

Fed Family

Saratoga Federated Church Newsletter

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Important Dates

September

- 22 - Go & Tell - Sola Gratia
- 22 - 9 Arts Class Begins
- 22 - Estate Planning Seminar
- 29 - Inquirer's Class

October

- 1 - Women's Luncheon
- 12 - Bridge Builder Respite
- 15 - Red Cross Blood Drive
- 20 - Serve Sunday

Next year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of Saratoga Federated Church. Since 1920, SFC has played a vital role in the Saratoga and West Valley communities as well as with people around the country and around the world.

Beginning in January 2020, and continuing throughout next year, we will be commemorating our heritage, celebrating what the Lord has done for us.

The Centennial Celebration Task Force has been meeting since spring to develop ideas focused on the themes of heritage, community and celebration. The year long centennial celebration is as much about involving our surrounding community as it is about our congregation. We want to involve our neighbors, regular visitors and members alike. Expect to hear more about these events and programs later this fall as we look forward to kicking off the celebration in January.

Centennial Moments: Your Memories of SFC

One component of the anniversary celebration is something we're calling "Centennial Moments," and we would like your help. We are going

to prepare a series of short videos and other content based on contributions provided by people like you. What is your favorite memory associated with SFC? What brought you here? What stands out to you? Was it a wedding? A housebuilding trip to Mexico? A favorite Sunday School teacher? VBS? Your small group?

One of my favorite moments was in a recent Christmas musical when Buddy, the Elf, notoriously played by a costumed Tim Galleher, hugged the stuffing out of me on stage. Do any of you remember seeing that?

We would like to hear about your favorite story. We will be placing a Centennial Moments Idea Box in the Sanctuary lobby. Simply jot down your idea and contact information

and place it in the box. You can email your idea to 100th@saratogafederated.org with Centennial Moments in the subject line. We will be introducing these moments each Sunday beginning in January.

We look forward to celebrating our first 100 years and kicking off our next 100!

Kevin Payne, Co-Chair, Centennial Celebration Task Force



Book Club

The September Book Club meeting will be held Thursday, September 19, at 12:15 pm in room 111. We will be discussing *Finding Jake* by Bryan Reardon.

The tension is almost unbearable in this thriller-cum-character study as layer after layer of a father's soul are revealed as reflected in the character of his missing son.



The October Book Club meeting will be held on Thursday, October 17, at 12:15 pm in room 111. We will be discussing *Becoming* by Michele Obama. An intimate, powerful, and inspiring memoir by the former first lady of the United States. In a life filled with meaning and accomplishment, Michelle Obama has emerged as one of the most iconic and compelling women of our era.

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

Search Committee Update

Many members of our congregation have shown a continuing interest in our search for our next Lead Pastor. Some of the most asked questions are:

Q: When will we get a new pastor?

A: In 1 Samuel 16, God tells Samuel that he needs to replace Saul with a new king to be selected from one of the seven sons of Jesse. Rather than settle for any of the first six sons, Samuel selects David. We are committed to finding the right person for SFC. We appreciate the importance of timing and the current sense of urgency, but more importantly, we recognize the need to get it right.

Q: What is the current status?

A: Our committee continues to meet weekly, in addition to having regular meetings with our search firm. We have reviewed over 30 candidates to date, evaluating their education, experiences and listening to countless sermons. Each team member shares their personal assessment of the candidates

Serve Sunday

Our next Serve Sunday is coming up on Sunday, October 20. We will meet in the Sanctuary for one service at 9:00 am and then head out both on campus and in our community to serve in a variety of ways.

Be on the lookout for more details about how to sign up. Grab a friend or your small group and spend the morning together working hard and having fun.



and the viability of moving them forward. Most of these candidates have not met our requirements, and a few who were considered viable withdrew their names from consideration.

Q: What are the next steps?

A: We ask you to share in our weekly prayers that the Holy Spirit will be at work in the hearts of our congregation and in the next pastor of our church. We are active. God is active. Your prayers are heard. We trust that God will answer us in His time.

Calling a new lead pastor to SFC is a challenging, humbling and scary thing. This is God's church, and the congregation has made it clear to the Elder Board and the Search Team the critical requirements for our new pastor are strong, faithful, dynamic and true Bible teaching. We have been blessed with this in the past and it must continue into the future!

