

Nov/Dec 2018

Fed Family

Saratoga Federated Church Newsletter

Contents

- 2 Update from the Elders
Book Club
Fabric for Malawi
- 3 A Bouquet of Sermons
A Season of Prayer
Thanksgiving Baskets
Year End Financial Reminder
- 4 The Giving Tree
New Year's Prayer Retreat
- 5 Pastoral Housing Campaign
- 6 Advent Offering - Global
- 7 Advent Offering - Local
Christmas Eve Services
- 8 Family Ministries Update
- 9 Village Preschool Update
- 10 Care Update
Care Deacon Bio
- 11 Mexico Housebuilding Trip
Time Change
Women's Fellowship Lunches
- 12 Celebrations

Important Dates

November

- 3 - Life Group Breakfast
- 6 - Women's Luncheon
- 15 - Book Club
- 22 - Thanksgiving Day Service

December

- 1 - Bridge Builders Respite
- 4 - Women's Luncheon
- 7-9 - Christmas in Saratoga
- 24 - Christmas Eve Services

SARATOGA FEDERATED CHURCH PRESENTS

AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL DRAMA



Christmas in Saratoga
2018

A Family CHRISTMAS



FREE ADMISSION

December 7 7:00PM

December 8 7:00PM

December 9 3:00 & 5:30PM

CHILDCARE PROVIDED FOR AGES 6 MONTHS - 3 YEARS



The Christmas family gathering.
We've all been there.
The tree, the food, the gifts,
the relatives...and the kids' table.
An empty chair, a new space,
some secrets revealed,
and a few new friends, help one
family to forge an unforgettable
bond of love that began with a baby.

Book Club

The November Book Club meeting will be held Thursday, November 15 at 12:15 pm in room 111. We will be discussing *Big Stone Gap* by Adrienne Trigiani.

Millions of readers around the world have fallen in love with the small town of Big Stone Gap, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, and the story of its self-proclaimed spinster, Ave Maria Mulligan.



The December Book Club meeting will be held Thursday, December 20 at 12:15 pm at the home of Jeannie Hilt. We will have a Christmas luncheon and discuss *The Nine Tailors* by Dorothy L. Sayers. The nine tellerstrokes from the belfry of an ancient country church toll out the death of an unknown man and call the famous Lord Peter Whimsey to investigate the good and evil that lurks in every person. Steeped in the atmosphere of a quiet parish in the strange, flat fen-country of East Anglia, this is a tale of suspense, character, and mood.

For questions or more information, contact Jeannie Hilt at (408) 984-2266.

Update From the Elders

This is an exciting season at Saratoga Federated Church!

In September, we said farewell to Gabe and the Gilliam family. Gabe started his new calling at Cisco focusing on community engagement.

In October and November, we are enjoying the preaching of the other members of our wonderful pastoral staff.

In December, we will welcome the first of the interim preachers who will share their wisdom and perspective on God's word with us as we head into 2019 (another article in this newsletter has more details on this subject).

In addition, in September, our Nominating Committee identified (and we commissioned) a Pastoral Search Committee. The 11 people who make up the Pastoral Search Committee are playing an important role for SFC as they search for our next pastor.

The Nominating Committee did an excellent job of choosing 11 people who are representative of our church and our community (in demographics, faith background, life stage, mission focus, etc.), faithful, active, biblically sound, good ambassadors for SFC and

representative of both who we are and who we want to become:

- Carl Agers
- Kelly Blough
- Dan Byrne
- Jean Cherniss
- Linda Connors (chairperson)
- Morgan Griffith
- Renee Hart
- Neal Locke
- Bill Mullen
- Carrie Priest
- Spencer Sutterlin

I am thrilled and appreciative that these 11 people have agreed to serve all of us! God has been faithful to Saratoga Federated Church for almost 100 years, and we know he will continue to be faithful through this transition. Please join me in continuing to pray for guidance and discernment for our Pastoral Search Committee, in addition to praying for Gabe and his family, our church and congregation, and, of course, our new pastor!

