

CCSM PINE TREE

VOL. 65, #8 | OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2016

Second Chance Pick-A-Party

Sunday, October 23

Our annual CCSM Pick A Party fundraiser -- which is a great way to enjoy the fellowship of CCSM members and friends while supporting our church financially -- was a big success last Sunday. If you missed the chance to purchase a party, you can do so in Kloss Hall on **Sunday, 10/23**, or contact Carol Henton this week at carolhenton@aol.com or 650-544-7563.



2016 Pick-A-Party photo by Chris Yeh

We sincerely thank all who have generously offered one or more of the 59 parties! Questions? Contact Jennifer Jacoby-Yeh at 650-346-6114 or Carol Henton.

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

Sermon series with Penny Nixon preaching

OCTOBER 23 • Faith and Housing Weekend

Sermon: *Recalculating anger...*

OCTOBER 30 • ALL SAINTS/Communion

Sermon: *Recalculating Memory...*

NOVEMBER 6

Sermon: *Recalculating Imagination...*

NOVEMBER 13

Sermon: *Recalculating choices...*

NOVEMBER 20 • THANKSGIVING/FAMILY WORSHIP

Sermon: *Recalculating gratitude....*

A Word from Penny

How much did you give away last year? What an unusual question to ask on the front page of the Pine Tree. The thing is, we all are givers. We give away our money, our time, our energy, and our resources. We give away our love, our service, and our compassion. Giving opportunities abound and offer themselves to us constantly. We give to schools, causes, and disaster relief. We give to things and people we care about. In fact, people in the United States give away billions of dollars every year. Most of the giving doesn't come from the wealthy, but from regular people like you and me. We are a generous people.

How do you decide how much to give? Sometimes it is unplanned and you are simply moved to contribute. Some of you decide your giving based on a percentage of your income.

Most non-profits and faith communities are sustained primarily by people's generosity. That is true of CCSM-- the generosity of faithful people has enabled us to thrive for over 150 years.

Can we ever measure the impact that generosity has had across the generations? Is it even possible to quantify the difference that CCSM has made in our lives, in our community, and all over the world?

—cont. on page 3—



Congregational
Church of san mateo

225 TILTON AVENUE, SAN MATEO, CA 94401
650 343-3694 | CCSM-UCC.ORG

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

News from Cynthia



I very much appreciate the opportunity to work with Penny, with the leadership team at CCSM, and with the children and families of this congregation as Director of Children's Ministries. So, it is with mixed feelings

and a heavy heart that, for health reasons, I will be resigning from my Director role, effective November 6. The computer use required for the job is impacting my eyesight.

I know that the this news comes at a challenging time, in the wake of other staffing changes, and after we had all been working towards, and anticipating, my having a longer term of service as Director. Please know that I did not make this decision to resign lightly, but only when I realized that my health and well-being depended upon my making this very significant change. Also, please know that I care deeply about the CCSM community and do not wish to leave you, but rather, to continue on as Storyteller for the prek/k class. I am also happy to support the transition to a new Director in any way that feels good to all of us, including mentoring/overlapping with a new Director, and including potentially providing curriculum support.



Finding Our Way at Church School

by Cynthia Starborn



This fall in Church School, we are exploring a lot of Old Testament stories, many of which help us to us to “recalculate” or find our way. In Sandra

Sotogronдона's 4th/5th grade Godly Play class, students recently wrote the “Ten Best Ways” (Ten Commandments) in their own words, and arranged them in a heart shape. Thank you to Sandra and to your students for this beautiful reminder that truly, the best way to live our lives is from the heart.



Juliette, born October 8, the newest daughter of Hilary and Paul Briant and littlest sister to Madeleine and Charlotte. Welcome to the world!

A Word from Penny...

—cont. from p. 1—

Today, the CCSM voice of faith, the faith that is inclusive, open-minded, and justice-seeking, is more important than ever in our current political climate. With the mainstreaming of hate, we return to our most deeply held value of mainstreaming love. In an age of increasing divisions, we reach out across social and racial lines in our neighborhood.