Neal Locke, Search Committee Member

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship will gather together on Tuesday, September 17, for our first circle meeting following summer break. Circle members will be contacted by their circle leaders soon.

Our first luncheon will be held on Tuesday, October 1, at 11:00 am in Richards Hall. Our speaker is Venna Bishop speaking about Angels Through the Artist's Eyes. Venna flew through the air as an angel in the Crystal Cathedral Christmas programs.

All ladies are welcome to join us for our luncheons and circle meetings. For more information, please call Joan Leonard at (408) 741-0213.

New Class

Practicing the Presence of God

Beginning Sunday, October 13, we hope you will join us on the second Sunday of each month at 9:30 am in Douglass Hall as we explore different practices designed to help us experience the presence of God in new and deeper ways. These practices have been used for centuries by Christians to grow closer to God and to be transformed into the likeness of Christ. Some of these practices, such as reading the Bible and praying, are very well-

known to us, while others, such as lectio divina or examen may be less familiar. The class will meet monthly, and there will be weekly reminders to experience the grace of that particular spiritual practice. If your soul is thirsty, if life seems overwhelming, if you are searching for something deeper, come join us! For more information or to register, contact Sally Bryant at sally@saratogafederated.org, or (408) 867-1000 ext. 233.



Welcome Ministry

Host Team Training Opportunity

Romans 15:7 tells us to "welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you for the glory of God." Our hope is that everyone, especially those who are new to our church, feels genuinely welcomed as they come to worship each Sunday. Our hosts on campus, wearing blue name tags, are there to provide a warm welcome to all who attend our church, especially to guests.

Recent research tells us that visitors make up their minds regarding a new church in the first ten minutes of their visit. Often, even before they have experienced a moving worship song or heard a meaningful message, they have made up their minds whether or not to return, and their decision to return is usually based on how warmly they have (or not) been welcomed. The six most important minutes of a church service, in the eyes of a first-time guest, are the

three minutes before the service and the three minutes after the service. This is an opportunity for church members to extend a welcome to others as Christ has welcomed us. It's an opportunity to show the love of Christ in action.

God entrusts His work here on earth to us. We are to welcome one another in the same way that Christ has welcomed us into His family. Imagine being given the opportunity to extend the love of God to each person who steps foot on our campus. That is the opportunity we have each Sunday.

If this makes your heart say, "Wow!" then join us! Our next training is Sunday, September 15, from 9:15 am to 12:00 pm. For more information, contact Susi and Richard Reaves at angelchild2053@gmail.com or pastor.rich.123@gmail.com, or call Sally Bryant at (408) 867-1000 ext. 233.

Parent Recharge

Parent Recharge meets the first Sunday of the month in Douglass Hall at 11:00 am. This time gives us an opportunity to meet other parents and share parenting resources.

The focus on Sunday, September 1, will be praying for our children. Scripture is clear: prayer is powerful, and we are to "pray without ceasing." In today's hectic world, how do we do this? How do we pray for our children? We will look at practices to help us pray more often and spend some time praying for our children.

On Sunday, October 6, Debbie Lillo will be our speaker. The title for October is Encouraging Our Children to Respond with Compassion. Debbie will share practical tools and suggestions for modeling compassion and giving our children and students tools for understanding, accepting and befriending others despite perceived differences.

If you have any questions about Parent Recharge, please contact Sally Bryant at sally@saratogafederated.org or (408) 867-1000 ext. 233.

The FCA Staff Gets Called Up

Twenty years ago, Kelly and I joined the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) staff because God called us into sports ministry right here in the Silicon Valley. FCA as a national organization was already forty-five years old, but we were functioning much like a start-up. Eleven years later, in 2010, our daughter, Whitney, joined our team. Along the way, SFC joined our team in financial support, and together we have impacted thousands of athletes and coaches for Christ.

What continues to be one of the darkest places on the planet are the schools of higher education in the USA. This past year we have ventured farther into these dark corners at Santa Clara University and San Jose State University. The results have been phenomenal! While doing this joyous work, God tugged on our hearts and asked us to go deeper and wider. We have loved being on the FCA team, but God has led us to starting a brand new ministry that we have named "Called Up."

Our Called Up mission is "to guide college athletic programs and Silicon Valley leaders into living out their God intended design." We are continuing to make the campuses of SJSU and SCU our focus. We currently have a deep presence and favor on these campuses, and our goal is to reach the over 1,000 coaches, student athletes and support people for these programs for Christ.

