

Crystal Springs United Methodist Church



Spirit

May–June 2013

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The Bishop's Message

April 16, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Just like you, I was shocked, saddened, and disturbed to see images coming out of Boston yesterday of our brothers and sisters in sheer panic after two bombs exploded during the Boston Marathon killing three people, including an eight-year-old boy, and wounding 176 people. Then, I awoke this morning to the news of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake in southeast Iran where at least 40 people are feared dead.

On this day, as an Easter people, no matter what is going on in the world around us, I'm reminded of Psalm 46 that says "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble." In the midst of the chaos yesterday, I also saw the images of men and women responding to those in need of medical care and assistance.

My colleague, Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, who presides over the New England Annual Conference and is the resident bishop of the Boston area challenged us yesterday with the following, "Even in the midst of such tragedies may we continue to strive for a world of peace and reconciliation, as followers of the risen Christ." The content of Bishop Devadhar's full letter to the New England Annual Conference can be read here.

When tragedy strikes, I know folks come into our churches seeking messages of hope and assurance. Here are some resources from our General Board of Discipleship to assist you this week as folks come looking for a calm assurance.

Last night I returned from Birmingham, Alabama commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." Dr. King penned this profound letter in the spring of 1963 to his fellow clergymen who criticized his work of non-violent resistance to injustice as "unwise and untimely."

Today, Dr. King's words still challenge us, and they are as relevant as ever, "When evil men plot, good men must plan. When evil men burn and bomb, good men must build and bind. When evil men shout ugly words of hatred, good men must

commit themselves to the glories of love."

My brothers and sisters, during this Easter season, during this time of uneasiness in the world around us, let us follow the Resurrected Christ and continue to build and bind, and commit ourselves to be living witnesses of love in our communities.

Grace and Peace,

Warner H. Brown, Jr.
Resident Bishop

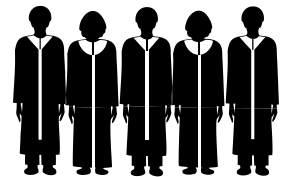
Choir Concert on May 9

The choir concert will be Sunday, June 9, 2013 during the 10:00 am concert. The choir sing several favorite anthems that we have sung during the past year. This will be the last Sunday that the choir sings. The choir will return in September.

There will be an envelope in the bulletin for the music fund. We are in need of funds to buy more choral music and to hire musicians to play at our services. Please be generous on Sunday, June 9 and help our the music fund with your contribution.

God Bless you!

Bill Alley



Volunteer for Home & Hope

HOME & HOPE offers homeless families safe, nurturing, shelter and support while working to regain their self-sufficiency.

Our church has agreed to provide meals and people to serve and stay overnight at Hillsdale UMC a few times a year. We need coordinators and volunteers for our dates.

There will be a Volunteer Training on May 15, 6:30–8:30 at CSUMC. Please contact Linda Litz (650-591-5041) for more information.

Pentecost Sunday: the 'Birthday of the Church'

Pentecost Sunday, which falls on May 19th this year, commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples, 50 days after His Resurrection.

Christ had promised the Apostles that He would send the Holy Spirit, and, on Pentecost, they were granted the gifts of the Spirit which would empower them to spread the Good News to the four corners of the world. This was evident as the Apostles began to preach the Gospel in the various languages spoken by the Jews gathered there for the Jewish festival from different parts of the Roman Empire. We are told about 3,000 people were converted and baptized that day. Many, no doubt, had been followers of Jesus

That is why Pentecost is often called 'the birthday of the Church' for on this day, with the descent of the Holy Spirit, Christ's mission was completed and the New Covenant inaugurated.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2013, we will have a birthday party for the church. Our sanctuary will have red and white balloons and lots of flowers.

We are inviting the congregation to bring presents to the church. The presents are supplies for the church. Some ideas of presents are: toilet paper, paper towels, office supplies, paper plates, paper cups, plasticware, reams of copy paper, soap, etc. I think you get the idea.

We will bring the presents to church on Pentecost and place them at the altar.

After the service we can celebrate Pentecost with a feast in the fireside room. There will be a potluck following the service.

One final request. The color for Pentecost is red. Please wear red on this very special day in the church.

Bill Alley, Music Director

Little Dresses for Africa

Thursday, May 16, 1-4 p.m.

