

Crystal Springs United Methodist Church



Spirit

August–September 2013

Pastor: Rev. Hee-Soon Kwon
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Pastor's Corner

New Beginning

Guest Speaker for Preaching and Workshop:

Rev. John Dodson

on September 8th (Sunday) 11: 30 AM

“... in Christ ... the Old has gone, the New has come!”
(2 Corinthians 15: 17)

How did your summer go? I hope everyone has come back by now.

Our summer vacation time has gone, now it is the beginning to work again, Now is the time we can start a new beginning for our ministry, too.

In the Gospels, Jesus often meets people in the midst of their busy lives: Peter mending his nets by the seashore, Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. Just as often he encounters people when they are at their absolute worst: an adulterous woman about to be stoned, a woman who has been sick for many years. Jesus says, “I am ready to meet you, if you are ready to meet me.” He meets them where they are and as they are.

If God meets you where you are, then where you are is a place to meet God. You don't have to wait until your life settles down, or the kids move out of the house, or you have found that perfect apartment, or you have overcome your sinful patterns, or you can pray “better.” You don't have to wait for any of that. Because God is ready now. “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

So we are planning to have a prominent guest speaker to inspire us and help us for our New Beginnings through a preaching and workshop right after the service on September 8th (Sunday). Have you noticed our awesome new website? We would like to recognize Mike Sullivan, our new website developer who has sacrificially volunteered to do it. Let's celebrate this New Beginning together! Let's have a party! Please bring some food and let's have a party

The information for our guest speaker follows.

Pastor Hee- Soon

Resume for John L. Dodson

John is a retired pastor actively serving churches around the country and here in California. John recently celebrated his second anniversary with Vicky Dodson, they were married on August 7, 2011. John and Vicky met while John was interim Senior Pastor at St John UMC in Anchorage, Alaska for a year, 2009-2010. Their anniversary present to each other was a hot tub installed on the back deck and is a real help and healer for whatever ails you.

Vicky and John live in the Santa Cruz Mountains at Mt Hermon in a small cottage on Zayante Creek, which has been in the Dodson family for over 68 years. They live an active life enjoying Redwood walks and regular visits to the Santa Cruz Beaches and Wharf. John is an avid workout freak.

John has been a consultant for the California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation over the last 14 years working in fund development and church vitality with more than 80 churches, large and small. John loves this ministry and Vicky now joins him as a team mate in the process.

John and Vicky have 14 children between them and 36 grandchildren. We will stop there. We are busy with weddings, birthdays and other occasions. We love it. Fortunately, we have only one guest room.

Kansas City Leadership Training

Hee Soon wants to send five people from our church to the annual leadership training seminar given at the large UMC church, Church of the Resurrection, south of Kansas City late in September. Those going are Hee Soon, Bill Alley, Ivoni Maama, Johanna Anton, and Steve Schlichter. The report from other PUMA churches who went last year was very positive.

A large number of workshops are available there. For example, Hee Soon will take some on sermons, Bill in the music area, and Johanna for Sunday School. The pastor there, Rev Adam Hamilton, has an excellent reputation for putting on this annual training.

PUMA will give us \$3000 in grants to go. Since we have five people going and the expenses are running \$1000 per person we will need to find the needed \$2000 in the budget and fundraising.

—Steve Schlichter



Choir Rehearsals Begin in September

Choir rehearsals will resume on Tuesday, September 3, 7:30 pm in the church. We are looking for more volunteers, especially men. If you like to sing or if you have friends who enjoy singing, then please join us on Tuesday evenings. You do not need to read music, just have a love for music. We pray, sing and have fun.

If you have any questions please contact me at 650-646-8106 or parsifal5224@yahoo.com

Blessings,
Bill Alley, Music Director

Handbell Ringers Needed

The ministry of handbells is important to the music program in the United Methodist Church. People of all ages can learn handbells. It is a ministry that is fun and fellowship with other people. You do not need to know how to read music. The only requirement is that you show up for weekly rehearsals. Joe Trimble started this fantastic ministry. I want to continue what Joe started.



