



**Brian McLaren**  
**coming to CCSM:**  
**FAITH BEYOND DOUBT AND**  
**THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH**  
**–in conversation with Penny Nixon–**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 7:00PM**

by Penny Nixon

I hope many of you will make the effort to come out and hear Brian McLaren. It will be well worth your time. He is one of the leading thinkers about what it means to be a Christian in the post-modern era. I have followed him for years— I have done sermon series from his books, such as *A New Kind Of Christianity*. Brian is someone who stays deeply connected to his faith and remains open to continually change as he responds to new light in his life. I am so excited he is coming and hope you are excited too!

His most recent joint project is an illustrated children’s book (for all ages) called *Cory and the Seventh Story* and his upcoming books include *The Galapagos Islands: A Spiritual Journey* (Fall 2019), *Faith After Doubt* (Spring 2021), and *Do I Stay Christian?* (Spring 2022).

There will be a freewill offering to help cover expenses.



*This fall, come along for a journey of food and faith. Using the gospel of Luke, we’ll discover that sharing a meal is the heart of Christianity. There will be all sorts of ways to “break bread” together and to invite and experience belonging. Hopefully, you’ll make some new friends and at the same time deepen your faith.*

- Oct. 13 **Global E-vite: An Invitational Spirituality**, Jorge Perry Bautista
- Oct. 20 PICK-A-PARTY • **Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?: A Surprising Spirituality**
- Oct. 27 Lynnelle’s 25th Anniversary Concert • **Saying Grace and Being Grace: A Daily Spirituality**
- Nov. 3 All Saints Day • **Saintly Meals: A Re-mem-bering Spirituality**
- Nov. 10 **Meals that Reveal: A “No-stranger” Spirituality**
- Nov. 17 **Do You Have Anything to Eat?: A Hungry Spirituality**, Jorge Perry Bautista and Penny Nixon
- Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Sunday • Rabbi Corey Hefland: **The Shabbat Meal** • Special Guest

**STEWARDSHIP 2020 COMING SOON**



We invite you to begin thinking about all the ways you want to “show up” in 2020, bringing your gifts, talents and resources to this beloved community.

Stay on the lookout for our Stewardship 2020 theme and materials...



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

## THE CCSM PROGRAM YEAR IS UP AND RUNNING!

Our free play group for our youngest kids is going well—we have been averaging between 4-8 children. We are excited that our preschool program will take place on the first Sunday of the month before church, from about 9:30-10:15. Lily will be present to help with childcare and coffee/light breakfast will be served.

Our Godly Play group (for approximately grades K-2, led by Shannon) has been a bit of a smaller group so far, but really meaningful nonetheless. This is an amazing program where Shannon tells Bible stories from memory and then the kids can respond to and explore the story through open-ended questions (i.e. “what part of this story is especially about you?” “what part was most important?” “what part of the story could we leave out and still have all the story we need?”) and various media (i.e. art, building blocks, re-telling the story themselves with the simple figures that are used, etc.).

The new liturgical arts program (for approximately grades 3-5, led by Angel/Kelly) has been going really well and has had strong attendance. So far the kids have talked about what “liturgical arts” are, how they call us to be detectives and artists, created a drama based on scripture, baked communion bread and talked about the symbolism of yeast and wheat, and worked on an art installation for World Communion Sunday.

Here is the piece they wrote, based on Luke 11:37-43!



## JESUS AND THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

After Jesus gave a big talk to a group of people, a fancy businessperson invited him to come over for lunch. Jesus said he would. But on his way over, he saw some construction workers who were working hard in the hot sun. Jesus asked them if they were hungry. They said yes. He said, “I am going for lunch, I am sure you are welcome to come.”

So the construction workers and Jesus arrived at the fancy businessperson’s mansion. They rang the bell, and the butler answered. The businessperson saw how dirty Jesus and the construction workers were and didn’t want to let them in, but they came in quickly because they were hungry.

They sat down at the table but didn’t wash their hands. They spilled wine on his tablecloth and dropped food on the floor. They put their elbows on the table and didn’t say excuse me when they burped. All of this was annoying for the businessperson who was used to eating fancy lunches in expensive restaurants.