CCSM's commitment to responsible stewardship makes certain that every dollar that comes in and every dollar that goes out is accounted for—income and expense, profit and loss. But in God's economy of giving, there is only profit. There is only the ongoing ripple effect of generosity.

November is a time we pause to think about our giving, our generosity and our gratitude. Stayed tuned for an exciting stewardship campaign to begin in the weeks ahead. Look for hints here and there to see if you can guess the theme before it is unveiled.

In gratitude,

Penny

Progressive Christianity: The Sexuality Conversation

Sunday, October 23

11:50am

Buckham Room

Join Penny and Nicole as they talk about how progressive Christianity approaches sexual ethics. How do spirituality and sexuality inform one another? Religion has had a lot to say about sexuality and sexual values and it has not always been helpful. Is Progressive Christianity offering anything new and different?



SUNDAYS AFTER SERVICE, 11:50AM - 1:00PM • BUCKHAM ROOM

Join Penny for these important conversations about Progressive Christianity.

A religion is as much a progressive unlearning of false ideas concerning God as it is the learning of the true ideas concerning God. —Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan

What are the main differences between fundamental, evangelical, conservative and progressive Christianity? What are the major influences on and history of progressive Christianity? How does progressive Christianity view the traditional doctrines of the church? Is progressive Christianity still really Christian? Why is progressive Christianity important and does it really make a difference what I believe? Why is CCSM so committed to progressive Christianity? Is progressive Christianity just another version of religious liberalism? Childcare available. Email cstarborn@ccsm-ucc.org to reserve.

September 25 *The Authority Conversation*
October 2 *The God Conversation*
October 9 *The UCC & Progressive Christianity Conversation*
October 16 *The Jesus Conversation*

October 23 *The Sexuality Conversation (Nicole & Penny)*
October 30 *The Culture Conversation (Jorge & Penny)*
November 6 *The Justice Conversation*
November 13 *The Sin and Evil Conversation*
November 20 *Toxic Theology No More!*

TWO WAYS TO HELP LOCAL FAMILIES CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS

1. ADOPT A FAMILY BY BUYING CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
2. FEED A FAMILY A HOLIDAY DINNER

ADOPT-A-FAMILY: Sunday, November 27

Look for the Adopt-A-Family Christmas tree on the loggia and Anne Fuller's smile. Once again she is leading CCSM's effort to fulfill the holiday wishes and needs of local families who are struggling through difficult times in their lives. The small tree will be decorated with over 70 paper ornaments. Each ornament represents a wish or need of one of the family members. Please select a wish from the tree, register your selection on the clipboards next to the tree, then purchase the requested gift, and return it unwrapped to the church by **Sunday, December 11**. Later distribute the gifts to the delighted



LifeMoves (formerly InnVision/Shelter Network) will wrap them for their family.

HOLIDAY DINNER

Fill a shopping bag with the family. Stop by the table on the and list of items to purchase, and then distribute to needy neighbors. (No live or frozen turkeys, please! A Safeway gift card will do.)

makings for a holiday dinner for a food-challenged loggia starting **October 30** to sign up, get your bag return the filled bag in **mid-December** for Call Primrose to

MSJ



Ministry of Service & Justice

Encourage Children to Read

Samaritan House is dedicated to promoting literacy in their young clients by distributing over 3,000 books each year! So bring new and gently-used children's books to church on the Sundays in October. Books for any age from birth through teen years will delight the children and promote their interest in learning. If you spot one of our CCSM children at worship, pass the book to them to put in the collection bin at the "Time for Children."

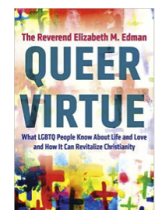


YOU ARE THE HANDS AND FEET OF GOD.