In addition, God has led us to go deeper into the lives of sacred and secular leaders. These folks are among the unhealthiest people in desperate need of love and support. With our almost forty years of ministry, we have "been there done that," so we can serve out of experience. We intend to shepherd these shepherds into health by leading them in intentional get-away retreats in beautiful Lake Tahoe.

Despite being "old," we are nowhere near finished or even considering retirement. Please pray for us as we embark on this brand new adventure!

For more information, visit www.calledup.net.

Clay Elliott



The "Bus People" Visit Uganda

This summer a group of six SFC families and friends (24 people) travelled to Uganda to visit Sunrise Ministries. Sunrise started in 2009 with a home that took in abandoned and neglected infants. Over the past 10 years, they have grown rapidly. Currently they have about 35 infants and toddlers in the baby home, 64 children in the children's village and 34 girls in the Mirembe Cottage for street girls. In addition, they planted eight churches and started two schools which are already educating more than 600 children!

Since 2014, SFC has supported Sunrise Ministries on three different occasions through our Advent offerings. The first time the offering was used to purchase a much-needed bus to transport the children to and from school. The bus was so impactful! Those who went to visit Sunrise this summer learned our church is now known locally as "the bus people" because of that gift.

Subsequent Advent offerings for Sunrise were used to put a second story on the Mirembe girls' home and to start a sugar cane farm which is a source of sustainable income. Our SFC group was invited to spend the night at Mirembe, having a dance party with the girls and then sleeping in beds on the second floor of the home. It was a beautiful celebration of God's provision and our partnership in what He is doing. As one SFC participant said, "Ugandan dance parties are the best!"

During the week, SFC visitors were treated to many incredible experiences. There was an extravagant welcome at the children's village, complete with

ululations, vibrant singing and dancing and hugs all around. There was a visit to the new SFC-sponsored sugar cane fields that were planted in March. The baby sugar cane stalks are now knee high and growing strong. There was an all-nighter babysitting stint to give the baby home aunties a break. There was bean sorting, dish washing, desk repairing, waste pipe replacing, Bible parable teaching, Sunday school teacher training and more. There was an entire day devoted to rebuilding a mud hut for an elderly man with a medical condition and no family to help him. What a joy it was to see this group of families work together to build a strong shelter with nothing more than three hammers, one ax, one hoe and a whole bunch of muscle and love!

For the "bus people" who went, this was an unforgettable summer of participating in what God is doing in Uganda. Want to know more? Talk to the Lockes, the Harts, the Kroesches, the Maddens, the Nashs or the Abys. To see for yourself a clear picture of Jesus working and faith in action, consider joining a future trip.

Janelle Aby, Global Outreach Team



Estate Planning Seminar

Your SFC Foundation is again offering its free estate planning seminar. Come learn about the latest tax-sensitive tools to effectively manage your legacy giving. The content will be presented in easy to understand terms.

Our presenter this year is Ray Sheffield. Ray is part of our congregation and is an accomplished Estate Attorney in San Jose.

Attendance at the seminar is free and there is no obligation. The SFC Foundation provides this seminar periodically as a service to the congregation and to the community. Everyone is welcome, so please invite a friend. This seminar will be held shortly after the third worship service on Sunday, September 22, at 12:15 pm in the Library. A light lunch will be served. Please help us prepare by pre-registering on our website.

You can also register by contacting Olivia DCosta at (408) 867-1000 ext. 246 if you plan to attend.

For more information about the Foundation, visit www.saratogafederated.org/foundation.html.

MOPS Is Coming!

MOPS meetings begin at SFC on Monday, September 9, at 9:15 am in Douglass Hall.

Are you a mom of a child between the ages of 0 and 5? If yes, then MOPS is for you!

At MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers), we gather and support moms with kids from pregnancy through kindergarten. We believe in the simple but revolutionary idea that remarkable things happen when moms come together, face to face.



MOPS meets twice a month on Monday mornings from 9:15 to 11:15 am and free childcare is provided! We meet in Douglas Hall and begin our meetings with breakfast and fellowship together. We share our joys and struggles with one another

Bridge Builders Respite Day

Our next Bridge Builders Respite Day will be held on Saturday, October 12, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Volunteers arrive at 8:15 am for breakfast and training and will be finished about 1:15 pm. The morning will be filled with fall crafts and games, a visit from a fire truck crew and lots of time just playing and having fun.