The businessperson got annoyed finally and said to Jesus, “Your friends don’t know how to follow the rules. You will need to pay my dry cleaning bill for the tablecloth and my carpet cleaning bill for the floor and my housecleaner for all of the messes that will need to be cleaned.”

A construction worker said, “We built this house, did you even know that? You wouldn’t have a house to keep clean if it wasn’t for us.” Another one said, “Construction workers help our community a lot. Our hands are dirty because we are building places for homeless people to live.”

Jesus said, “Well, yes, we all probably should have washed our hands because germs can make you sick. But my friends are nicer on the inside than you are on the outside. And how people are on the inside matters the most to me.”

## Sunday Morning Youth Updates

Our Sunday morning youth discussion group (for grades 6-8, approximately, although slightly older youth are also welcome!) is off to a great start. We’re excited that Libby Barnard has joined the volunteer leadership rotation with Bill Dunbar, Dave Olson, and Sarah Block. After doing wrap-up related to the summer program that explored the topic of vocation, work, and values, the youth are now focused on exploring world religions: Judaism in September and Islam in October. We are excited to welcome guest speakers, celebrate holidays (Rosh Hashanah was a big hit!), visit worship sites, and more. Our exploration of world religions will involve reflection on similarities and differences with Christianity in general and our specific church.



# Wednesday programs

Our Wednesday programming is going very well! A very fun experience was building all sorts of things out of giant cardboard boxes—kids made a puppet show theater, a club house, a fort, and a castle! Angel Rivero and Mariska Lauterboom are working to build relationships with the kids and their parents and will be holding a parent forum soon to develop some more specific goals and plans. Volunteers (high school aged or adult) are always welcome!



# Youth Retreats and Camps!

Overnight programs can be a special way to bond and connect! Please let Sheryl know ASAP if you are interested in participating in any of these so we can begin to arrange carpools, transportation, chap-erones, funding, etc. Many of these events are supported/organized by the wider UCC so we know they will be well-coordinated and based on progressive Christian values.



**Mid-Winter Retreat**  
Jan 18-20 (Mid-High) – location TBD

**February Camp**  
Feb 15-17 (High School) – location TBD

## NCNC Camp Cazadero

This is a beautiful camp located near Guerneville, CA. There are camp weeks for kids in grade 1-3 with a parent/adult (**July 10-12**), grade 3-6 (**July 12-18**), grade 7-9 (**July 19-25**), and grade 10-12 and CIT program (**also July 12-18**). This is a wonderful camp that many CCSM families attend.

**United Church of Christ National Youth Event**  
**July 22-25 at Purdue University in Indiana**  
(with possible service project in Chicago before/ after) for grades 9-12.



# Youth Christmas Collection Drive for Open Cathedral

The mid-high youth met with Rev. Valerie McEntee, the Night Minister at Open Cathedral, to talk about homelessness and what might be useful and also fun for folks to receive at Christmas. As CCSM does sandwiches for



Open Cathedral on the 4th Sundays of the month, it means we often are in charge of the meal near Christmas time. That Sunday, we like to hand out bags with other items as well to make it special. This year, the youth are taking charge of the drive! Please start thinking now about what you might be able to contribute. Here are the items that the youth are specifically hoping to collect. (We need to create 100 bags, but if you cannot donate 100 of the same item that's fine, smaller quantities help too!)

- Bags (reusable bags such as tote bags, backpacks, etc.) to hold the items
- Rain ponchos
- New socks
- Bottled water or reusable water bottles
- Healthy snacks or small treats (i.e. energy bars, wrapped chocolates)
- Small shampoo/conditioner/soap (unscented if possible)
- Something “fun!” (i.e. crossword puzzle or Sudoku books)
- Anything else! If your office has extra “swag” or promotional items (i.e. small flashlights, travel mugs, etc.) those can work well!

# Intergenerational Iron Chef Competition!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 • 12:00-1:30PM

As we focus on food and faith this fall, we will be having an “iron chef” style cooking competition! We will create intergenerational teams who will then have to create a meal in a limited period of time with surprise ingredients. All cooks of all ages and all skill levels are most welcome—children in fifth grade or younger should be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

If you are interested in participating, please email Sheryl Johnson (sjohnson@ccsm-ucc.org).