Nick Kepler, President of the Elders

Fabric for Malawi

Did you know we have a quilting group at SFC? This wonderful group of ladies made wall hangings for Sally Bryant to take to Malawi in 2018. They were incorporated into the train-the-teacher workshop, providing teaching opportunities in math and language. The 15 wall hangings she took last summer were so well received, she hopes to bring 35 in 2019!

In order to meet this request, the quilting group needs cotton fabric with letters or numbers and fabric in primary colors. We also need 35 yardsticks to use for hanging them. If you have fabric you would like to donate, please contact Diane Janz at dpjanz@sbcglobal.net. Thanks for your help with this project.

A Bouquet of Sermons

We've recently commissioned a Search Committee to find a new Lead Pastor for SFC, and our understanding is that this process normally takes at least six months and sometimes up to 12 months. What's the plan for sermons during the interim period?

Our pastors have started us off with a series in Mark, taking turns during October and November. This series launches us on a plan that we call a "bouquet" of sermons from a wide variety of speakers. A bouquet of flowers includes different colors, sizes and shapes, carefully arranged to beautifully balance each other.

We're starting to line up our flowers. During December, we've engaged Dr. Paul Watermulder, who is a former police officer-turned Presbyterian minister. In January, we will hear from Neil Mammen, a technologist born in

Africa and raised speaking Arabic. Neil will share a logical argument for the infallibility of the Bible. In February, Pastor Sheyna Heard will join us from Rohi Church with her fiery evangelical style. We'll keep going from there until we have a permanent Lead Pastor.

Our plan is to use the interim period to present a balanced lineup, with preachers who come from very different backgrounds. Of course all of them share our solid faith, but they share it in different styles and come from completely different directions.

The interim preacher working group appreciates your support and prayers as we take this journey. Please feel free to contact Kathy Storton, Julie Cabrales, Joe Madden, Sally Bryant or Bill Allison with your thoughts.

Joe Madden, Elder

A Season of Prayer

We have experienced God's faithfulness to this church for almost a century. Over the past 98 years, we have had ten lead pastors. God has faithfully shepherded this church in every season, bringing the right person at the right time. Through the generations, many prayers have been spoken as the congregation sought God's direction.

Now we ask you to join us as we pray for God's guidance, believing the Holy Spirit is preparing us, and our future pastor, for this coming season.

Perhaps you want to pray each day as God leads you. Perhaps your Life Group will include a prayer for God's direction in this interim season, or perhaps you would like a more specific prayer suggestion. We will provide prayer prompts in the Community Highlights.

May we remember the words of the apostle James, "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." (James 5:6)

Thanksgiving Baskets

The week of Thanksgiving, our students will deliver food to ten families in need. West Valley Community Services will connect us with families in and near Saratoga. The baskets consist of traditional Thanksgiving items as well as everyday groceries. The food will be

boxed and distributed the Sunday before Thanksgiving on November 18.

The students cannot do this alone and need your help. We will be collecting food in barrels at church now through noon on November 18. For more information and a list of food, visit www.lifehouse.fyi/thanksgiving.

Year End Financial Reminders

1. **DEADLINE:** The tax deduction deadline for year 2018 giving is postmark of or RECEIPT by the church on or before Monday, December 31. We are not able to "backdate" receipts that are mailed or given in January. Please plan accordingly.

2. **STOCK GIFTS:** You may achieve significant tax savings by donating shares of stock rather than selling them and donating the proceeds. The church is happy to receive gifts in the form of stock. Our accounting manager, Packey Ng, has a form in the church office to facilitate stock transfers. Please be aware that stock donations can take many days to process depending on the situation. To have it count in calendar year 2018, you should start at least two weeks in advance.

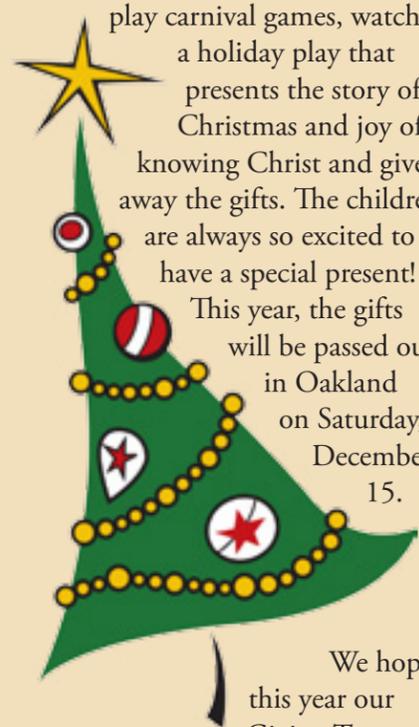
3. **IRAs:** It's not too late to take advantage of a special law that allows those who are 70 1/2 or older to donate directly from their IRA while avoiding all income tax on the distribution. Call the church finance office for details.