Queer Virtue: An Aspect of Progressive Christianity

October 30 and November 6, 9:30-10:15AM Fireplace Room

As an openly lesbian Episcopal priest and professional advocate for LGBTQ justice, author Rev. Elizabeth Edman has spent her career grappling with the core tenets of her faith. She believes what LGBTQ people know about life and love can revitalize Christianity. Rather than asking what Christianity has to say about queerness, Edman turns the lens around and asks what queerness can tell us about Christianity. Are you enticed? Then read *Queer Virtue* (copies upstairs in the library) and join us for conversation.



Wonder Why You Ever Bought That Outfit?

Start clearing your closet of under-appreciated clothes—and then... don't go shopping. Come swapping! According to the Environmental Protection Agency, 84% of unwanted clothes in the United States goes into a landfill or an incinerator. Let's reduce that.



Wednesday, October 26, come to the **MSJ CLOTHES SWAP in the Buckham Room, 6:00-8:30**. It's free! Gently used women's clothes and accessories may be delivered earlier in the week or brought to the swap. Bring as much as you want; take as much as you want. Remaining items will be donated to charity (donation receipts available).

A Shining Light for Justice

In front of over 750 people, our Laura Peterhans (seated on the right) received special recognition at this month's LifeMoves breakfast for being an early "Pioneer" for her continued advocacy for the homeless over several decades. Fourteen other CCSMers joined Laura at the banquet.



As LifeMoves Senior Manager of Volunteers, our Lynnelle Bilsley laughs in spite of getting up at 4:00AM to organize the hundreds of volunteers for the LifeMoves breakfast.



Let's Raise the Roof!

Supporting First Congregational Church of Berkeley after their devastating fire

Two fundraising concerts: Saturday, 11/19, & Sunday, 12/18

You may have heard about the devastating fire at First Congregational Church of Berkeley on September 30. Everyone was evacuated safely, praise God. But the church sustained major property damage. Please raise up your prayers for this church, and all who are impacted by the fire. Dick Hom, the National PAAM Moderator, and Roy Mosley, Conference Moderator, are organizing two fundraising concerts to benefit FCCB.

The first concert will be in San Francisco on **Saturday, November 19 at 6pm at First Congregational Church UCC, 1300 Polk St., San Francisco**. The second concert will be in the East Bay on **Sunday, December 18th at 6pm**, hosted by Faith Community Church UCC and held at **Lake Park Methodist, 281 Santa Clara Ave. in Oakland**. Join us for an evening of uplifting and spirited music, fellowship and light refreshments and bring your family and friends!

For tickets, please contact Roy Mosley: (415) 742-0538; roymosley@comcast.net. \$25 donation or \$20/each for 2 or more.





CCSM's Companion Ministry

CCSM is starting an exciting new ministry to connect church members in need of support with caring companions. A trained volunteer companion will be assigned to regularly visit a congregant who may be lonely, recovering from a medical problem, or in need of support from any number of life's challenges.

Our first meeting will be **Saturday, November 5, 11 am - 12:30 pm**. Yummy healthy snacks provided. This meeting will allow us to meet and greet, as well as a brief training introduction where you will be assigned a congregant to visit.

Then on **January 8** after church we'll hold a 4-hour training, **11:45 to 3:45**. Lunch will be provided. We'll ask volunteers to commit to a one-year stint as a Companion. No prior experience in a human services role is necessary.

We are also interested in hearing from congregants (age 21 and older) who might be in need of a church Companion. Both potential Companions and those desiring a Companion should contact Rev. Dakota at 415-244-3696 to express interest in the ministry.

First Tuesday Book Group

Tuesday, November 1 • 7:30-9:00pm • Fireplace Room

Please come join us for spirited and energetic discussions! Our next selection to discuss is *The Rembrandt Affair* by Daniel Silva—a thriller with Gabriel Allon as protagonist, focusing on Israeli intelligence. His team seeks a lost Rembrandt whose previous owners have included both Holocaust victims and terrorists.

