

Crystal Springs United Methodist Church



Spirit

Winter 2016–2017

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Pastor's Corner

Dear Crystal Springs Family and Friends,

This is always such a glorious time for us to hear the message of Christmas again. I would like to express my gratitude as we have brought our talents and gifts together as a family of faith to grow and minister together at Crystal Springs as well. Your prayers and efforts have gently impacted our bigger communities! With your support and prayers, we can tell a new spirit is also emerging at Crystal Springs. Lately more than twenty newcomers have continued to come to join to worship with us. Praise the Lord!

I wanted to take this opportunity to invite you and your family to our Christmas celebrations as written below. We are looking forward to a wonderful time of celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This time

of year gives us another wonderful time to share the good news that Jesus Christ has come: Peace on Earth!

Let's celebrate and enjoy this Christmas season with family and friends. Also, be sure to take time to be with us in worship during this Season. Christmas is also a spiritual opportunity to respond to God with gratitude for His many blessings. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and needed to continue to do the ministry at Crystal Springs UMC. Below, you will find a list of the events for this Christmas Season here at Crystal Springs United Methodist Church. We encourage everyone to attend, and please invite your friends and family members to join us!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Peace,

Pastor Hee Soon

Music

Dec. 17th (Saturday), 7:00 PM—Christmas Dramas and Carols & Christmas Cookies

Dec. 18th (Sunday), 10:00 AM—Christmas Celebration

Dec. 24th (Saturday), 7:00 PM—Christmas Eve Candle Light Family Service

Dec. 25th (Sunday), 10:00 AM—Merry Christmas Service



*Mary's Baby Shower

Please bring children's items for children in need to put under the Christmas tree from December 4th to December 24th, 2016. They will go to Samaritan House for children.

*Please refer to the back page or our website for more information:
www.crystalumchurch.com



Christmas Music Sunday

Crystal Springs United Methodist Church cordially invites you to our annual Christmas Music Sunday, featuring our choir led by Music Director Bill Alley and guest musicians accompanying the choir and playing seasonal instrumental solos: MJ Lee (violin), Pamela Ravenelle (flute) and Jonathan Wing (piano). The service begins at 10 AM, but come early to hear special pre-service music, and stay after for tasty food. We hope to see you there!

When: December 11, 2016 10 AM

Where: 2145 Bunker Hill Drive, San Mateo, 94402



Christmas Luau

BBQ and Dancing

Saturday, December 3rd

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Crystal Springs UMC, 2145 Bunker Hill Dr., San Mateo

**Tickets: \$25 per person; Buy 2 tickets, the 3rd ticket is free;
\$10 for 4 years old to 12 years old; Free for 3 years old and under**

***Buy tickets from Esther or at the door**

***All money will go to the education fund**



Little Dresses for Africa



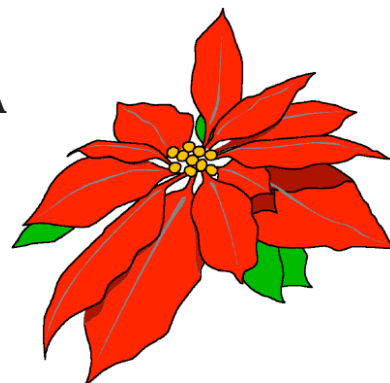
December 15, 1 p.m.

We are having a thank you party for all the Little Dresses volunteers. We will make angles!

Samaritan House needs: disposable diapers, baby food, nonperishable foods, personal hygiene products, toys, games, blankets, towels, used automobiles and trucks in good condition. Put food, etc. in the barrel in the Fireside Room.

DEDICATE A POINSETTIA

In Memory or in Honor of:



Donator(s):

No. of Poinsettias _____ @\$10 each = \$ _____

***Please put this form with your payment into the offering or send to the office.
Mark your check "Poinsettia."**

Support Group for Caregivers

Taking care of a family member is sometimes difficult. Communication with others that have had similar experience can help. Our support group meets every 3rd Monday at the Crystal Springs Church at the bottom of Bunker Hill Drive, 5:00–7:00 PM in the Fireside room. A caregiver is available to take care of your loved one while we talk. Our goal is to assist you in finding help, equipment and support.

In addition to the monthly meetings, we send information about available classes and helpful caregiving tips by e-mail.

Dianne Weitzel 867-7298 kona_caves@juno.com

The New Year Women's Tea

Saturday, January 14
2 PM

The Women's Tea will be held January 14 at Becky Cuthbert's home, 1752 Lexington Avenue, San Mateo. More information to come.





STEVE'S VIEW

Wow! What an amazing ride we have had this election year. A rank political amateur has run the table and is now President elect, much to the delight of some and the sorrow of others.

Now I know all the knocks on Trump, but look at it from another viewpoint.

Look what he did; he defeated the most powerful political syndicate in modern times; the Clinton machine. Here is a man who could have sat back and watched the country go in a direction he thought was wrong. He would not have had to suffer the insults, long days on the trail and could have continued to live the high life. No, he took the plunge and spent a lot of his own money to try to do something about his convictions. Yes, I know some people would say he did it for his own ego. I'm sure ego played a part and the power that comes with the office most likely figured in as well. And defeated the formidable Bush family in his own party as well. Do you realize what it took to do this? And he did it spending less money than Clinton. Government could use that skill.

Trump grabbed on to something that has been brewing in the country for quite a few years which first broke on the scene with the Tea Party. The forgotten people who live outside the beltway and the eastern and western seaboard were finally making their voices heard. Neither party listened to them. They aren't racists, homophobes, etc, etc. and they aren't dumb.

They felt that the country was headed in the wrong directions. Politicians said that they wanted X, the people said no, but the politician passed X anyhow. Obama Care was one of these Xs.