Thursday, June 20, 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





GGRO Concert
Saturday, June 29, 3 p.m.
Crystal Springs UMC

Tickets: \$15

Sunday School Ends

As our Sunday School classes come to a close for the 2012/13 season, it is time to give thanks to all of our wonderful Sunday School Teachers. They are: Teresa Chung, Eric Humke, Esther Kim, Elizabeth, Emma, and Benjamin Kurr, Ivoni Maa-ma, Foa Mafile'o, Kathleen Maxwell, Andrew Norman, Susana Pau, Alex Reily, Judy Riedy, Tamara Rodney, and Erica Wynne.

A special thanks to Johanna Anton and Marsi O'Malley-Reily for teaching the "How to Read Your Bible" class to our grade school students.

We are grateful for our teachers who volunteer their time for the benefit and education of our children.

CSUMC will be hosting Vacation Bible School June 24th - June 28th from 5:45 PM to 8 PM.

We need your help with putting up flyers in local communities, preparing and serving meals to the children, setting up, and cleaning up each evening.

Teachers and Teacher's Assistants are also needed. A background check is required for all teachers and assistants, but not for volunteers.

A sign up poster will be set up in the fellowship room after our Sunday service. Please also email Ingrid Humke at iehumke@gmail.com if you would like to help out.

—Ingrid Humke



STEVE'S VIEW



Seven years ago this month we took a detour into a farm house in Lodi on our way to our cabin. The lady of the house kept dogs for NorCal Golden Retriever Rescue until they were adopted. A large female came out to greet us and soon jumped in our Suburban as we headed for the cabin. This was Amber, a 3 year old female. Amber was a big dog of about 80 lbs. Amber sitting in among spring daffodils was our first photo of her.

Amber did not take long to become acclimated both to our cabin life and our life here in San Mateo. She was a rare find. She had a gentle disposition, barked rarely, was good with kids, being very tolerant, and had a good command of English.

She had her quirks too. Early on she was an escape artist that figured out how to get under our fence or who had a regular route to explore the area around the cabin when we weren't looking. She demanded that I take her for a walk after breakfast at the cabin. Dog cookies and peanut butter were high on her list of snacks and she let you know when she wanted them. She pretty much ignored other dogs, preferring humans instead. Guests were always there to see her.

Amber fitted our lifestyle well and she was never a major

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(Steve, from page 2)

bother. Until her cancer she rarely had health issues.

Last December Amber wasn't her usual self so we took her to the vet. We got the bad news that she had a large tumor on her spleen. This type of cancer is very dangerous in dogs. We lost our first Golden to the same disease. The spleen and tumor were removed. We tried chemo too. March 19 Amber began bleeding internally and we knew we had lost the battle. Amber went to sleep in our arms.

The loss was immediate. No one came to tell us to let her out or to get up for her supper or to jump up beside us for daily hugs. We continued to step around her spots where she lay, but she wasn't there. We thought we heard her moving around, but we were mistaken.

We have gone through this six times before with our other dogs. It is never easy. This may have been the worst. Perhaps because we realize that we are at the same stage in life where bad things can happen quickly. There is a huge hole inside. We know it is only a dog, but that dog has been family for many years and was as devoted to us as we were to her. This is the first time we have been without a dog for over 40 years and life is not the same.

Not really a happy ending, but more of a happy beginning.. We decided to try one more Golden. No rescue dog this time since none meeting our age and gender requirements are available. So we are getting a four year old dog that was supposed to be a breeder, but has fertility problems. We are getting her from a breeder in Oregon. She will be spayed up there and will be here in about two weeks. Her name is Imp which we will probably change. She is a little smaller than Amber, but a very pretty dog. And so life will change once again.

—Steve Schlichter

Children of Abraham – “Laws and Punishments”

Richard L. Shafer

I've long been skeptical of parts of the Bible. For example, I've found it hard to accept the killing recorded in the Old Testament as divinely directed. It hasn't made sense to me that the Creator of all that is good (Genesis 1:31) would order some of his creation to slaughter others of his creation. Still, the most of the laws given in the Torah (the first five books: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) make some real sense, especially when viewed as rules of their places and times. The Ten Commandments apply today, and some in our society would have our nation's laws reflect and be based on those commandments alone.

Much of the New Testament is hard for me to accept as well—the miracles, for example. So, when asked to point to one part of the New Testament which really makes sense to me, I always select the Sermon on the Mount. Still, I'm troubled by Matt 5:30: “If your right hand causes you to sin, chop it off and throw it away. It is better to lose one part of your body, than

Caregiver Group Meets Monday, May 20 and Monday, June 17

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

Masterworks Chorale 2012-2013 Season

Glory, Passion, Betrayal, Revenge!

