

# CCSM PINE TREE

VOL. 72, #1 | ONLINE | JAN/FEB 2023



**BUDGET  
FORUM  
AND  
ANNUAL  
MEETING**



**BUDGET FORUM:** January 22, 11:45 am

**ANNUAL MEETING:** January 29, 11:45 am

*Both these meetings will be both in person and online.*

<< photo <<

*CCSM once again sharing the joy  
of celebrating  
Las Posadas together*

## YOU ARE THE CHURCH

Hello and Happy New Year, CCSMers!

I hope your holidays filled you with joy and happiness, despite the challenges of travel that were unfolding across the country. We had an extra college student guest who was stranded at the Denver airport for a couple of days. We managed to fill a stocking for her with some eclectic items; who doesn't need more toothpaste and band-aids? I was so impressed by her ability to regroup after the disappointment of not being able to see her family. It was a reminder of how important it is to be present in the moment, and the joy of Christmas can be shared on any day with anyone.

We are into January at full speed, looking ahead to the future of CCSM. The Search Committee has worked diligently to create a church profile to demonstrate who the church is and wants to become. Alexandra Gillen and Dave Olsen have led a team of gifted people: Leslie Burndon, Jim Berth-

elsen, Sebastian Steinbach, Kenny Lee, Deb Chang, and Rebecca Ruedy-Whelan. Please thank these people when you see them for their extraordinary efforts. The job is officially posted as of December 30, 2022!

The Board, Personnel Committee, and Finance Committee have spent hundreds of hours discussing and planning for the future of CCSM and tackling the [click to continue to p. 3](#)



**Congregational  
Church** of san mateo

**225 TILTON AVENUE, SAN MATEO, CA 94401**  
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# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

**2022** rounded out with a lot of wonderful activities celebrating the Advent and Christmas season.

Our kids and youth on both Wednesday and Sunday contributed several reflections for the CCSM daily Advent devotional and also helped to write the



Cookie decorating

script that was used on Christmas Eve telling the nativity story. We had wonderful attendance at a number of special events including our Dec. 11 cookie and nativity craft time after church, Dec. 18th's Joyful Noise performance, Las Posadas on Dec. 21, and our Dec. 24th Christmas Eve

services. It has been so wonderful to have good momentum with our family programs!

I am so grateful to Kim Rey, Troy Grabow, Cheryl Rosenthal, Donna Lindsay, Betsy Woodward, and so many others who have been helping to reach out to our CCSM family community to re-engage folks as well as to offer some special programming to invite people to attend. **Thank you all so much!** It has been a gift to have your dedication and service to our community. I have also been working with Eventbrite, MeetUp, and some other online platforms to promote our programs to the wider com-



60 Minutes discussion group with Mike Mullery

munity. We have also been working to **deepen our connection with organizations in the neighborhood** and who rent our building to broaden our publicity and deepen our collaborations.

For December's **60 Minutes Gathering**, we had 9 youth participate in the conversation and 13

youth total at church that day—just incredible! And the content of the conversation was also very meaningful as we discussed the role that media can play in our lives. As usual, the youth were very thoughtful about both the benefits and potential pitfalls of media in terms of shaping our expectations unrealistically, distracting us, but also providing representation, escape, and fun. The youth were also very nuanced in sharing about how not all forms of media are the same. Thank you so much to Mike Mullery for his consistent presence with this program for over 20 years.



Joyful Noise

Our **Wednesday programs** have also been vibrant as we have prepared for our Advent and Christmas celebrations. The children learned about the history of Las Posadas and created reflections about peace, hope, joy and love. A popular offering was creating Christmas cards for friends,



Kids' crafts table with Betsy Woodward

family, and the wider community—the kids really wanted to thank their parents especially for all they do in the holiday season and beyond.

Our **Sunday kids programs** have also had some very thoughtful sessions, exploring the Advent and Christmas themes through Godly Play, discussing the relevance of the story for today, and engaging in service projects for the community. We continue to have a very strong pre-school cohort and Lily has been delighted to have a very full nursery most weeks! Our Joyful Noise kids' choir has been another wonderful program and Julie is also delighted to have a large crowd coming together to sing, dance, and create meaningful music.