Simply put, we need more volunteer ringers. There will be a workshop in September to teach people the correct way to ring. The date of the workshop will be announced at a later date. My dream for this ministry is to have the handbells accompany us on hymns and to play a solo at least once a month. We cannot accomplish this goal without your help. Please think and pray about being apart of this wonderful ministry.

If you have any questions please contact me at 650-646-8106 or parsifal5224@yahoo.com

Blessings,
Bill Alley, Music Director

Home and Hope

It is a blessing for our congregation to be involved in such a wonderful program as Home and Hope. Helping needy families transition through hard times through sheltering and home made meals. We are looking for volunteers in mid-September to help make dinner, serve food, and/or spend a night at Hillsdale UMC. Please contact Susana Pau via e-mail or phone for questions and further information. (Fekauau@gmail.com or (650) 255-0091.)

New CSUMC Web Site

Please note that we have an updated web site. Check it out at www.csumchurch.com

Vacation Bible School A Success

Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2013 at CSUMC was held from June 24th-28th and was a fun and educational success! We enjoyed the participation of 20 total students and four youth aids for our VBS adventure. The theme this year was “Standing Strong for God.” As a part of the medieval theme, children were encouraged to act like chivalrous knights and noble ladies and were treated to their own ornate costumes, complements of Becky Cuthbert.

The lessons of the day were taught by our wonderful instructors Kathleen Maxwell, Eric Humke, Ivoni Maama, Judy Riedy, Esther Kim, Tamara Rodney, and Elizabeth Kurr. The evenings started out with an opening prayer and joining together for a delicious meal prepared by our dedicated volunteers (please see below). We then ventured into the beautifully decorated sanctuary for the opening songs, dancing, and the lesson for the day, followed by the Bible Adventures and the All Star Games sessions. We concluded the evening with a closing skit and more singing and dancing in the Finale.



Our VBS was fueled by many enthusiastic and energetic volunteers—the program would not have been possible without their help. We’re already looking forward to CSUMC VBS 2014!

—Ingrid Humke

Caregiver Group Meets Monday, August 18 and Monday, September 16

The Caregiver Support Group meets in the Fireside room at 5 p.m. This group meets every third Monday to help caregivers find help with meeting the needs of taking care of someone with an illness. We provide a helper to be with your loved one, in a nearby room, while you are in our discussion group. Handicapped parking is available up the hill beside our room.

—Dianne Weitzel

Little Dresses for Africa

Thursday, August 15, 1–4 p.m.

Thursday, September 19, 1–4 p.m.

Join Linda to make dresses for the children in Africa. You don’t have to know how to sew to help.

—Linda Litz



CSUMC Web Developer

Mike Sullivan is the web developer for the Crystal Springs UMC’s new website: www.csumchurch.com. Mike graduated from MIT and Stanford Business School. He lives in the Highlands with his wife Anne Risberg and two dogs Buddy and Minuette.

Joe Trimble Memorial Concert

Saturday, September 14, 2013, 2 P.M.

A variety of artists, singers, pianists, instrumentalists, etc., from many locales will use their talents to honor Joe.

Pete Shearer will be master of ceremonies.

A reception will follow the concert. Watch for additional information.



Crystal Springs Players

The Players are looking for new talent. To this end we will have a play reading Friday night, October 18 after pizza. Between now and then we will pick a play to read. It will probably be a comedy, but we have no restrictions. The idea is to have new people there to experience theater in a friendly atmosphere without the pressure of learning lines. We will be posting a sign up sheet. So come on out and have some fun.

Barbara Phillips Art Show at CSUMC

Between July 21st to September 22nd, a show of Barbara Phillips's artwork will be on display in the sanctuary of the Crystal Springs Church. The show can be viewed any Sunday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, or on weekdays from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm when the church office is open.

Preparing this show gives the Phillips family a chance to share a sampling of Barbara's love of sketching and painting from over the course of her life.



STEVE'S VIEW

The air is rife with government scandals these days that aren't likely to disappear anytime soon. Now, of course, the parties are taking advantage of the situation to further their own political agendas, but the scandals themselves have major importance over and above politics.

