

Crystal Springs United Methodist Church



Spirit

Summer 2016

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Pastor's Corner

Dear Crystal Springs,

One day someone asked me what I want him to pray for me. Immediately I told him to pray for the renewal of Crystal Springs. And then I thought again how we can be renewed at Crystal Springs. I know we all, lay leaders, members, and I have been trying to rekindle the spirit of the church. I have been inspired by a story lately. I thought that you might be interested in this story:

There is a story that concerns a monastery that had fallen upon hard times. In the deep woods surrounding the monastery there was a little hut that a rabbi from a nearby town occasionally used for a hermitage. Through their many years of prayer and contemplation the old monks had become a bit psychic, so they could always sense when the rabbi was in his hermitage. As the abbot agonized over the imminent death of his order, the abbot visited the hermitage to ask the rabbi if by some possible chance he could offer any advice that might save the monastery.

The rabbi welcomed the abbot at his hut. but when the abbot explained the purpose of his visit, the rabbi only said, "I know how it is," he exclaimed. "The spirit has gone out of the people. It is the same in my town. Almost no one comes to the synagogue anymore." So the old abbot and the old rabbi wept together. Then they read parts of the Torah and quietly spoke of deep things. The time came when the abbot had to leave. They embraced each other. "It has been a wonderful thing that we should meet after all these years," the abbot said, "but I have still failed in my purpose for coming here. Is there nothing you can tell me, no piece of advice you can give me that would help save my dying order?"

"No, I am sorry," the rabbi responded, "I have no advice to give. The only thing I can tell you is that the Messiah is one of you."

When the abbot returned to the monastery his fellow monks gathered around him to ask, "Well, what did the rabbi say?" "He couldn't help," the abbot answered. "We just wept and read the Torah together. The only thing he did say, just as I was leaving—it was that the Messiah is one of us. I don't know what he meant."

In the days and weeks and months that followed, the old

monks pondered this and wondered whether there was any monks that pondered this and wondered whether there was any possible significance to the rabbi's words. The Messiah is one of us? Could he possibly have meant one of us monks here at the monastery? If that is the case, which one? Do you suppose he meant the abbot? Yes, if he meant anyone, he probably meant Father Abbot. On the other hand, he might have meant Brother Thomas. Certainly brother Tomas is a holy man. Everyone knows that Thomas is a man of light. Certainly he could not have meant Brother Elred! Elred gets crotchety at times. But come to think of it, even though he is a thorn in people's sides, when you look back on it, Elred is virtually always right. Often very right. Maybe the rabbi did mean Brother Elread. Maybe Phillip is the Messiah. Of course the rabbi didn't mean me. He couldn't possibly have meant me. I am just an ordinary person. Yet supposing he did? Suppose I am the Messiah? O God, not me. I couldn't be that much for You, could I?

As they contemplated in this manner, the old monks began to treat each other with extraordinary respect on the off chance that one among them might be the Messiah. And on the off, off chance that each monk himself might be the Messiah, they began to treat themselves with extraordinary respect.

Because the forest in which it was situated was beautiful, it so happened that people still occasionally came to visit the monastery to picnic on its tiny lawn, to wander along some of its paths, even now and then to go into the dilapidated chapel to meditate. As they did so, without even being conscious of it, they sensed this aura of extraordinary respect that now began to surround the five old monks and seemed to radiate out from them and permeate the atmosphere of the place. There was something strangely attractive, even compelling, about it. Hardly knowing why, they began to come back to the monastery more frequently to picnic, to play, to pray. They began to bring their friends to show them this special place. And their friends brought their friends.

Then it happened that some of the younger men who came to visit the monastery started to talk more and more with the old monks. After a while one asked if he could join them. Then

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another. And another. So within a few years the monastery had once again become a thriving order and, thanks to the rabbi's gift, a vibrant center of light and spirituality in the realm.

I hope and pray that it will happen to us, Crystal Springs, as well.

**Blessings,
Hee Soon**

Flea Market

On May 7th, Crystal Springs UMC and Bunker Hill Nursery School had a joint flea market. We had a rummage sale, BBQ, bake sale and some live music by Turtle Bay All Stars (Wally's band).



Some items that were sold in the rummage sale were clothes, toys, jewelry, household goods, and appliances. Some items sold at the bake sale were cookies, cakes, and brownies. The BBQ included sausages, kebobs, and grilled chicken.

