

CCSM PINE TREE

VOL. 66, #8 | OCTOBER 2017



CCSM overflows!

For the last 5 weeks we've been talking about JOY! In the midst of everything going on in our world, there is still lots of joy around CCSM. Look at all these joyful people— These two photos (Iglesia San Mateo and the joining of new members on Sept. 24) show CCSM growing in joy and in spirit. With every person who becomes a part of this community, we expand our capacity for joy and for service.

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

FALL SERIES: *Lasting Happiness in a Changing World.* Penny Nixon

This series is based on *The Book of Joy* by The Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.



- OCT 15** *Money CAN Buy Happiness*
- OCT 22** 500th anniversary of the Reformation
- OCT 29** *Laughter IS the Best Medicine.* (Marge Boyd preaching)
- NOV 5** All Saints Sunday. *The Shortest Prayer*
- NOV 12** *Resignation or Acceptance?*
- NOV 19** *Passion.com*
- NOV 26** Thanksgiving Sunday. *The Practice of Joy*



Thanksgiving Service this year!

On Thanksgiving Day, **Thursday November 23rd**, at **10:00 AM**, we will join our sister church, St. James AME Zion on Monte Diablo Street, for a worship service of praise and gratitude.



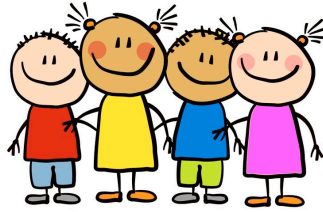
Congregational
Church of san mateo

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

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Did You Notice the Four & Two-Thirds New Children Who Joined with their Families?

Be sure to welcome little blonde Adriana, tiny Ra-
faela (often in a tummy pack), and Harris and his
almost-here sister in the Infant/Toddler Room, as
well as Adriana's
sister in the Pre-
Kindergarten/
Kindergarten class
across the hall. The
CCSM family keeps
on growing!



What's Happening Next Door?

The Woodward CE Building isn't totally finished, but already full of action.

- ◆ Our littlest ones are soaking up love in the infant/toddler room downstairs.
- ◆ Four and five year olds experience love in the context of our community of church and neighborhood.
- ◆ First, second and third graders learn bible stories and wonder what those ancient texts mean in this day and time.
- ◆ Fourth and fifth graders are exploring what is sacred for them personally—sacred space, sacred traditions, sacred stories, and more—with field trips to other congregations in the area.
- ◆ And, the mid-highers enjoy energetic discussions and activities with Bill, Dave and Sarah (dedicated volunteers for years) in the new Youth Room.
- ◆ When it isn't a second Sunday (the day for lively Sixty Minutes with Mike Mul-
lery), the high schoolers have been pitching in to enhance the children's experiences. There's always room for some grown-ups too. Volunteer to be the second adult in each room and see what's happening. Click on the link signupge-nius.com/go/30e0945abae1-volunteer to sign up.

Betsy's Gifts Revived

Not only did Betsy write one of her creative songs for Penny's tenth anniversary, she also started special children's worship services years ago. Having junior worship was an idea worth reviving. So, **the first Sunday of each month the children gather in the Will Bullis Community Room.** They light individual candles as they express their personal prayers, saying "Thank you...", "I'm sorry...", "I need help with...", or "(someone else) needs help."

Last week one child needed help remembering 50 states and their capitals; we might need God's help with that too! (Should I worry that no child has mentioned an apologetic prayer yet?) They have communion and sing and dance. (Don't you wish you could dance in worship?) At the end, they say the benediction, **GOD HAS NO HANDS BUT OUR HANDS, NO FEET BUT OUR FEET, NO VOICE BUT OUR VOICE, AND NO HEART BUT OUR HEART.**

If you want to be a kid again, you are always welcomed to join us for junior church.



Cheese! Drew and Henry enjoy Rev. Bill Dunbar's famous holy mac and cheese (covered with gold fish). Fish are an ancient symbol of Christianity.



Preparing a hug for Penny to celebrate her first ten years at CCSM on October 1

New Youth Room—New Confirmation

Preparation for confirmation used to require youth to attend weekly meetings over several months, but with our kids so busy with studies, sports and other activities, regular attendance became impossible and the program suffered. So, along with creating a new Youth Room, CYF also

created a new style of confirmation.