Aragon High School Theater
900 Alameda de las Pulgas
San Mateo

June 1 8 PM

June 2 4 PM

Great moments in Grand Opera...experience all the rich emotions of grand opera in this performance of opera choruses, arias, and duets. Celebrate the variety of opera, from tender love songs to rousing drinking tunes, from Mozart to The Mikado.

for your whole body to be thrown into hell.” What? Corporal punishment? What did he really mean?

Many of us in the west are uncomfortable with serious corporal punishment. But in some parts of the world where Islam is the principal religion, corporal punishment is occasionally practiced. In the Holy Qur'an (5:38), and several hadith, it is taught that theft is to be punished by imprisonment or amputation of hands. “As for the man or woman who is guilty of theft, cut off their hands as punishment for their crimes. That is the punishment enjoined by God.” Recall that the Qur'an was revealed to Mohammed in the 7th century CE. I am troubled by this passage just as I am about Matthew 5:30.

Several requirements must be met, under the scrutiny of judicial authority, before the amputation of hands can occur:

There must have been criminal intent to take private (not common) property.

The theft must not have been the product of hunger, necessity, or duress.

The goods stolen must be over a minimum value, not forbidden (e.g., alcohol), and not owned by the thief's family.

Goods must have been taken from private property or personal custody (i.e., not in a public place).

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PUMA Annual Dinner
Thursday May 16, 2013
6:30-9:00 PM

Doors open at 6 p.m.

**“Leadership Jazz: Giving Leadership
a Renewed Purpose and Freedom”**

**Inspiring Speaker
Great Dinner
Entertainment by New Vision**

**Rev. Greg Bergquist
Conference
Superintendent
for Leadership
Development**



Dinner is Served!

Green Salad	Potato Salad
Rolls	Chicken
Spiral Ham	Fish
Rice	Fruit
Cake	Beverages

Originally from Florida, Greg entered the ordained ministry after a career with Proctor & Gamble. He has been an ordained elder for 28 years, serving churches in Georgia, Texas and California. Greg has served Los Altos UMC as executive pastor, First UMC of Santa Rosa as senior pastor, and on the faculty at the PSR. Currently, Greg is appointed as the Conference Superintendent for Leadership Development responsible for developing a comprehensive program for clergy and lay leaders.

Tickets \$10 (under 6 years free); Available at the door

Burlingame UMC

1443 Howard Avenue, Burlingame

Reservations Required: Call 650-344-6321

or email burlumc@yahoo.com

(Shafer, from page 3)

There must be reliable witnesses. Last September it was reported that, “An Islamic sharia court in Zamfara State has sentenced two men to amputation of their right wrists for stealing a bull, with the amputation to be carried out in public if it is given final approval.” (<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2011/09/sharia-court-sentences-two-to-amputation-for-theft/>) “Sharia law is in place across 12 states in predominately Muslim northern Nigeria, but it is selectively enforced.” (Sharia law is based in the Qur’an and the hadith, as modified by Islamic courts. It provides those citizens an opportunity to live in a society where

their laws are based on widely held religious beliefs.)

In the Torah, we find the penalty for theft is considerably less severe: Restitution. See Exodus 22 for the passages which set out how much a thief must restore to the victim. According to the circumstances, the thief must repay 2 or 4 or 5 times the value of the theft. Deuteronomy 25:11-12 reports the only (to my knowledge) condition in the Torah when a hand “shall” be cut off. So: Do you think Matthew 5:30 is in any way related to Sharia law? Did Jesus have the Deuteronomy passage in mind during his Sermon? What exactly did he mean?

STEWARDSHIP
Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service

Prayers



Solomone Fukofuka, Loretta Fukofuka, Alexander Fukofuka, Roz Chan, Sivale's Family, Wynona, Tony Gasperich, Favre Eaton and 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, Linda Riedy, Mike Riedy, Monica Sheridan, Bill Seivert, Alexia Stoddard, Liliena Maama Pepa, Pat Allen, John Hauser, Sarah Crane, Sally Streeter, Russ Brown, Lois Scott, 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, Bob Eaton, Family of Earl Blake, Charlie, Dan Alfano, Nel Jordan, Carl and Ann, Ann Thomas and family, The Barrons, Dr. Lowe, Olivia, Bryce Vaysberg, Esther Kim, Paul Gonzalez, Linda and Eric Bickel, Our Troops, Our Government, North Korea, Boston, Texas, Iran, China.