## Lend a Hand to Deck the Halls

SIGNUP SHEETS IN THE CHURCH OFFICE AFTER SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

Do you love to decorate during the holidays? Do you have the eye and patience to fluff out miles of pine garland? Can you climb ladders? Can you handle hot wax repairs on our bulb wreaths? Are you a DIYer? Can you help with holiday floral decorations? If yes, then this is your opportunity to join LAM's Holiday Decorating team.

## Advent DIY Workshop

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 9:00AM - NOON, KLOSS HALL

DIY workshop to update bows, wreath and make repairs, etc.

We need specialists: Can you teach us how to make giant bows for 24” and 36” wreaths at the Advent DIY Workshop? Volunteers, please email Kay Harris at communi\_ks@me.com for more details.



Photo by Abigail Lynn on Unsplash

## Volunteer Appreciation and Opportunities

Our stalwart volunteer, Tracy Fallon, is heading southwest to Arizona and leaving behind big shoes to fill at CCSM. We appreciate all the fine work he has done coordinating with our community partner: CALL Primrose. They provide free grocery assistance to low income families and individuals in San Mateo County. Tracy has organized food collection for First Sunday and Thanksgiving Food Boxes. In addition to his work with CALL Primrose, he has scheduled usher teams for every Sunday service and assists in the plate offering counting tasks. We are so grateful for all he has done and we want to extend our thanks for his unstinting volunteer spirit.



Thank you, Tracy!

Tracy's move has opened up opportunities for volunteers who would like to take on all or some of the vital jobs that Tracy has done. Our most immediate need is to build a team to work on the Thanksgiving food boxes. If you would like to volunteer your time towards serving others coordinating this project, please contact Marge immediately at 650-343-3694 or mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org. We need to start working on this mission now.

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If you can volunteer time to the following, also contact Marge as soon as possible:

- ◆ First Sunday Food Collection
- ◆ Usher Team Coordination and Plate Offering Count

Thank you!



I was in England recently and traveled to Halifax in Yorkshire. Pink Jesus and I are sitting on the English diarist Anne Lister's bed at Shibden Hall. PJ was also at several other locales in Halifax, the changing of the guards at Buckingham Palace, Tower of London, London Eye and the locks at Stoke Bruerne. He got left behind in Northampton by mistake but will be there when I return. —Diane Kalliam

# Pine Tree Preservation

It's been over a year since our beloved Pine Tree was removed from the CCSM front lawn and it is now time to determine what



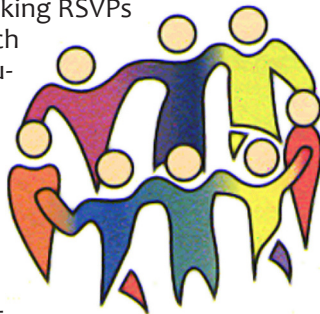
to do with materials that have been drying near the entrance to the Memorial Garden. Many of you submitted ideas for use of the wood once it was dry enough to work with; some of those include making trivets from the smaller branches and carving a bench seat from the large trunk section. We have a team who is willing to do research and propose how best to use what has been preserved; however, the most pressing need is for someone (or several someones) to underwrite the cost of turning the cured wood into one or more of the ideas on our list.

If you are willing to contribute to the cost of memorializing the Pine Tree in some way, please contact Marge at [mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org) or 650-343-3694. Once we have an idea of the funds we have to work with, the research team will see what is feasible. **Please respond by October 31, 2019.**

## All Church Assembly

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3 • NOON - 2:00PM • BUCKHAM ROOM**

We are excited to begin taking RSVPs for the November 3 All Church Assembly. This is an opportunity for everyone to participate in worship planning, brainstorming, fellowship, and fun! Lunch will be provided, so sign-up is encouraged to ensure we have plenty of food—if you have special dietary needs, just let us know.



If you haven't been to an All Church Assembly yet, you are in for a treat! The agenda includes activities for the entire group as well as small group discussion and creative thinking. We hope to have so many of you involved that we'll need to move the event into Kloss Hall. Your input is vital to CCSM's future planning so don't miss this opportunity to help fashion our journey forward!

RSVP to Marge at [mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org) or call the office at 650-343-3694.

## Second Hour

Second Hour Sundays bring important topics for learning and discussion at noon following the Sunday service.