First, confirmation is now for high schoolers only, not 13-year-olds as in the past. Second, to join the church before turning 18, youth will need to attend one fall retreat and one spring retreat. With four years of high school, there are four years to prepare for confirmation (eight possibilities). Best of all, youth can come on the retreats as many times as they like. The first weekend on the mountain top listening for the Spirit is **October 21-22**; please send your prayers along with these faith explorers.

Good Gracious, Sakes Alive!

You are simply *too much!* Forty years ago, as a seminarian I came to CCSM to be with the mid-high group on the promise that the assignment would only last three months. I was NOT going into the ministry. But soon, like the cowboy in Westerns dragged behind his sprinting horse by a rope, I was dragged into ordained ministry against all my determined plans and intentions. After a couple years with CCSM's young people (then, anyone under 65), my teaching and consulting took me all over the country to hundreds of churches (95% of them in deep trouble). Burned out by struggling churches, I "retired" home to CCSM to enjoy Penny's sermons, long-time friends and the vibrancy here. Somehow, I ended up pastoring CCSM young people again (now anyone under 40)—full circle. How I have been blessed!

The week before the wild cardboard Kibbie appeared at worship in her silly hats and all your sweet messages, Lynnelle and her friends surprised me on the 40th anniversary of my ministry with my song for CCSM, Wicked's "Because I knew you...". I am who I am largely because I was raised, encouraged and nudged by you. As the song says,

...people come into our lives for a reason,
 bringing something we must learn,
 and we are led to those who help us
 most to grow...
 You'll be with me like a handprint on
 my heart
 and now whatever way our stories end I
 know you have re-written mine.
 I know I'm who I am today because I
 knew you
 ...I have been changed for good...for
 the better!

Thank you for forty years of being
 with me, behind me, and leading me.
 Clearly because I have known you, I
 have been changed for good.

With deep appreciation,
 Kibbie



Marge Boyd adjusts one of the many hats made for the standup Kibbie in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of Kibbie's ordination. This hat's tribute: "Vivacious, Vital, Vibrant," read out by Marge in her best Southern accent, was one of many reflections on Kibbie's character and ministry.



Nico Oberes-Padre "helping" set up the new youth room

New Youth Room: Standing Room Only!

A big thanks to everyone who donated to the CE building remodel, and to Austin Mader-Clark, Jim Lindsay, Jim Berthelsen, and Pam McCarthy-Hudson for seeing such a big project through to completion. Now all we need are places for the kids to sit! **If you have any comfy worn chairs or couches that you would like to donate** to the furnishing of the youth room, please email Patrick (PKane@CCSM-UCC.org) and we can make sure the piece fits in the room.



Thank you for all your kind help!

Confirmation Retreat, October 21-22

There's still time to register for the October half of our high school confirmation class retreat. We will be covering what it means to be confirmed, our faith traditions, prayer, and what it looks like to put your faith into action. The retreat is at Rev. Kibbie's house in Napa, and registration is \$30 to cover costs. You can register by emailing Patrick (PKane@ccsm-ucc.org).

NCNC Fall Youth Event

NOVEMBER 17-19

Registrations are open for the fall high school retreat, brought to us by Northern California Nevada Conference of the UCC! Fall Youth Event 2017 will be at Monte Toyon campground in Aptos, CA, and will be a great weekend with other youth from UCC churchers across Northern California—the same kids who go to Camp Caz each summer! You can go to ncnuc.org/yomc and scroll down to "Monte Toyon Fall Youth Event" to register.



Spend Your Wednesdays Helping Out!

We're looking for a rotating cast of characters to help supervise the children who come to our Wednesday night Iglesia San Mateo service! If you've got a **Wednesday night, 6:30-8:30** available every once in awhile, please contact Patrick (PKane@ccsm-ucc.org) to find out what volunteer openings we have.



