressive and inclusive message to more and more people. I see us partnering with our neighborhood and creating a "hub for the common good" on our campus. I

—continued on page 5—

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Our Summer Church School program starts **June 19**. Cynthia will continue to teach our prekindergarten/kindergarten class, while trained volunteers will teach a summer class for grades 1-5. Our weekly lessons will continue to reinforce the message of the adult worship service in creative and age-appropriate ways.

In August, we will do a special generational series similar to the generational series that will be offered in the adult worship service. For our Church School series, children will be invited to bring in an object from home that reflects the generation being highlighted that week. After show-and-tell, children will watch a tv or movie clip from that generation. We hope you can join us for our fun programs this summer!

Special note to our current 5th graders: Students who are currently in 5th grade are welcome to continue coming to our grades 1-5 class this summer, or to start attending our Mid-High programs... or both!

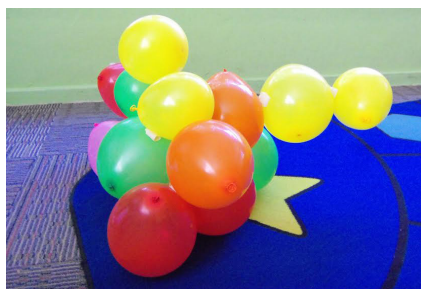
PENTECOST CELEBRATED AT CHURCH SCHOOL

On May 15th, students in Church School celebrated Pentecost, as well as the 152nd birthday of CCSM. Each class heard the story of the Tower of Babel, as well as the story of Pentecost, and enjoyed a feast with special alphabet cookies, in honor of the importance of language to today's festivities.

Each class also did some special activities. In Cynthia's prek/k class, students built a balloon tower for their class. They worked together carefully and used kind words, and were very happy that unlike the Tower of Babel, their tower did not fall down (or pop!).

In Shannon's grades 1-3 class, students wrote on balloons the languages they spoke, were learning how to speak, or wanted to learn how to speak, and then worked in small groups to build balloon towers. Students really loved this activity!

In Sandra's grades 4-5 class, students used alphabet cookies to make words to communicate with people from various cultures (pretending it was an old Hebrew harvesting feast).. They then worked together to write "I Love You" in many different languages on a paper heart.



A balloon Tower of Babel

WANT TO BE A NURSERY VOLUNTEER?

We are currently looking for a kind and caring person to help out with our infants and toddlers one Sunday morning a month. If you feel called to help care for the youngest members of our congregation, please leave a message with the church office, or email Cynthia Starborn at cstarborn@ccsm-ucc.org.



From left to right: Scholarship winners Savannah Zvarik, JoyLynn Everson, Matt Kawakami, Joe Dunbar

CCSM COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The ministry of Children, Youth and Families is pleased to award college scholarships to four outstanding youth in recognition of outstanding service to their schools and community and in honor of their Christian values. These awards were presented during the church service on May 15.

Please congratulate Joe Dunbar (Oceana HS), Matthew Kawakami (Hillsdale HS), Joy Lynn Everson (Aragon HS) and Savannah Zvarik (Aragon HS) on these awards.

The Bracamonte, Younger and Banksscholarships are funded by the generosity of their families, Sue Bullis and the congregation. The accomplishments of each of these youth reflect kindness, compassion, hard work, generosity of time in service, social justice, leadership, respect and humility. These accomplishments well match the mission statements of the scholarships. These scholars have truly acted as the face, hands, feet and heart of God in the world. Congratulations to each of them as they pursue their educational goals!



CCSM's Girl Scout Troop with some of the little ones who stole their hearts at Intercommunal Preschool

Photo by Chris Yeh

Tiny Treasures

by Zoe Neil and Tuesday Judd

I looked around at the smiling faces of the children beside me, as I turned the pages of the picture book. Pride bubbled up inside me as I thought about the impact that this would have on the children at the Intercommunal Preschool.

The Intercommunal Preschool was started 44 years ago by Betsy Woodward and Phil Lind. For the past four months, CCSM's Girl Scout Troop has conducted community service at this school. Our troop chose three projects we hoped would encourage reading, fine motor skills, and sociability. From January to April, we did Literacy Afternoons which involved reading picture books, creating crafts, and playing games. "I enjoyed reading aloud to the preschoolers, they made me feel at home," said Camille Grant, a Girl Scout in the troop.