**NOTE: Belong Circles have been postponed to a future date.**

**October 27: What do I believe and how can I talk about Christianity in these times? Part I** of a 3-part series on “Progressive” Christianity by Penny Nixon

**November 3: All Church Assembly:** Participate in worship planning, brainstorming, fellowship, and fun! Lunch will be provided. (See article below)

**November 10: What do I believe and how can I talk about Christianity in these times? Part II** of a 3-part series on “Progressive” Christianity by Penny Nixon

**November 17: What do I believe and how can I talk about Christianity in these times? Part III** of a 3-part series on “Progressive” Christianity by Penny Nixon



Angela and Pink Jesus at All Hallows by the Tower, London

# musicart

FRIDAY, OCT. 18 • NOON  
BUCKHAM ROOM

## Program, Opera: From Monteverdi to Puccini

Our own CCSM-er, Arnold Duncan, will help us understand where Grand Opera got its start, and why Giacomo Puccini, a real latecomer composer, is so immensely popular. Arnold, with his captivating style, will be on hand to enlighten us.

You won't want to miss this special opportunity, so remember to bring your own sandwich/salad. Beverages and dessert are provided. Reserve your space by email ([susanjd52@gmail.com](mailto:susanjd52@gmail.com)) or phone (650-533-6828).

## OCTOBER SOCKS

We are collecting white unisex tube socks the month of October for the San Francisco Night Ministry. Homeless people wash their feet, but often have to put dirty socks back on. While surprisingly simple, new socks are gold to homeless people because they feel good and help defend from several health problems. The socks are available in reasonably priced packs at Target and Costco.



Help keep our unhoused neighbors warm and dry this winter. Thank you!

## Trudy's Teas in October

Trudy's Teas are a chance for women from the church to meet and enjoy a meal and fellowship. We currently have a Monday and Wednesday group and are always looking for more women to join us. The Monday group meets this month on **October 28**, and the Wednesday group meets **October 23**.



If you are interested, contact Diane Kalliam (415-469-7750, [dkalliam@gmail.com](mailto:dkalliam@gmail.com))

## Thanksgiving Service with St. James!

On Thanksgiving Day, **Thursday November 21st, at 10:00 am**, we will join our sister church, St. James AME Zion, 825 Monte Diablo Street, for a worship service of praise and gratitude.



## The 9th Annual William J. Bullis Scholarship Fundraiser and Silent Auction

OCTOBER 26, 4:30-7:00PM

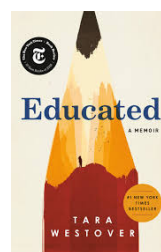
The Will's Dream Foundation is proud to announce the annual scholarship fundraiser here at CCSM. It's been nine long years since Will lost his life in the San Bruno Fire. His dream was to become a chef, getting his education at the Culinary Institute. We, along with the Culinary Institute of America, are keeping his dream alive by offering a \$15,000 scholarship to qualified applicants who, like Will, want to fulfill their culinary dreams. Last year we were able to give four scholarships to some very passionate recipients.



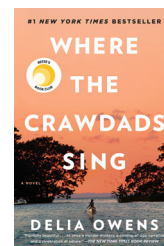
Congresswoman Jackie Speier will be the auctioneer. Wine and Hors d'Oeuvres served. We are looking forward to seeing you. Tickets may be purchased at [one.bidpal.net/willsdream](http://one.bidpal.net/willsdream).

## First Tuesday Book Group: start reading now!

Hello followers of the First Tuesday Book Group. We are on holiday leave until **January 7** when we will meet in the Fireplace Room at 7:30 to discuss *Educated*; a memoir by Tara Westover. Westover is the youngest of seven children who grew up in the mountains of Idaho in a radical Mormon family in the late 1980s and 90s. From an early age, Westover knew that her family was not like other families because hers did not send the children to school, did not visit doctors' offices or hospitals, and was not issued birth certificates. When Brigham Young University accepted her at 16 years old it started her down a path to understanding of home, herself, and the world through her education.



Then on **February 4**, same time, same room, we'll discuss *Where the Crawdads Sing*, a novel by Delia Owens about a young woman named Kya, who's left to raise herself in the marshes of North Carolina when her family abandons her at a young age. There is so much to her story: romance, mystery, and a murder... and it takes place against the breathtaking backdrop of the South.