There is no cost for this event and space is limited, so families are

and learn from each other. It is truly amazing to walk alongside other women who are also on the journey of motherhood. We are blessed to hear from a different guest speaker each meeting, who gives us real tangible ways to apply the MOPS theme of the year “to the full” to our lives.



If you would like more information about MOPS or how to get involved, please email Lindsay Roush at cantaresempre@gmail.com or Lanie Iannucci at lanie@rail.com.

To register for MOPS and get on our SFC MOPS roster, please visit www.mops.org/join and enter the group code 314X.

encouraged to register their children early. All children must be registered in advance! Volunteers are encouraged to sign up as early as possible, so we are sure to have the help we need to serve all the families who would like to participate.

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

Worship Ministry

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul. Worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I worship Your holy name.” I recently saw a Facebook post where a group of Marines were singing this familiar worship song. We sing it at SFC a lot, but hearing them sing made it brand new. It wasn’t because they sounded great because they didn’t. They were just a bunch of soldiers in a military chapel worshipping with abandon. One by one they left the pews and gathered at the front, arms around each other’s shoulders. They were a community, connecting with each other, becoming one and setting everything aside to humble themselves before God. Powerful.

Worship is the full-life response – head, heart and hands – to who God is and what He has done. Matthew 22:37 says, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Being a part of Worship Ministry means that you do what you love, in a variety of styles, to love God in

return, whether it’s singing, playing an instrument, dancing, acting or providing technical support so that others can engage their senses to see, hear, touch, feel and engage in worship. You are free to be entirely yourself as you allow the very One who created you to take center stage.

Do you enjoy people? Do you prefer to work alone? A detail-oriented person? A techie? You can serve the SFC community no matter which description fits you! The Lord doesn’t call the equipped. He equips the called.

Like that group of Marines, we will see God’s power at work as we connect with each other, serve in community and ascribe worth to God in worship. Consider stepping out to join the choir, worship team or orchestra.

Give a few hours a month to organize pew materials, help with media or usher. Plan to be part of Christmas in Saratoga this year. We will be happy to help you get plugged in. Email Diane Allison at diane@saratogafederated.org.

Bill & Diane Allison

Life Group Studies

Looking for a new study to kick off your group this fall? You might want to try *Explore the Bible* study guides. These studies take groups book by book through Scripture, framing every passage in its appropriate biblical and cultural context. The result is a framework for both knowing and living out God’s word in personal and transformative ways. Each study includes a study guide for participants, a leader’s guide and supplemental information, such as maps, outlines and charts. Each week’s study helps us understand the context, explore the text and apply it to our lives.

Studies are available in Sally Bryant’s office for Genesis, Mark, Acts, 2 and 2 Corinthians and Galatians/James. You are welcome to borrow them for your group!



Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, October 15

Our church is hosting a vital Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, October 15, from noon to 6:00 pm. There is currently a severe shortage of blood supplies. We need your help.

It takes about an hour from your day to give blood. Each donation saves as many as three lives. The average adult can safely give blood every eight weeks.

Sign up on our [website](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or at www.redcrossblood.org/give. Also you can call the Red Cross blood line at 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule an appointment with a live person. You can schedule an appointment time that is convenient for you.

Take a moment, save a life! This is a great way we can help life thrive by living Life For Others. Thank you.



High School Ministry

Every Sunday, I solicit prayer requests from the students in our high school ministry and send them out to our dedicated youth ministry volunteers. It is a privilege to be able to pray for our students and to be entrusted with what lies on their hearts.

Recently I met with a leader, and he pointed out that one of the major themes of the prayer requests was stress. Our excellent schools come with rigorous academic demands, with many students taking multiple honors and advanced placement courses. It is not unheard of for upperclass students to be taking nothing but these higher level classes.

Students are not just stressed out by their schooling but by a busy schedule of extracurriculars. Sometimes these activities are chosen passions, or social opportunity motivates the pursuit, but often these programs have been forced upon them in the quest to get into top colleges and universities.

