

Campbell



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER, 2011

No, this isn't a Lobster Cook-Off...

This is Bill Coye, the new Chancel Choir Director, who will be starting September 1st.

After an extensive search, the SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) is very happy to announce that Bill Coye will be joining us starting September 1st as the Chancel Choir Director. Most recently Bill was the Choir Director at the Congregational Church of San Mateo where he directed and built participation in the church's Chancel Choir. Bill also has interfaith experience having directed the Choir at Temple Beth Torah in Fremont, and serving as Choir Director for two UCC churches in the Bay Area for over a combined 25 years.



Bill also brings rich experience from numerous performing organizations where he has served as a director, conductor or performer. These include the San Carlos Symphony, San Jose Wind Symphony, Ohlone Wind Orchestra, Nova Vista Symphony, Coastside Community Orchestra, Palo Alto Philharmonic, West Valley Presbyterian Church, Redwood City Community Theater, Theater Spectrum, Menlo Players Guild, Saratoga Drama Group, Sunnyvale Players, and West Valley Light Opera Association.

We're very excited about the musical and spiritual gifts that Bill brings. He will be joining us as the Chancel Choir director as he works full-time for Cushman and Wakefield. This is a new configuration for us but given Bill's experience and the talents and energies of Mary Ann Gee, Karen Martin-Keller and Jim and Daelene Groff we will continue to be blessed with excellent handbell and children's choirs.

Our search could not have been as thorough or selective if it weren't for the gift of music and service that both Jim Groff and James Creer provided for close to a year. Please give them your special thanks.

Finally, please go out of your way to introduce yourself to Bill and show him some Campbell United Methodist Church radical hospitality.

Jack Norris, SPRC ✂

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Campbell Connections

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Submit article to Church Office
or e-mail the Editor at:
hreynolds63@gmail.com.

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*If there are 5 Wednesdays in a month the newsletter will be mailed on the 4th Wednesday & the deadline for articles will be on the 3rd Wednesday.

If you have any questions regarding the mailing, please call the office at 408-378-3472



CAMPBELL UMC is a RECONCILING CONGREGATION



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Church Office: 408 378-3472

Web Site: www.campbellunited.org



Sunday Worship: 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

African Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

New Creation UMC Worship: 12:30 p.m.

Bright Days Preschool

Mary Smith, Director: 408-378-8422

www.brightdayspreschool.com



Pastor's Point of View

Dear Friends:

Each summer I promise myself that I will make time in my busy schedule for special quiet reflection and contemplative prayer. Each summer it seems I'm only somewhat successful in this quest for additional spiritual reflection and growth. This year, for example, I've let the press of professional responsibilities; the exciting recreational opportunities of the Bay Area and the fun of family events intrude on my spiritual good intentions. Plus, Jan and I have had to make a significant time investment in making the move from Nevada to California (Oops, I still have to go to the DMV!).

So what to do to keep my promise to myself? Two weeks ago I was unpacking some boxes in my office and ran across some worship resources that I appreciate and frequently use. Among this material was a Statement of Faith (written by Robert Moss, a UCC pastor), which has been spiritually important to me for a good while now. So, I decided to read and re-read it each morning for the remainder of the summer as a reminder of who I am and what I believe to be true. Let me share it with you, in the hope that it may assist in your spiritual growth also. It says:

- I believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:
- God calls the worlds into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.
- God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
- God judges all humanity and all nations with a righteousness declared through prophets and apostles.
- In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.
- God gives us His Spirit, creating and renewing the church, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.
- God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and to resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table and to share in his passion and victory.
- God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sin and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of his Spirit in trial and rejoicing and life in the kingdom that has no end.

May you, like Jesus, grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and people.

Blessings,

Pastor Jim



TLC

Treking to Lunch in Campbell continues to meet, walk and eat on Fridays at 10:45 at the track of the Campbell Community Center. For more info, contact Dave or Susan Sargent, 378-1232. ✕

Sunrise Seekers



The Sunrise Seekers will resume meeting on September 7th from 6:45 to 8 a.m. in the Library. Coffee is served. We will be starting a new

book, "The First Paul" by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. We have read many books by these authors, who always inspire us and stimulate our early morning conversations. All are welcome at Sunrise Seekers, which meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month during the school year with a break during the summer. Here is a sampling of the books we have studied recently: "Toward a True Kinship of Faiths" by the Dalai Lama; "An Altar in the World" by Barbara Brown Taylor; "Christ of the Celts" by Philip Newell; and, most recently, "The Last Week" by Borg and Crossan. This is a group in which we explore and deepen our faith in conversations that are open and trusting.