As we look to 2023, we have a number of programs on the horizon. We made a special flyer of many of our New Year programs which we handed out at Las Posadas and Christmas Eve so we are hopeful that we will have good attendance continu-

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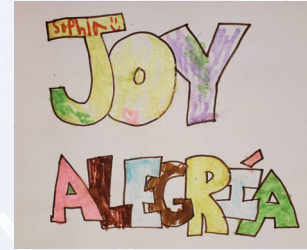


ing as we start this new year and season. **Special programs** include our monthly family gathering on the first Sundays. This month we focus on getting family input and building programming for the new year, participating in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of service, and a special youth retreat in Palo Alto on the Presidents' Day weekend.

**W**e continue to work to build programming that is **vibrant, flexible, social justice-oriented, and community-focused**. I also continue to collaborate with my colleagues at local UCC churches to create shared programs and experiences especially for our youth as well as inter-faith colleagues through the Peninsula Multi-faith Coalition. It is very exciting that a few inter-faith youth leaders are beginning to create some shared programming and opportunities for youth to share their faith with others and build bridges of solidarity across traditions.

**T**his remains a challenging time for many families as sickness continues to crop up and kids work hard to catch up on both academic and other skills that they may have missed with online schooling. But we remain hopeful and give thanks for all those who do continue to show up, as well as new families who keep emerging and letting us know how meaningful the church is to them. I give thanks to God for this ministry and for each person in the CCSM community—we look to the new year in faith, gratitude, and anticipation.

—Rev. Sheryl



## YOU ARE THE CHURCH

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immediate budget issues. I know many of you are very anxious to learn about the finances of the church. As of today, there are 60 households who have previously pledged but have not yet pledged to support the church's financial health for 2023. You are welcome to contact me if you have not yet pledged and have questions or concerns. On the plus side, over 30% of pledging households have increased their commitment. THANK YOU. More details will be available at the January 22nd Budget Forum after the church service.

During transitions, there are two emotions with which many of us grapple—anxiety and depression. Anxiety; the fear of what may be lost. Depression; sadness or hopelessness over what has been lost. Emotions such as these do not need to be felt at the clinical level to become a challenge in one's life. Much change is happening in the world, the community, the weather, the government, etc. When the world feels overwhelming, hold onto what is known, who is known, and where you feel safe.

There can also be emotions of excitement and hopefulness

during transitions. Excitement; the energy of anticipation for the manifestation of positive and joyful experiences. Hopeful; the state of mind that believes the future holds new possibilities. There is light in change beyond the darkness and fear of it. Allow yourself to be drawn into the potential possibilities. Instead of why, walk toward the openness of why-not?

After spending the last four months with you, I believe CCSM can hold a safe space in a changing world, despite our own changes. This is the time to recommit, not to fall away from a place that has survived difficult days in the past. This is the time to recommit to a beacon for the future based on justice and love. Regardless of the unknown name of who will lead you, you will hire a leader who will advance the message of love through community, spirituality and social service, and justice; who is a known certainty that you can lean into. It is the brightness of change that will come.

Lean into each other. You do not need a new Senior Minister to support each other. If you want a Second Hour meeting, create one. If you want a Progressive Dinner Party, plan one. If you want spiritual

connection, offer opportunities for it. If you want events for children, volunteer to participate. If you want a balanced budget, donate, participate, and be involved in the process.

YOU are the Church.

It has been and will continue to be my honor and responsibility as the Interim Senior Minister to hold up a mirror for you to see yourself as individuals and as a church community.

What do you see? Who do you see? Are you in the reflection? In the forefront? In the shadows? Are you speaking constructively? Are you giving, or are you taking? Are you offering to solve the problems which you see?

I suppose it depends on who is holding the mirror, but what do you see when the mirror is in your grasp?

YOU are the Church.