While Benghazi may not be the most important of the scandals, it has personal importance to me, since I have a son in the Army National Guard.

To summarize the situation, our consulate and an annex in Benghazi, Libya were attacked by an Al-Qaeda affiliated group resulting in the destruction of the consulate, the death of four people, including the Ambassador, and many injured. Security had been decreased at the consulate in the months preceding the attack. No rescue effort was undertaken before the attack was over. The attack was blamed on a trailer of a film on the internet that made fun of Mohammed. Information about what really happened has been slow to see the light of day.

The leadership displayed by our higher officials before, during and after this event was extremely poor. If they had performed properly, the tragedy might not have been prevented, but they certainly could have mitigated the results. Excuses like "I didn't know they had a security problem" from Secretary Clinton do not hold water. Even if she didn't need to deal with each security issue, as head of the State Department she should have had procedures in place to ensure that she was informed about such dangerous situations. In any case, the security was not adequate.

What bothers me most is the apparent abandonment of

the people who were being attacked. No help was sent. Some have said they couldn't have reached the consulate in time or they couldn't send help, not knowing what the situation was. Nonsense. If Americans are in trouble and you have resources, you go. No one knew how long the attack would be.

First, no one prepared for the possibility that an attack might take place, especially since the date was September 11. The Sixth Fleet no longer plies the waters of the Med as it did in the Cold War days and US resources were scattered. The closest fighter aircraft were stationed in Italy. Apparently, there were special troops available in Tripoli and some others in Europe.

No one helped. The troops in Tripoli were told not to go. No planes took off, even though they were just hours away. This was a serious error by someone high in the administration or military command. This was a violation of the military ethos that you always go when Americans are in distress, regardless of the possible danger. Don't think that our armed forces don't take note of how this played out. This is bad for morale and puts in doubt the faith that our troops should have in their high leaders. The next time it could be them that are left out to dry.

Then, after the attack, we were lied to for several weeks about the nature of the attack. Some day the full truth will come out and, hopefully, those who made the mistakes will pay with their job, reputation, etc. Few take accountability on their own.

On a lighter note, Clover, our new Golden Retriever has settled into her new digs. She was pleased with having a mountain place as well, with all the new smells and sounds. Can't wait to see if she will swim later this summer.

—Steve Schlichter

Centering Prayer Meditation At Crystal Springs UMC

2145 Bunker Hill Drive, San Mateo, CA 94402
led by Pastor Hee-Soon, Ph. D



Introductory Workshop Schedule: (Thursdays, 7:00-8:30PM),
Sep. 12th & 19th
Oct. 10th and 17th,
Nov. 14th & 21st,
Dec. 12th & 19th,

Regular Meditation Group Meetings: Mondays (7:00p.m.-8:00p.m.)
& Wednesdays (9:00a.m.-10:00a.m.) at Crystal Springs UMC.
All newcomers to meditation are welcome to attend.

Are you interested in learning how to quiet your mind and how to become more centered in your daily life?

Centering Prayer Meditation is a simple method of meditation, traditionally called contemplative prayer in Christianity. Contemplative Prayer is the opening of mind and heart—our whole being—to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions. The practice can offer a way to the rest in divine, calm and clarity to these hectic and pressure of daily life.

This introduction to Centering Prayer Meditation includes both instruction and practice in meditation techniques that foster contemplative prayer and practice in your everyday life. During each session there will be a period of meditation followed by group discussion and questions.

****Registration can be made through the church via email: crystalspringsumc@gmail.com or (650)-345-2381, (650)390-7036. Please refer to www.csumchurch.com**

Rev. Hee-Soon Kwon, Ph. D, is the Pastor of Crystal Springs United Methodist Church. She is a spiritual director, retreat leader, psychologist and has practiced Centering Prayer Meditation for nearly 20 years. She was a professor at Methodist Theological University in Seoul, Korea. She has written many articles and translated several books related to this field into Korean. She also holds the Master of Counseling Psychology & Ph. D in Transpersonal Psychology.