Amid our meritocracy, we need to remind ourselves that our worth comes from Jesus, not in what we achieve. As we crumble underneath the strain of our schedules, we need to remember that Jesus desires for us to rest and delight in life.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus tells us that the Sabbath is a gift. “Then he told them, “The Sabbath was made for man” (Mark 2:27). Too often, we don’t take advantage of the gift. Pastor Pete Scazzero points out that after the work of creation, God stepped back and delighted in His work. “As part of observing Sabbath, God invites us to join in the celebration, to enjoy and delight in His creation and all the gifts He offers us in it.”

One of the ways we can help our students manage their stress is to be an example for them. I encourage you to set aside a 24 hour period this fall to rest and enjoy what God has created, good food, stories, nature, friends and family. Delight should be a part of life.

Join me in praying for our students, and each other, that we might find rest and joy in Jesus.

Matt Hall, Minister to Youth & Families



Village Preschool

After we enjoyed three weeks of “Summer Sensation” in July and added a few updating projects of new flooring, cabinetry and fresh paint, Village Preschool is ready to embrace our new school year and excited to get started and connect with our children and their families.

To celebrate the beginning of the year, we are looking forward to bringing back our Family Fun Night on Thursday, September 26, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. It is such a great way to connect our families with the SFC community.

Saying goodbye to our beloved Miss Sue Trambley and Pastor Tim Galleher this year will have a lasting imprint on our staff at Village. We will certainly miss their dedicated hearts and will always remember the abundance of love that was so generously given to our Village community. Miss Deb Sells will be teaming up in the classroom with Miss Renee Hart this year and will be bringing their love, energy and warmth to our young 2s program. Miss Sarah Silva will continue to guide our chapel time each month and provide the messages that these children will take with them the rest of their lives. We can’t wait for the magic to begin!

Linda Kerin Garvey, Village Preschool Director



Children’s Ministry

This summer has been a wonderful time of rest and refocus for Kids Clubhouse. With our fall launch in August, we introduced a new Sunday School curriculum to engage kids and provide resources for parents, started our MOPS program to build community with preschool mothers, formed a parent partnership team to support family events and welcomed four new babies into Children’s Ministry! God has already brought a refreshing new energy into the SFC community, and we are looking forward to learning what He has in store for us this fall!

Sarah Silva, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Junior High Ministry

Youth Ministry is about discipleship. Just like Jesus, we are training students to recognize God, listen to God and apply what they learn from God. Often junior high students ask questions about creation. There is confusion as the Bible tells them one thing, but in school they are taught another. They want to know the truth. Why are these messages different? Rather than dismiss these queries with simple answers, we talk about the fact that the Bible is not accepted by everyone. Following Jesus is a choice, and we need to seriously understand what we believe so we can tell others about God when the time is right.

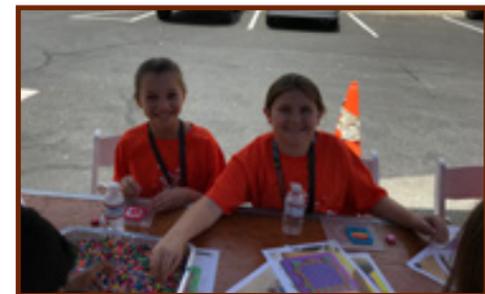
One of the precepts we share with junior high students is that science is a tool and not a basis for truth. We point students to the fact that God had the Bible written for the benefit of our finite minds, and that God is greater than our considerations. What we read on the surface of scripture is just a tip of an iceberg of truths. As Paul declares, “Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God...God created everything in heaven and on earth, the seen and the unseen things, including spiritual powers, lords, rulers and authorities. God created the whole universe through Him and for Him,” (Colossians 1:15-16, GNT).

When students ask questions about the intentions of God, the leaders of MadHouse find this exciting because this is when we can speak into life with God rather than just viewing scripture as a historical narrative with moral guidance. As one MadHouse student said to another student, “We cannot put God in a box. He is here to help us.” That is the verbalization of a student who is developing as a disciple of Jesus.

Yes, there are times when leaders do not have answers to all the theological questions that are percolating in the minds of these critical thinkers, but our job is not to solve cosmological arguments but to direct students to a relationship and friendship with Jesus Christ. If creation is the starting block, so much the better.

If you are interested in exploring differing interpretations of Biblical creation, I invite you to investigate *Seven Days That Divide The World* by John C. Lennox. John is a Christian and an Oxford professor with a PhD, DPhil and DSc, who has spent a lifetime examining the Genesis record in line with other scientific and historical documentation.

