

Campbell



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AUGUST, 2014

OUR NEW PASTOR



As I write this, I am in my tenth day at Campbell UMC, so I'm still on a very steep learning curve! But already, I can see that Campbell UMC is a community of faith and hope and commitment. So many of you have stepped forward to lead and contribute in extraordinary ways for a long time, and especially for these past several months after Pastor Paul's death. I am humbled by the faithful and persistent leadership that you have shown, by your love for this church, and by the earnestness of your commitment to living as the hands and heart of God in Campbell.

Ray Dyer put in countless hours readying the parsonage for the transition to a new resident. Barbara Wade and Karen Paulsen blessed it and filled it with groceries before I arrived. The Tuesday Women's Bible Study and others of you prayed constantly before my arrival.

There are far too many of you to thank by name for making the church ready for a new pastor, and no doubt there are many of you whose work I have not even begun to see, but I want to acknowledge a few whose contributions are already clear to me, and no doubt to you as well:

Bruce Hallinan, Sally Wenzel, Ray and Darlene Dyer, Larry LaPierre, Bob

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Campbell Connections

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the mailing, please call the office at
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❖
**CAMPBELL UMC is a RECONCILING
CONGREGATION**

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PASTOR, Kathi McShane
PASTOR FOR AFRICAN MINISTRY,
Daniel Gbundema
CHOIR DIRECTOR, Bill Coye
ORGANIST, Mary Ann Gee

ADMINISTRATOR OF CHURCH BUSINESS
Barbara Wade

FAMILY MINISTRY COORDINATOR
Julie Lattin

YOUTH COORDINATOR
Melinda Knepp

CAREGIVING COORDINATORS
Claudia Slayman, Ellen Droke
CUSTODIAN, Hector Estrada

Church Office: 408 378-3472
Web Site: www.campbellunited.org

❖
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School: 8:50 a.m.
Children's Sunday School: 10:15 a.m.
African Ministry: 11:30 a.m.
Quiet Communion: 6:00 p.m. Tuesday

Bright Days Preschool
Mary Smith, Director: 408-378-8422
www.brightdayspreschool.com

OUR NEW PASTOR

continued from p.1

Renfer, Ellen Droke, Claudia Slayman, Larry and Carol Griffith

Staff members Barbara Wade, Mary Ann Gee, Julie Lattin, Pastor Daniel Gbundema, Hector Estrada

And so many more. Thank you, thank you.

I am looking forward to getting to know all of you over the next weeks and months. During August (and maybe early September), there will be a series of small group gatherings in which I'll tell you more about myself and will hope to hear more of your story too. Please do sign up to attend one of these meetings. And whether you can be at one of these or not, you can help me a lot by calling or sending an e-mail and suggesting a time when we might get together—in my office, at your home, or over coffee. Please know that a visit with you is one of the things that is most important to me in these early days!

You can reach me at the church at (408) 378-3472, ext. 12, by e-mail at pastorkathi@campbellunited.org, or on my cell phone at (408) 332-2280.

With blessings and gratitude and hope, Kathi



Summer Sermons at CUMC

Sermon Series July 27- August 24, 2014

Presence: The Power of Authentic Relationships

The central relationships in our lives - relationships with our spouses or partners, our parents and children, our friends, our colleagues - are the laboratory where we experiment and practice with what it means to be loved by God and to love God back. I am convinced that loving God and loving others are not just the two most important commandments; in some essential way, they're the same commandment.

July 27 - The Power of Presence - II Corinthians 3:18

Presence is the mysterious encounter in which the self-disclosure of one evokes a deeper life in the other - the power of relationships to be the mirror in which we see who we really are, and to change us.

August 3 - A Love That Endures - Genesis 2:18-25

Marriage and lifetime commitment as the context for learning who we are and what a covenant to love means.

August 10 - The Power to Shape Another - Mark 1:9-11, Colossians 3:13-17

Parents and children, family relationships. There is no such thing as "normal."

August 17 - The Meaning and the Challenge of Friendship - Matthew 5:21-24

August 24 - Bound Together by Purpose - Ephesians 4:1-6

Church as a community bound together by a common faith and hope, training and empowering us for life in the world.