The Iglesia San Mateo kids supervising Jorge



My Deep Gratitude to the CCSM Community

I can hardly find the words to express my deep gratitude for the celebration of my tenth anniversary. The day was beyond my imagining and I truly feel so blessed by all your love. The speakers were amazing, Angela's composition was breathtaking, the cake was yummy, the hugs from the children were precious, the food delicious, the photo book touching, and the commendations from the state legislature, state senate and from Jackie Speier's office a surprise for sure.

I really can't imagine a more wonderful community to serve and I am so proud of all the transformation we have experienced together.

So many people made the day happen, and I will thank them all personally, but a big shout out to Tony and Kathy Gallo who did so much behind the scenes organizing.

May we all share many more years to come.

Penny

Formation, Information, and Transformation

Penny and Amie have been working on organizing clergy on the Peninsula and with a small team of faith leaders are launching a Faith Leaders Cohort program (over 25 clergy are participating). The program focuses on formation, information and transformation in an effort to bring faith leaders forward with a moral voice and with social action here in San Mateo County. SVCF just awarded us \$33,000 for this program!

Thank you SVCF for your vision of peace and justice on the Peninsula and your commitment to the faith community.



THE 7TH ANNUAL

William J. Bullis Scholarship Fundraiser and Silent Auction

OCTOBER 21, 4:00-7:00PM • KLOSS HALL

The Will's Dream Foundation is proud to announce the annual scholarship fundraiser here at CCSM. It's been seven long years since Will lost his life in the San Bruno Fire. His dream was to become a chef, getting his education at the Culinary Institute. The Will's Dream Foundation, along with the Culinary Institute of America, are keeping his dream alive by offering a \$15,000 scholarship to a qualified applicant who like Will wants to fulfill their culinary dream. This year, Congresswoman Jackie Speier will be the auctioneer.

Wine and hors d'oeuvres served. We are looking forward to seeing you. For tickets go to: tinyurl.com/7thWillsDream



Penny Returns to Israel

For the last nine months, I have been part of a Christian-Jewish Leadership Project sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council in San Francisco. There are about 25 leaders in this leadership project from the greater Bay Area and we have been studying together once a month. The project culminates in a 10-day study trip to Israel.

We have the privilege of studying at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Shalom Hartman Institute is a Jewish research and education institute based in Jerusalem that offers pluralistic Jewish thought and education to scholars, rabbis, educators, and Jewish community leaders in Israel and North America. (hartman.org.il/) We will be studying with one of the leading intellectual and spiritual rabbis in Israel. I'll be gone from **October 23 - November 3**, and will return filled with lots of interesting new thoughts and ideas!



Music and Art

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, NOON-2PM • BUCKHAM ROOM

Bring your own bag lunch; beverages and dessert are provided. After our fellowship lunch and a brief business meeting we'll move to the sanctuary for our wonderful program.



We are fortunate to have Kathleen Nelson, pianist and vocalist, present "400 Years in 40 Minutes." She will be playing compositions from Baroque to Modern and expanding our musical knowledge with many magical moments of musical history. You will definitely want to be present for this program, so reserve your place by e-mail to: susanjd52@gmail.com or phone Susan Duty, 650-533-6828. Guests are welcome. See you then.



CCSM Pictorial Directory

If you haven't gotten your new CCSM directory, stop by the church office after worship or during the week. Everyone who had a photo taken by Lifetouch gets a free directory; others are asked to pay \$5.00 to defray our cost.



Seeking Glass Ball Ornaments!

Do you have too many plain glass ball ornaments to fit on your Christmas



tree? The Liturgical Arts Team (LAT) is planning for Advent and could use some more glass ornaments—any color—between golf ball and tennis ball size. If you have some to donate, please bring them to the office with a note that they're for LAT.

Many thanks!

Signs of joy: Children spontaneously gather around 11th grader Gabby at the piano to sing "This Little Light of Mine."

Graduation Congratulations!

David Bior Kur, an orphan from South Sudan, lived for 13 years in a refugee camp. For about eight years now, CCSM, through the ministry of Mission, Service and Justice (MSJ) has paid for admission fees, books, and room and board for David's schooling in Uganda. Recently David graduated from Meritorious Biztech College in the Ministry of Petroleum in Uganda. He earned the honor of finishing second in his class. He has also passed some internship training courses in the Ministry of Petroleum in South Sudan and he has been working as external coordinator under the Rebuild South Sudan office in Juba. He is a thoughtful, responsible, service-minded and hardworking young man.