The Giving Tree

It's almost that time again! It's time to go shopping for gifts to bless the children of Oakland. This year we will once again be donating all of our giving tree gifts to Points of Light. Points of Light puts on a huge Christmas outreach each year when all the families and children gather to

play carnival games, watch a holiday play that presents the story of Christmas and joy of knowing Christ and gives away the gifts. The children are always so excited to have a special present! This year, the gifts will be passed out in Oakland on Saturday, December 15.



We hope this year our Giving Tree

will be just as successful as 2017! According to Points of Light, over 1,200 children picked up a gift at the event last year and SFC donated more than half of those. What an amazing outreach opportunity!

In case you are interested in shopping early or picking gifts up as you find them on sale, here are the requirements for the gifts:

- Suitable for a girl, boy, or unisex (infants, ages 1 to 3, ages 4 to 7 and ages 8 to 11). The most needed age group is 4 to 7.
- Cost of gift: suggested about \$20
- If gift requires batteries, please include those as well.
- No clothes or shoes
- No cash or gift cards
- Nothing violent



- Wrapped with a label on the outside (We will have the labels at church for you starting November 4.)

All gifts are due on or before Sunday, December 9 to church. Points of Light will then pick them up, transport them to Oakland and organize them for the big event!

Thanks in advance for joining us in this outreach! Happy shopping!
Laurel and Trevor Shephard

Pastoral Housing Capital Campaign

SFC is launching a capital campaign to raise funds for pastoral housing.

Because of rising Silicon Valley housing costs, the church has found it necessary for nearly 20 years to invest substantial funds to enable our newly hired pastors to afford a home in our area. During that time, we have utilized a shared equity approach for three different pastors, with both SFC and the pastor contributing 50% of the down payment. As you know, the cost of housing has continued to increase dramatically. While that increase is extremely helpful for our current equity share, we still only hold about 50% of the value of a reasonable home in our community. Furthermore, the next pastor will likely not be able to afford the other 50% of a home on their own, so we need to provide more help.

The Elders and the Foundation are looking ahead to the needs of our next

pastor and future pastors. The cost of local housing has surpassed what can be afforded on a typical pastor's salary. Theoretically we could just increase the pastor's salary; however, we would need to more than double the current salary range to come close to what is needed. Each new pastor would likely still need help with a down payment and our annual operating costs would continue to increase. With the increased cost of housing, it will take more money to bridge the gap between the cost of a home versus what a pastor can afford on a reasonable salary. To do this, we need to increase our assets available for pastoral housing.

To be successful in hiring our next pastor, we need to secure the funding for their housing before the job offer is made. We have had our prime candidate in a pastoral search turn us down before due to the lack of an

affordable housing solution, so we are starting now to raise funds for our next pastoral housing need. Ultimately we know we need to raise funds for multiple pastors, but our first target for now is help for the next hire.

Based on current market prices and the funds we already have invested for pastoral housing, we seek to raise \$1,200,000 to add to our pastoral housing fund. Details of the campaign are being sent out to homes along with a response pledge card. We are praying your response will be clear and convincing evidence of God's will in this matter. We ask that you prayerfully consider a commitment to this important endeavor.

If you do not receive a campaign mailer, information will also be available on our website (www.saratogafederated.org) or by calling the church office at (408) 867-1000.

New Year's Prayer Retreat

New Year's Prayer Retreat Saturday, January 5, 2019 from 9:00 am to 1:00pm.