We also created a book bag for every student in the Preschool. We learned how to sew on sewing machines, and everyone helped to create 40 beautiful bags.

For our final project, we organized a trip to the public library for the Preschool families. There they received new library cards and the book bags we made for them. Then we celebrated together with bubbles and other fun activities. We enjoyed this process so much, and the bonds we made with the preschoolers were priceless. "I really liked playing with the kids and helping them to learn English," explained Lauren Back, a fellow Scout.

It's hard to believe that we had the time, but our troop also sold 877 boxes of cookies this winter. As a result of these cookie sales, we were able to present the Intercommunal Preschool with a check for \$200. The Director has said she will use this donation to purchase new picture books.

At the end of this project the girls reflected on what they thought was the best part. All of us loved the sweetness of these young children. "What I enjoyed the most about the opportunity was playing games and reading books to the children," agreed Megan Nayak, another Girl Scout. Somehow, these little kids made our day and all of us were sad when our project ended.



A Girl Scout reading to preschoolers at Intercommunal School

Photo by John Neil

Spiritual Summer Camps

PEACE VILLAGE • July 25-29

In a world with religious violence and in the U.S. with hateful speech, perhaps there has never been a more important time than now to raise our children to live as friends in a diverse community.

The Peace Village planning team comprised of representatives from Muslim Children's Garden School, Peninsula Temple Beth El, Peninsula Sinai Congregation, Pacifica Institute and CCSM are engaged in planning a vibrant, dynamic interfaith peace education camp for children finishing 1st-8th grade. Every layer of the Peace Village community is collaborative and cooperative, from the youngest villagers to the high school group leaders to the adult volunteers. In developmentally-appropriate, interactive, fun ways, villagers learn: how to practice non-violent communication, the well of peace found in multiple religious traditions, media literacy, yoga and meditation, and to express their hearts through music, dance and art.

Peace Village is a community of faith houses and peoples—CCSM is part of the village. The village is ready and waiting for your child/ren.

To register: villagerelations.com/sanmateopeacevillage. Have questions or need a scholarship? Contact Jorge, jbautista@ccsm-ucc.org

CAMP CAZ

Everyone who goes to Camp Caz, loves Camp Caz! The Northern California Nevada Conference of the UCC provides safe, fun and spiritual residential summer camp programs for children as young as first grade (with a parent) up to adults – all in the beautiful natural world. Check out the camps and registration information at: ncnuc.org/yomc/ Scholarships are available—just contact Patrick, pkane@ccsm-ucc.org.



CELEBRATE DIVERSITY! FOURTH ANNUAL PRIDE CELEBRATION SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 11AM-5PM, SAN MATEO'S CENTRAL PARK.

Small children, large children, even dogs are invited to join the fun. CCSM is a “proud” sponsor of the the Fourth Annual Pride Celebration, which promises delightful live music, family friendly activities, local art and merchandise, entertainment, and local resources including LGBTQQI2S-specific as well as inclusive and informed organizations that welcome our entire community.

PARUMP... PARUMP... PARUMP

That’s the sound of donated bikes on the way to the Wheels repair shop. ZIP, ZOOM is the sound after the bikes are polished, tires replaced and gears synched just right. Come help the Wheels team refurbish our collection of donated bicycles for our neighbors without transportation. The transformation begins **Saturday, June 11, at 12:30PM in the former WWI stables under Masonic Temple** (it’s across the street from the CE Building). Even if you don’t know how to ride a bike, much less repair one—you can help.



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

You sent 159 PAIRS OF SHOES to Soles4Souls for victims of disasters without footwear. You sent 161 TOOTHBRUSHES to Call Primrose and Las Memorias. Over 300 DIAPERS went to a shelter for young women and their babies in East Palo Alto. All the JACKETS AND WINTER GEAR were so immediately needed by homeless in San Francisco and San Mateo, we never counted them. Blanketeers quilted over 70 BLANKETS for veterans and the disadvantaged. And your offering gifts blessed near and far:

- ◆ Call Primrose (resources and food for our neighbors)
- ◆ CORA (domestic violence prevention, intervention and shelters)
- ◆ Home and Hope (rotating family shelter)
- ◆ Homework Central (tutoring for neighborhood students)
- ◆ Intercommunal Preschool (excellent start for low-income children)
- ◆ LifeMoves (network of shelters and service for the homeless)
- ◆ Las Memorias (Tijuana shelter for sick and struggling deportees)
- ◆ Puente (resource and service center on our coast)
- ◆ Rebuild South Sudan (promoting education and stability)
- ◆ Samaritan House (core service center for the Mid-Peninsula)
- ◆ SF Night Ministry (services for SF homeless)
- ◆ SM County Ombudsman Program (protection of elderly in care facilities)
- ◆ Save the Bay (renowned local effort to protect the Bay)

And the year of generosity isn’t even half over! Thank you for sharing from your heart. You can imagine the gratitude of those you help.

P.S. If you do any spring cleaning and have items to donate, give the church a call and the office can direct you to the programs that MSJ has found to best serve our community. Nicer items can even be donated to the church (with a tax receipt) for consignment to build our Margi Stone Fund for Justice.

UP NEXT

It’s almost time to collect new backpacks again for the farmworker children (do you think we can gather 100?). But first, **shaving supplies and deodorant for the homeless veterans in San Francisco.** Many Veterans of the Vietnam War returned home with shame rather than dignity; many ended up with severely broken lives and little community support. Sixty percent of the homeless vets helped by Swords to Ploughshares in San Francisco served in Vietnam. **In June,** let’s honor those men with your prayers and the self-respect of a clean shave. Please bring your donations to church—collection bins are in the narthex or children can carry your donations forward for their offering.



IF I HAD A HAMMER

On Rebuilding Together Saturday, one delighted family’s house was refurbished by CCSM members working with the Masons (from across the street). New fence, new paint, new wiring and plumbing—okay, we weren’t that handy, but the Masons were! Literally together, we made a good team.

With Corazon in Tijuana, seven CCSMers actually built a house from foundation up—in one day. Admittedly we were pretty clueless, but the Ramona UCC Church who included us in their “build” knew all the tricks. Hammering and roofing were not our best skills, so we stuck to painting, lifting, and spreading good cheer.



Zen of the Brush Stroke

I am handed a perfect, brand new, 3-inch paint brush by a stranger. It is a day of strangers, with 40 people on a "house build," mostly from a Southern California church. Our CCSM group of seven are well into solidifying our bonding on this second day of our Tijuana journey.

The new brush is so precious in this neighborhood high in the hills (called La Cumbre, The Summit) of Tijuana. There are no paved roads. Electricity may come eventually, but was not added to the house we built—nor was any water or plumbing. But the new brush gives me new momentum after a morning of painting with a broken roller, searching for a proper place to put garbage, already tired from the emotions I'm processing. Early on I gave my hammer to others with more hammer skills. At home I have the privilege of hiring workers to do the things now being asked of me.

But the people of the neighborhood, the dust, the dogs, the family for which we were building the house, all keep calling me to sacrifice my ease and comfort. With my new brush, I have renewed vigor to paint, paint, paint. We will paint until our energy, time or paint run out—whichever comes first.

"The day at La Cumbre ends with a homemade flower and twig wreath being hung on the new green door, the family walking through and sharing their tears and gratitude with us."

sometimes adding a little water to the 5-gallon paint bucket to make it go further. I was able to get into a zone of peace and giving, despite roof banging and pounding on top of me, the movements of the other workers inside this small home, and now four women hanging homemade curtains on the three inside windows... all on an 88 degree Tijuana desert day. Time runs out before paint or energy!

The day at La Cumbre ends with a homemade flower and twig wreath being hung on the new green door, the family walking through and sharing their tears and gratitude with us. My brush stroke is unknown by the new residents of the house, but will remain one of the strongest memories and gifts I have received. I am moving this summer, and who knows—I may try some painting in my new house!

We friends from CCSM shared our experiences and bought goods and delicious churros from roadside sellers as we inched our way along the three hour, 20-mile drive back to the USA. Thanks to our leader Kibbie Ruth, co-pilot, Robert Leung and my co-adventurers, Linda Stoick, Joe Dunbar, Annie Martin and Lex McCally for a memorable, amazing and wonderful adventure.

