

## Crystal Springs United Methodist Church



# *Spirit*

Spring 2014

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### **Pastor's Corner**

#### **Lent-Easter Journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter**

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count). In Lent, we are invited to look deeply inside, identify what is impeding our ability to follow Christ. The beauty of the Lenten season is that it encourages the development of a humble heart to return to God. It is a time to confess our sins and shortcomings. It is said that confession is good for the soul. We cannot overlook the importance of genuine confession in our prayer life. Perhaps no one in Scripture learned a more humbling lesson about the importance of confession than David.

David was, as Acts 13:22 put it, a man after God's own heart, even in his greatness. But David failed miserably from time to time. Perhaps one of his greatest failures is in 2 Samuel 11. While his soldiers are away fighting, David lusts for and commits adultery with the wife of one of his soldiers, Uriah. When the wife, Bathsheba, becomes pregnant, David then sends Uriah to the front lines of battle where Uriah is killed, allowing David the opportunity to marry Bathsheba.

God sends Nathan to confront David. In 2 Samuel 12, Nathan approaches David with a parable of a rich man. Indeed, David is the sinner, and the penalty of his sin will be great. David grieves and seeks forgiveness.

Psalm 51 is attributed to David as his prayer of

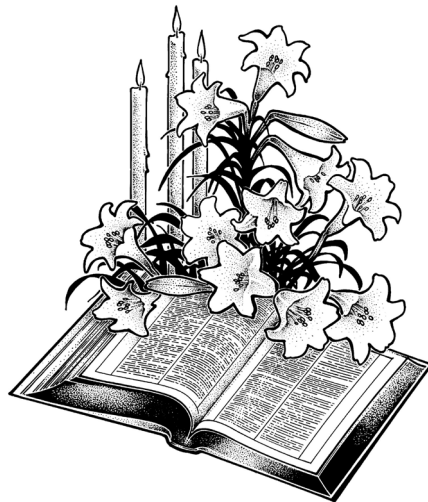
confession after Nathan's confrontation. It is a powerful example as David pleads for mercy and cleansing after acknowledging his great sin against God. David fell to his knees, grieved his failures, and cried out to God. This is what God requires of us as well.

Lent-Easter is about openness and growth from the turned over soil of our spirits. God waters the gardens of our hearts. Are you open and ready to receive the seeds of grace? Will the green shoot of divine life spring up in our inner garden? Reflect on the months that have passed since last Easter. Think about the soil of your soul. Where have you been open? Where have you been closed? Make a list of these situations. Ponder the two lists. What do they tell you about your inner life? Look at the inner garden of your life. Where do the waters of life flow freely? Where do you see signs of growth, birth, hope, change, nurturing? What is being raised to life in you?

Let's have intention to have fasting from Busyness. . . . Letting go of our ordinary "doing". . . Jesus said, "Come away. . . and rest a while." (Mark 6:31)

Let's begin our Lent-Easter journey together from the Ash Wednesday service on March 5th to Easter celebration on April 20th. May God lead and bless us. Amen

**Your Pastor Hee Soon**

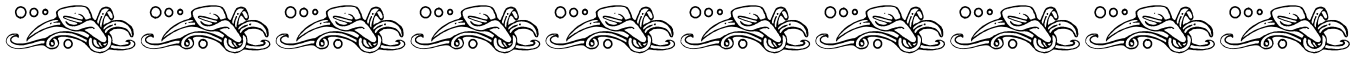


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#### **Rev. Jeff Brinkman to Preach on March 2**

Jeff Brinkman has been the pastor at the Woods Chapel United Methodist Church in Lee's Summit, Missouri, for 20 years. The church is a growing congregation and is very active in mission work. Jeff is a 1975 graduate of Leland High School in San Jose. He is married to Cathy Brinkman. They have three grown children.

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## Schedule for March 2014

### Preaching/Children's Message/Scripture Reading/ Chancel Drama

- 3/2 (Transfiguration Sunday, Friends Sunday): A Different Way to Live (Matthew 5: 1-3)**  
Children's Message: Ingrid Humke  
Scripture Reading: Grace Chung
- 3/5 (Wed): Ash Wednesday Service (7: 00 PM)**
- 3/9 (First Sunday in Lent, Daylight Saving Time): True Happiness (Matthew 5: 1- 4)**  
Children's Sermon: Susana Pau  
Scripture Reading: Linda Burnside
- 3/12 (Wed): Lenten Studies Begins (7:00 PM)**
- 3/16 (Second Sunday in Lent): Blessed are the Meek (Matthew 5: 1-6)**  
Children's Sermon: Eric Humke  
Scripture Reading: Elizabeth Kurr
- 3/23 (Third Sunday in Lent): Guest Speaker (Rev. Jeff Brinkman, Pastor of Woods Chapel UMC)**  
Children's Sermon: Johanna Anton  
Scripture Reading: Kathleen Wynne
- 3/30 (Fourth Sunday in Lent): A New World–Jesus' Plan-1 (Matthew 5: 13-16)**  
Children's Sermon: Ivoni Maama  
Scripture Reading: Brian Rausch  
Chancel Drama: "Let it Go"