David's cousin Jacob, also an orphan, was helped by CCSM for many years of schooling and living expenses. Jacob is currently making top grades at a pharmacy school in India.

Both young men say they want a good education in order to help rebuild their war-torn homeland of South Sudan. They continually express their appreciation for the support CCSM has given them and want us to know our prayers and support have changed their lives.



David Bior Kur



LOVE: Lots Of Volunteer Efforts

Rev. Dakota Brown is asking for your support for our church community. Here are some different ways you can join in. Help as infrequently as once a year. Contact Dakota @ 415-244-3696 or dbrown@ccsm-ucc.org

JOIN CFE (CARE, FELLOWSHIP AND EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME).

- **Coffee Connections Team** – Provide extravagant welcome and light refreshments at our coffee hour after worship. Work with a small team to provide refreshments, set up, serve, and clean up.
- Many **welcoming opportunities** throughout the year: meals, activities, picnics, new member breakfast, Easter and Christmas plant delivery. And MORE! So Much FUN!

CARE OPPORTUNITIES

- **Companion Ministry** – *NEW* Provide companionship to our congregants in need. You will be assigned to regularly visit a congregant requesting assistance. This is an ongoing ministry with a one-year commitment. No prior experience is necessary and training will be provided.
- **Ride Share** – This is an easy way to support our beloved community. Give a ride to and from church to people who cannot drive to Sunday service or other church events themselves.

Coffee, Community, & Conversation

Wise and Wonderful

2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAYS, 10:30-NOON

Questions? Contact Rev. Dakota Brown 415-244-3696 or dbrown@ccsm-UCC.org

October 11: Film. *This Emotional Life* from PBS. Professor Daniel Gilbert talks with experts about the latest science on what makes us tick and how we can find support for the emotional issues we all face.

October 25: Part III of III Bible Study on Forgiveness. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20. How do we reconcile?

November 8: Film. *I Am*, from the director of *Liar Liar* and *Bruce Almighty*. The filmmaker talks with poets, teachers, and scientists about his sense of purpose, determined to share his own awakening to his prior life of excess and greed, and to investigate how he as an individual, and we as a race, could improve the way we live and walk in the world.

November 22: No Meeting—Thanksgiving

December 13: Christmas Tea and white elephant exchange (Time TBA)



Iglesia San Mateo Emerges

Although Iglesia San Mateo is in early development, its progress is impressive. Twenty to thirty adults and children participate regularly in its Wednesday evening gatherings for worship and fellowship. Moreover, they are already becoming a lively and caring community, not just a gathering of worshippers.

The participants are taking responsibility for bringing food for a shared meal on Wednesday evenings and for meeting other needs of the community. A half-dozen people have emerged as a leadership group to share responsibilities for the congregation's well-being and growth with Rev. Jorge Bautista.

A few weeks ago the leadership group organized a surprise birthday party for Jorge, complete with dinner and DJ. More than 50 people from North Central participated, and most stayed to dance until after midnight. Some learned of Iglesia San Mateo for the first time and have since come on Wednesday evenings.

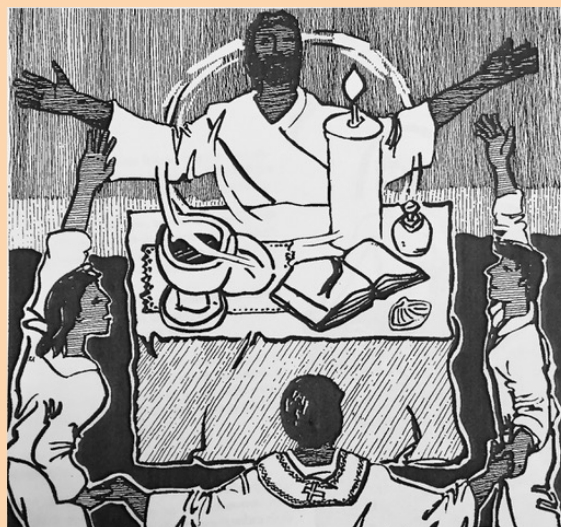
The participants in Iglesia San Mateo have articulated and committed to inspiring vision and mission statements:

VISIÓN

Amando a Dios (Loving God)
Amando al prójimo (Loving neighbor)
Amando nuestra comunidad (Loving our community)
Terminando desigualdades (Ending marginalization)

MISIÓN

Estamos creando una comunidad inclusiva comprometida con el poder transformador del amor.
(We are creating an inclusive community committed to the trans-



formative power of love.)