Beginning August 31-

A full year based on We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren



Mission FOCUS



The Mission Committee is organizing a lunch with entertainment on **September 7 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. A donation of \$5.00 is requested to be used for missionary support. We will also collect children's books for the Philippines (a ministry of Juvenal Castro), shoes for Sierra Leone, school supplies for United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) and money to buy pigs and chickens to support Marilyn Chan's projects in Cambodia.

The entertainment that will follow will feature three people telling folk stories from each of these 3 countries as well as musical entertainment arranged by James Creer.

The menu will feature chicken and biscuits. Alternatives will be available for young children, vegetarian, gluten free and lactose-free diets.

At the beginning of August there will be a sign up sheet for attendance and for food items needed to complete the meal.

Jane LaPierre, Mission Committee ❖

UMCOR School Kits



Each kit will contain the following items, to be collected at the Missions Lunch 9/07/14:

1 - pair of blunt scissors

*Rounded tip only
No plastic scissors please*

3 - pads of paper

*Spiral or top-bound pads
150 sheets or less of loose-leaf paper can be substituted for 1 pad;
Combinations of spiral, top bound, side-bound, or loose-leaf paper is acceptable.*

1 - hand-held pencil sharpener

*Must be at least 1" long.
Remove from packaging.*

1 - 30 cm ruler

*Hard or flexible.
Cartoon characters are acceptable.
No advertisements please.*

6 unsharpened pencils

*No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols, please.
Cartoon characters are acceptable.*

1 - 2 inch or larger-size eraser

*No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please.
Cartoon characters are acceptable.*

1 - 24 count box of crayons

Only 24 count boxes please

1 - 14" x 16" cloth bag

*Homemade or purchased bags are acceptable.
Heavy-duty fabric only, such as denim, corduroy, drapery fabric, etc.
No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols please.
Closures are optional but must be buttons, snaps, or Velcro sewn in middle of opening.*

Assembly Directions

Place all loose items on top of paper. Turn items sideways and slide into the cloth bag. Fold over the top of the bag so loose items don't fall out.

Important Notes

All items must be new.
All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the

greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items, nothing more. Do not include any personal notes, money, or additional material in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.

Jane LaPierre, Mission Committee ❖

SUPPORT CAMPBELL UMC

There are several ways you can help financially support Campbell UMC without spending more than you do already.

- Buy Scrip (gift cards) from the Scrip table on Sundays. Use ShopWithScrip.com to print your own eCard, the fastest and easiest way to receive scrip! Plus, send eGifts by e-mail!
- Shop Online
- via AmazonSmile.com or, eScrip.com
- EWASTE 4 GOOD - Dispose of your unwanted electronics safely and earn money for CUMC. Schedule a pick up at www.ewaste4good.com or call 1-800-317-3112

Janine Peyton ❖

GREAT AMERICA GILROY GARDENS

Pick up a coupon in the church office for discounted admission to Great America and Gilroy Gardens. Each coupon is good for up to six discounted admissions from now through November 2, 2014.



An Invitation to You

The Reverend Jerry Fox preached for our morning worship on July 6, 2014. He mentioned a modern poet, Mary Oliver, whose work is known to quite a few in our congregation. She often lifts up the natural world for our notice and her comment. Her poem, *The Summer Day*, begins with grasshoppers, the swan and the black bear, and ends with these two lines:

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

I've been pondering the implications of this question. Do we ever, really ever, plan our lives? Would our lives look differently if we were more intentional about our plans for each part, for the whole?

Sometimes we respond to an invitation. I would like to offer a life changing invitation to you now. Our new pastor, Kathi McShane, met recently with Claudia Slayman and Ellen Droke, coordinators of our Care Giving Ministry Team. We hope to expand the corp of 12 visitors and callers because we are sure there are many others in our membership that would benefit from a caring relationship with a special church friend.

More callers equal more receivers helped. AND, more callers mean more lives changed. The personal experiences of those who have given of themselves in volunteer service center upon the fact that their own lives have been touched.