"Until you know where you have been, you don't know where you are going." Attributed to President Abraham Lincoln, this quote recalls God's instructions to the Israelites – and to us – to remember. We are called to remember his faithfulness from generation to generation, and to reflect on and rejoice in his faithfulness to us today. The first Saturday in the New Year seems like a good time to take stock of where we have been, and where we are going. We will spend time recalling God's past fidelity, and will look at those areas where we hope for God's continued faithfulness. Isaiah 49:15 gives us this beautiful promise, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!"

Join us on Saturday, January 5, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in Douglass Hall. We will provide breakfast. For more information or to register, contact Sally Bryant at (408) 867-1000 ext. 233 or sally@saratogafederated.org. There is no cost to attend this retreat, but your RSVP will help us ensure plentiful food.

Life Group Breakfast

Everyone is invited to this breakfast on Saturday, November 3 from 9:00 to 10:30 am! Over the past 18 months, close to 100 people have been practicing the arts of noticing, praying, listening, asking questions, loving, welcoming, facilitating, serving together and sharing. Do these arts sound familiar to you? We hope so! They are the 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations and are applicable to almost every facet of life, including your marriage, family, friends, workplace and life group. We hope that everyone who calls Saratoga Federated Church home will learn and practice these arts. Come join us for a delicious breakfast and learn more about the power of these 9 arts. All are welcome, and we ask that you RSVP so we can ensure an abundance of food. Please contact Olivia DCosta at (408) 867-1000 ext. 246 or olivia@saratogafederated.org.

Thanksgiving Day Service

Each year congregations in Saratoga come together to give thanks to God for the blessings of church, home and country.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church will be hosting the service this year, sponsored by the Saratoga Ministerial Association. People of all faiths are invited to attend this community-wide celebration of thanks on Thursday, November 22 from 10:00 to 11:15 am, followed by a reception.



Advent 2018 Special Offering

Each Advent, Local and Global Outreach select an organization with a specific need to bless them with a gift “above and beyond” our normal outreach efforts. Your gifts have made a difference locally and around the world in so many ways!

As we hear about the many needs in our 24/7 news cycle world, it can feel overwhelming. We can wonder, “What difference does my small gift make?” Out of the approximately 7.3 billion people in the world, 2.3 billion are Christian. 5 billion people have not experienced the love and grace of God. Each one of those 5 billion people is known to God and beloved by him. Over the years, your generosity has shared God’s love with others in the Bay Area and Africa, Asia and Europe. Because of you, we’ve helped purchase vans so Advent Group Ministries in San Jose and Sonrise Ministries in Uganda could take kids to doctor’s visits and to school. You’ve enabled leadership opportunities to teens in Oakland and the Ivory Coast. You’ve brought joy to children in Oakland by stuffing Christmas stockings, and provided food for hungry children in the Middle East and Africa. Thank you for being part of these ministries, for bringing the love of God to so many hurting people.

This Advent, our recipients are Points of Light in Oakland and Sonrise Ministries in Uganda. We hope to raise \$25,000 for each ministry. Please write “Advent offering” in the memo section of your check if you would like to support these ministries.

Advent Offering Global Outreach Sonrise Ministries

Imagine seeing babies and children abandoned...neglected...abused. This is a reality for many babies and children in Africa. It’s a heartbreaking reality. An estimated 50 million orphans live in sub-Saharan Africa. Their life is a struggle for survival to find the most basic of needs, like food, water and shelter. Thankfully there are people with a heart to help. This year’s recipient of the global advent offering will be Sonrise Ministries in Uganda.

Sonrise Ministries cares for over 100 babies and children who were previously abandoned, neglected or abused. With our help they can become self-sustaining by establishing a sugarcane farm. Sugar is a profitable crop in Uganda. A positive cash flow is expected as early as the second harvest, with no replanting needed for at least seven years. Since Sonrise can buy, plant and harvest one acre of sugarcane for only \$1,300, our Advent offering can get them started with a small 20-acre farm.

Each acre of sugarcane yields 40 tons of crop. At the current market rate of \$34 per ton, a 20-acre farm will generate more than \$25,000 each harvest, an annual profit equivalent to the initial investment! And, it’s an investment that creates local jobs and supports the local economy.