Estamos viviendo nuestra fe mientras nos involucramos en el mundo que nos rodea, movilizándolo por la justicia y trayendo la totalidad a nuestras comunidades.

(We are living out our faith as we engage the world around us, mobilizing for justice and bringing wholeness to our communities)

Estamos trabajando para romper los ciclos de división y marginación mientras vivimos en el amor de Dios.

(We are working to break cycles of division and marginalization as we live into love.)

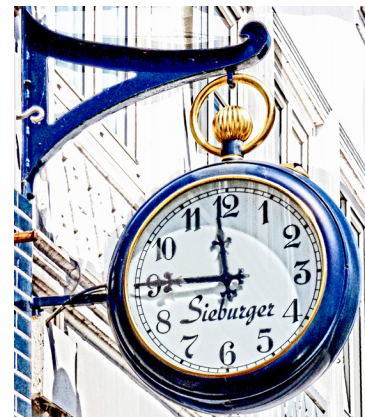
They have fully embraced their open and affirming commitment. One of their participants, who is gay, is a member of the leadership group. On a recent Wednesday they extended a warm welcome to our two sanctuary guests, who are transgender. Prior to this, Jorge was worried about how the people would receive Estefany and Natalia, and says, "I am happy to report that they were welcomed with open arms and tears. My main concern was mostly that some members from the group may not return. And, I say this because I do know that we as Latin@s can be socially conservative. Especially in the church. It was a profound moment and shift for our spiritual Wednesday gatherings and for us as a faith community."

Connections are already growing with CCSM as a whole. Two of Iglesia San Mateo's participants are participating in CCSM ministries. Some of CCSM's Latin@ members have participated in the Wednesday evening gatherings. Iglesia San Mateo participants are taking the lead in preparations for CCSM's celebrations of Día de los Metros and Las Posadas.



Second Hour Sundays

We hope you'll grab some refreshments in Kloss Hall and stay for the second hour of lecture and discussion, starting at 11:45 AM on the following Sundays:



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 AND 22: REV. PENNY NIXON ONE NATION UNDER GOD: A 2-PART SERIES



Is America a Christian nation? This has been the subject of endless debate. Kevin Kruse's book *One Nation Under God* asks a different question—why so many contemporary Americans came to believe that this country has been and always should be a Christian nation. In our Second Hour Educational Series Penny will be teaching on how America shaped Christianity and how Christianity shaped America. We'll look at the

interplay of religion, race, politics and economics. You may be surprised at what we find! This promises to be an eye-opening series.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5: REV. DR. RANDI WALKER



What was bothering people so much about the church that it led to the Reformation? We are heirs of the Reformation, which marks its 500th Anniversary this fall. Its impact still reaches CCSM today. Come and hear some fascinating history from an expert!

Rev. Dr. Randi Walker, Professor of Church History and Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program, is ordained in the UCC and served as a pastor before teaching at PSR. Her scholarship focuses on the histories of Christianity in the Pacific World, including narratives of why people are/were attracted to Christianity, how Christianity interacts with other religions and cultures, and what kind of spiritualities emerge in Christianity in Pacific contexts.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12: TROY WILLIAMS & WATANI STINER "I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU VISITED ME"



Watani Stiner was wrongfully convicted and imprisoned in 1969, escaped from San Quentin, lived in exile in Suriname for 20 years and surrendered to serve 21 more years in prison. He has been called a "revolutionary elder, a storyteller and a social justice advocate passing the historical baton on to the next generation." **Troy Williams** spent 18 years at San Quentin where he helped found a groundbreaking radio program from inside prison and is now a filmmaker, editor of the Bayview news-

paper, speaker and restorative justice facilitator. Come hear them talk about the impact this country's practice of mass incarceration has on real lives and real families, and call us not to forget or desensitize ourselves to the plight of those millions behind the walls of American prisons.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19: BOB JOHANSEN THE NEW LEADERSHIP LITERACIES: THRIVING IN A FUTURE OF EXTREME DISRUPTION AND DISTRIBUTED EVERYTHING