FREE LUNCHES SERVED STARTING JUNE 20

Children who are "food-challenged" receive federally-subsidized, nutritional lunches during the school year. However, in the summer, what do the children eat? The church qualifies as a federal food service site for North Central San Mateo. Anyone under the age of 18 can come to CCSM to enjoy a free, sit-down lunch every weekday. No chopping, boiling, or prepping—we just need to be welcoming hosts and let the government do the cooking.

So for eight weeks this summer (June 20-August 12), we need your smiles. If you are interested in volunteering to serve lunches, please send an email to msj@ccsm-ucc.org or leave a message at the church office. All ages can volunteer!



Our first day was spent with Rev. Jerri at the Las Memorias HIV/AIDS shelter and hospice. We were treated like royalty with a fabulous lunch and a tour of their property, living spaces and medical areas (our Dr. Robert Leung got to do some work here). We helped the women and children receive some clothes and build a small garden. We walked from the San Diego Border State Park to the ocean and to where the beautiful beach and Pacific Ocean have a heavy metal fence down into the water designating the border. It is powerful to see.

Our 2016 group encourages you to consider taking this trip yourself (contact Kibbie!). It is a tremendous opportunity to appreciate people from other cultures and different economic status, and an amazing opportunity to see, share and give to our Tijuana partners, strangers and new communities.

—Lisa McCally, CCSM and MSJ member



The US - Mexico border where it enters the Pacific Ocean

A WORD FROM PENNY

cont. from p. 1

see us finding increasingly creative ways to build relationships in our community and to help families stay grounded and connected in this fast-paced, complicated world with difficult choices to make.

I feel more passionate about this vision than ever before and I am amazed at how we are already living out this mission.

Peace,

Penny

HOME COMMUNION

SERVING HOME COMMUNION

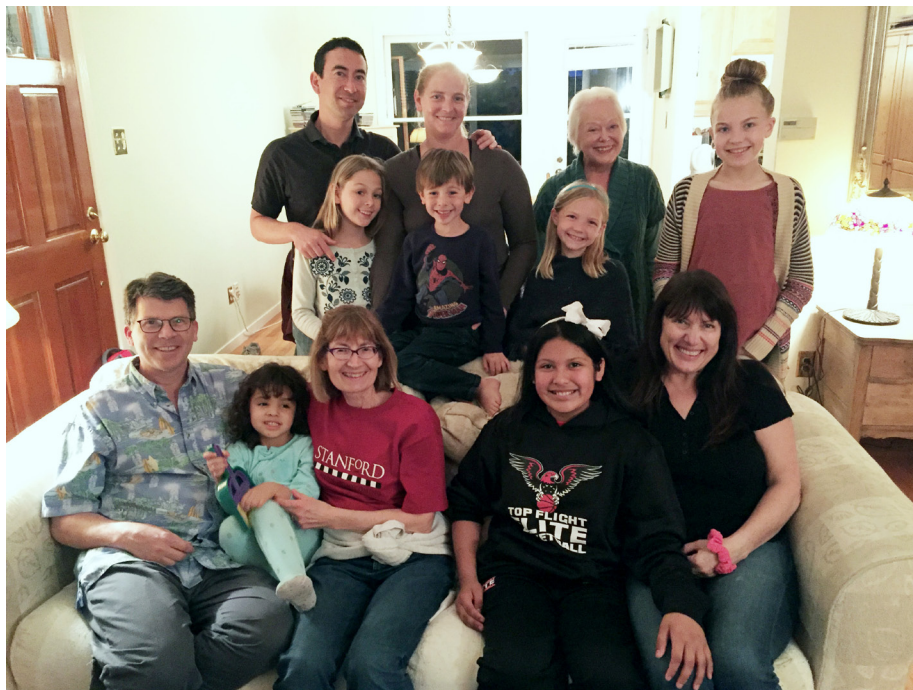
One of the most heart-warming experiences is to serve home communion for those who are unable to attend worship. Very soon a training will be held on how to serve home communion. At the training, servers will be given communion kits. If you may be interested in serving home communion from time to time, please contact Janet Bower at 650-483-2136 or jbower@ccsm-ucc.org.



RECEIVING HOME COMMUNION

If you are unable to attend worship and would like our communion servers to come to your home, please contact Janet Bower and provide your name, address and phone number. We would be delighted to come to your home as soon as we are able.