Note that any election where Obama was not on the ballot, his policies were and he lost big time. But even when the people spoke their party failed them.

Then Trump came along and promised to deal with their concerns. He won. Clinton apparently did not see this coming. She promised that government would provide. We'll put coal out of business, but give benefits. We'll take more of your money and "invest" it because we know what we need. People were not looking for this. They want good jobs and can handle their own money.

Now, I am not a big fan, having chosen another candidate during the primaries, but as the road to the election went along, my appreciation of his skills grew. I can't stand some of the things he has done, but God works in mysterious ways and he apparently has chosen Trump at this point in time. Remember the Christian charge to forgive.

Now, I know many wanted a woman president. It is not going to happen this time and not because people are sexist. This, however, does not mean that women did not play a big part in this election. Kellyanne Conway, his campaign director, did an excellent job of keeping Trump's brash nature contained and his campaign on message.

So now we will see how he governs. He seems to be getting good people around him which he definitely needs, His main job is that of a decision maker and to provide the vision. And he will need to spend some of his time to allay the fears of those of his opposition.

Thankfully, the election is behind us and we can start thinking about other important things like how the Church (not just Crystal Springs) can help solve the country's problems.

We have a new bishop now since Bishop Brown has retired. Her name is Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño, who previously served in the LA area. She recently wrote a post-election letter to the Conference. Unfortunately, I think she is perpetuating policies that have made the church irrelevant in the past. We will see how she does and where she leads this conference. More on this later.

The garden is pretty well done for the year. Some high points, but the harvest was down, perhaps because I used less water than last year. Fruit production was better because of the rain we got this year, but should increase if we have another wet winter. Another two months and it will be time to put together next year's garden plan. Every year it takes more time to put in the same number of plants. I wonder why that is?

—Steve Schlichter



Crystal Springs Players

We are trying something different for Christmas. We are going to do a series of plays written by people in our congregation.

They are Esther, Becky, Rex, and Steve. Kathleen was going to write a play also, but her work schedule won't allow her to do so. All the plays are about Christmas.

We will do the show on December 17. The plan is to run about one to one and a half hours and then have refreshments. We will take a goodwill offering for the "Little Dresses" mission.

—Steve Schlichter

STEWARDSHIP

Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service



Prayers

Loni Maama Jr., Nijay & Cynthia, Priya & Johān, Kirsten Molencupp, Lois Scott, Emma Kurr, Alexandria Saelua, Frank Saelua, Gwendolyn Barnhart, Charlie G., Lisa & Becky, Sally & Family, Judy Riedy, Linda Burnside, Comfort dogs, Trustees, Sunki Kim & Family, Mindy, Jane Bolander, Grace Chung, Jim Morrissey, Don Diehl, Henri Rabb, Jen & Bill, Dick Algire, Epi Samuelu & Family, Jan Brase, Julie Duffy, Paul Nebel, Kurt & Family, Roberto Avila, Kate Musgrave, Tony Cardoza, Scott & Deb, Dolores Roscoe, Ethel Schwartz, Annie Jefferson, Amelia Landsman, Karen G., Laura Peterhans and the family of Mike Peterhans, Alana, Alissa Picker, Mary Riedy, Orecchia Family (Terry, William, J.J., Johnny, Baby William), Nancy Tamburello, Barb and Bud Flint, Fergusons, Esther Kim, Bill, Carl, Middle East, Our Troops, Our Government, North Korea, Refugees, Syria, Turkey, France, Germany, People in Orlando, Nation, Victims of Natural Disasters.

Presence

(Attendance at church service)

9/4	31	10/9	45
9/11	59	10/16	36
9/18	49	10/23	45
9/25	34		
10/2	63		

Please! Use the Buckets!

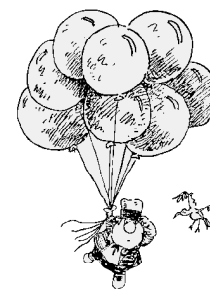
At each door at the end of each service, you'll find a small bucket (small so you can fill it!). The idea is to bring your pocket change to church to put into the buckets for Apportionments. While "small change" will in no way pay our Apportionments, it will go a long way toward reminding us of our share of Apportion-Meant for others.

Our Purpose

To be a caring Church family that nurtures creative spiritual growth within ourselves and the community.

December, January and February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Dec. 2	Emily Humke	Jan. 19	Becky Cuthbert
Dec. 3	Sivale Saelua	Jan. 25	Ingrid Humke
Dec. 12	Wally & Carrie Rutherford (A)	Jan. 27	Jim & Ineke Bolander (A)
Dec. 16	Matt Rodney		Johanna Anton
Dec. 17	Connie Mobley-Ritter	Jan. 29	Johanna Norman
Dec. 18	James Paquette	Jan. 30	Hee-Soon Kwoneryl Pierson
	Conor & Laura Johnson (A)	Feb. 1	Cheryl Pierson
Dec. 24	Kurt Schlichter	Feb. 9	Roland Bunch
Dec. 25	Nicky Mobley-Ritter		John McEvoy
Dec. 28	Karl Pope	Feb. 10	Angela Bunch
Dec. 31	Steve Schlichter	Feb. 17	Jon Bolander
Jan. 1	India Gay	Feb. 18	Joy Eaton
Jan. 2	Eric Humke	Feb. 27	Bob Franklin
Jan. 15	Foa Mafile'o	Feb. 29	Marsi & Jeff Riley (A)
Jan. 18	George & Jeanette Hobbs (A)		





Mary's Baby Shower

Please bring unwrapped presents for children (ages 0 to 16) and place them under the church's Christmas tree.

The shower is from December 4th to December 24th, 2016. These gifts will go to the Samaritan House for children in need.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS
United Methodist Church
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