All are welcome. Please read the book and bring your opinions and thoughts. We always have divergent views that spice up the conversation. To join the email blast, send your email to Susan Stoehr: s_stoehr@hotmail.com. Or direct questions to Betsy Woodward at betsdce@comcast.net.

What is Dia de los Muertos?

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Dia de Los Muertos is around the corner, and as many of you know it is an important celebration in Mexico and other parts of South America that dates back to the Aztec Empire before the arrival and conquest of the Spanish. In the past decades, this celebration has become more and more popular and celebrated in cities in the United States, especially in Latin@ communities. Yet, it is too often that in the U.S. Dia de los Muertos is misunderstood as a variation of Halloween, but it shouldn't be equated and is a very different celebration.

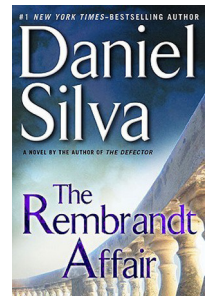


Therefore, on **October 23rd, 9:30am-10:20am**, we will learn more about this wonderful celebration. Our hope is that it would encourage and increase cultural awareness, appreciation and acceptance of Dia de los Muertos. Together we will better understand the cultural significance and purpose of Dia de los Muertos celebration. Look forward to seeing you there.

Peace,

Jorge P. Bautista

*Note: We will have our own CCSM celebration of Dia de los Muertos **October 27, 4-8pm**, with sugar skulls to decorate and an altar to commemorate the lives of loved ones. Be ready to leave a message in the Book of the Dead and bring mementos of the dearly departed to help the community altar, which will stay up until Nov. 6 so we can spend time with our loved ones during the week.*



20s and 30s at CCSM

Our 20s and 30s group at CCSM had a wonderful gathering a couple of weeks ago with Rev. Jorge! Jorge made us a wonderful, home-cooked meal (ceviche de coliflor, vampiro beet salad, chili, and rice!) that we enjoyed together, starting with a prayer that helped us remember all the people who made our meal possible. After dinner, we played a game of Scattergories (Jelle won with his vast knowledge of the animal kingdom!).



CCSM's 20s and 30s group continues to get to know each other as the group grows and changes. If you would like to be a part of this growing group, email Joliene (jgatlin@ccsm-ucc.org). We usually gather a couple of times a month to share a meal and conversation. Any adult under 40 is welcome to join and please feel free to bring friends!

Music and Art

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21 • BUCKHAM ROOM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18 • SANCTUARY

On Friday, October 21, come enjoy a walk through Spain. Our own Senior Minister, Penny Nixon, will tell of her 16-miles-a-day walk on The Camino in Spain.

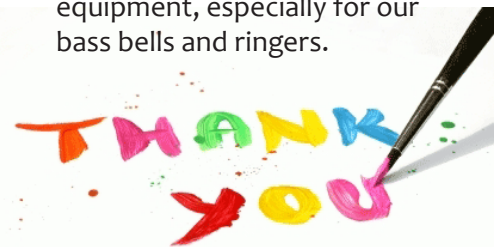
Then on Friday, November 18, we'll gather at noon in the Sanctuary. Angela Kraft Cross will present a special program of organ music commemorating the centennial of the death of Max Reger. Angela will play his stormy Toccata and Fugue in Dminor/Dmajor. Other German composers featured will be Bach, Mendelssohn, Schumann and Brahms. Lunch and business meeting will follow in the Buckham Room. As always, bring your own sandwich/salad. Beverages and dessert are provided. Guests and new members are always welcome.

Reserve your space by calling Susan Duty 650-533-6828 by noon, November 14.

From the Bells...

A NOTE OF THANKS TO MUSIC & ART

The Carillon Ringers would like to share our appreciation for the gift of new pads & covers for our bell tables. These pads are a wonderful addition to the bell equipment, especially for our bass bells and ringers.



