

SFC COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

October 18, 2020

CELEBRATING BILL & DIANE ALLISON

On November 1 at 1:00 pm, we will be celebrating the Allison's retirement. For instructions on how you can send well wishes via video to Bill and Diane, go to <https://sturmmmedia.com/allison>.

SERVE SUNDAY – WEEK OF OCTOBER 17-25

Check our signup sheet for all the available options [HERE](#). With the ongoing shelter-in-place order, we organized our Serve Sunday over a long week again. In an effort to allow plenty of safe social distancing, we planned projects that you can do as an individual, couple or family. Our main project window spans one whole week and both weekends beginning Saturday, October 17 through Sunday, October 25, with some projects earlier. We have a variety of projects, many of which you can do at home. While some projects are still being developed as this newsletter goes to press, we will be holding a food drive, clearing bushes at Payne Elementary School, cooking meals at home, hosting a Red Cross blood drive and much more. We are especially excited to be partnering with Westgate Church and their Beautiful Day service projects. To sign up through Beautiful Day, go to beautifulday.org and select 2020 Projects.

INVISIBLE DISABILITIES WEEK, OCTOBER 18–24, WITH AN INVISIBLE DISABILITIES ZOOM PANEL ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 AT 7:00 PM.

If you have faced an invisible disability such as alcoholism, anxiety, depression, learning disabilities, Lupus, and/or Lyme disease, to name a few, the Care Team invites you to complete this confidential survey at <https://tinyurl.com/invisibled> to let us know how you would like to receive support and care during National Invisible Disabilities Week.

To give or provide encouragement that week for those with invisible disabilities in our church family, sign up for the upcoming Serve Week (<https://tinyurl.com/SFCserve>) to share a meal or write cards.

To register for the October 19 Zoom panel on Invisible Disabilities, moderated by Debbie Lillo and joined by a panel of SFCers with invisible disabilities, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/CareZoom>. The purpose of the event will be to gain information and understanding about what it's like to live with an invisible disability.

INSPIRIT HEALING ROOM - OCTOBER 18

This Sunday, October 18, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, the InSpirit Healing Rooms will be open via email. Jesus brings us healing and hope in all situations! Let us know how you would like God to heal you or a loved one at our confidential email inspiritprayer@yahoo.com. A team of two will pray for you and then email you words of encouragement and scripture verses that God puts on our hearts for you or your loved one. You can also request live prayer by Zoom.

VILLAGE FORUM - OCTOBER 22

We hope you will join us via Zoom for our next Village Forum on Thursday, October 22 at 7:00 pm. *Prayer, Meditation and Mindfulness: Help Through Difficult Times?* will be hosted by Sean Miller. Our speakers will be Libby Vincent, PhD, MDiv and Linda Ikeda, LMFT. How are these practices helpful during times of COVID, political turmoil and natural disasters? Why are they recommended by professionals in the field of counseling? How do they differ? We will take a look while guided by two experts, one in the field of counseling and the other a provider of spiritual direction. Request your free Zoom link via email at thevillageforum@gmail.com.

COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS) UPDATE

SFC will continue to hold a single Sunday worship service online during the current shelter-in-place order. While the county has authorized some religious gatherings, their primary requirements are still such that trying to hold an on-campus service would not be practical for our congregation.

Meanwhile, our church is alive and well! Check out the creative ways that ministry is continuing to happen through a variety of virtual applications.

[Visit our website](#) for information on how to stay connected. In fact, there's even a tech support team to help those of you who might need assistance in figuring out how to do that!

One worship service is available to view on our website each Sunday morning by 9:30 am.

VIRUS CRISIS CARE TEAMS

Tech Support: If you would like technical assistance to view the online church service, call the church at (408) 867-1000 ext 265. Leave a detailed message with your name and phone number. A volunteer should respond to you within a day.