Please join us. Questions: contact Susan Stoehr at [s\\_stoehr@hotmail.com](mailto:s_stoehr@hotmail.com)

## Pick-A-Party Flashback

Fun and fundraising have been the hallmarks of Pick-A-Party since the very first event offered in 1998.

In the first year, members of CCSM could pick from 56 parties and events. Samples of the offerings include a “Real Steaks Poker” party hosted by Warren Long and Mike Harris; a “Lapidary Dinner” hosted by Phil and Betsy Woodward and a “Manicure Party” hosted by Linda Skromme and Alison Schwandt.

Thanks to Carol Henton who has facilitated the event since the beginning and Jennifer Jacoby-Yeh who has partnered with her for the last many years. Here’s to a successful 21st edition!

## THANK YOU TO HOME & HOPE VOLUNTEERS!

The following people volunteered their time and their cooking skills to make sure that the Home and Hope families had an EXTRAVAGANT welcome. Dawn and Greg Graves and son Ben, Bill Dunbar, Melodie Lew, Mary Ann Notz and Karen Jolliffe, Patricia Pepper, Angela Lee, John Fyfe, Eva Chan, Chona Tendro and Ruth Dizon provided meals. Set-up and take down was done by: David Loughhead, Vern and Diane Sturtevant, Gordon Smith, Dave Olson, Kay and Mike Harris, Jim Lindsay, Jim Granucci, Mike Hill, Peter Held, Tony Gallo, John Fyfe, and Philip Sanchez. Overnight hosts were Peter Held, Sue and Mike Hill, David Loughhead, Tony Gallo, John Ebnetor and Donna Summers. Evening hosts were Amy Wolf and Kala Samate, Philip Sanchez, Michele Moffitt, Zoe Neil and Michele Cinq Mars, Angela and Kenny Lee along with Zoe and Jordyn. A huge THANK YOU to the Blanketeers who provided quilts for all the children! Don Weiher stopped by two evenings to talk with the families.

As you can see, it takes a village to provide the kind of Extravagant Welcome that makes CCSM so special. You all make my job so much easier.

—Donna Lindsay



## Día de los Muertos

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 • 6:30-9:30  
KLOSS HALL

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As many of you know, Día de los Muertos is a strong tradition through Mexico, California and the southwest United States.

To continue this tradition, every year at CCSM in Kloss Hall we build an altar to honor our loved ones who have passed. This year, for the first time we will honor someone who has fallen in the struggle for social justice: Cesar Chavez, the United Farm Worker (UFW) leader. He died peacefully in 1993 after 31 years of organizing for farmworker rights. We will also honor our friends and family that have passed away.

Building of the altar provides, for me, occasion to share my culture’s Día de los Muertos tradition. I know for Chicanas and Mexicans, Día de los Muertos is like Thanksgiving in the US. It is a time for our families to come together to eat, celebrate, honor, and give thanks for loved ones no longer with us. Many of us make altars in our homes and place items our loved ones enjoyed in life, such as their favorite drink, food, music.

So, on Friday November 1st from 6:30-9:30 in Kloss Hall we will be celebrating Dia de los Muertos. Please bring pictures of your deceased loves one to place on the altar along with items they owned, food, and drinks they enjoyed. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Peace and blessings!

Jorge



## CCSM HAS CREATED AN “ENERGY MINISTRY”

... AND YOU CAN BE A PART OF IT!

CCSM is committed to “walking our talk” about many social justice issues, including care for the earth, in particular dealing with climate change. To that end, and in an effort to responsibly reduce our “carbon footprint,” we want to 1) assess our current energy consumption and 2) consider alternative, clean energy sources.

The Board of Directors is calling those of you for whom climate change is a key passion to form an Energy Ministry for 2020. This Ministry would be responsible for arranging to have an Energy Audit conducted, reporting Audit results to the Board and Congregation, researching environmentally friendly alternative energy sources, and creating a proposal (including cost analyses) to convert from or modify our current electricity and natural gas consumption methods.

Under our governance structure, it is our Ministries that drive the mission and vision of CCSM and bring our priorities to the forefront of action. Therefore, if you are interested in joining this Energy Ministry, please email the Moderator, Dave Chandler (dave.chandler@me.com), with a cc to the Director of Operations, Marge Boyd (mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org) by October 15, 2019.