Unfortunately, it rained. But despite this, the church made approximately \$2000 and the nursery school made approximately \$800.

This flea market was a great way for the neighborhood to get to know the church. In the sanctuary, we had displays of Caregiver Support Group, Safe Harbor, Making Little Dresses for Africa, and Crystal Springs Players. Also, there was a Power Point slideshow showing church-related pictures. To promote and sell the church, we had a table at the flea Market and passed out church brochures and customized church pens.

Many people from the Crystal Springs UMC's congregation came to volunteer their time, and the flea Market could not have been a success without them. Also, working with Bunker Hill Nursery was great, and we look forward to partnering with them again.

—Esther Kim

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 867-729 kona_caves@juno.com



Little Dresses for Africa

3rd Thursdays, 1–4 p.m.

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



STEVE'S VIEW

The political season is in full swing as the final candidates are getting closer to being chosen by their party. Unless something enters the arena, like Trump being unable to get the magic number of votes or if Hillary is indicted, these two will be the chosen ones for the November ballot. So for those who pay attention, the fall will be an interesting and a different time.

So enough politics for now. Let's talk about something that is fun, relaxing, and often revealing. When I read the daily newspaper I generally work through some of the news (although the internet sites often provides more news these days), check the opinion page to read clueless letters to the editor for fun, and scan the sports page to see how the locals are doing and who has been arrested. Then lastly the comics, the funnies as they used to be called.

They are a pleasure to read. They cover a wide variety of subjects and have varying degrees of humor. While most of the strips are on the light side, often serious subjects are explored as well.

Most of the strips today were not around when I was a kid. "Blondie" was around then and has survived because the Young family took it over when Chic Young gave it up. Of course, "Peanuts" was around and I assume is still ongoing because they are reprinting them for the new generation. The funnies back then were filled with adventure strips like Terry and the Pirates, Steve Canyon, Prince Valiant, and Mark Trail. They had story lines that continued for a long period. While some strips now do have story lines, the adventure ones are long gone.

Another difference at least with the SF Chronicle is that years ago you had to wait for the Sunday edition to see the strips in color. Now the color is daily.

Politics can't be avoided either. On the left is "Doodles" and on the right, "Mallard Filmore." "Candorville will venture a few political statements now and then, mainly from the left. Mainly though, this strip chronicles the travails of a guy living in the "hood," trying to make his way in the world as a writer and a single dad with the help of a girl friend and the non-help of his thug for life friend. Very funny and insightful at times.

One of my favorites is "For Better or Worse," the story of a Canadian family of five who experience the usual challenges of living with kids. The interesting part is that Lynn Johnson, the author, has done this all before, ending the strip several years ago, letting the reader know what happened to all the characters after they had grown up. Now she is doing it all over again with the same characters, but with different situations and scenarios. She explores how kids deal with those who are different from themselves.

"Baby Blues" is somewhat similar to "For Better or Worse" in that it depicts a young family. Much is centered on the continuing battle of an older sister and her brother whose purpose in life is to annoy her. No one wins for long.

Since I am a dog fan, "Mutts" is another favorite. There a cat and a dog are pals and get into all sorts of trouble and adventures. Of course the animals are anthropomorphic, but their antics remind me of dogs we have had over the years.

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STEWARDSHIP

Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service

Prayers



Kathleen Maxwell, Melissa, Jonathan Wing & Family, Joe Bolander, Scott Kim & Family, George Hobbs, Joan Connolly, Henri Rabb, Jen & Bill, Lillian Boyles, Paul Chung & Family, Dick Algire, Epi Samuelu & Family, Jan Brase, Julie Duffy, Carla Rodney, Jane Bolander, Pat Allen & Family, Paul Nebel, Kurt & Family, Roberto Avila, Kate Musgrave, Tony Cardoza, Scott & Deb, Mike Riedy, Sue Mobley, Dolores Roscoe, Ethel Schwartz, Annie Jefferson, Amelia Landsman, Karen G., Laura Peterhans and the family of Mike Peterhans, Alana, Alissa Picker, Steve Schlichter's grandkids, Mary Riedy, Orecchia Family, Nancy Tamburello, Barb Flint, Fergusons, Esther Kim, Bill, Carl, the Middle East, Our Troops, Our Government, North Korea, Refugees, Syria, Turkey, Presidential Elections.