Finances, First Quarter 2013

The total cash recieved was \$42,894.
 Total cash paid out was \$39,491.

Presence

(Attendance at church service)

3/3	56	4/7	51
3/10	55	4/14	44
3/17	62	4/12	54
3/24	61	4/28	50

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

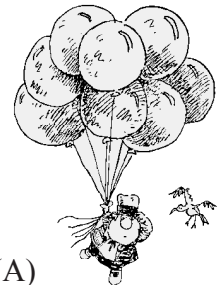
Samaritan House needs: disposable diapers, baby food, nonperishable foods, personal hygiene products, toys, games, blankets, towels, used automobiles and trucks in good condition. Put food, etc. in the barrel in the Fireside Room.

Our Purpose












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

May and June Birthdays and Anniversaries

May 1	Sue Mobley	Jun. 8	John Musgrave
May 2	Peter Weiglin	Jun. 13	Jeanette Hobbs
	Kathleen Wynne	Jun. 15	Paula Schlichter
May 12	Linda Litz		India & Jay Gay (A)
May 15	Meg & Art Taylor	Jun. 16	Jorg Aadahl
May 25	Lisa Horton	Jun. 22	Benjamin Kurr
Jun. 6	Inger Aadahl	Jun. 29	Janie Conrad
Jun. 7	Dick Madden	Jun. 30	Connie & Charlie Ritter (A)



May 2013

May 2013						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 10:00 a.m. 6 th Sunday of Easter 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	 3:30 p.m. Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	7 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	 1 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	2 6:00 p.m. PUMA Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA	3 7:00 p.m. AA	4 9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Work Day 11:30 a.m. San Mateo County 4-H Fashion Revue 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
5 10:00 a.m. 6 th Sunday of Easter 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	6 3:30 p.m. Children's Dancing  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	7 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	8  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	9 4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. AA	10 7:00 p.m. AA	11 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
12 10:00 a.m. 7 th Sunday of Easter 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop	13 3:30 p.m. Children's Dancing 5:00 p.m. Care Giver Support Group  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	14 9:00 a.m. 2 nd Harvest 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	 15 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 6:30 p.m. Volunteer Training (Hope & Home) 7:30 p.m. GGRO	16 1:00 p.m. Making Little Dresses for Africa 6:00 p.m. PUMA Dinner 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA	17 *Newsletter Deadline 7:00 p.m. AA	18 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
19 10:00 a.m. Day of Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop	20 3:30 p.m. Children's Dancing  7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	21 11:30 a.m. PUMA Clergy Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	 22 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:00 p.m. AdBoard Meeting 7:30 p.m. GGRO	23 7:00 p.m. AA	24 7:00 p.m. AA	25 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
26 10:00 a.m. 1st Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop	 27 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	28 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	 29 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	30 7:00 p.m. AA	31 7:00 p.m. Wesley Academy 7:00 p.m. AA	

June 2013

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
2 10:00 a.m. 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	3 3:30 p.m. Guitar Lessons 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	4 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	5 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	6 7:00 p.m. AA	7	1 9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Work Day 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	
9 10:00 a.m. 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop (1)	10 3:30 p.m. Guitar Lessons 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	11 7:00 p.m. AA	12 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	13 4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. AA	14 7:00 p.m. Wesley Academy 7:00 p.m. AA	8 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study 15	
16 10:00 a.m. 4 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop (2)	17 3:30 p.m. Guitar Lessons 5:00 p.m. Care Giver Support Group 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	18	19 *Annual Conference 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	20 *Annual Conference 1:00 p.m. Making Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA	21 *Annual Conference	22 *Annual Conference	
23 10:00 a.m. 5 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop (3)	24 5:45 p.m. VBS	25 5:45 p.m. VBS 7:00 p.m. AA	26 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 5:45 p.m. VBS 7:00 p.m. AdBoard Meeting 7:30 p.m. GGRO	27 5:45 p.m. VBS 7:00 p.m. AA	28 5:45 p.m. VBS 7:00 p.m. AA 7:30 p.m. GGRO Dress Rehearsal	29 GGRO 3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study	
30 10:00 a.m. 6 th Sunday after Pentecost 11:00 a.m. Fellowship							



When:

Monday June 24th through Friday June 28th
5:45 PM to 8:00 PM
Healthy dinner provided!
Open to youths 3 years old
through grade 12.

Where:

2145 Bunker Hill Drive
San Mateo, CA 94402
Please call (650) 345-2381 or visit
<http://www.csumc.org> to register.
Registration deadline: Friday June 1st.

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

May–June 2013