Join noted futurist **Bob Johansen** as he talks about his new book. Bob is also the author of *The Reciprocity Advantage: A New Way to Partner for Innovation and Growth* and *Leaders Make the Future: Ten New Leadership Skills for an Uncertain World*.

Over the next decade, today's connected world will become explosively more connected. Anything that can be distributed will be distributed: work-forces, organizations, supply webs, and more. The tired practices of centralized organizations will become brittle in a future where authority is radically decentralized. Rigid hierarchies will give way to liquid structures. Most leaders—and most organizations—aren't ready for this future. Are you?

Carillon Ringers

The Carillon Ringers are super excited to share our newly refurbished five octaves set of bells with the congregation.



Our bells are over 40 years old and were sent on a journey back to the foundry this past August for the first time since the church received them.

They were tuned, received all new clappers, and some general maintenance was done on every bell. We got to unwrap them in September and the congregation will enjoy them in church on Sunday, October 29th.

Be sure to be there to enjoy them!



Chancel Choir

October started with a fantastic composition written for the 10th Anniversary Celebration of Rev Penny Nixon by our own composer in resident Angela Kraft Cross; “What Does the Lord Require of You?” If you weren’t able to hear it at the special event, we will be singing it in service in November—you won’t want to miss it! Chancel Choir also sang in the Choral Concert to benefit Home and Hope on October 8.

In addition, the choir has lots of great music coming up throughout Fall into our Advent and Christmas season. If you are interested in singing with choir, we rehearse Wednesday nights from 7:15 – 8:45 pm; or contact Lynnelle Bilsey, lbilsey@lifemoves.org to talk about the opportunities.

Special Music Sundays to keep in mind:

DECEMBER 3: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Carillon Ringers will provide our special music

DECEMBER 10: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Chancel Choir will provide our special music

DECEMBER 17: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Children’s choir & Pageant will lead our service

HALLOWEEN ORGAN CONCERT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27 • 8:00 PM • SANCTUARY

Come and enjoy the fifth annual Halloween Organ Concert! Come hear Phantom of the Casavant (Angela Kraft Cross) perform as well as special virtuoso performances by young organists Dominic Pang, Chase Olson, Kevin Kim, Ethan Chi, Ryan Chi, Nathan Chi, and special guest appearance by Raymond Hawkins from North Carolina School of the Arts. Enjoy classic favorites such as Bach’s Toccata and Fugue in D minor and Boëllmann’s Toccata. Families and children are encouraged to attend this fun event, and costumes are encouraged! The sanctuary will be spooktacularly decorated thanks to Mike and Kay Harris, Louisa and Jim Shaul and Caroline and Bob Reinke.

Suggested donation \$20 adults, \$15 Seniors and \$10 kids or \$50 per family.

Trick or treat candy will be provided!



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 Rev. Amie Giordano. 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 BIRTHDAYS

Jean Chamberlain turns 91 on the 10th of October. We wish her a year of fun and joy.

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Loving God, we pray for all who are affected by storms, earthquakes, flooding, wildfires, violence, depression, loneliness, and oppressive attitudes around the world. God please restore our hearts to ones of kindness and our homes to a place of safety. In your most holy name we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF JOY

Prayers of joy, strength, and safe travels for **Don Ruthroff** and the **San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus** as they tour 5 southern states October 7th to 15th. May their voices bring joy and much needed change for equality.

Prayers of joy and anticipation as **Lisa and Laura McCally-Sprague** prepare for their October wedding in Sonoma County. They thank you for sharing this love, joy, and blessing.

Prayers of gratitude for the joyful arrival of **Maxwell Linnea Earles** born Sept 15, daughter of **Emily Schlickman and Mason Earles**, granddaughter of **Sandee Schlickman**, niece of **Paul Briant** family.