Peace upon you,

Rev. Melissa Douaire



## PICK-A-PARTY SPACES STILL AVAILABLE!

CCSM celebrated the distribution of Pick-A-Party lists with a cookie exchange on December 11. Michele Merfeld Hale, a relatively new virtual member who has been spearheading community-building activities from long distance, came up with the idea. She wanted to build on the success of the pie social with an event which would be kid-friendly, involve families, and be in the holiday spirit. Unknown to her (and to most current CCSM members), this revived a CCSM tradition according to long-time member Bonnie Kitts. (Bonnie, now 88, moved to Bellingham, Washington, but started attending CCSM online during the pandemic. She said viewing a video of this year's cookie exchange brought back a lot of good memories.) CCSM members participated wholeheartedly, bringing an amazing number and variety of cookies, from sugar cookie angels to Italian biscotti to chocolate chip of all kinds. Everyone was able to take home an assortment of different cookies for their holidays, and Warren and Susan Long distributed some of the surplus to residents at the Peninsula Regent. While the adults were admiring and collecting cookies, the children participated in creating nativity scenes with Betsy Woodward and Phil Lind and decorating their own cookies. And all of this activity was enhanced by the musical talents of Laura Peterhans, Sue Bell, and Mary Ann Notz, playing Christmas carols new and old. Donna Lindsay also assisted with the crafts, and Nicole Tocchini helped the kids decorate the cookies.

This event was a great affirmation of the benefits of bringing the CCSM community together in real time.

**THE OFFICIAL SIGNUP SUNDAY FOR PICK-A-PARTIES WAS JAN. 8, BUT THERE ARE STILL SPACES AVAILABLE.** You can sign up after service on **January 15 and 22**. Bring your cash, checkbook (with "party" in the memo line), or be ready to pay by text at 73256 "party." You can review the party list here: [tinyurl.com/PAP-LIST-2022](https://tinyurl.com/PAP-LIST-2022), or pick up a hard copy on Sunday. **And if you didn't pay on the 8th, please get your payment to the church office before service on January 15. Otherwise, your place will be released for others to sign up.** There are parties for families—Rev. Sheryl's day at Coyote Point, a walk to find stone sculptures, a rock hound class; parties for foodies, including kimchee or tamale making and a virtual class to explore your love of cooking and cookbooks; parties for music lovers, from Angela's concert to a Mendelssohn brunch, to a sing along with treats; parties to learn things (e.g. about the Civil War) or share spiritual reflections; parties to eat and socialize—from brunches to dinners to a high tea; several hikes; and many more. **Questions?** Contact Sandy McNabb, [sandra.j.mcnabb@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.j.mcnabb@gmail.com) 650.678.5650; Michele Merfeld Hale, [kaymerf@yahoo.com](mailto:kaymerf@yahoo.com) 206.612.6182; or Diane Kalliam, [dkalliam@gmail.com](mailto:dkalliam@gmail.com) 415.279.1359



CCSM's Fundraising Events  
2022-2023



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023 SCHEDULE

January 8	Meetings are most often held in the Buckham Room and begin after worship, approximately 11:45-2:00 pm.
February 12	
March 12	
April 16	
May 21	
June 11	Updates can be found on the Church calendar on our website at: <a href="https://ccsm-ucc.org/events">ccsm-ucc.org/events</a>
July 9	
August 13	
September 17	
October 8	
November 12	
December 10	



Writing postcards for "Get Out the Vote" in November



## MUSIC SPARKLED AT CCSM

Wow, what a December—music sparkled as bright and beautiful as the decorations that were hung in the sanctuary throughout the Advent & Christmas Season at CCSM, making this year's holidays very special for everyone who walked in our doors, or joined a service online.

We were blessed by so many musicians joining and sharing their gifts with all of us at CCSM from the Carillon Ringers, Chancel Choir, special guests and a sister congregation. We began the holidays on Thanksgiving with our sister church **St. James AME** and the gift of song with their choir director Monica Bussey working with Angela and Lynnelle for the community Thanksgiving Service. We continued with **special music Sundays during Advent** that featured the Carillon Ringers, Chancel Choir and Joyful Noise family singers.