Grocery/Pharmacy Assistance: If you would like assistance with getting groceries, call the church office at (408) 867-1000 ext. 266. Leave a detailed message, including your name and phone number. Robyn Swan or a volunteer should respond to you within one weekday.

FIRE RELIEF

Are you wondering how you can get or provide help? Please visit our [website](#) for more information.

ADULT MINISTRY - LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Jesus tells us the second greatest commandment, after loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, is to love our neighbor as ourselves. As a church, we are committed to Life in God, Life with Others and Life for Others. It is timely for us to ask: how can we love our neighbor when we don't know our neighbor, or understand our neighbor's reality, especially when our neighbor is different than we are? How do we love our neighbor across racial divisions?

We are committed to helping us understand our neighbor so we can better love our neighbor. Here's how you can get involved:

- Join the monthly book club discussion. For more information, contact Barb Clark at barbjclark77@gmail.com
- Read one of the books or listen to a podcast listed on our website. Each of these resources [listed on our website](#) is now based on the recommendations of theologians and pastors of color.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Hi, SFC Kids, Parents and Grandparents. Zoomed out? We are too! On October 18, we are taking a break from Zoom Sunday school and invite you to join us in the SFC parking lot anytime between 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Kits for stuffing Christmas stockings - a family service project, will be available to put together onsite or to pick up and take home. If you signed up for this project via Serve Sunday sign-ups, we will have your kits ready for you. We will have a super fun Pentateuch scavenger hunt, and for the little ones, there will be a God Made the World handprint activity. Register with Savoy Stevens at savoy@saratogafederated.org.

Please join us every Sunday morning at 10:30 for our Zoom mini Sunday school. At-home Sunday school lessons are also available via email links. Please contact Savoy Stevens at savoy@saratogafederated.org if you need links for any of our Sunday resources.

Stay connected through our SFC Kids Clubhouse Instagram. Please follow us at [sfc_kidsmin](https://www.instagram.com/sfc_kidsmin) so we can share ideas, encouragement and keep up with each other. These posts are meant to show to your kids, too. Look out for special messages from their Sunday school teachers!

Go to the [Children's Ministry tab](#) on the SFC website for other links to our Facebook page and prayer request page.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Students must be registered in our program to receive links to Zoom meetings. Please [REGISTER HERE](#).

Youth Worship Gatherings

Middle School – Sunday at 9:30 am on Zoom
High School – Sunday at 11:00 am on Zoom

Mid-Week Bible Programs

We can now offer a hybrid Wednesday night program option of in-person gathering and Zoom. Students will meet in the SFC courtyard with masks and 6' social distancing. Registration is required as space is limited. Both middle and high school programs will meet from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Students may still use Zoom to participate if they cannot meet in person. Zoom links are sent out on Friday afternoons.

Middle School Hangout (Games and Bible Lesson)
7:00 to 8:00 pm - to attend in-person, please [register here](#).

High School Bible Study from 7:00 to 8:00 pm - to attend in-person, please [register here](#).

Parent Guides for all of our lessons are available on our website at sfcyouth.info/parents. For more information about the program, please visit our [website](#). You may contact Tracy Fell with questions about the program at tracy@saratogafederated.org.

Special In-Person Outdoor Event - NerdCon

for Middle and High School Students
Sunday, October 18, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at Saratoga Federated Church
Cost: \$5 in person or Free on Zoom - Registration Required [HERE](#).

The NerdCon is a celebration of nerdiness in all of its forms (think Comic Con). It is an opportunity to celebrate your passion be it sci-fi, fantasy, gaming, anime and manga, superheroes, video games, board games, retro games... anything nerdy! If your family is still sheltering-in-place, that's fine! We are creating a virtual experience that will tie into the in-person event on Zoom! There will be prizes for the best cosplay in various genres, as well as a couple of raffles for movie tickets. The more friends you invite, the better the odds that you and your friends will win! [See our website](#) for further details (sfcyouth.info/new-events).