Halloween Organ Concert

Friday, October 28, 8:00pm • Sanctuary

Come to the Third Annual Halloween Organ Concert, featuring Phantom of the Casavant (Angela Kraft Cross), Mr. Skully Bones (Tom Lohmuller), and young organists Count Chasula (Chase Olson) Mad Hatter (Ryan Chi), Sherlock Holmes (Ethan Chi) and the Dark Lord Hugo (Dominic Pang). Come enjoy an evening of spooky organ music in the awesomely decorated sanctuary! The concert is FREE but a suggested donation of \$15 for adults/\$10 for seniors would be most appreciated.

CCSM Live!

What you've missed this month!

On Facebook:

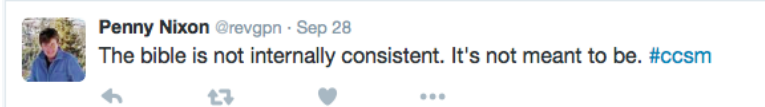
(Like us and follow CCSM at facebook.com/CCSM.UCC/)



Kibbie Ruth ▸ Congregational Church of San Mateo United Church of Christ
October 3 at 12:14pm · 🌐

Jim missed Penny's excellent Progressive Christianity class on Sunday because he was doing his "annual checkup" on former CCSM intern Greg Davis, now pastor of Northwest UCC in Las Vegas. Jim got his progressive Christianity lesson from the banner on the Northwest church's wall.

On Twitter: (Follow Rev. Penny Nixon [@revgpn](https://twitter.com/revgpn))



On CCSM's website:

Watch the latest sermons at CCSM-UCC.org/Sermons/



Recalculating Beauty

October 9, 2016 – Joliene Wade Gatlin

In this sermon, from our **Recalculating: Finding Our Way Again** sermon series, Joliene Wade Gatlin asks how we might recalculate beauty. How do we create and structure beauty in our lives? How do we respond to it in the world? Joliene looks at current events through the lens of how different people respond to people and things the find beautiful.

Read this before watching Joliene's sermon: [The Swan](#) by Mary Oliver and [Scripture: Exodus 28:31-40](#)

Please give us a positive review on Yelp:

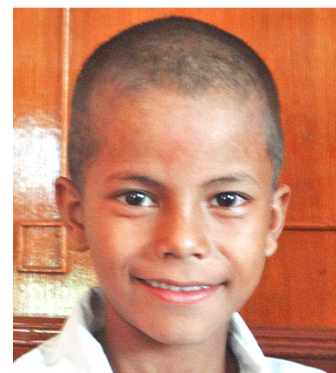
yelp.com/biz/congregational-church-of-san-mateo-united-church-of-christ-san-mateo



Thanks to other Yelpers for pointing me here. Experience was totally welcoming, friendly and accessible, from both the officiants and the congregation, all smiles. Helpful handout program/newsletter. Very kid friendly. Sermon was excellent, got real value out of it. Will be back.

Your Support Helped!

Our plate collection last June for Nepal Youth Foundation enabled us to sponsor Roshan Singh. Roshan had a traumatic early childhood in the remote Kailali district: his father died, his mother abandoned him and his grandmother and he resorted to begging for food. Nepal Youth Foundation received a request from the area's child welfare department to rescue Roshan. He now lives at "J House," the foundation's orphanage in Kathmandu, where he has blossomed into a healthy, happy seven year old. He is in grade 2 at Phoenix School – one of Kathmandu's best schools – where he is a bright, hardworking student. We look forward to watching him grow.



Roshan Singh

Joys and Concerns

CCSM Pastoral Care Team

Please share your prayers with the pastoral care team: Rev. Dr. Penny Nixon, Rev. Jorge Bautista, Rev. Dakota Brown, and Intern Joliene Wade Gatlin. You are invited to share your prayers, your hopes, and your lives. You may connect with us in the following ways:

- in person,
- by filling out a blue prayer card at Sunday service,
- by filling out a ccsm-ucc.org/MyCCSM online prayer request,
- by contacting us via staff emails listed in your bulletin, the website, or the Pine Tree newsletter.