The quiet Advent reflections during the **evening Taizé** services led by Melanie Dresbach were so special surrounded by the lights of the Christmas garlands & trees embracing the community in light and sung prayers.

Special thanks to Karen Hutchinson and Melanie Dresbach who led the music for our annual **Las Posadas community procession** around the church.

Our season of Advent culminated in **two special Christmas Eve services** that sparkled with music. The family service was filled with favorite carols and special music featuring vocalists Roma Olvera and Julie Berk, oboist James Koeppen and the Carillon Ringers Bell Choir. To paraphrase one of my favorite quotes from the film *It's a Wonderful Life*, "The bell choir gave a huge number of angels their wings" this month and made it a very special Christmas for our congregation at CCSM.

The **Candlelight service** was equally as beautiful and filled with music that featured so many of CCSM's talented musicians including:

The Yeh Family (Chris on violin, Maddie on viola & Carolyn on cello); the Bell Family (Susan on harp, Stephen on flute & Trumpet, Scott on trumpet, and Douglas on cello); the Chancel Choir & James Koeppen, Oboist.

The trumpets were so uplifting on *O Come, All Ye Faithful* and *Joy to the World*, James' *Ave Maria* was warm and held the quiet intimacy of Mary & the manager.

We were also blessed by **three new composition premieres** at the Candlelight service beginning with Angela's new work for organ and two compositions shared by Douglas Bell.

Christmas day completed our season of Advent in a **service with our sister church St. James AME**. Angela and I were so happy to join the talented musicians including Michael and Monica Bussey and the choir. Angela was rockin' it on the electric keyboard along with their house drummer and electric guitarist; Michael and the



choir completed the Christmas celebration with a beautiful performance of "O Holy Night."

CCSM truly shone with an abundance of musical riches this season; we truly are a blessed community at CCSM. My deep appreciation to each and every one who shared their gifts of music with us this season and throughout 2022.

May 2023 continue to overflow with music and love.

Lynnelle

# music art

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 20: PIANIST KAREN HUTCHINSON

The musician for our Music and Art program on Friday, January 20 will be pianist Karen Hutchinson. We are thrilled to have such a wonderful and talented local person to share her musicianship with our group as well as any guests who would like to attend. Karen has performed at a variety of local venues including the recent concert in the chamber series at Music at Kohl Mansion, as well as the Congregational Church of San Mateo. You will want to hear this extraordinarily talented person who also had training in Paris under the tutelage of several famous pianists.

We will begin at noon with our program followed by our fellowship lunch in the Buckham Room. Be sure to circle the date on your new 2023 calendars and as usual make your RSVPs with Susan Duty, [susanjd52@gmail.com](mailto:susanjd52@gmail.com), 650-533-6830. Join us for a great way to begin the new year.



## ANGELA'S ORGAN ACADEMY CLASS STUDIES IN FRANCE

This winter break, Angela Kraft Cross and Robert Cross are coleading three young organists on an intensive study trip to Lyon and Paris! Chase Olson and Nataly Pak are both CCSM young organists, currently second year organ majors at Oberlin College and Conservatory in Ohio. William Rehwinkel, now a fourth year Oberlin organ major hailing from New Jersey, was also a CCSM young organist when he studied with Angela at age 11.

So far we have had exhilarating master classes with Louis Robilliard in Lyon, Aude Heurtematte, Christophe Mantoux, Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin, and Olivier Penin in Paris. We are accompanied by Chase and Nataly's Oberlin organ professor, Christa Rakich, and by Noël Olson and Nataly's sister Kelly. Everyone is learning so so much!!! The trip for the students is sponsored by the nonprofit San Francisco Peninsula Organ Academy.