Sue Edson ✕

50+ San Francisco Guided Walking Tour - Fort Mason to Aquatic Park

Friday, September 16th meet at the church at 9:15 a.m. (changed from 9:30) to carpool to Fort Mason. This remarkable walk along the northern waterfront includes unique views and exciting accounts of many of the most important events of San Francisco history, including the Spanish era, military changes, Civil War times, 1906 earthquake, PPIE, the astonishing

development of the GGNRA and the saga of Aquatic Park. Incomparable vistas adjacent to the last unaltered bit of San Francisco coast. Lunch will follow in a restaurant at Ghirardelli Square. Cost for the tour is \$10 for 65 and older, \$12 for under 65, per adult. Sign-up table for the tour will continue between services.

Jack or Joyce Hocker at 268-4646. ✕

Planning is Essential

Good planning is essential to the health of a family. There are three areas of planning that is helpful to members of your immediate family.

1. *Estate Planning:* Organizing and preparing for changes in our lives minimize the conflicts and confusion in the life of a family. It is important that we have a will or living trust that is current.

One of the best ways to help our families is to see that we and our parents have a will or living trust. Sometimes life changes fast and it is difficult to take care of these needs because the family member does not remember what they have done or where they might have placed important documents. To start the evaluation process, you should do the following:

- Make a list of all the important papers that will be needed in the future.
- Assemble these documents in one secure place.
- Let members of the family know where the documents are.

2. *Health Care:* To help our families when we are ill, have a health care directive in place. By doing this your family knows exactly what kind and what level of care you wish. These are your decisions and letting your family know your wishes may reduce conflict at a difficult time.

3. *Service Planning.* Most of us do not

give much thought about what type of service we would like. Taking steps to plan a service is extremely helpful to our family when they are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Planning these decisions with the family now will save a lot of problems at a later date

September 17th, 2011 will be a Workshop on Planning for your service – Pastor Jim Mishler will guide us through the planning process.

In your planning remember the Campbell Endowment Fund. A gift will support programs in our church for years to come.

Terry Johnson, Vice Chairperson, Endowment Fund Committee ✕

Book Group



The Book Group's first meeting of the "school year" will be on September 26th from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. At this meeting we will talk about books that we have been reading over the summer, with a view to choosing some of these for the group to discuss at future meetings. This is a great forum for hearing about books that others have enjoyed and everyone is welcome to this and all our meetings. There is never any pressure to present a book or even to have read the books that we choose. Just come for the conversation. We select a variety of genres: novels, biographies, history. Our books are rarely overtly religious, but since we are a church group our conversation is informed by our shared faith. We meet on the fourth (occasionally the fifth) Monday of the month from September to May, with a break in December.

Sue Edson ✕

In the COMMUNITY

Caring with carrots!

An enthusiastic group of 15 arrived at the Second Harvest Food Bank's distribution center on Saturday morning, August 6, ready to work. Of the 15 volunteers, 9 joined Church and Society committee's Second Harvest volunteer group for the first time. The team was shown into a room that had carrots – lots of carrots! Our job was to bag the carrots into three-pound bags. There were moments of glee when a bagger would place the bag on the scale and it weighed exactly 3 pounds!



Lou Woodburycatcott and Laura Smith were charged with keeping an accurate count of the bags of carrots. Each time a bin of 225 bags was filled, a big "whoop hoo" was heard throughout the room, followed by a celebratory round of applause. Lou calculated that in what seemed a like a very quick three hours, the group packed 1,255 bags of carrots, which equates to approximately 25,100 carrots!