You may also contact the church office or email Dakota at dbrown@ccsm-ucc.org or call 415-244-3696 if you need support during the week, and Dakota will make sure one of the pastors contacts you as soon as possible.

SPECIAL OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Betsy Woodward turned 70 on October 9, **Jean Chamberlain** turned 90 on October 10, and **George Parker** turns 98 on October 19th

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

Pray for our sisters and brothers who are affected by **Hurricane Matthew** in Haiti and the United States. God, calm all the storms and rivers that threaten them. May they be secure in your loving protection.

Prayers for **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**, may we prayer for everyone has been affected by breast cancer and for all cancer. God, we pray for our friends who are ill, we pray for our mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers who have been touched by cancer. Lord, we come in need of your loving hand because in you all things are possible.

Prayers for knowing we are enough: *I pray you a life filled with just enough good things to daily sustain your life. I pray you enough faith to endure your heartaches. I pray you enough hope to help you face the future. I pray you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye. I pray you enough love to always know someone cares. I*

pray you enough good memories so you will not forget God's blessings.

PRAYERS OF JOY

We celebrate the 65th wedding anniversary of **Trudy and Arnold Duncan**. What a beautiful example of loving service the Duncans' marriage is to all of us!

We welcome to the world **Juliette Elizabeth Briant**, born October 8, 2016, the newest daughter of **Hilary and Paul Briant** and littlest sister to **Madeleine and Charlotte**.

Prayers of joy for **Thelma Kromhout** who is doing much better from a fall and broken wrist. We are glad for her healing.

Gratitude for the continued healing of **Ann Fyfe** from her hip replacement.

Pico Soriano is healing and doing better each day. Thank you all for your cards and prayers. Pico is still in a skilled nursing facility and continues to recover from being hit by a car. Cards are very welcomed. San Bruno Skilled Nursing Facility, Attn: Pico Soriano, 890 El Camino, San Bruno 94066, (650) 583-7768.

Everly (cousin of **Genel Morgan**), a 16-month-old little girl,

has returned home and is feeling better. We pray for her continued health.

David Long continues to make steady progress. To follow David's progress and to leave messages for **Warren and Susan**, please visit www.caringbridge.org. You will find David under support4david.

PRAYERS OF COMFORT

John Shaw, beloved brother of **Carolyn Shaw**, passed away suddenly on October 4 from a heart attack. "He was the best brother ever."

Malcolm Warrender, brother-in-law of **Joan Kilroe**, passed away Saturday, September 24th. Prayers of comfort for **Kay**, his wife, and the whole family during this time of loss.

Prayers for the family of **Carol Fitzgerald**, close friend of **Sarah Block**, who died after a long fight with pancreatic cancer. Pray for all who grieve Carol's untimely passing and for the husband and children she leaves behind.

Prayers of comfort for **Gene Chelberg** on the unexpected death of his guide dog **Paddy**, who died August 31. Paddy faithfully guided Gene as a constant companion for over seven years. Please pray for Gene and his

—Joys and Concerns continued—

spouse David in a time of deep grief.

PRAYERS OF HEALING AND SUPPORT

Prayers for **Joliene Gatlin's** grandmother who fell and badly hurt her wrist. May she heal quickly and without pain.

Prayers for **Doug Gatlin, Caleb Gatlin's** father and **Joliene's** father-in-law, with undiagnosed heart trouble.

Continued prayers for **Dottie Scott's** grandson **Lee Shaffer**.

Linda Hodges is looking for immediate housing in San Mateo county. Please notify her or the church office if you can help. Looking for a room or studio to rent. 650-888-4184. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Continued prayers for **Norm Hanson** (family member of **Lori Shepard**) for his complete recov-

ery and for his fiancée Betty.