## Schedule for April 2014

### Preaching/Children's Message/Scripture Reading/ Chancel Drama

- 4/6 (Fifth Sunday in Lent): A New World–Jesus' Plan-2 (Matthew 5: 13-16)**  
Children's Sermon: Susana Pau  
Scripture Reading: Paul Chung
- 4/12 (Sat): Retreat–Lenten Day of Prayer (9: 00 – 12: 00)**
- 4/13 (Palm Sunday): The New Creation (John 12: 12-15)**  
Children's Sermon: Eric Humke  
Scripture Reading: Vince Kurr
- 4/17 (Holy Thursday): Cedar Meal and Foot Washing Service (6: 30 PM)**
- 4/18 (Good Friday): Good Friday Vigil 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM**
- 4/20 (Easter Sunday): From Tragedy to Joy (Matthew 28: 1-10)**  
Children's Sermon: Ingrid Humke  
Scripture Reading: Paula Schlichter
- 4/27 (Second Sunday of Easter): Living Hope (1 Peter 1: 3-9)**  
Children's Sermon: Johanna Anton  
Scripture Reading: Joy Eaton
- 5/4 (Third Sunday of Easter, White Sun & Confirmation Sun): My Lord, My God (John 20: 24-29)**  
Children's Sermon: Ivoni Maama  
Scripture Reading: Brian Rausch  
Chancel Drama: Faith Sandwich

### Recycle Ink Cartridges

Please bring in empty ink cartridges to the church office for recycling. The church receives \$2 for every cartridge we recycle.

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## JJ Having Surgery for Amputation on February 24

A decision has been made to do the surgery (amputation). The hardest decision any parent can make.

J.J., six years old, has Osteosarcoma. This cancer affects primarily children and young adults between the ages of 10 and 25. Osteosarcoma often starts in the ends of bones, where new tissue forms as children grow. It occurs most often in the knee. In JJ's case it broke his femur bone. There are 900 similar cases reported of Osteosarcoma in the U.S. and only ONE of 900 of those cases are as young as the age of 5. Cases, in which they have been as young as JJ were treated with chemotherapy and often than most amputation. So please continue to Pray for healing. Prayer above all is needed! Godspeed. Thank you all for your continuous support and for the love you all have shown. May our Heavenly Father continue to bless you all with love and endless flow of blessings.

Here is the web site to support JJ and his family as well: <http://www.gofundme.com/6d9oc4>.

Please continue to pray for JJ and his family. This will be a difficult time. Thank you all for your continuous support and endless prayers.

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## Little Dresses for Africa

Thursday, March 21, 1–4 p.m.

Thursday, April 17, 1–4 p.m.

Thursday, May 15, 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



## Crystal Springs Players

The Players were able to put on a Christmas play in a venue to bring in those outside the church as well as our congregation. The format seemed to work and we did get a few people from the community. We hope this will be a blueprint for next year as well.

The nice thing about the play was that we had a mix of seasoned veterans and some new comers in the cast. The new people did very well and hopefully will be interested in expanding their theatrical skills in future productions. We even had some kids, which was great.

Sometime in the near future we hope to have another night of play reading. People had fun the first time around so we will try to repeat the success. Watch for the date.

—Steve Schlichter

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help for our helpers

## Caregiver Group Meets

Many of us take care of our family members or friends as they become ill or elderly. This can become difficult. Our caregiver support group may be able to assist. Our meetings are the 3rd Monday each month, and are open to all Highlands and Nearby Neighborhoods. We meet at the United Methodist Church, (bottom of Bunker Hill) in the Fireside Room, 5:00 to 7:00 PM. We may be able to suggest solutions to make your job easier. Let me know if you need to bring your loved one, as I can have a trained caregiver to help them, while you work with us. I also have some books and equipment to loan.

For more information, call me, Dianne Weitzel at 650-867-7298.

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## Masterworks Chorale Presents

### *Carmina Burana*

March 22 at 8 PM and March 23 at 4 PM

Hillsdale High School Performing Arts Center

31st Ave. and Alameda de las Pulgas, San Mateo

Come hear Masterworks as we join with the Valley Concert Chorale, the Hillsdale High School Chamber Singers, Ragazzi Boys Chorus, and the Sarah Bush Dance Project to sing (and dance) this dazzling setting of the irreverent medieval poems called Carmina Burana.