Going even further with the math calculations, Ellen Droke divided the 25,100 carrots by the 15 volunteers to come up with 1,673 carrots per person. "Wow, that really is a lot of carrots," she exclaimed. Reflecting upon the experience, Ellen said, "I enjoyed the camaraderie of our group and the three 'professional' volunteers who supported and guided our work. I think all of us were satisfied with the job we did and how we did it."

One of the great aspects of this type of volunteer activity is that it allows everyone to chat and get to know each other



better. Lou Woodburycatcott noted, "This was the first time Greg and I have had the opportunity work with Second Harvest. It was a great feeling and joy to have been able to work with a group of such willing hearts and to be able to help in such a simple yet needed way. Though our time was a mere three hours, our memories will last a long longer. However, after packaging over 25,000 carrots, we have a whole new appreciation for them."



And where else can you dig through mounds of carrots and discover the very unusual and somewhat disturbing "teenage ninja" carrots? They were quite well behaved as they posed for their photo.

In a message to volunteers, Kristin Sulpizio, Director of Volunteer Services for the Second Harvest Food Bank in San Jose, wrote, "Thank you for your time and consideration while volunteering on Saturday, 8/6/2011. Your group of 15 people sorted food to be distributed to families struggling with low-wage jobs, growing housing costs and homelessness. Your efforts helped feed low-income seniors, as well as low-income volunteers who are helping others while helping themselves. Volunteer support is essential for Second Harvest to maintain efficient and cost effective services. Because of you and other volunteers, over 236,000 people a month are able to receive food..."

"We want you to know how deeply we appreciate the time you have taken out of your own busy lives to help us achieve our mission, 'Providing food for people in need in our community.' Your gift of time has made a difference for many in our community. Please express our appreciation to the members of your volunteer team for giving their precious time and hard work while at Second Harvest Food Bank... We look forward to our continued partnership with Campbell UMC."

After the project, Ellen Droke

commented, "The Second Harvest warehouse certainly knows how to provide support and guidance for volunteers.

So, you newbies out there, come to the next workday at Second Harvest and know that a great effort is being made in Santa Clara Valley to feed hungry people."



Helping the Second Harvest Food Bank achieve their goals is a wonderful opportunity. Fairly simple tasks help provide some important basic nutrition for families within our own communities. But working in the warehouse is more than rewarding – it's energizing! Michael McDavid has enthusiastically volunteered for both Second Harvest projects this year and quite succinctly and simply says it all: "Working at Second Harvest is so much fun and I cannot wait to do it again!"

Church and Society would like to thank everyone who offered their valuable time and energy for this



project.

Top l-r: Lou Woodburycatcott, Greg Catcott, Laura Smith, Joyce Johnson, Maureen Motch, Sue Edson, Ellen Droke, Janice McClanahan. Middle l-r: Gail Jacobs, Sherry Riney Finzel, Carla Twilleager, Audrey Twilleager, Grace Oliver, Franklin Bondonno. Front: Michael McDavid.

Church and Society hopes to plan another project before the holiday season, so watch for the announcement.

Gail Jacobs, Disciples in Action ✂



Methodist Connection

United Methodist Women

2 BOOK REVIEWS BY SUSAN JONES

Confronting the Controversies

by Adam Hamilton

Confronting the Controversies is an outstanding book that has us asking ourselves questions like:

- What are my views on evolution?
- The separation of church and state
- Prayer in public schools
- The death penalty
- Euthanasia
- Abortion
- Homosexuality

Adam Hamilton walks you through the controversies of these topics and challenges you to understand why you believe what you do. Adam provides both sides of these issues and shares with you his own struggles. At the end of each chapter and at the end of the book, he provides discussion questions to help you clarify and understand both sides of each topic. The author says he hopes that after reading his book you will be thinking and praying with him about these issues and will have a better understanding of how the Christian faith relates to critical issues in our society today. This book can also be used for small study groups. A DVD and leader's guide is available through Cokesbury or Amazon.com.



If You Know Who You Are You'll Know What To Do

by Ronald Greer

Author Ron Greer delivers a timely message in an uncertain time. The world as we know it is changing, and at the end of the day there are fewer and fewer things we are sure of. His book provides a pathway to rediscovering our core values of compassion, honesty, respect; focusing on the attributes that help us to remain anchored in any storm. Recognizing and rejoicing in whom we are truly will help us to make those life-defining decisions that determine the quality of our days - and lead us all to better tomorrows.