## BRING BLESSING BOX CONTRIBUTIONS ANY SUNDAY!

The "Blessing Box" outside of the entrance of CCSM is a project of the Ministry of Service and Justice, responding to the need for families in our neighborhood to access food and an expression of our call to be the "hands, feet, and face of God" in our community. Before the pandemic, CCSM collected food for Samaritan House on the first Sunday of each month. We have reinstated a non-perishable food collection for EACH Sunday, but it will be to supply our Blessing Box. **Please take the opportunity to bring food (canned, dried and boxed, no fresh food please! and donations must be full UN-OPENED containers, no fruits, vegetables or bread) on any Sunday of the month.**

The container will be in the narthex to collect food for the Blessing Box every Sunday. There will be helpful reminders in the bulletin, Connections, and Pine Tree. The Ministry of Service and Justice suggests adding a few non-perishables to your grocery list. If we make this a habit, we can keep the Blessing Box filled with nourishing food for the people of our neighborhood. Thank you for your continuing generosity!





## FROM THE ARCHIVES OF CCSM: THE BUCKHAM ROOM

by Phil Lind, CCSM Historian

The Sanctuary, now called Kloss Hall, was constructed between 1918 and 1922. A kitchen was included along with an adjacent dining room. That dining room is now called The Buckham Room by CCSM members and friends.

Reverend Dr. Sydney Buckham was minister of CCSM from 1936 to 1947. Recalling your knowledge of historical events – Dr. Buckham was minister from the lead up to, through the conclusion of World War II. This put him and the congregation in the middle of one of America's misguided policies. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order #9066 resulting in the internment of tens of thousands of Japanese Americans.

Dr. Buckham, along with many members of the congregation, was opposed to the hysteria which followed in the wake of Dec. 7. At the December 15, 1941 meeting of the Church Council the following statement of support of Japanese Americans was approved:

“The Congregational Church of San Mateo renews its welcome to the Japanese Union Church. We pledge ourselves to keep unbroken the bond of Christian fellowship with your church.”



*A gathering in the Buckham Room in 2021: first in-person luncheon after many months of pandemic distancing*

Under Sydney Buckham's leadership, the Congregational Church agreed to store much of the personal property of Japanese Americans from the local community in the attic space above the current stage in Kloss Hall. Families retrieved those belongings after the War's end.

Thus, Kloss Hall and the Buckham Room are linked together by two ministers who acted as stabilizing influences during times of crisis in American History. Dr. Buckham rose to the occasion and visited interned Japanese Americans at the Tanforan holding area and at the Topaz internment camp in Utah. The Buckham Room is well named.



**Energy + Environmental Justice**

by Warren Long

**T**he Energy, Environmental Justice ministry is pleased to report that **the CCSM Going Solar project has finally (in late December) been issued the permit to proceed.** This is encouraging because after long delays and requests from the city for additional information and documentation, we now have the permit in hand and our project manager, Jim Granucci, is coordinating with our contractor, Sandbar Solar & Electric, for the installation and expect work will begin in the first half of 2023. They will be installing solar panels on carport structures in the rear parking lot of our campus. Thanks Jim G!

Integral to this, we are pleased to report that the “quiet phase” for funding the project has raised around \$250 K from a handful of members. To help fund the project, we are in contract with a financial partner resulting in savings of approximately 20% of the project cost due to tax benefits. The finance committee estimates our net total project cost will be ~ \$358 K factoring in those savings. Stay tuned!

Also, Jim Schwandt of EEJ and Buildings and Grounds has been **researching, evaluating, and potentially recommending changing the CCSM landscaping from water intensive lawns and plantings to drought-tolerant native plantings.** The planning process will balance water consumption with how our grounds are used; e.g. our current lawn between the Sanctuary and Kloss Hall is frequently used as gathering outdoor space which justifies the water maintenance. Thanks Jim S!

You may remember the “Meet the Reese Ickle family” skit during a service over the summer to promote more effective recycling during coffee hour and at homes. **To help guide you on what to recycle during coffee hour, please look for the updated posters with examples attached near the recycle / compost/ garbage bins in Kloss Hall.** We encourage all of the CCSM community to take to heart our individual and collective responsibility for doing environmental justice and serving as God's heart, hands and feet with actions to sustain our beautiful planet and home — Earth.

## HELPING CCSM MEMBERS STAY CONNECTED

Over the years, members of CCSM have routinely phoned or visited members of the church, to help someone stay connected. During the past several years such outreach has been challenging! As we start 2023, we seek to broaden the outreach by identifying more people in need of connection and to increase the lay team of volunteers willing to serve.