COLLEGE & 20S MINISTRY

Join us on Monday evenings at 6:30 on Zoom for virtual Bible study. Saratoga Federated's college ministry exists for 18-24 year olds to find and explore what it looks like to follow Jesus in a loving community. We would love to have you join us. Please contact Claire Iguchi at claire.iguchi@gmail.com for more information.

LIFE GROUPS

If you are looking for a new study, check out RightNow Media, the Netflix for Christian studies. Here are a few suggestions:

This Is the Day: A Study with Tim Tebow. Sometimes life feels rigid—as if nothing could ever really change. Maybe we're afraid of taking a step of faith, or maybe we're too injured from the past to move forward. No matter where you find yourself, you can make the most of today. Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow shares stories from his life to illustrate what it means to seize each day for God's glory and challenges us to step out in courage.

Race and the Gospel with Bryan Loritts and Matt Chandler. Using Ephesians 2:11–16, pastors Bryan Loritts and Matt Chandler look at an issue that has plagued American churches since the conception of America itself—racism. The doubt and frustration surrounding current conversations about race and ethnicity provoke questions like, “Why do we keep bringing racism up?” and “Isn't there just one race—the human race?” Today many Christians can no longer ignore racial tensions or use simplistic responses to deflect from the complexity of our country's racial problem. As those who follow Jesus, Christians have the unique opportunity to enter into—rather than shy away from—conversations about race and reconciliation in light of the hope of the gospel. Through teaching and honest dialogues, Bryan and Matt will unpack the hard truths about America's racial past and suggest a pathway forward of healing, justice and hope for multiethnic harmony in the church.

The Experimental Men's Group (EMG) meets the first Monday of the month and is intended for men 70+. SFC and non-SFC men are warmly invited to join the group and make new friends. The EMG is intended to be more a community group than a church group for the 70+ category of men out there. Email Tom Priest at tomp@caps4ups.com for the Zoom link.

FOR YOUR AWARENESS, PRAYER OR ATTENTION

BEREAVEMENTS

We celebrate the life of **Pam Pearson** who died on September 30.

Skip Pearson (brother)
Nancy Pearson & George Sikich
(sister & brother-in-law)

We celebrate the life of **Don Galleher** who died on October 5.

Tim & Cara Galleher (son & daughter-in-law)
Ryan Galleher (grandson)
Raegan & Kedrik McKenzie (granddaughter & spouse) Brennan Galleher (grandson)

We celebrate the life of **Andrew Aldridge** who died on October 9.

Sylvia Aldridge (wife)
Arianna & Jon Gerry (daughter & son-in-law)
Luke & Lilly Gerry (grandchildren)

BIRTHS

We celebrate the life of **Cassian Qayde Iannucci** who was born on October 8.

Robbie & Lanie (parents)
Sophia Iannucci (big sister)

NOT SURE HOW TO GIVE?

Are you wondering how to continue giving your tithes or offerings during the time when we are not meeting on campus? There are several ways.

- 1) You can mail in your gifts to the church office:
Saratoga Federated Church, 20390 Park Place, Saratoga, CA 95070 Attn: Finance
- 2) You can give securely starting on our website: www.saratogafederated.org/give.html.
This will then take you to a secure website for Pushpay, our online giving processor.
 - a. Please note that you can give via your bank account or via credit card.
 - b. You can set up automated recurring giving on any schedule that works for you.
- 3) Any of the giving actions you can do from our website can also be done from your smartphone.
You would begin by texting: saratogafc to the number 779777 (message and data rates may apply).

General Fund Financial Update July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

General Fund Donations:	Actual	Budget	Over/(Behind)
Fiscal Year to Date: 10/11	\$589,450	\$653,009	\$(63,559)
Last Week's Giving:	\$24,481	\$43,534	\$(19,053)

SERMON PODCASTS & VIDEOS are available at www.saratogafederated.org.

SARATOGA FEDERATED CHURCH
20390 Park Place • Saratoga, CA 95070 • (408) 867-1000
www.saratogafederated.org



To Give