Many of you had the chance to meet Ivan and Melissa Mukulu when they visited SFC in August or Damali Manyindo when she was here three years ago. Sonrise has been faithful stewards of the gifts we’ve given in the past. The bus gets constant use and the second floor of Mirembe Cottage was completed, outfitted with solar power and opened in August to the overwhelming joy of 37 girls. What a treat it would be for the 24 SFC people headed to Uganda in July to be able to walk through a field of baby sugarcane plants and know that it will be an ongoing source of support for the children at Sonrise for years to come.

Janelle Aby, Global Outreach Team



Advent Offering Local Outreach Points of Light

Recently, a Points of Light minister described the youth of Oakland as “feeling hopeless.” This comment struck me particularly hard. While I have had feelings of distress, anguish, and even terror, I have never had a feeling of true hopelessness. Imagine our feeling if our loved children, grandchildren or friends were to tell us they had no feeling other than hopelessness? Could we do anything other than put them on a suicide watch? Now imagine an entire city where not only the youth but many of the adults feel hopeless. One has only to read the newspaper to understand why such feelings exist in Oakland.

What is the answer? Where does our ultimate hope come from?

Our hope comes from God! The Bay Area Urban Network and its Points of Light/Mighty Blaze programs are all about providing that faith in God to the city, with particular emphasis on the youth. These programs are a major all-city religious program for the youth of Oakland. Your financial gifts in this year’s advent offering will help make it possible to reach out to the youth of Oakland, providing hope and encouragement. Your contribution will

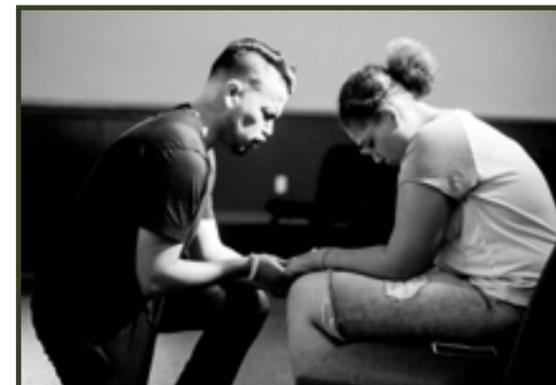
give you the warm sense of knowing that you made a difference in the lives of those who otherwise might have no hope. In order to practice outreach, one needs only to reach out. We can provide the opportunities, but only the congregation can provide the reach.

Key events for which you can volunteer your participation include:

- Points of Light (Sunday school and Christian activities for those ages 12 to 21) every Friday evening
- Young Adults (currently meeting twice monthly)
- Mighty Blaze (Sunday school for those ages 3 to 11) every Saturday at 10:00 am
- Harvest Fest (all-city event at Halloween)
- Christmas stocking stuffing at SFC on Serve Sunday, October 21
- Christmas Oakland-wide event in December

Please contact Al Trimble at alfred.j.trimble@gmail.com to arrange for participation in any or all of the above.

Al Trimble, Local Outreach Team



Christmas Eve Services

We hope you will join us on Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve, as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. We will have three services that evening.

Our Family Service will be held at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This service is very child friendly and includes a craft table for those who arrive early, a musical sing along, glowsticks and a nativity featuring many of the children in attendance.

Our candlelight services are held at both 7:00 and 9:00 pm in the Sanctuary and include our choir, handbells, orchestra, carols, candles and the Christmas story.



Family Ministry Cityteam, Part Two! Be A Mentor

In the last edition of the Federated Family, I introduced you to our new project with Cityteam and the Saratoga High School robotics club.

This past summer we were able to reach out to over 100 families with programs for their junior high and high school students. We also did a backpack drive where 150 children were given backpacks for this new school year. Junior high and high school students had the opportunity to be tutored in graphic design, robotics, reading, sports and video editing. This program connected the students and their families to Cityteam.

We have the opportunity to support Cityteam by providing mentors on Tuesday afternoons to help students in reading and other subjects. We will also help connect with the Friday night youth program. All this will be taking place at the Cityteam house, which is in the Mayfair community area of San Jose. Last week, I had the opportunity to hear testimony from two of the men who are leading this program. They both told their stories about being in gangs as elementary students, but both were saved from that lifestyle due to their involvement at the Mayfair house. Now they both are mentors who are helping kids survive and thrive. Would you like to be a mentor? [Contact me](#) for more information.