You will learn about Integrity, Compassion, Truth, Character, Courage, Fidelity, and Respect. It starts by having you ask yourself:

- What do I value? What do I believe?*
- What is important? What is precious?*
- What is sacred to me?*

We have a desire to get our lives right and to live with integrity. This book is designed to address the issues of integrity. What it means, and how do we go about doing it. In each chapter he relates a true story and scripture.

This is a great book for a small group. It has a discussion guide with questions in the back of the book. It gives you ideas on how to divide the questions up for the number of sessions you may have for your group. ✕

HISTORY HELPERS

"snippets from our past"

Some of the groups from the calendar page of the April 2, 1974 issue of "Spotlight News"!

- United Methodist Women
- United Methodist Men
- Emeritus Club
- Boards and Commissions
- Boy Scouts
- Choirs
- Men's Morning Fellowship & Breakfast
- Service Club Rummage Sale
- Needlepoint Class
- Mother's and Others
- All Youth SOCK HOP
- Tri-Fi-Nites
- Mamas and Papas family camping at New Brighton Beach

FROM 1974

Elaine and Gene Hill gave Pastor Jim Mishler and his wife Jan - "Campbell UMC" T-shirts - to further welcome them to our congregation.



Pastor Jim and Elaine Hill

Circuit Writer



**God's Temple
and Us**

Rev. Larry LaPierne

How close to God do we feel on average? Not too close? St. Paul reminds us that we are very close to God. In 2 Corinthians 6:16b he wrote, "For we are the temple of the living God" He also made the same point in two other places: 1 Cor. 3:16 & 6:19.

The Temple in Jerusalem was an important symbol for Judaism in Jesus' time and for many centuries prior to his birth. It was a place where many Jews believed that God dwelt on Earth. It was a place for Jews to worship. It was also a visible reminder of how God had chosen this group of people to be God's people.

When I was young, having been taught Roman Catholic doctrine for many years, I believed that God, in the person of Jesus, dwelt in the place on the altar known as "The Tabernacle." To inform the faithful that Jesus was really present (i.e. in the form of the consecrated wafers from Holy Communion), a large red candle would be lit either above or next to the altar. I found it comforting to know that I could kneel before Jesus there.

No one ever told me that God dwelt in me or in other people. Perhaps that was because we spent so much time talking about personal sin that it was just unthinkable that God would find us acceptable as a dwelling place. We United Methodists are at least two giant steps removed (ecclesiastically) from the Church of Rome. While I don't hear a lot of us "bewailing our manifold sins" (to borrow a phrase from a prayer), neither do I hear very often anyone expressing amazement or joy that God dwells within each of us.

Why is that? Do you, like me, remember that prayer where we humble ourselves before God by saying, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof; but only say the word and my soul will be healed." (That prayer, just to be clear, is based on the Centurion's response to Jesus when

Jesus offered to come to his house to cure the man's servant.—Matthew 8:8) I still say it, but I put the emphasis on the second part—where we acknowledge that God's power is so great that a single word can heal us.

Do we actually believe that God has that much power? Are we worried that God won't heal us because we are not worthy—i.e. because of something we have done or have failed to do? I suspect that most of us believe that God has the power to heal. What may be harder to believe is that God would actually choose to dwell in us and thereby make us "temples of the Holy Spirit." (1 Cor. 6:19) How can we help each other to accept that we are so loved by God that God chooses to dwell in us? I've found that singing "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so" with the children during worship was enough to cause the adults to join in. Could it be that simple? Could singing that hymn help us to recognize that God loves us enough to dwell with us? My experience says "Yes." How does it work? Maybe singing opens a channel within us that words alone can't reach. Wouldn't it be worth it to discover God within us?

Rev. Larry LaPierne ✕



AN INVITATION TO GO ... ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS AND LUKE

In church this fall we, each one of us, will have the opportunity to take a spiritual journey led by Jesus and Luke. This journey, based on Luke's account of Jesus' ministry, is entitled "On The Road With Jesus and Luke."