STEWARDSHIP

Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service

Prayers



Cheryl Pierson, Kurt Andersen, Diane Musgrave, Bill Alley, Hong-Ki and Helen, Nia's son William, Leslie Brown, William Orrechia & Family, Jim Sullivan & Family, Rick Vernali, Sungsim Park-Moskewicz, Solomone Fukofuka, Loretta Fukofuka, Alexander Fukofuka, Roz Chan, Wynona, Tony Gasperich, Favre Eaton & Family, Carl, Bill, Stan Lew, Phil Riedy, Susana Pau's Father, Mele's Grandma (Hoa-mo-faleono, Nai), Mele's Brother, Eunice Lim, Nancy Tamburello, Sally Brown, Fergusons, Carson, Mike Riedy, Monica Sheridan, Bill Seivert, Alexia Stoddard, Liliena Maama Pepa, Pat Allen, John Hauser, Sally Streeter, Russ Brown, Ken Fortich, Barbara Phillips, Helen and Doug Snowden, Kathy Ross and Family, Nancy Cecil and Family, Kate Musgrave, Kathy

Chichester, Uncle Bob Hord and Family, Neil, Victor, Clint, Sharon, Keira and Jace Endocott, Greg and Katie Shields, Tyke Glaser, Bryce, Carolyn Humbel, Juan Walker, Arlene Salt, Elisa, Kira, Lorraine Trombino, Esther Kim, Paul Gonzalez, Linda and Eric Bickel, Our Troops, Our Government, North Korea, Boston, Texas, Iran, China, Syria.

Finances

For the first 6 months of 2013, the church received \$79,858 and spent \$77,936.

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

Presence

(Attendance at church service)

7/7 - 46

7/14 - 43

7/21 - 44

7/28 - 36

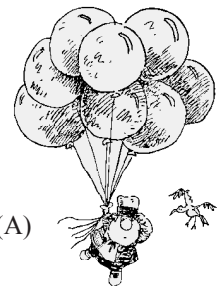
Samaritan House needs: disposable diapers, baby food, nonperishable foods, personal hygiene products, toys, games, blankets, towels, used automobiles and trucks in good condition. Put food, etc. in the barrel in the Fireside Room.

Our Purpose






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

August and September Birthdays and Anniversaries











Aug. 3	Jeanne & Peter Weiglin (A)	Aug. 31	Paul Sweet
Aug. 7	Scott Schlichter	Sep. 1	Mary Ellen Chapdelaine
Aug. 8	Lynda Traves		Sally Shearer
Aug. 12	Pat Allen	Sep. 3	Marsi Riley
	Elizabeth Kurr	Sep. 7	Wally Rutherford
	Debra Satterwhite	Sep. 8	Evani Ellis
Aug. 15	Christina Brown	Sep. 10	Leslie Braker
Aug. 16	Charlie Ritter		Russell Horton
Aug. 19	Brigitte & Pete Shearer (A)	Sep. 15	Elizabeth & Robert Morrison (A)
Aug. 20	Don Eshelman	Sep. 17	Annie & Darrell Jefferson (A)
Aug. 21	Ann Weber	Sep. 21	Gloria Coltart
Aug. 26	Diane & John Musgrave (A)		Rebecca Preston
Aug. 28	Bev Madden	Sep. 25	Sarah Schultz
	Jenny & Bob Franklin (A)	Sep. 27	Katie Shearer
Aug. 29	Karen & Paul Preston (A)		



August 2013

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						
4 10:00 a.m. 11 th Sunday after Pentecost (Communion Sunday) 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	5  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	6	7 7:00 p.m. Adboard Meeting 7:30 p.m. GGRO	8 4:45 p.m Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. AA	9 7:00 p.m. AA	10 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
11 11:00 a.m. 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	12  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	13	14 7:30 p.m. GGRO	15 1:00 p.m. Making Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA	16 7:00 p.m. AA	17 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
18 10:00 a.m. 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Worship/Ministries Committee Meeting	19 5:00 p.m. Care Giver Support Group  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	20 9:00 a.m. 2 nd Harvest	21 7:30 p.m. GGRO	22 7:00 p.m. AA	23 7:00 p.m. AA	24 7:45 a.m. Sanctuary Carpet Cleaning 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
25 10:00 a.m. 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	26  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	27	28 7:00 p.m. AdBoard Meeting 7:30 p.m. GGRO	29 7:00 p.m. AA	30 7:00 p.m. AA	31 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