- through Sierra Service Project (SSP), helping to rebuild homes and communities;
- through our Mission to Dulac, Louisiana, meeting the families who

lived in the homes being repaired by Campbell UMC members;

- giving a nutrition bar to a hungry child at Rosemary School;
- serving a meal at Inn Vision, San Jose, and conversing with the diners;
- sharing a creative experience in art or writing with an Elmwood resident;
- reading in a tutorial or literacy program at the library;
- holding a hand and listening to the murmurings of one who has become dear to you.

When you give of yourself, your own life will be changed, and your heart may become strangely warmed.

Please think seriously about this opportunity to join in care giving ministry this fall, and speak about your interest with Kathi, Claudia or Ellen.

Ellen Droke, Care Giving Ministries ❖

CARTOON CORNER



United Methodist Women Book Reviews



Twist of Faith by John Donnelly

This book deals with the complexities and very real human cost for an American church when it organizes a project to help people in Africa. I also learned that American churches give many millions of dollars every year to project to help African peoples. This is a short book packed with helpful information. It is well worth reading.

Please Look After Mom by Kunyng Sook Shin

The elderly mother goes missing at a crowded train station in Seoul, South Korea. The story centers around the "What if's?" and the recriminations of various members of the elderly mother's family as they deal with their anxieties about what will happen to her and then her death. The story tries to answer the question of "Who was this remarkable woman in addition to wife, mother and sister." I recommend it highly.

Both books are available in the UMW lending library in the Fireside Room.

Jane LaPierre ❖



Christie Huh wants to share her new address with church friends -

Avalon Morningside Park
One Morningside Park, # 503
New York, N. Y. 10025

Methodist C.o.n.n.e.c.t.i.o.n

Care-A-Vaners

CARE-A-VANERS WORKED AT SHASTA METHODIST CHURCH

The Care-A-Vaners camp-opening work at Shasta Methodist Camp extended over the first two weeks of June. Marv and Ina Tanner and Dave and Susan Sargent were there the first week, and Gene Hill was there both weeks. All the camp-opening work was completed, including cleaning of Buckner lodge and the camp restrooms, placing trail markers, and putting up new curtains in the lodge.

One major job was to remove the dome concrete support pillars and the concrete basement room of the original lodge. A contractor with a backhoe loader was brought in to do this work. He was able to remove all the huge blocks of concrete, which were hauled from the camp. Gravel was brought in to fill the area.

With Gene's help, Dave devised a new method for placing the canopy over the lodge deck. This worked well and will make it easier to install and remove the canopy in the future.



Marv and Ina assembled four picnic tables from kits donated by a Care-A-Vaner. The picnic tables will be placed at campsites in the campground. Most all the supplied screws were replaced with bolts to make the tables sturdy for camp use.



A principal planned job was to build a new generator building to house a 40-year-old 30 kw generator which was brought to the camp years ago. However, the building job had to be cancelled because the Forest Service did not approve the concept of the building. Because the generator had not been run since it had been brought to the camp, a crew worked on getting the generator to run. They got the generator running (hallelujah), but the carburetor was found to be faulty. Gene visited a man in town who collected old carburetors, and he found a suitable one, which did work. The crew also got the generator to produce electricity. Gene and others later met with a camp committee and solar-panel



suppliers to consider alternatives for supplying electricity to the camp. It was concluded that the solar option was preferred. The generator consumes too much fuel to make it viable.



We continued the perennial job of cutting and splitting firewood. Dave and Susan cleared the trails of fallen trees and limbs. Our Care-A-Vaners kept a burn pile going every day.

All is not work with the Care-A-Vaners. We have our morning and afternoon breaks, and we manage to have a potluck one evening. Also, we go out for dinner in Mt. Shasta city at least one time. This time we had a birthday party for a long-time Care-A-Vaner, Doyle Martin.

When all our work was done, the camp looked really nice for the summer campers. We will return to Shasta over Labor Day to prepare the camp for winter and do jobs we couldn't schedule this time.