For tickets, click or call [www.masterworks.org](http://www.masterworks.org) / 650.918.6225.

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## STEVE'S VIEW

There are times when I can sympathize and admire those columnists who have to come up with a subject to write about once per week or more. Having not written a column for several months it is easy to get out of practice and makes the exercise more difficult.

What is really on my mind is the state of the country. We are not doing very well. Not only is our economy not any where near where it should be, we are still not taking the steps necessary to allow the economy to expand. And of course, we owe our debt for excessive living to places like China and Japan.

Our political system seems to be out of whack. I don't worry so much about what they don't get done, but what they do that defies the will of the people. Obamacare is a good example, since the polls never showed that it was popular and remain against it even more as the rollout has begun.

We are in a state where almost everything is regulated. We are not regulated by the people who write the laws so much. They outsource the writing of the regulations to a vast bureaucracy who have no incentive other than to increase their power. Humans being what they are, they will try to do this. The EPA is one of the prime examples. Nothing in the Clean Air Laws gives them the power to deal with anything other than pollutants, but they have managed to include CO2 in that mix. That has led to all sorts of new rules. Some of which may bankrupt the coal industry.

We don't often see the results of these rules directly, but they show up in more expensive goods and in some cases, in the disappearance of other goods.

The philosophy seems to be that some experts in a far off place can plan our lives, keep us safe and, more importantly, keep us controlled. And of course, stay in business, because a problem is never really solved. I'm sure there is somewhere an agency that is still regulating how we treat the horses that pull our wagons, even though they have been replaced by cars and trucks. Actually, there is such an agency. They deal with the horses and carriages in New York City.

It is often bad enough that we are regulated close to home by the cities and counties where we live, but the seat of the power seems to be moving more and more to Washington. At least close to home we have the chance to inject our own feelings and thoughts. Dealing on a

Federal level is much more difficult.

In my working career I had to deal with the FDA because we were a food plant. Fortunately, we had our act together and we didn't have problems when we were inspected.

Social welfare is another area where the government has a heavy hand. They have no means of being flexible to solve problems. Now, on the other hand, if a church were to run a welfare program with their own money (federal money means following federal rules) the program and rules could be adapted to fit the particular situation. The church would have less chance of being gamed by savvy clients and perhaps could actually solve or mitigate some social problems.

Now, we do need to have some regulations. The world today is much more complex. Approving drugs that we take is a good example. People on their own would have to essentially experiment with drugs based on the sayso of the drug company. May not be the best way to go, given the limited info that we personally can gather.

By now you might conclude that I'm in favor of limited government. You would be right. The root of much of the problems with big government is the big money that goes with it. Everyone wants a piece of somebody else's money for their own use. Cut down the available money and a lot of problems are minimized.

How do we solve this problem? I don't know exactly, but Mark Levin's "The Liberty Amendments" provides a pathway. It would require constitutional amendments, but not through the normal channel of Congress and the States' approval, but by a convention called by the states alone. There is a provision in the Constitution for doing this, of which most people are unaware, including me until recently.

Let us hope we have some courageous politicians that can set us on the right path.

—Steve Schlichter

**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.

**STEWARDSHIP**  
**Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service**

**Prayers**



JJ Orecchia and Family, Delba and Donya Youseli, Howie Odessky, Ivoni, Lavili, Fehoko, Angela Chung, Carol Griffin, Barbara Parker, Cathy Little, Cosette Trombino Zugale, Sarah Crane, Barbara Phillips and Family, Araceli Martinez, James Goodwin, Eric Rivello, Kurt Andersen, Leslie Brown, Rick Vernali, Tony Gasperich, Carl, Bill, Paula, Phil Riedy, Nancy Tamburello, Sally Brown, the Fergusons, Alexandria, Benjamin, Erica, Victor, Yunok Kim and Family, Pastor Paul's Family, Esther Kim, Our Troops, Our Government, North Korea, Iran, China, Syria, Egypt, the Philippines.

**Finances**

During 2013 the church received \$170,254 from all sources: pledges, special offerings, apportionment buckets, rents, grants, and all fundraising efforts. During the same 12 months, the church spent \$171,675 for all church operating and member program expenses, conference apportionments, and mission/outreach activities and programs.