September 2013

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 10:00 a.m. 15 th Sunday after Pentecost (Communion Sunday) 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	2  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	3	4  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	5 7:00 p.m. AA	6 7:00 p.m. AA	7 9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Church Work Day 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
8 10:00 a.m. 16 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:30 a.m. New Beginning Workshop (by Rev. Dodson)	9  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	10	11  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	12 4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA	13 7:00 p.m. AA	14 Joe Trimble's Memorial Concert 3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
15 *Newsletter Deadline 10:00 a.m. 17 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	16  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	17 9:00 a.m. 2 nd Harvest	18  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	19 1:00 p.m. Making Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA	20	21 6:00 p.m. Astronomical Society Meeting 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
22 10:00 a.m. 18 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship *Barbara Phillips Art Exhibition ends	23 5:00 p.m. Care Giver Support Group  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	24 *Kansas Leadership Training begins	25  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:00 p.m. AdBoard Meeting 7:30 p.m. GGRO	26 7:00 p.m. AA	27 *Kansas Leadership Training ends 6:00 p.m. Home & Hope 7:00 p.m. AA	28 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
29 10:00 a.m. 19 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	30  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation					

Children of Abraham – “Shari’a”

Richard L. Shafer

What is the Shari’a? It is the body of law which governs much of what happens in the Muslim community. In the west, we hear about it only when it is reported in the press related to some tragedy. It “was the practical aspect of the religious and social doctrine preached by Mohammad.” [See Gibb, H.A.R., MOHAMMEDANISM, AN HISTORICAL SURVEY, London: Oxford University Press, 1950, at <http://answering-islam.org.uk/Books/Gibb/sharia.htm>] (Is the UMC Book of Discipline an equivalent for United Methodists, or the Torah for Jews?)

“The word sharia means ‘the path to a watering hole’. It denotes an Islamic way of life that is more than a system of criminal justice. Sharia is a religious code for living, in the same way that the Bible offers a moral system for Christians. . . . Sharia offers a code for living governing all elements of life, from prayers to fasting to donations to the poor. It decrees that men and women should dress modestly, which in some countries is interpreted as women taking the veil and the sexes being segregated.” [<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theissues/article/0,6512,777972,00.html>]

Where does the Shari’a come from? Shari’a has as its sources the Koran, the holy book of Islam; and the Sunna, the body of traditions recording the deeds, pronouncements, examples, and silent approvals of Muhammad. The Koran is

accepted by Muslims as divine revelation by God through the Prophets beginning with Adam and ending with Muhammad. And the Sunna is similarly accepted. Shari’a also comes from older Arabic law systems. [<http://i-cias.com/e.o/sharia.htm>] Where, do you think, does “Christian law” come from? Perhaps divine revelation through the Prophets and Jesus?

Who made/makes the decisions that create/d the Shari’a? First, the clear commands contained in the Koran are not to be changed by humans. However, as situations arose where decisions were required, the Islamic scholars of the first 200 years or so after Muhammad’s life created the collection of laws, much of which remains unchanged. It was during this time that a clerical class grew up within Islam – these same scholars became recognized as authorities on “matters relating to faith and law, particularly against the state.” As their authority increased, their decisions became harder to resist or change. Who decides for you how “Christian law” affects your life? Might it be the Christian scholars of old?

Several “schools” of these scholars grew up on various parts of the Muslim world, but they all relied on the same sources for making the law: the Koran, the Sunna, a consensus among the Muslim scholars on a legal interpretation, and some form of analogical reasoning. Is it mere coincidence, or is there some similarity to the Methodist quadrilateral of Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience? Oh, so many questions!

CRYSTAL SPRINGS

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