Marvin and Ina Tanner ❖



Circuit Writer



Where Do We Get That Living Water? Rev. Larry LaPierre

The story of Jesus and the women at the well demonstrates that Jesus regarded women as people. A Jewish man, especially a rabbi, simply did not expose himself to criticism by talking to a woman in public. Further complicating this conversation was that her moral character was questionable. Yet Jesus offered her “living water.” (John 4:1-42)

How about us? Where do we go for “living water?” That is, how do we find or open ourselves to the power which we need to continue to live a Christ-like life? That is, after all, what being a Christian means—living a Christ-like life.

None of us can grow as Christians without asking for the “living water” that comes from a personal relationship with Christ. When I was a VA chaplain and leading spirituality groups with military veterans I dealt with people coping with overwhelming psychiatric disorders as well as just awful memories of combat. I used to offer them a simple drawing to demonstrate the need for life-giving power in each of our lives.

I drew an outline of a mountain on a chalkboard. I drew a lake halfway down the mountain. To this I added two streams—one flowing in from above and one flowing out of the lake down the mountain. I asked them what would happen to the lake if the stream flowing in was smaller than the one flowing out. It was not a trick question.

They understood. The lake would eventually go dry. Then I would suggest that this is what happens to people who are drained by too many demands or who have too little in the way of spiritual resources to cope with

all that is troubling them. The diagram is not a Christian diagram. It works with any group that I can imagine. It also works not just with our souls but also with our bodies, our minds and our social circles.

But we, in fact, are trying to be Christ-like—both lay and clergy. I am concerned that many of us are trying to “do good” without staying aware of how much we are being drained. Worse yet, we neglect to adopt the necessary spiritual discipline to permit the life-giving water of Christ’s love to continually fill us as we are drained by needs.

I know of what I speak. As a pastor and later as a chaplain I spent far too much time trying to do ministry and

far too little time inviting Christ to renew me to each day. Even now I still have difficult days. I am drained by the suffering of those I love. I find it very difficult to accept that I can’t solve their problems. That’s the stream draining my inner lake. However, I allow the lake to be refilled by frequent prayer, reading Scripture, singing hymns, worship and asking friends to pray for me and those whom I love.

We finally ask God for help. Then we sometimes resist accepting the grace to lead a Christ-like life. Why do we turn away from the “living water” that Christ offers?

Rev. Larry LaPierre ❖

JUNGLE SAFARI AT CAMPBELL UMC

The end of June saw 54 young adventurers exploring the jungles of Campbell UMC. The safari was led by 17 faithful youth who taught the kids about how God is Creator, Provider, Protector, Savior and King. Each day there were two symbols related to the day’s theme hidden for the kids to find. With props and costumes, the explorers acted out the story of the day and played games to reinforce the theme. There was always a new craft, lots of jungle instruments to make and games for the kids to play.

Thanks to Jane LaPierre, Holly Aspiras and Carol Laucella, not only did the safari participants have a

different bread, roll, or pizza at snack time, but they also got to help make it.

The highlight of the day was probably closing where those who found the two symbols of the day brought them up to be added to the stone columns. Then the Tree Frogs (preschool), Three Toed Sloths (K-1), Spider Monkeys (2-3) and Jaguars (4-6) would announce themselves through their animal sounds before everyone stood up and sang the songs they learned each day.

We would also like to thank Brook Hendershot who handled check in and out; and Julie Lattin and Lynn Dellaporta whose presence we could not have done without.

Melinda Knepp & Jennifer Norris ❖



SIERRA
SERVICE
PROJECT
GROUP
-
2014



Television Show Birthed at Campbell UMC Making Progress

By Mark Shepherd

Late last year I shared about how the *Alive Again* television series concept was born at our church through Don Olson's video story when he flat-lined for over 7 minutes after cardiac arrest and was miraculously brought back. Doctors were convinced that if he even came out of the coma, he would be in a vegetative state. We all celebrated when he not only came out of his coma, but he had no brain damage and led a vibrant and healthy life after. Don's story is still available to enjoy on our church website's "Videos and Sermons" page: <http://www.campbellunited.org/videos>

Since my last writing, I am very excited to share with you that the pilot program for *Alive Again* is complete and a number of our church family members helped make that a reality!