**Presence**

(Attendance at church service)

11/3	53	12/29	45
11/10	53	1/5	58
11/17	48	1/12	61
11/24	56	1/19	66
12/1	68	1/26	43
12/8	58		
12/15	78		
12/22	61		

**Please! Use the Buckets!**

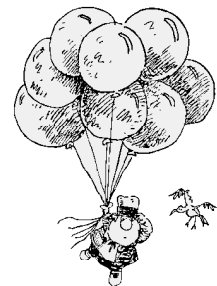
At each door at the end of each service, you'll find a small bucket (small so you can fill it!). The idea is to bring your pocket change to church to put into the buckets for Apportionments. While "small change" will in no way pay our Apportionments, it will go a long way toward reminding us of our share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

***Our Purpose***

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


**March, April and May Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Mar. 2	C.J. Nobs	Apr. 11	Andy Coltart
Mar. 5	Erica Wynne	Apr. 14	Jenny Shearer
	Linda Burnside	Apr. 15	Carrie Branam Rutherford
Mar. 16	Jeffrey Madden	Apr. 18	Hong Ki Kim
	Ineke Bolander		Susana Pau
Mar. 20	Le Kelson	Apr. 20	Conor Johnson
	David Anton	Apr. 22	Emma Kurr
Mar. 21	Brian Schultz	Apr. 28	Barbara Phillips
	Leslie & Wade Braker (A)		Wynona Saelua
Mar. 22	Virginia Spinelli	Apr. 29	Devon Mobley-Ritter
Mar. 24	Ingrid & Eric Humke (A)	May 2	Kathleen Wynne
Mar. 27	Gloria & Andy Coltart (A)	May 12	Linda Litz
Apr. 6	Drew Madden	May 29	Frankie Saelua
Apr. 9	Gabrielle Wynn	May 30	Helen Kim
	Alexandria Saelua		Mele Veamatahau



# March 2014

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						<b>1</b>
						9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Church Work Day
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
10:00 a.m. Friends Sunday 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Tongan Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	5:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Dancing 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service	7:00 p.m. AA	7:00 p.m. AA	
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
10:00 a.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Children's Dancing 7:30 p.m. GGRO *Lenten Studies Begin 7:00 p.m.	4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA		1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. GGRO Concert
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
10:00 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Worship/Ministries Meeting 1:00 p.m. Tongan Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	5:00 p.m. Caregiver Support Group 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	9:00 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Harvest 6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Children's Dancing 7:30 p.m. GGRO Lenten Studies	1:00 p.m. Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA		
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
10:00 a.m. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Lenten Studies 7:30 p.m. GGRO	7:00 p.m. AA		
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					
10:00 a.m. 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Tongan Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class		6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice		7:00 p.m. AA	7:00 p.m. AA	

April 2014						
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b> 6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>2</b> 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Dancing 7:00 p.m. Lenten Studies 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>3</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>4</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>5</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Church Work Day *Easter Play
<b>6</b> 10:00 a.m. 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	<b>7</b> 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>8</b> 6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>9</b> 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Dancing 7:30 p.m. GGRO 7:00 p.m. Lenten Studies	<b>10</b> 4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop	<b>11</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>12</b> 12:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Lenten Day of Prayer
<b>13</b> 10:00 a.m. Passion/Palm Sunday 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Tongan Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	<b>14</b> *Holy Week Begins 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>15</b> 9:00 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Harvest 6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>16</b> 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Dancing 7:30 p.m. GGRO 7:00 p.m. Lenten Studies	<b>17</b> 1:00 p.m. Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Cedar Meal	<b>18</b> 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Good Friday Vigil	<b>19</b> Holy Saturday
<b>20</b> 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Worship/Ministries Committee Meeting	<b>21</b> 5:00 p.m. Caregiver Support Group 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>22</b> 6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>23</b> 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Dancing 7:30 p.m. GGRO 7:00 p.m. AdBoard Meeting	<b>24</b> 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>25</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>26</b> 4:00 p.m. 4-H Cooking Project
<b>27</b> 10:00 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Tongan Bible Study	<b>28</b> 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>29</b> 6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>30</b> 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 3:45 p.m. Dancing 7:30 p.m. GGRO			

## HANDBELL AND ADULT CHOIR

Have you ever thought about playing in a handbell choir or singing in the choir? Now is your chance to join us on Tuesday evenings.



### **Handbell Practice** Tuesdays at 6:00 pm

The handbell choir will be playing at the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services.



### **Choir Practice** Tuesdays, 7:30–9:00 pm

You do not have to read music. Please come and enjoy this fun filled music ministry.

Please contact Bill Alley, Music Director for further information. Tel: 650-646-8106  
Email: [parsifal5224@yahoo.com](mailto:parsifal5224@yahoo.com)

**CRYSTAL SPRINGS**  
**United Methodist Church**  
2145 Bunker Hill Drive  
San Mateo, CA 94402

**Spring 2014**