*Don't Forget the
Annual Meeting
Sunday, June 12*



Som members of CCSM's "Blue Neighborhood Group" enjoying each other's company over dessert.

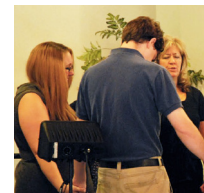
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

If you would like to get to know your CCSM neighbors and haven't already joined your neighborhood group, visit <http://ccsm-ucc.org/myccsm/> and scroll down to "Sign In or Sign Up." Once you're in myCCSM, you should see your neighborhood group at the bottom right and you can choose to join.

Neighborhood groups are starting to gather as a way to connect with each other and strengthen our CCSM community.

AFTER WORSHIP PRAYER TEAM

Each week we invite anyone who has a private concern or joy to share to come forward after worship. Our prayer team is available to hear what is on one's heart and to offer a blessing or prayer. We are seeking people who want to join our prayer team. If you may be interested once or twice a month in this way, contact Janet Bower at 650-483-2136 or jbower@ccsm-ucc.org.



An Intercommunal Preschooler conjuring a monster bubble

CALLING OUR MINISTER OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Dear Fellow Members of the Congregational Church of San Mateo:

On behalf of the Latino Ministry Team, I am writing to express strong support for CCSM to call Jorge Perry Bautista as our Minister of Community Engagement.

Last December the Board of Ministries established the Latino Ministry Team to work closely with Jorge as he explores the potential to create a Latino ministry at CCSM, oriented to serving Latinos in our neighborhood and elsewhere in San Mateo. The members of our team are Cristina Summerville, Sandra Soto-Grondona, Valerie Wong, Betsy Woodward, Mike Mullery, Veril Phillips, Javier Ruiz, and I. We have met with Jorge roughly every other week since then. We develop plans together for this exploratory process, listen and serve as a sounding board as he learns and considers how best to deal with various challenges and opportunities, help out with various of his initiatives, and monitor progress.

Jorge clearly has a passion for the ministry and for building a Latino congregation linked with CCSM, if that proves feasible. Already he has attracted a core group of people interested in a Latino ministry here, he is building relationships with a wider range of people in the community, and he is gaining increasing recognition in North Central—to the point that he is sometimes greeted by people he encounters: “Hola, Pastor.” In conversation with these people, he is gaining understanding of their spiritual and their material needs, as well as their assumptions and expectations regarding religion and church. In partnership with Faith in Action, he is working with community leaders on how to address housing, immigration status, and other issues of justice. Drawing on his seminary training as well as his conversations, he is developing early thoughts about what kind of worship experiences, cultural gatherings, and other activities would be important to the people we hope that a Latino ministry would attract.

As you have observed directly, Jorge has grown considerably in his ministerial vocation since he first joined us as an intern

in 2012, and then became our minister-in-training in 2013. As he has taken leadership of this community-engagement task, his learning has accelerated and his leadership gifts have become increasingly evident. In parallel with work in our community, he is taking initiative to learn from the experience of others, notably the United Methodists, in doing similar work. He is also participating in shared learning with a group of Latino leaders in the UCC who are developing Latino ministries.

Finally, we want to note the promise that development of a Latino ministry would have for CCSM as a whole.

Not only would we be a welcoming neighbor to the Latinos in our community, but we ourselves would have opportunity to learn and grow as our own community becomes increasingly diverse ethnically and culturally. How wonderful that we have Jorge, uniquely well suited to build relationships with our neighbors next door.

All of the members of our Team are united in this strong support for calling Jorge as our Minister of Community Engagement.

Sincerely yours,

Julien Phillips
for the Latino Ministry Team



Julien Phillips



Jorge Perry Bautista



During the past two years, members of the SFO Committee, the CYF Committee, and the CE Building Renovation Committee have been hard at work evaluating the current condition of the Betsy Woodward CE building.

We have developed a very detailed list of necessary repairs and recommendations for upgrades and improvements. We are fortunate to have such a large building to dedicate to our youth and to serve our greater community through our tenants The Music School, Muslim Gardens, and Little Wonders. As our CCSM youth program thrives and grows, we want the CE Building to meet its needs now and into the future. Here's what's happening with our planned renovation:

C.E. RENOVATION

Sherry Scott, ASID, a certified designer in California (with church campus experience), has been hired and is working to **develop recommendations, designs and specifications** for the renovation. Our goal is to present the designs to the congregation in the fall of 2016.