Alive Again is a docu-drama TV series which will explore the age old question of life after death. Each gripping episode will document stories told by medical experts, eyewitnesses, and the actual survivors who have flat lined (died), experienced the afterlife, were miraculously brought back to life, and how it has forever changed their lives. These are stories that defy the laws of nature and give hope and inspiration to people of all walks in life, from a factual perspective.



Our vision for the series is simply not to create entertainment but to minister to the world in a discreet manner, so audiences don't feel like they're being ministered to. This is accomplished through telling each story in a very honest manner and having medical experts validate the miracles. The real power of the show lies in the testimonies of the near-death survivors, telling what they experienced and how their lives have been transformed forever. Most of these people no longer experience fear, have no attachment to money or material things and view everyone as being the same and worthy of unconditional love. These are just a few examples of the powerful messages which will come out of the series.



The completed pilot episode features the amazing story of Adriana Bryand-Gallardo who died during child birth and came back to life at a world-renowned hospital in Northern California.

It was recently premiered to a private audience of over 100 people at a local theater with a standing ovation.



Experts in the field of medicine and near-death-experiences have also seen the pilot and are giving it very positive reviews. Some of the experts are now willing to be a part of future episodes.

We are now ready to begin marketing the series to television networks and have until July 26 to raise funds on-line for marketing expenses, including our attorney's legal fees assisting us through the pitch presentations and contracts at potential TV networks.



If you would like to learn more about the TV show and view a short trailer, feel free to visit the website:

www.AliveAgainTV.com

We need help in our marketing fundraising efforts. To learn more about how to help in our efforts to raise funds for marketing the show, please visit:

www.indiegogo.com/projects/alive-again-tv-series-marketing

You can also help by forwarding this article to your friends, family and associates and "Liking" *Alive Again* on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/AliveAgainTV>

I am hopeful that one day soon, we'll all sit down together and watch this special story together. What started 7 years ago in our church is becoming a new reality.

With much appreciation,
Mark Shepherd
(408) 691-1479
mark@legacyfilmsandmedia.com





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Aug. 6, 2014

Return Service Requested

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.



Greetings from Kathie Sheldon

I wrote this for my family and want to share it with my Campbell UMC friends. I have settled in Grass Valley and am attending the Grass Valley UMC. It is a very small church compared to Campbell, but everyone has been friendly and welcoming. I miss you all, and think often about how supportive you were during the saddest time of my life.



Long ago I lived on a hundred acre farm. Later I lived in the suburbs in a four bedroom house. Today I live in a tree house.

Well, it isn't really a tree house, but it feels like one to me. It is a tiny one bedroom apartment, perched high above a parking lot. I look out the windows and watch others go about their busy lives.

This morning I see a car pull into a parking place. A youth jumps out, cell phone held to his ear, cigarette drooping from the left corner of his mouth. He leans against his car. The foul smell of his smoke drifts towards my open window. He glances around, nervously, as if he feels my eyes on him, but I am secure, hidden by a screen.

There is a tiny balcony outside a sliding glass door of my tree house. Pine trees and maples line the edge of the parking lot, twenty feet away. Dozens, perhaps hundreds of birds share this world with me. I have attached a bird feeder to the rail of the balcony. And they come, gratefully, three, four, ten at a time. They perch and eat and tweet. I watch with joy. The birds, the yellow breasted finches, the red, black and white grosbeak, the dark blue jays, interest me more than the youth below. The birds flit about, playing tag. Is it play or is it a fight? I'm not sure, but it is entertainment for me as I sit in my tree house, barely eight feet from the feeder.

Life has changed during the past twelve months. So many untold pains and adjustments. So much sadness and turmoil. But I find peace, here in my tree house, among the birds.

Kathie was a longtime member of Campbell UMC until recently when she had to relocate due to the loss of her son.

If you would like to write or phone Kathie, you may call the church office to get her information. She would love to hear from you. ❖