The focus is on Jesus' encounters with the interesting, needful persons he met. Through these encounters we'll reconnect with Jesus' teachings on how to best live life – then and now.

Luke has written a powerful gospel. As the only Gentile in an otherwise all-Jewish cast, he continually shows how Jesus includes those who typically were

treated as outsiders by the religious establishment: women, laborers, the racially different, the poor. He tells us that religion is not a club. The Jesus portrayed in Luke teaches that all of us who have found ourselves on the outside looking in on life with no hope of gaining entrance now find the doors wide open, found and welcomed by God in Jesus.

In September our study and messages will include:

September 11, 2011

"Back On The Road Again"

An Overview of the Gospel of Luke

September 18, 2011

"With A Father Like This"

Luke 15:11-32

September 25, 2011

"An Attitude Adjustment"

Luke 10:38-42

See you in church for this memorable journey of faith.

Pastor Jim ✕

from the Editor:

It has been a great summer for me and wonderful to relax at Tuolumne Meadows - to enjoy the tranquility of the wilderness - after having our three grandsons for almost six weeks.

The last couple of issues have been shorter, reflecting our need as a community to step back and "breathe in."

Now it is time to put our energy back into our church life. Next month, let's put out a 12-pager again. Let's "breathe out" into the world we are blessed to live in.

Give it a try...

Heather Reynolds

MONTHLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT

In July, our pledge and non-pledge giving were significantly above estimate by \$7.8K. This giving is certainly an example of "Extravagant Generosity," especially for a summer month. Overall, our giving and other income is sufficient to meet expenses. We continue to save on personnel expenses. With summer nearly over, remember to keep your pledges current.

Income and Expenses thru June 2011

	June	Year to Date	YTD Budget
Income	\$40.2K	\$252.5K	\$261.0K
Expenses	\$41.5K	\$246.7K	\$269.3K
Excess	(\$1.3K)	\$5.8K	

Giving - July YTD



In the COMMUNITY

Continued from p. 4

CLEANING DAY AT HEART OF THE VALLEY

On a recent Saturday morning, eight members of Campbell United Methodist Church helped Heart of the Valley with their cleaning day. Those lending a hand were Lea and Bill Adams, George M. Cleveland, Jane LaPierre, Diana Lovelady, Karen Palmer, Dave Sargent and Marv Tanner. This was sort of a reverse service day for Heart of the Valley. Heart of the Valley recruits dependable volunteers, who provide seniors with a variety of in-home services, including escorted transportation. In our past Community Service Days, Heart of the Valley has contributed projects for us. Now it was our turn to give them a hand. We did a variety of jobs that included major bush trimming, digging weeds, power washing their building, cleaning windows and venetian blinds and thorough cleaning of their office spaces. Glenda Cresap, the executive director, and her staff were highly appreciative of the work accomplished by the volunteers.

See photos of the event on p.8

Fall Organ Concert 2011

September 25th ~ 3:00 p.m.

Campbell UMC and the San Jose Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) will jointly sponsor our 9th annual Fall organ concert in the Sanctuary at Campbell United Methodist Church.



This year the artist is Nahri Ahn, a 15-year-old organist who hails from Livermore. She concurrently studies classical organ with Angela Kraft Cross of San Mateo and theater organ with David Hegarty of San Francisco. In July, she performed at the Region IX AGO Convention in San Francisco and was a competition winner.

Her program will feature Bach, Mendelssohn, Franck, Vierne and Langlais, followed by a 'dessert' group of theater-organ music that includes 'Phantom' by Andrew Lloyd Webber. The program is one hour in length and all are welcome. Everyone is encouraged to invite and bring friends and relatives. There is no admission charge but only an opportunity for you to give a free-will donation.

For more information, please contact Mary Ann Gee at 408-259-8923 or mary_ann_gee@yahoo.com



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People reaching out, with open minds,
souls and hearts -
Nourishing spirituality
Engaging creativity
Building social justice
Providing loving, welcoming community
- for Christ and the world.



from
the **Heart**



Volunteers Cleaning
Heart of the Valley



To all who sent greetings
to me on my 99th birthday,
I send deepest thanks and
appreciation - I love you all
- God Bless,
Evelyn Buck