Presence

(Attendance at church service)

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 Apportionment-Meant for others.

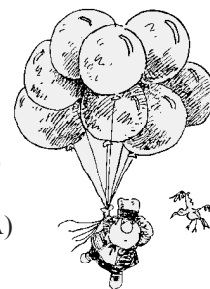
3/6	45	4/17	56
3/13	37	4/24	52
3/20	58	5/1	75
3/27	85	5/8	33
4/3	53	5/15	41
4/10	40		

Our Purpose

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

June, July, August Birthdays and Anniversaries

June 6	Inger Aadahl	July 13	Inger & Jorg Aadahl (A)
June 7	Dick Madden	July 14	Paula & Steve Schlichter (A)
	Steve Mattes	July 17	Pat Leake
June 8	John Musgrave	July 26	Jennifer & Steve Mattes (A)
June 10	Andrew Norman	July 28	Sarah Crane
June 12	Tamara & Matt Rodney (A)	July 30	Elizabeth & Vince Kurr (A)
June 13	Jeanette Hobbs	July 31	Jenny Franklin
June 15	Paula Schlichter	Aug. 7	Scott Schlichter
	India & Jay Gay (A)	Aug. 8	Lynda Traves
June 16	Jorg Aadahl		Teresa Chung
	Bruce Heiman	Aug. 12	Pat Allen
June 17	Maloti Veamatahau		Elizabeth Kurr
June 18	Judy Reidy	Aug. 19	Brigitte & Pete Shearer (A)
	Lavinia Orecchia	Aug. 24	Alyssa Rodney
June 20	Eni & Mele Veamatahau (A)	Aug. 26	Diane & John Musgrave (A)
June 22	Benjamin Kurr	Aug. 27	Fehoko Tae
June 24	Kahalley Anton	Aug. 28	Bev Madden
June 25	Brucee & Dede Heiman (A)		Jenny & Bob Franklin (A)
June 29	Janie Conrad	Aug. 28	Ivoni Maama
June 30	Connie & Charlie Mobley-Ritter (A)		
July 1	Laura Johnson		



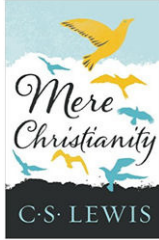


GGRO Concert

After 18 years GGRO is still going strong. The next concert will be on Sunday June 26 at 3:00 pm. A new singer, Heather Otte, will join the group. Cost is only \$15 and the church will get half of the proceeds.

Mere Christianity

Starting in July we will study "Mere Christianity" by C. S. Lewis. This is a well known tome on Christianity based on Lewis's lectures on the radio during WWII. We will meet on alternate Fridays at 10 a.m. in the Fireside Room, the exact date TBD. If interested, contact Esther or Steve so we can order the book, which costs \$10. We have a study guide, which poses questions based on the readings. We will go for six meetings and then decide to continue or not.



(Steve, from page 2)

"Bizarro" is well, bizarre. The author makes some vary strange connections that are often quite funny. The strip is not as good as "The Far Side" which, unfortunately, stopped many years ago.

Sometimes "Wumo" and "A Knights Life" are totally

incomprehensible. I have no idea what they are trying to say.

"Dilbert" has a good perspective on office politics, but I have the feeling that the creator doesn't really understand how work gets done. People can relate, though, to the absurdities that happen in the workplace.

Several strips are dedicated for the most part to family life with the emphasis on the teenagers in the family. "Sally Forth," "Zits," and "Luann" are examples of this format. "Zits" really nails down the portrait of a teen age boy. It also shows how very different people can get along. The boy's best friend is Pierce for the obvious reason that he has many piercings on his body.

I like the loveable slob that is Sherman the shark in "Sherman's Lagoon" who likes to eat Hairy Beach Apes. There are an interesting group of characters that inhabit that place like the lobster who always has a get rich quick scheme.

"Pickles" chronicles the life of an older couple to which I can relate very well. I don't know if the creator is old or not, but he certainly has the issues of older age down pat.

I usually read most of the comics strips in the papers, but skip over some when it takes too much thought to figure them out or they are just uninteresting. Reading the comics, though, is a pleasure after fighting through the often tragic or disgusting news of the day.

Don't forget to vote on June 7 even if your choices are not mine.

—Steve Schlichter

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