Gratitude for all who helped with our church Homecoming Celebration. It was a grand event. Thank you to everyone.

Carolyn Shaw would like to thank everyone for their cards and letters of encouragement.

PRAYERS OF LOVE AND REMEMBERING

Rae Banks passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 1st at the age of 85. Rae was the beloved wife of **Tom Banks**, both members of the CCSM community. They moved to Maryland a few years ago but have stayed in close touch. Prayers for Tom during this time.

Prayers for the loved ones of **Shirley Jan** as they celebrate her sacred life and grieve her loss to this world.

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH AND HEALING

Please pray for **Tom Don**, father of **Sarah Iya**, who was diagnosed with advanced prostate cancer 18 months ago. On October 10 he undergoes radiation treatment for a cancer lesion that is growing worryingly close to his spinal cord. We pray for his comfort and healing.

Prayers of healing and love for **Steven Duty**. May God surround him.

Prayers for **Jay Pausner**, stepson of **Anne Anderson**. Jay is challenged by severe diabetes, a stroke, and other serious issues. May he feel loved by all who care for him.

Prayers of safety for **Andrew Lind**, in Bangladesh with a team

establishing refugee camps for the Rohingya people escaping the ethnic cleansing in Myanmar.

Prayers for **Cathy**, mother of **Travis Woodmansee**, who has chronic pain and health challenges. She is declining in health. We pray for Cathy not to be in pain or afraid and to know your love, God.

Ongoing and loving prayers of complete recovery for **Betsy Woodward**.

Prayers of healing and recovery for **Mark Mitchell**. God, continue to provide Mark strength and encouragement.

Ongoing prayers for **Dave Karlin** as he continues his treatments for cancer. We pray for continued good results.

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters **George Kromhout**, **Julie Lenden's** cousin, **Pico Soriano's** friend **Alexandria Christakos**, **Dawn Graves' mother Donna Stanger**, **Bill Daniels**, **Sandee Schlickman's** friend **Mike**, **Travis Woodmansee**, **Jim Groundwater**, **Judy Hemmer's** friend **Mark**, **Anne McEntee**, **Ruth Black**, **Marjorie Griffin**, **Cathy Latta**, **Martha Grannis**, **Phyllis Mead**, **Adrienne Mitchell**, **Genevieve** and **John Parsons**, **Fred Petri**, **Gordon Smith's** sister **Janet Smith Roberts**, and others as they walk their unique journeys with cancer and other health challenges.

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Welcoming Parking at CCSM

Don't miss church because of parking. **We have added 16 reserved spots for those who can't walk far.** You do not need a handicap tag in your car to park here. No tickets will



be given. If you need to park closer for any reason, at any age, please use these spaces. If you recently had surgery, if you are very pregnant; if you use a walker, or for whatever reason you can't walk far, park here. "Wherever you park God welcomes you."

CCSM PINE TREE

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

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PICK-A-PARTY Sunday: Oct. 29

Since 1998, Pick-A-Party has been an essential part of the fabric of CCSM and a great opportunity to connect with others. Pick-A-Party is fun, extremely popular, and – by far – our largest fundraiser. Whether you host a party or sign up to attend a party, you are sure to have a wonderful time as you socialize with CCSM members and friends -- some of whom you've not yet met.



If you intend to offer a party Carol Henton and Jennifer Jacoby-Yeh, who are collecting party offerings, need to hear from you right away. A party could be a meal in your home or an indoor or outdoor activity. Items for Silent Auction such as vacation homes are also much appreciated. This fundraiser has offered many unique parties, demonstrating there's no limit on the creativity of CCSM'ers. You may submit your party idea to CCSMPickAParty@gmail.com, to Carol at carolhenton@aol.com or Jennifer at jjacobyeh@yahoo.com.

On October 22, the list of parties will be distributed so you can decide in advance which parties you wish to purchase. Pick-A-Party Sunday will take place in Kloss Hall on October 29 starting at 9:45 a.m. Plan to arrive on time so you won't miss out. If you can't be in church on the 29th, proxies are encouraged.

Let's make Pick-A-Party a big success again this year!