Tim Galleher, Family Pastor

Junior High

Recently, I was reflecting on the MadHouse culture. Our hope is to develop a place where pre-teens feel safe, loved and can explore their thoughts to see if these line up with an all-powerful God. Just a few weeks ago, a student asked a unique question, "If you get baptized, do you have to go to church every Sunday?" On the face of the question, there is an obvious answer, but if you really think about it, this student is asking the deeper question. "What are God's expectations if I decide to follow Jesus?" In the MadHouse culture, we talk about living for Jesus 24/7 and that would include meeting with the community of God on Sundays. This student is right. God demands that our hearts be set on him all the time and that does require total dedication. This is a great example of the culture of truth we choose to foster in the MadHouse community.

Yvette Lee, Director of Junior High & Family Ministries

Children's Ministry

The Christmas season is a busy time for most families, especially in Silicon Valley. In an effort to connect the true meaning of the holidays to our kids' everyday world, SFC Kids Clubhouse is excited to share a few projects for kids and families this winter!

On Sundays, kids bring in their offering for different projects throughout the year. Currently our kids are collecting for Thanksgiving Baskets! In partnership with SFC Lifehouse high school ministry and West Valley Community Services, our kids will help provide Thanksgiving meals for families in need in our local community. SFC Kids Clubhouse is hosting their second annual Countdown to Christmas Family event on Sunday, December 2, with hands-on activities to help kids and families connect to the real reason for celebration at Christmas.

Contact Sarah at sarah@saratogafederated.org for more information on Children's and Family Ministry programming at SFC.

Sarah Silva, Director of Children & Family Ministries

High School

January 25 to 27 is the 2019 Winter Camp! We partner with local churches to facilitate a retreat for our high school students. This partnership is an example of churches working together for the glory of God. It is also an opportunity for students to explore other Protestant expressions.

We will be 45 minutes away in the Santa Cruz mountains. Students with sporting responsibilities can be picked up and returned after their game. We will be staying at Ponderosa Lodge, a Mount Hermon facility, designed for students. The campus has several spaces for students to converse and play in small and large groups.

Students will hear Biblical messages from a local pastor. Because local churches run the camp, we can tailor our message to address Silicon Valley teenagers. Students will have a choice of seminars as they seek to go deeper in their faith. Seminar topics have included discipleship practices to Biblical thinking around hot topics.

Registration is open on our website: www.lifehouse.fyi. We are offering a reduced price for the first five people to sign up.

Matt Hall, Minister to Youth & Family

Village Preschool

Time flies so fast when you are having fun. The children and families at Village Preschool have celebrated our second annual "Family Fun Night." We had a record breaking attendance as the Village Staff and SFC Family Team partnered to make this event a memorable evening. What a great way to connect our families and celebrate the beginning of our school year. We kicked off our evening with a live puppet show. We then served a delicious dinner that Dresden Erickson so beautifully orchestrated. The rest of the evening the children enjoyed a jumping house, Fit Wheelz bus, Tickle Me Pony petting zoo and two balloon artists. Thank you to all who had such a strong and supportive hand to make this event so successful. We also have been busy with starting our enrichment programs. We offer them in two semesters Monday through Thursday. Little Cookers, Little Scientists, Musical Tots and Creative Art bring out the fun and imagination in all the children. Our Lunch Bunch program led by Deb Sells and Gennie Garvey is a big highlight in our day. Thank you to all the parents who have supported us with our extended day programs.

November is always a great opportunity to reflect on how we can model to our children the importance of sharing, being kind and feeling thankful for what we have. Miss Sarah welcomes the children into chapel this time of year with special songs and stories of ways we can thank God. It is such a blessing and privilege to see how the children are learning how God created us, protects and provides for us by giving us his son Jesus. December brings us another great opportunity to partner with SFC with the Giving Tree. One of my favorite times of the year is

our Christmas Chapel where the Pre-K children act out the story of baby Jesus being born.