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” —Margaret Mead*



# Music This Fall at CCSM!



Music by Chroma &  
The Congregational Church of San Mateo  
Present



**Michael Streló-Smith**, Baritone  
with **Heather Waid**, Piano  
*A Vocal Program Exploring the  
Music of LGBTQ+*



**Friday, October 11 • 7:30 pm**  
**National Coming Out Day**

at the  
**Congregational Church of San Mateo**

*Freewill donation with proceeds to support  
LifeMoves | New Haven Inn  
an inclusive shelter in San Jose with focused  
support for individuals who identify as LGBTQ+  
and to further the work of Music by Chroma*

[facebook.com/musicbychroma](https://facebook.com/musicbychroma)

**FRIDAY, OCT. 25, 8:00PM**

## **SIXTH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN ORGAN CONCERT**

Phantom of the Casavant! Angela Kraft Cross presents ghoulishly fun music with many of our congregation's favorite young organists. Come in costume!



## **October 27 in the 10:30am Service Lynnelle Bilsey's 25th Anniversary Celebration!**



In this day and age, it is rare as well as remarkable that someone stays in a job for 25 years. Lynnelle has been at CCSM for 25 years and for her, it is not a job, it is a ministry, a labor of love. We hope you'll come out in droves and shower her with the love that she has so graciously lavished on us all these years. We also have a special gift for each of you in her honor.

**The Heavens Are Telling**  
11th Annual Interfaith Choral Concert  
Sunday, October 20  
5:00pm at CCSM  
A BENEFIT FOR HOME AND HOPE  
[facebook.com/events/2380056375651684/](https://facebook.com/events/2380056375651684/)  
CCSM is hosting the 11th Annual Home & Hope Benefit Concert, bringing six churches from the community together to lift their voices in song to help those in need here on the Peninsula. Don't miss it!



returning to CCSM on

**December 1**

**7:30pm**

in the Sanctuary

*solstice*

A Female Vocal  
Ensemble

*Solstice has enthralled audiences with their passionate and technically precise treatment of music for women's voices since 1996.*

**Sunday, December 8**  
**during the Worship Service, 10:30am**

**Special Music Sunday**

**with the Chancel Choir & Orchestra**  
**featuring Part 1 of Handel's Messiah**

**Suggested donation for evening events: \$20/adults , \$10/youth or older adults (60+)**  
**All events in the Sanctuary**



# Joys and Concerns

## CCSM Pastoral Care Team

**Please share your prayers with the pastoral care team:** Rev. Dr. Penny Nixon, Rev. Jorge Bautista, and Rev. Sheryl Johnson. You are invited to share your prayers, your hopes, and your lives. You may connect in the following ways: **in person**, by **filling out a blue prayer card** at Sunday service, by **filling out a [ccsm-ucc.org/prayer](https://ccsm-ucc.org/prayer) online prayer request**, by **contacting us via staff emails** listed in your bulletin or on the website, [ccsm-ucc.org](https://ccsm-ucc.org). You may also contact the church office at [mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:mboyd@ccsm-ucc.org) or call 650-343-3694, and Marge will make sure one of the pastors contacts you as soon as possible.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear friends of CCSM,

How did I get so lucky to work for such a principled church like CCSM and also get rewarded by having made such good friends! Your many cards and emails brought me comfort and healing (and tears) on the loss of my father. A simple thank you doesn't convey my appreciation for your friendship and care. So thank you ∞!  
Fond love, **Pearly**

### PRAYERS OF COMFORT

**Peter Bayley's** father, **David Bayley**, passed away on September 26th in the UK after suffering a stroke. Peter was able to be with him. Prayers of comfort for the family.

**Mike Hill's** brother **David** passed away after suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Prayers of comfort for Mike and the entire family.

Prayers of comfort for **Jim Schwandt**, whose father, **Walter Robert ("Bob") Schwandt** passed away on September 7 at the age of 97. Bob had a career of working with chemical and manufacturing companies and after retirement, consulted worldwide on ethanol products and production. He was an accomplished French horn player

and a great tenor. In addition to being active in community affairs, he became an avid runner in his 50's, racking up over 18,000 miles, and often played cribbage with his grandchildren,

A friend of **George Snode** and **John Smilanic**, **Charlie McIlvain**, was on the dive boat that caught fire over Labor Day weekend. His family and friends are devastated by the loss of such a wonderful man and husband. Prayers for all who loved him.