Donna Stanger (mother of **Dawn Graves**) fell and broke her ankle. We pray for the healing and recovery for her ankle as she also continues to recover from her struggle with cancer.

Prayers for **Sheri** (sister of **Dawn Graves**), healing from an unexpected illness and hospitalization while traveling. Sheri is now home but we continue to pray for her good health and healing.

Please visit **Harry Dehlinger** who is at Millbrae Skilled Care, 33 Mateo Avenue, Millbrae, California 94030, (650) 689-5784. Please visit him if you are able, or send cards. He would love to see you. **Olga-Barbra Dehlinger** is also in need of visits. She would love someone to talk to about the fun things in life. She could use some emotional support and help for

daily tasks such as rides to visit Harry, to church and to doctor's appointments. All support and companionship is helpful. 650-589-5287.

Please pray for **Janice Kennedy** (cousin of **Margaret** and **Gordon Smith**), **Bill Daniels**, and others as they walk their unique journeys with cancer.

Continuing prayers for **Mark** (friend of **Sandee Schlickman**) **Sheri** (sister of **Dawn Graves**), **Mark** (friend of **Judy Hemmer**) **Travis Woodmansee**, **Jim Groundwater**, **David Long**, **Anne McEntee**, **Ruth Black**, **Marjorie Griffin**, **Cathy Latta**, **Martha Grannis**, **Martha Imai**, **George Kromhout**, **Phyllis Mead**, **Adrienne Mitchell**, **Genevieve** and **John Parsons**, **Fred Petri**, **Janet Smith Roberts** (sister of **Gordon Smith**), and **June Schutte**.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Community Service on November 17

4:00-6:00pm • Kloss Hall

Reception immediately following

CCSM is pleased to host this year's Transgender Day of Remembrance Service for San Mateo County. Speakers from the San Mateo County Commissioners and the State of California's transgender Law Center will address the audience on raising awareness around transgender issues within society and the workplace. It is important to learn and share information, investigate ways to be more welcoming and connecting with transgender or gender non-conforming peoples in our world.

There will be a quiet candle-light vigil in the sanctuary (same time) for those seeking an alternate remembrance venue.

All are welcome. Please come.



“Children are Forever: All Sales Final”

Come see an off-broadway show without leaving San Mateo!

Sat., October 22, 6:00 pm • Buckham Room

You're invited to a solo one-act performance written and performed by comedian and solo artist Julia Jackson. Julia will be performing “Children are Forever: All Sales Final.” The show has won several awards for its script. Julia (Dakota Brown's wife), is a widely acclaimed performer and comedian and a semi-finalist in the San Francisco International Comedy Competition. Adult themes.

Cost: \$25. Tickets available at the door (all proceeds benefit CCSM through our Pick-A-Party fundraiser).



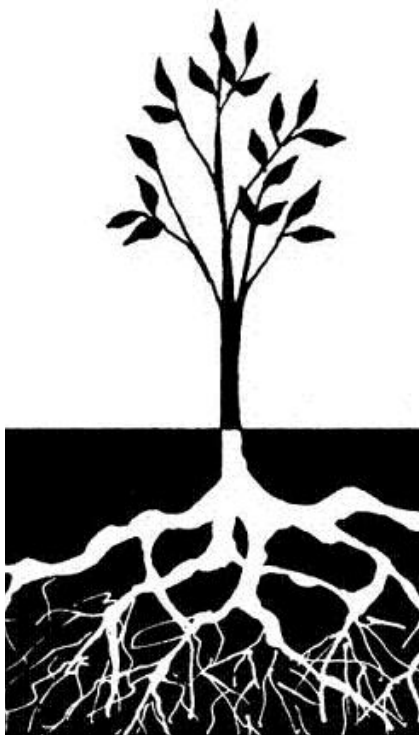
Wise & Wonderful Ones

Thursday, October 27, 4-8pm
Kloss Hall

We will join Rev. Jorge Perry Bautista in making sugar skulls to celebrate **Día de los Muertos** (Day of the Dead). We will decorate and an altar to commemorate the lives of loved ones. Be ready to leave a message in the Book of the Dead and bring mementos of the dearly departed to help build Kloss Hall's community altar.