There are so many reasons to feel thankful about Village Preschool. Not only are we led by an amazing Family Team Ministry, but I feel so blessed and lucky to be able to lead a dedicated and committed staff. They come to teach every day with such grace and compassion for our children and their families. No better said than from our teacher Miss Renee, who expresses how "Our children certainly learn best when they are having fun, and it warms all our hearts to be surrounded by these beautiful smiling faces that amaze us with their tremendous curiosity. It is wonderful to see the growth in just a few weeks. I am so proud of these fantastic kids as they explore with such excitement, make new friendships and find their voices with confidence."

Linda Kerin Garvey, Village Preschool Director



Care Update: Aging Workshop Review

One of the workshops offered at the All Church Retreat was on the challenges of aging. It featured discussion and tips and tools for self-care and care for others.

We talked about many concerns such as helping loved ones make decisions about progressive care needs and when to move or bring care into the home; driving and the loss of mobility; managing finances and avoiding scams. Loneliness and helping out can be a real struggle when those we love don't live near us.

We brainstormed ways to help ourselves as we age and came up with some great ideas. Stay active! Tip: Don't use your arms when you get up from a chair. Use your leg muscles to keep them strong! Do a safety check of your home. Falls often contribute to the loss of mobility. Tip: Keep a copy of your medications and DNR (do not resuscitate order) in your wallet and posted on the fridge.

We talked about caring for loved ones who are aging and recommended combatting loneliness by visiting and calling as you are able. Contact the neighbors or church of your loved ones to help them stay connected and known. Utilize outside resources such as senior centers and adult day care centers. One option, if finances allow, is to work with a care manager.

When discussing senior living options, for which there are many, it was noted that some of the continuing care retirement communities in our area such as the Forum and Saratoga Retirement Community, require you to meet certain levels of health and cognition in order to be admitted. Therefore, if you might be interested in living in a retirement community, get on the list sooner rather than later.

There were other resources shared, some of which are listed below. I encourage you to learn what concerns you and your family have and

brainstorm ways to address them. The Care office can help. Most importantly, communicate with your family so that you are able to do better self-care, spouse and parent care and care of friends.

Resources shared at the seminar and available in the Care Office:

- Conversation Starter (to help start the conversation about end of life planning)
- Five Wishes for My Care (planning document that if properly signed can become a living will or advance directive)
- Long Term Care & Insurance information from LongTermCare.gov
- New Lifestyles Guide to Senior Living & Care Magazine
- Preventing Falls brochures
- Home Safety Checklist brochure

Peggy Beck

Care Associate for those 70 and older

Care Deacon Bio

Flock 1 (age 18-39) Care Deacon Alana Guzzetta



such as VBS, 8th grade confirmation and joining her first life group approximately five years ago. As a new

care deacon, she is looking forward to finding the new ways God is calling her to serve. She has a passion for helping friendships develop within the congregation and wants to find ways to bring joy to people by showing they are loved and cared about. Alana always loves having a mocha with a friend, so if you ever want to chat over coffee, feel free to reach out to her!

Her parents, Rob and Cheryl, and sister, Vanessa, all still attend SFC as well. She is grateful to be living and working in San Jose so she can be close to her family and friend communities. She studied civil engineering at San

Jose State and has been working for US Concrete in the research laboratory for the past seven years. She is active in various professional organizations as well and enjoys that her job includes some travel. On week days, she usually spends at least one day meeting up with friends to play tennis or take a hike after work. She has a passion for crafts and could spend hours scrapbooking, sewing, cross stitching or creating decorative items and gifts. Although she loves being a homebody, she also enjoys travelling. She has plenty more interests as well, so she stays pretty busy!

Mexico Housebuilding Trip

The next Mexico housebuilding trip is scheduled for April 6 to 12, 2019.

Believe it or not the planning has already begun and many things are in place to make this another successful trip.

Save the dates for these important meetings and fundraisers:

December 9 - Information Meeting #1 - Open to all those interested in gathering more information about participating in the trip.

December 10 - Fundraiser at Willow Street Pizza and Main Street Burgers both in Los Gatos

January 13 - Information Meeting #2 - Open to all trip alumni

January 14 - Fundraiser at Willow Street Pizza and Main Street Burgers both in Los Gatos

January 27 - Information Meeting #3 - Open to anyone interested in

participating on the trip who did not go to one of the previous two meetings. Every participant must attend one information meetings.