So are you already maintaining a regular friendship with someone in the congregation, via phone calls and/or visits, who has needed more connection? If so, we'd like to know! Secondly, are you willing to establish regular contact with someone? Thirdly, do you know someone who needs more "CCSM connection?"

Carol Henton is spearheading this effort as part of the Congregational Care Ministry led by Diane Kalliam. Please contact either Carol (650-544-7563 or carolhenton@aol.com) or Diane (415-279-1359) of your willingness to engage in this effort.

We recognize that many CCSM people already have strong connections and long-standing friendships. Hopefully, through this Congregational Care effort, some new friendships will be fostered.

## MSJ SUPPORTS MEASURES TO REDUCE AND END GUN VIOLENCE. WE SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM.

### GUN BUYBACK



TURN IN YOUR GUNS\*



NO QUESTIONS ASKED!

\$100 PER HANDGUN, RIFLE, OR SHOTGUN  
\$200 PER ASSAULT WEAPON, GHOST GUN, OR  
SIMILARLY CLASSIFIED FIREARM

**Saturday, January 21, 2023**  
**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM or until funds run out**  
**Fremont Fire Training Center**  
**7200 Stevenson Blvd**  
**Fremont, CA 94538**

- FIREARMS SHOULD BE UNLOADED AND TRANSPORTED IN THE TRUNK
- PARTICIPANTS TO REMAIN IN VEHICLES AND NOT TO MANIPULATE FIREARMS AT THE EVENT
- EACH INDIVIDUAL LIMITED TO \$600 BUYBACK TOTAL
- FINAL AMOUNT PER FIREARM TO BE DETERMINED BY FREMONT POLICE

\* TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR BUYBACK, FIREARMS MUST BE OPERATIONAL  
\* NON-OPERATIVE FIREARMS CAN BE TURNED IN WITHOUT BUYBACK

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## THE GIFT OF OPEN CATHEDRAL

by Nancy Dieguez

I'm reflecting back to the beginnings of CCSM's commitment to Open Cathedral, which I believe was with a CCSM bookclub which Marilyn Cintel (upon the gentle urgings of Valerie McEntee) influenced to make sandwich lunches for Open Cathedral.

Valerie has been the face, the voice, (and the transport, literally) for lunches and support between Open Cathedral and CCSM and has always made herself available to champion the positive effects of Night Ministry & Open Cathedral. Valerie, you have made a lasting impact on so many CCSM groups: youth, Girl Scouts, new members, old members. Thank you so much. CCSM has had some very meaningful services where members of Open Cathedral & Night Ministry have shared their life experiences with us.

We are so blessed to have a new generation of support. Becky Duffy's first involvement with Open Cathedral was signing up to make sandwiches. It was December 2019 and the beginning of everything shutting down (COVID!) including CCSM (at least for the post-holiday week). What did Becky do? She and her family volunteered to make 100 lunches.

Now we have some new winged angels of delivery. They are Kate Gerwe, her son Jack, and Kate's sisters, who miraculously fill in whenever needed for deliveries.

In the process, we have been blessed to experience the importance and value of SISTERHOOD. Once you have one (a sister that is, but that goes for a brother as well) what would you do without them on your side, helping, supporting, caring?

And speaking of brothers; there are so many to thank—Peter Held being one of the most enthusiastic, and responsive; gathering a lunch crew on 10 minutes notice. Always ready to serve. Also Mike Mullery and John Fyfe. And Mike Hill, coordinating supplies, logistics and delivery (with Sue's help). And thanks to Gail Held, who stepped in and continues to make Open Cathedral a happening by getting all the supplies there each month and on TIME! And thank you Monique. Through your enthusiastic cheerleading and support, you make us all better givers.





# Joys and Concerns

## CCSM Pastoral Care Team

Please share your prayers with the pastoral care team, **Rev. Melissa Douaire, 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: by **filling out an [online prayer request](#)**, by **contacting us via staff emails** listed in your bulletin, or through the website's Contact Us link, [ccsm-ucc.org/contact](https://ccsm-ucc.org/contact). You may also contact the church office at [cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org) or call 650-343-3694, and Chase will make sure one of the pastors contacts you as soon as possible.