Our renovation will include new and improved accessible bathrooms, entry/exits which meet universal accessibility standards, energy-efficient lighting, a kitchen makeover, new flooring (to replace buckled carpets and outdated linoleum floors), painting, a new electrical system, upgraded internet services, safer and more energy-efficient windows, Consumer Products Safety Commission Compliant window coverings (which are non-corded, such as roller

shades), and new cabinetry with improved functionality.

Dan McNely of McNely Construction Company (with church campus experience) will be working with us to identify key construction-related issues during the design phase. He has prepared a rough budget so we can begin to develop our funding needs and next fundraising steps.

Construction is planned for Summer of 2017 with work on the Youth Room and Kitchen to begin as soon as summer 2016.

FROM YOUR MODERATOR: JEANNE BACK

Dear Friends,

Please mark your calendars!

CCSM's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12th immediately following worship. The meeting is open to all and everyone is encouraged to attend. Childcare will be provided.

The Annual Meeting is an important aspect of congregational life at CCSM. This yearly event, held each spring, is an opportunity to hear about the exciting plans for the upcoming year in support of our mission, including work underway to better align our organizational processes and structure around our mission. Also, we vote on important matters as a congregation and celebrate life together in community.

Like last year, we'll be asking the congregation to remain seated in the Sanctuary after worship to ensure we have the necessary quorum to vote on two important items of business:

Proposed Ministries Slate for 2016-17

Per our bylaws, the congregation votes to approve the leadership team for the upcoming year at our spring Annual Meeting.

Call to Ministry of Jorge Perry Bautista

The Bay Association, NCNC/UCC recently approved Jorge for ordination. To actually become an ordained minister, Jorge must first receive "a call to ministry" from a UCC congregation. The Board of Ministries (BoM) and the Latino Ministry Team recommend that the congregation call Jorge as our Minister of Community of Engagement. BoM has reviewed and approved the terms of the call for consideration by the congregation at our Annual meeting.

After we conclude these items, we'll move to Kloss Hall for lunch and the remainder of our agenda.



It is at this time that we will have the opportunity to *express our appreciation to Bonnie Rambob*, as a community, for the incredible work she has done among us and for us this past year. I had the distinct privilege, as did many, of working closely with Bonnie and have been truly enriched by her wisdom, empathy and grace and inspired by her dedication to CCSM and our mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your moderator this past year! I am looking forward to another term and to working alongside such gifted leaders who give so freely of themselves for the benefit our beloved community and with the shared mission to be the Spiritual Hub of the San Francisco Peninsula.

I'll see you at our meeting!
With gratitude,
Jeanne Back, CCSM Moderator

BELLA VOCE SERENADES SENIORS

by Carole Melis

The residents of Mills Estate Villas in Burlingame were treated to a performance by the women's singing group, Bella Voce, on Thursday, May 19. As they enjoyed songs ranging from "Song of Peace" and "Irish Blessing" to "Java Jive" and "Sentimental Journey," the audience members were clearly engaged, some of them tapping their toes and even singing along.

For the ten members of Bella Voce, it was a fulfilling experience to share our music with such an appreciative group. We look forward to many such performances in the months and years ahead, as we seek to fulfill an important part of our mission: to reach out to the community in order to enhance the experience of those without access to choral music in their daily lives. Bella Voce is supported by CCSM, which provides rehearsal space in recognition of the group's commitment to



Brian Connor, accompanist, Cathy Doyle, Director. Bella Voce, L to R: Stacy Fradkin, Anna Maria Zara, Laura Claude, Cathy Bonnar, Carole Melis, Carolyn Cookson, Sue Bullis, Kristy Everson, Kay Harris, Candy Nagare

community outreach. Bella Voce, led by Cathy Doyle (founder and former Artistic Director of the Peninsula Girls Chorus), includes a number of CCSM singers.

Bella Voce rehearses Thursdays from 1 to 2:30pm in the Choir Room. If you are interested in joining, please contact Carole Melis for more information at clmcomm1@gmail.com.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE...