Thursday, November 9, 10:30-noon
Buckham Room

Sharing Female Stories of Faith and Feminine Christian Iconography. We will talk about how these stories and images of women of faith such as St. Ann (grandmother of Jesus) or Saint Hildegard of Bingen inform our own faith journey.



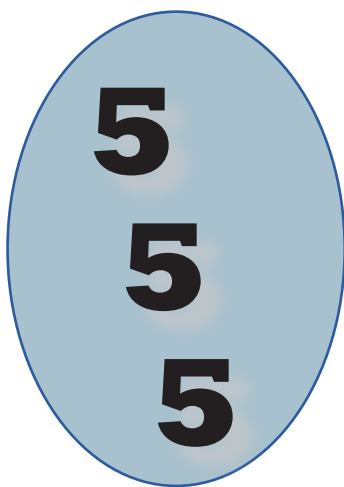
The excitement of Pick-A-Party Sunday! Not only does this fundraiser raise money for all the many interesting line-items in CCSM's budget, but it also gets people into each other's homes and spending time with each other. Not to mention the little adrenaline rush of stalking your party of choice...

photo by Chris Yeh



IN THIS ISSUE

Sunday Celebrations	1
2nd Chance Pick-A-Party	1
A Word from Penny	1
News from Cynthia	2
Finding Our Way at Church School ..	2
Progressive Christianity	3
Ministry of Service and Justice	4
Help Local Families at the Holidays ..	4
Encourage Children to Read	4
Queer Virtue	4
MSJ Clothing Swap	5
A Shining Light for Justice	5
Benefit Concert for FCB	5
CCSM's Companion Ministry	6
Dia de los Muertos	6
First Tuesday Book Group	6
20s/30s at CCSM	7
Music & Art	7
Thank you from the Bells	7
Halloween Organ Concert	7
CCSM Live! What you missed.....	8
Your Support Helped	8
Joys & Concerns	9
Transgender Day of Remembrance .	10
"Children are Forever: All Sales Final"	11
Wise & Wonderful Ones	11
CCSM Job Opportunities.....	12
555	12



FACEBOOK.COM/CCSM.UCC

CCSM Job Opportunities: YOU CAN HELP!

We are in the process of recruiting candidates for two job opportunities:

The Director of Music and **The Director of Children's Ministries.**

Both of these positions are half-time and their specific job descriptions are posted on our website at ccsm-ucc.org/job-opportunities/.



We are advertising these positions in multiples places as appropriate including; the UCC Northern California Conference website, the Pacific School of Religion, Craigslist and choral.net. Additionally, Penny is reaching out to her extensive West Coast network for leads.

If you know of anyone that you think might be a potential long-term fit for CCSM in one of these roles, or if you have a suggestion for where else to advertise, please contact Penny.

While we are looking to fill the Director of Music Ministries position soon, we will begin interviewing for this position in December. As we anticipate that this position will take some time to fill, we are beginning our lead generation efforts now.

Going forward, interviewing teams will be assembled for both roles. For the Director of Music this team will include (at a minimum) a Music Ministry team member, a Music staff member, a Chancel Choir member, a Personnel Committee member (or HR professional) and Penny. For the Director of Children's Ministries the team will include (at a minimum) a CYF member, a member of the Board of Ministries/Executive team and Penny.

We will keep you posted as we move forward. Thank you!

CCSM NE TREE

A newsletter for the families and friends
of the Congregational Church of San Mateo, UCC

The Pine Tree (USPS 433-380) is published monthly in the interest of Christian Fellowship by the Congregational church of San Mateo, 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo, CA. Periodical class postage paid at San Mateo, CA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Pine Tree, 225 Tilton Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94401.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE • TIME VALUED MAILING

for post office use only