January 28 - Fundraiser at Willow Street Pizza and Main Street Burgers both in Los Gatos

February 10 - SFC Talent Show Fundraiser

March 2 - BBQ Fundraiser

April 6 to 12 - Building houses in Mexico!



Time Change

It's that time of year when we roll our clocks back one hour and gain an hour of sleep.

Don't forget to change your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday, November 3, or you may find yourself extra early for church on Sunday morning!



Bridge Builders Advent Respite Day

December 1
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Volunteers arrive at 8:15 am for training

The living nativity is always a highlight at this respite day.

To register your children or to volunteer, please contact Debbie Lillo at dlillo@comcast.net.

Women's Fellowship Luncheons

November 6

11:00 am in Richards Hall

Karen Roberts
Mental Health

December 4

11:00 am in Richards Hall

Christmas Luncheon
Major Paula Wild
and Jan Goodwin with
the Salvation Army

January

No General Meeting

February 6

11:00 am in Richards Hall

Teen Challenge

Reservations

Sign up on the courtyard.

or

Contact Nancy Kamalski
(408) 255-3627

nancykamalski@gmail.com

Monthly Circles

Contact Joan Leonard at
(408) 741-0213 if you are
interested in joining a
fellowship circle.

We've Moved

Keep in Touch

Let us know if there is a move in your future. Please send your new address to Debbie Sturm at debbie@saratogafederated.org.

Joe & Marilyn Berg

132 8th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Kent & Espe Paxton

University House
22975 SE Black Nugget Road
#345
Issaquah, WA 98029

Elaine Henson

Merrill Gardens at the University
5300 24th Avenue NE, #536
Seattle, WA 98105

Fed Family Deadlines

Nov 14, 2018 Jan/Feb Issue
Feb 6, 2019 Mar/Apr Issue
Apr 3, 2019 May/June Issue
Jun 5, 2019 Jul/Aug Issue



Saratoga Federated Church

(408) 867-1000

www.saratogafederated.org

Church Office:

20390 Park Place
Saratoga, CA 95070

Business Office:

14370 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga, CA 95070

Congratulations!

November Anniversaries

Russell & Lynette Breed	November 1	21 years
Chuck & Linda Jeffery	November 2	55 years
Chuck & Janet Totman	November 4	40 years
Joseph & DD Madden	November 14	9 years
Brian & Mary Smith	November 15	10 years
Steve & Barbara Hall	November 17	17 years
John & Mary Ann Lemons	November 18	51 years
Brian & Sarah Penzel	November 19	13 years
Bill & Linda Mullen	November 22	49 years
Jack & Sue Mallory	November 25	57 years
Jack & Pam Kretovics	November 26	42 years
Rich & Rebekah Penrose	November 26	24 years
Spencer & Amy Sells	November 26	24 years
Morgan & Stephanie Griffith	November 27	19 years
Hunter & Brooke Novak	November 28	9 years
Zack & Savoy Stevens	November 30	22 years

December Anniversaries

Richard & Angela Johnson	December 3	23 years
Helmut & Maria Lippert	December 5	59 years
Larry & Jackie Hester	December 8	51 years
Les & Karen Wandel	December 11	47 years
Rich & Becky Clewett	December 18	42 years
Douglas & Tina Case	December 21	28 years
Gary & Arleen Ressa	December 22	55 years
Carlos Martinez & Debra Janssen	December 22	39 years
Sieg & Ruth Yoder	December 26	63 years
Ron & Valerie Plummer	December 27	38 years
Terry & Sue Johnson	December 29	39 years
Dave & Jill Okamura	December 30	23 years
Bob & Barbara Silverstein	December 30	39 years

Connected?

Our church database is accessible from your mobile phone. If you already have a login and password just go to https://sfc.ccbchurch.com/mobile_login.php in your phone's web browser. If you need to sign-up first, go to https://sfc.ccbchurch.com/w_sign_up.php in your phone or computer web browser.

We also encourage you to update your information in your profile. Correcting your address, phone numbers and names of family members residing at your address is greatly appreciated.

If you need assistance updating your profile, please contact the church office at (408) 867-1000.