Yvette Lee, Director of Junior High & Family Ministries



Care Reflection: God Has Kept Me

The joy of music has filled my life, singing since 5th grade. After high school, I applied for a job at the FBI and worked there for four years. While vacationing with a girl friend in Maryland, I decided to be risqué and bought one of the first bikinis. We were sitting on the beach when two fellows came flying over in an open 2-cockpit plane. They cut the engine and yelled, "If we come down, would you go swimming with us?" We thought they were kidding and waved. Guess what? They landed! The pilot took me for my first ride in an airplane. His name was Mirabeau Towns, and he was a rocket engineer from New Jersey. He was quite a persistent suitor, and after three lively weekends, including jaunts in the plane to several cities, he proposed. It's interesting how you somehow know when it is the right person. I was envisioning a spring wedding, but after a few loops in the plane, I agreed to a November wedding instead. "What was I getting myself into?" I asked myself.

Mirabeau had said as he proposed, "I may be a headache, but I'll never be a bore." God knew what He was doing when He arranged for this life. How many girls have someone come flying into their lives out of nowhere?

My life has also taken me through many trials. Mirabeau suffered from Alzheimer's. His memory failing the last two years of his life. Four months after he passed, my mother died. That was a terrible year-my survival year. I stayed busy and found solace in traveling when I could. It was my way of dealing with the fact that the rest of my life was going to be different and sometimes very lonely. The next trial was facing breast cancer alone. But the hardest trial was watching my daughter's deteriorating health and death. There were times when I threw up my hands and complained to God, "I can't take this anymore!" I prayed and gave it over to God. I was my biggest problem. I kept getting in God's way.

I sometimes wonder what I will do with the time I have left. I try to stay positive, but I'm human and get low at times. In those moments, God sends someone to help me and lift me up. I know that God holds me in the palm of His hand and as a song says, "I will sing until my voice is gone."

Peg Towns



Care Update: End of Life Planning

It is inevitable. We will all leave this life. Have you discussed with your loved ones how you hope to be cared for when you are near the end of your life? 92% of people say it is important to discuss end-of-life care, but only 32% have actually done it.¹ It is a tough topic.

It is an incredible gift to your family to make your wishes known ahead of time. Sound like a daunting task? There are several tools available to assist you. The Conversation Project is an organization with materials including a "starter kit" that gets you thinking about the topic and provides many

questions for you to consider. The brochure guides you from breaking the ice with your family to helping you consider medical intervention levels for your care and more. This tool can be used to start a conversation with your parents or other relatives as well. It is never too early to start the conversation. You can download the Conversation Starter kit at <https://theconversationproject.org> or contact me for a copy.

Another good tool is the Five Wishes living will document. It digs deeper into establishing a medical care advocate and the type of care you

might wish to receive. This document gives examples of care options. It is written so that you can check or cross out items you want or don't want. This pamphlet can become an official document when signed by two witnesses in most states. Contact me if you would like a copy of it or for more information, visit www.fivewishes.org.

I encourage you to take time to talk with your loved ones about what matters most to you at the end of life.

Peggy Beck

Grief Ministry Coordinator

¹ The Conversation Project National Survey (2018)

9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations

The 9 Arts of Spiritual Conversations classes begin on Sunday, September 22, in a new format. We will meet for three weeks, looking at one art each week, then we will have five weeks to practice that art. Then we will meet again for three weeks, followed by five weeks of practice, until we've completed all 9 arts. The first three-week session will meet on Sunday, September 22, 29 and October 6, from 9:00 to 10:30 am in the old post office building.

If you have ever wanted to have a meaningful conversation about God with people who believe differently or if you wanted to begin a conversation and didn't know how, this class is for you! We will look at the way Jesus interacted with people around Him. He noticed them. He prayed for them. He listened. He asked good questions.

He loved. He welcomed. He facilitated ongoing conversations about God. He served together with people, and Jesus shared good news.

If you would like to be part of our next conversational training, please contact Sally Bryant at sally@saratogafederated.org or (408) 867-1000 ext. 233.



Bible Study Fellowship

Ladies, this fall Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) will study Acts and Letters of the Apostles. They will take an in-depth look at the lives of first-generation Christians and the work of the Holy Spirit to spread the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.