### PRAYERS OF LOVE AND HEALING

**Dottie Scott** had surgery on Sept. 30 for the hip misalignment which has been prohibiting her ability to walk. **Rosemarie Pero** and **Arnold Duncan** visited and report that she's in great spirits. She will be transported to a hospital/care facility very near to where she lives in Pleasanton, and PT should take about 6 weeks.

**Thelma Kromhout** is enjoying all the caring messages and the love she receives from so many friends at the church. It means a lot to her. Thelma will not be able to return to church, nor to any of her previous activities out in the world. She is on

oxygen and too weak to go out. She is content and at peace in the quiet and beauty of her home, where she is free to rest and read. She is not up to visits or calls, so keep the cards coming. Her family is grateful for the loving support she receives from CCSM.

**Joanne Domingue**, wife of former interim minister Art, took a bad fall back in the east and broke something in her neck. She is now recovering at home.

Prayers of gratitude that **Lorna Groundwater's** grand-niece, **Harlow** (age 9), had successful surgery and is recovering well. Thanks be to God.

Continuing prayers of strength and healing for our beloved brothers and sisters: **Martha Grannis**, **Bill Melis**, **Dr. Jim Groundwater** and family, **Dave Karlin**, **Bill Daniels**, **Ruth Black**, **Marjorie Griffin**, **Adrienne Mitchell**, **Genevieve** and **John Parsons**, **Fred Petri**, **Rev. Dr. Michael Dresbach**, **Travis Woodmansee's** mother **Cathy**, **Mike** and **Kay Harris's** friend **Mary Helen McMahon**, **Cathy Latta**, **Genel Morgan's** friends **Marty and Steve**, **Deanna Riding's** friend and neighbor, **Veril Phillips's** grand-daughter **Eva**, and others as they walk their unique journeys with cancer and other health challenges.

## "Month of Sundays" blessing works both ways

by Genel Morgan

When I send a card through "Month of Sundays" [a letter/card-writing ministry which responds to joys and prayer needs in the congregation] I distinctly say I am sending the card on behalf of the members and friends of CCSM but I sign my name at the bottom. I have many people thank me for the card and I repeat I sent it on behalf of the church.

One of the advantages of being a longtime member allows me to get personal with other longtime mem-

bers. Today I received a note from Carole Grannis Cannon, Martha Grannis' daughter. When she visited with her mother recently, she read the cards she had received to her. In my note I mentioned that I had served on the board of deaconesses with Martha and remember her fondly. I also mentioned her husband Roe who served on the board of deacons and ushered with my late husband Mike. Carole appreciated my comments and I'm glad I

could make the card more personal. Carole also mentioned that she thought my father-in-law Victor Morgan had given her some good advice when she was in high school preparing to go to college.

Carole's note brightened my day :)

I love being part of Month of Sundays. I think it is such an important ministry to our church family.



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# 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 is around the corner!

Pick-A-Party, CCSM’s beloved fundraiser, is just around the corner.

Next **Sunday, October 13**, the party listing (with your name on it!) will be available on the Loggia. Pick up your envelope please so we can save money on postage. You will also be able to download the listing from [ccsm-ucc.org/Pick-A-Party](http://ccsm-ucc.org/Pick-A-Party) that day.

**Sunday, October 20**, is Pick-A-Party-Sunday. The fun begins at exactly 9:45 a.m. when we drop the ribbon in Kloss Hall and everyone goes around the room to “pick” the parties they wish to purchase. Sign-ups are first-come first-serve. Some parties sell out in minutes. If you can’t be in church on October 20th, proxies are encouraged. Bring your checkbook or cash. Silent Auction bidding will conclude at 12 noon.

Second-Chance-Pick-A-Party is **Sunday, October 27** for any parties that have seats available.

Questions? Contact Carol Henton and Jennifer Jacoby-Yeh at [ccsmpickaparty@gmail.com](mailto:ccsmpickaparty@gmail.com).