### PRAYERS OF LOVE AND STRENGTH

Longtime CCSM member **Normandie Ross-Rocans** passed away unexpectedly at her home in Santa Rosa on December 2. She was 67 years old. Many will recall Normandie's kind and caring spirit, her devotion to the children of the church, how she volunteered in the Nursery Room during church services, how she helped with children's festivals in Kloss Hall, and that she served on various church committees involving missions and justice. She was also an avid volunteer sewing teacher to local kids and a longtime Girl Scout leader. A memorial Celebration of Life is being planned at CCSM on January 28 at 2:00 pm. If you wish to know more, you can contact **Betty Tocchini**.

**Genel Morgan** requests prayers for the family of **Nathan Haman** who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 29. He was the older brother of **Ethan Haman**, who is a former organ student of Angela's and has played the organ in our services in the past. Ethan and Nathan were like grandchildren to Genel, so it is a hard time for her too.

We have received word that **Lil Nelson**, a former member of CCSM who had been living at Sunrise in San Mateo, has passed away. Prayers for her children and extended family at this time.

### PRAYERS OF HEALING AND SUPPORT

We have also learned that **Dana Scadden**, longtime CCSM member, is now in the assisted living section within the Regent of San Mateo due to frail health. Prayers for Dana and her family.

**Dawn Graves** requests prayers: "I have received a concussion on 11/28. I have not worked since. My recovery has been very slow."

Please continue to keep **Lee Mullery** in your prayers. She is gaining strength after a subarachnoid hemorrhage in her brain on 11/20 and has returned home. She is doing very well and regaining her ability to walk! Please also remember Mike in your prayers as well as Zoe, Jen, and the rest of the family. (A [CaringBridge](#) site has been created for updates on Lee's progress. Please check in with Mike if you'd like to visit.)

**Lilia Romero** requests prayers: "Praying for my heart to heal and for my family to heal as well, so we can all move forward in life. For my daughter's

dad, who is a great support. For my journey and to become a better person for my daughter. For my daughter's growth and her bright future.

**The Dresbach family** thanks you, CCSM members, for your continued prayers for Melanie's dad **Jim**, and for the whole family as they care for him.

Please continue to pray for the **Board and the Search Committee** as they work together, and with us, to bring a settled pastor to CCSM.

Prayers for our online member, **Gail Young**, who was in the hospital last month with "everything but COVID" (flu, pneumonia), is dealing with a lot of issues with her knee, as well as ongoing grieving from having to put down her beloved dog, Toby.

### CONTINUING PRAYERS

Continuing prayers of strength, encouragement, and healing for our beloved brothers and sisters: **George Vail, Krystal Burndon's sister Janelle, Lorna and Jim Groundwater's granddaughter Yalda, Frank Garritano's friend Alex Carr, Martha Pierce, Angela Kraft-Cross' friend Judy Holcomb, Mike and Sue Hill's granddaughter Maggie, Michele Moffitt, Rev. Susan Flemr, Ann Ritter, Mel Thrash, Ben Schroeter's family, Dana Scadden, Mary Ann Notz, Cari Parker, Judy Hermann, Jan Eustis' friend, Sue Kane and her brother Bob and sister-in-law Peggy, Mo Weimer, Andrew Lind, the Neil/Cinq-Mars family, the family of Kyle Caverly, Jo Buckham, Albert C. Read III, Ruth Black; Gene Chelberg and David Meisner, Dorothy Gorman, Dr. Jim Groundwater, Clare Naegle, Dottie Scott, Gary Steele, Don and Jonathan's brother Chuck Ruthroff.**







# Poinsettia Joy!

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CCSM members delivered Christmas love in the form of poinsettias in December. From top left to lower right: Gene Chelberg and David Meissner; Mel Thrash, Caroline Reinke and Susan Campo, Ruth Dizon's mother Miriam