We honor all **military service-members** currently serving and who have served our country at great personal sacrifice. Thank you for ensuring our freedom and rights as a nation. We remember, especially this day, all who have made the ultimate sacrifice for God and our country. May their loved ones find God's comfort in the midst of great loss.

Seven CCSMers have returned from building a house in Tijuana, visiting at Las Memorias, traveling with the US Border Patrol, and wandering through the murals in Chicano Park. Prayers of thanksgiving are given for **Robert Leung, Lisa McCally and her niece Lex McCally, Annie Martin, Joe Dunbar, Linda Stoick, and Kibbie Ruth** and their service.

PRAYERS OF JOY...

Phil, Len Flaherty's brother, will be ordained as a deacon of the Anglican Church at Boston's St. Paul's Cathedral on June 4. Please join Len and Deb in celebrating this joyful occasion.

Mirabella Joy Montgomery, daughter of **Christian and Sandra Montgomery** and granddaughter of **Joyce Montgomery**, was born on May 1. We wish Mirabella a blessed life and her family much joy.

Katherine Boaden, a beloved CCSM member, had a very special birthday on May 8. Blessing to you!

Rev. Dakota Ann Brown was ordained April 23 at CCSM, enthusiastically supported by family, friends and church family. She is now a healthcare chaplain for those on hospice care. Blessings to **Dakota, Julia and Seneca**.

Sheila, Sharon Tobin's twin sister, had cancer surgery. She has made excellent progress and needs no further treatment.

Jonathan, Don Ruthroff's husband, received his green card and is able to work in the United States. We thank God for this blessing.

Joann Bottini, a close friend of **Gordon and Margaret Smith**, had surgery on her neck and back in April. They all are grateful for our prayers and a very successful outcome.

PRAYERS FOR COMFORT...

Virginia Weir, an active and long-

time member, passed away at age 96 on May 5 surrounded by family. She was considered the Rummage Sale queen and a leader of Women's Fellowship at CCSM. She leaves behind 6 children, numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. For more information: sierraviewfuneralchapel.net/obituaries/Virginia-Weir.

PRAYERS OF HEALING AND SUPPORT...

Mabel Green, Carla Hammons' aunt, has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkins mantle cell lymphoma. Mabel's husband recently died. Please keep Mabel, Carla and their family in this difficult time.

Gloria Coss, Maggie Alegria's dear friend, has brain cancer. May God's healing touch bring wellness and complete recovery.

Niel Repp, Deb Flaherty's beloved brother, had an unexpected quadruple bypass. May God's healing touch enable Niel to regain his strength and activity level very soon.

David Long, son of **Warren and Susan Long**, is getting stronger and re-learning daily life skills in Seattle after a serious fall. The Long family is grateful for the enormous outpouring of support and love from friends, family and CCSM. To follow David's progress and to leave messages for Warren and Susan, please visit caringbridge.org/support4david.

Betty from Samaritan House Dining is experiencing health challenges and asks for our prayers. We pray Betty receives complete healing in the days to come.

Dorothy Scott had knee surgery on Monday, May 2. Dottie thanks her wonderful church family for all of our get well wishes and prayers. She also celebrated a birthday May 22. Please keep her in your hearts as she experiences ankle pain and recovers.

Jennifer, Genel Morgan's "daughter," had thyroid cancer surgery on May 3 in Taiwan. Please keep Jennifer and her loved ones in prayer as she recovers and finds out whether she is cancer-free.

Tom Don, Sarah Iya's father, was diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer. We pray for God's healing touch as he undergoes

treatment in London.

Donna, Dawn Graves' mother, continues to struggle with neuroendocrine tumor disease and grieve for her beloved husband who died. May Donna experience solace in her time of need.

Carol Quackenbos, dear friend of **Linda Stoick**, has been diagnosed with an illness and is need of prayerful support during her recovery.

Linda Hodges is home, walking with a walker and driving again. Please remember Linda in prayer as she regains strength and stamina from three surgeries and an illness.

Tim Latta, wife of **John Latta**, mother of **Cathy** and grandmother of **Lily**, had knee replacement surgery on April 7 in Texas. Please keep Tim and family in prayer as she heals.

Genel Morgan had successful knee replacement surgery on April 13 and is doing well. Genel is asking for strength during her rehabilitation.