All women are welcome. Children ages 0 to 5 are welcome too. Come study God's word and meet new friends. You can register online at www.bsfindernational.org.

The first class will be held on Wednesday, September 11, at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary.

Go & Tell

On Sunday, September 22, at 12:15 pm in Douglass Hall, Nonilo Sanchez and his son Amiel from Sola Gratia Ministries in the Philippines will share with us what God is doing through their ministry. We will hear updates on their K-6th grade school (that SFC helped build) teaching about Jesus in a predominately Muslim area and the seminary and mobile ministry school that trains pastors in remote areas. A light lunch will be served.



Inquirer's Class

Want to know more about Saratoga Federated Church or become a member? Our next Inquirer's class will be held on Sunday, September 29, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. We will explore what we believe and how we are organized. We will also look at our ministry opportunities.

For more information or to register for this class, please contact Sally Bryant at sally@saratogafederated.org or give her a call at (408) 867-1000 ext 233.



Community Bible Study

CBS meets on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:35 pm starting September 9, 2019. The class is for men, women and couples. This year we are studying the books of Daniel and Revelation. CBS is an interdenominational Bible study that welcomes people from all backgrounds and levels of Bible knowledge. Our desire is to build unity in the midst of diversity in our community through the study of God's word. For more information, visit our website at www.communitybiblestudy.org. To register, contact Kay Harbal at bkharbal@yahoo.com or (408) 506-3234.

Fed Family Deadlines

Oct 2, 2019 Nov/Dec Issue
 Nov 13, 2019 Jan/Feb Issue
 Feb 5, 2020 Mar/Apr Issue
 Apr 1, 2020 May/Jun Issue

We're Moving Keep in Touch

Mary Benson

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Saratoga Federated Church

(408) 867-1000

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20390 Park Place
 Saratoga, CA 95070

Business Office:

14370 Saratoga Avenue
 Saratoga, CA 95070

Congratulations!

September Anniversaries

Mike & Carol Van Buskirk	September 1	40 years
Tim & Lisa Furlong	September 5	10 years
Jerry & Mary Jane Bruce	September 6	39 years
Corky & Al Davis	September 6	39 years
AJ & Stacey Szenda	September 6	16 years
Michael & Meghan Goss	September 6	11 years
Roy & Ana Cook	September 7	17 years
Horst & Janet Brenner	September 9	41 years
Jeff & Tracy Fell	September 9	23 years
Joe & Kari Charvez	September 10	8 years
Jeff & Rebecca Bond	September 11	20 years
Bob & Lois Tomlin	September 12	55 years
Ron & Cathy Oleson	September 12	38 years
Richard & Julia Moss	September 12	32 years
Shaun & Sandy Collard	September 13	23 years
Jim & Norma Marshall	September 14	67 years
Jean-Pierre & Lisa Wuelser	September 14	28 years
Nick & Gail Kepler	September 14	23 years
Mark & Heather Regoli	September 14	17 years
Dave & Christie White	September 15	40 years
Kevin & Carole Payne	September 15	29 years
Timothy & Susan Hall	September 17	36 years
Will & Rachel Allison	September 18	4 years
Lance & Amy Archer	September 25	15 years
Scott Kamsler & Linda Bishop	September 26	32 years
Lance & Debi Chapman	September 26	27 years
Dave & Nancy Sheets	September 28	56 years
Jim & Sylvia Ellingwood	September 29	17 years
Denny Huebner & Wendy Mbagara	September 30	8 years

October Anniversaries

Jerry & Marilyn Nistler	October 5	51 years
Don & Judy Simpson	October 5	28 years
Keith & Cindy Mueller	October 5	17 years
Bob & Joan Leonard	October 6	57 years
Josh & Becky Cormier	October 11	5 years
Andrew & Sylvia Aldridge	October 13	40 years
Rob & Cheryl Guzzetta	October 13	35 years
Daniel & Dorothy Araldi	October 16	15 years
Harvey & Elaine Knoernschild	October 19	39 years
Eric & Dee Dee Dunstan	October 21	13 years
Dan & Cyndy Linebarger	October 25	33 years
Russ & Lauren Spence	October 25	33 years
Rex & Elizabeth Jackson	October 28	30 years
Stan & Debra Sells	October 28	24 years
Nate & Katie Currie	October 28	19 years