Rosemarie Pero has had several health challenges and has been unable to drive for 3 months. May God's healing touch be upon her as she regains her health and gradually returns to her normal, active routine.

Please pray for **Kate Engelberg** (friend of **Holly Allen** and **Camille Grant**), **Paula** (sister-in-law of **Kirsten Smith**), **Janice Kennedy** (cousin of **Margaret and Gordon Smith**), **Bill Daniels, Emily Tomasi**, and others as they walk their unique journeys with cancer.

Continuing prayers for **Mary Ann Notz, Joann Bottini, Anne McEntee, Ruth Black, Marjorie Griffin, Cathy Latta, Martha Grannis, Lorraine Gustafson, Martha Imai, George Kromhout, Rosalee Lower, Phyllis Mead, Adrienne Mitchell, Genevieve and John Parsons, Vera Pitts, Fred Petri, Janet Smith Roberts (sister of Gordon Smith), June Schutte, Betty Stout, and Travis Woodmansee**.

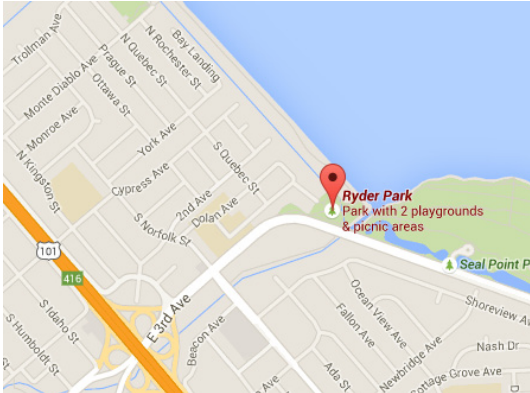
The pastoral staff wants to thank you for sharing your joys and concerns with us. There are many that we pray for each week; some we can share with the congregation and some we are asked to hold in confidence. Please know that all of your joys and concerns are important. You may contact the church office or email jbower@ccsm-ucc.org if you need support during the week.

THE ALL-CHURCH SUMMER PICNIC IS COMING!

SUNDAY, JULY 10, RYDER PARK

Come to the annual All Church Picnic immediately after church. Ryder 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:** starchy sides (rice, beans or pasta)
- J-R:** dessert
- S-Z:** green or fruit salad, vegetables, or fruit



If your dish is either "gluten-free" or vegan" it would be very 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!

TIME OUT FOR LUNCH

The "Time Out for Lunch" groups are reforming for the Summer and Fall. We meet for

a luncheon every five weeks for four sessions. It is a wonderful way to meet new women and enjoy each other's company. We are always looking for new members. Our lunches will start in July and end in October.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact Diane Kalliam (415-469-7750) or dkalliam@gmail.com.

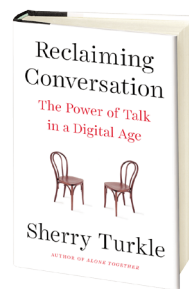


SAVE THE DATE: TALK TO ME! RECLAIMING CONVERSATION SATURDAY, AUGUST 27 AT CCSM IN THE MORNING

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 screed 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.



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[FACEBOOK.COM/CCSM.UCC](https://www.facebook.com/ccsm.ucc)



The Pine Tree

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In This Issue

A Word from Penny.....	1
Sunday Celebrations.....	1
Children, Youth & Families....	2
Summer Church School.....	2
Pentecost Celebrated.....	2
Nursery volunteers needed ...	2
Scholarship Winners.....	2
Tiny Treasures.....	3
Spiritual Summer Camps.....	3
Ministry of Service & Justice ...	4
Pride Celebration.....	4
Wheels Team.....	4
You Make a Difference.....	4
Shaving supplies needed.....	4
Zen of the Brush Stroke.....	5
Free Lunches for Children.....	5
Home Communion.....	6
After Worship Prayer Teams...	6
Neighborhood Groups.....	6
Calling our Minister of Community Engagement.....	7
CE Renovation Plans... ..	7
From Your Moderator.....	8
Bella Voce Serenades Seniors ..	8
Joys & Concerns.....	9
All-Church Picnic.....	10
Time Out for Lunch.....	10
Reclaiming Conversation.....	10