

## Crystal Springs United Methodist Church



# *Spirit*

November–December 2013

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### Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,  
Christmas Greetings!

This is always such an amazing time for the people in our community to see and hear the message of the Gospel, and for us as members and friends of Crystal Springs UMC to come together with a spirit of unity. I would like to express my gratitude as I have seen such a spirit of unity as we have brought our talents and gifts together as a family of faith. I hope you are enjoying our new website: [www.csumchurch.com](http://www.csumchurch.com). Your prayers and efforts have an impact in our neighborhood! With your support and prayers, we can tell a new spirit is emerging at Crystal Springs. Thank you for your commitment.

As the Christmas holiday approaches and we celebrate the birth of God's only Son Jesus, we miss our friends, Joe Trimble, Glenna Hopewell, Don Burnside, Gary Weitzel and Todd Wees

who have gone ahead of us to eternal life. We also remember in our prayers family members who are sick and homebound.

Please enjoy the holiday season with family and friends. Also be sure to take time to be with us in worship during this Christmas 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. On page 2, 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 don't hesitate to invite your friends and family members to join us!

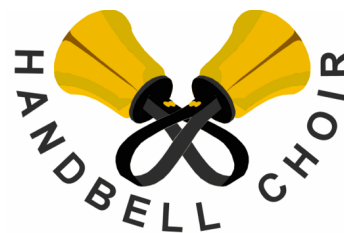
**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**  
**Peace,**  
**Pastor Hee Soon**

### Handbell Workshop

**Saturday, November 16, 2013, 10:00 a.m. to noon**  
**Crystal Springs United Methodist Church**

Please join us on for a handbell workshop. Our teachers will be Carla and Larry Sue. The class is for beginners. Reading music is not a requirement. Ringing handbells is for all age groups. I extend an invitation especially to children.

Please email me directly if you have any questions about the workshop. My email address is [parsifal5224@yahoo.com](mailto:parsifal5224@yahoo.com). If you wish to participate in the workshop, please send an email to [crystalspringsumc@gmail.com](mailto:crystalspringsumc@gmail.com)  
—Bill Alley, Music Director Crystal Springs UMC



### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Sunday, December 15, 2013, 10:00 a.m.**

Please join us on for our annual Christmas concert featuring the choir and Pamela Ravenelle, flute. A special collection will be taken to support our music ministry.

—Bill Alley, Music Director

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## SERMON SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2013

### PREACHING/CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/SCRIPTURE READING/CHANCEL DRAMA

#### 12/1 (First Sunday of Advent, Communion ): Joy of Living & Giving (1 Cor. 1: 3-9)

Children's Sermon: A Story of Carols -1(Kathleen Maxwell ) Scripture Reading: Kathleen Wynne

Advent Lighting: Erica's Family

•Mary's Baby Shower Begins – "Shoe Box Gift for Children"

•Advent Study Begins (The Journey, by Adam Hamilton, 5 weeks)

#### •12/4 (Wed.): Charge Conference (7: 00 PM)

#### •12/7 (Sat.): Advent Prayer Breakfast (9:00 AM)

Women's Tea (1: 00 PM at the Humke's)

#### 12/8 (Second Sunday of Advent): "Expect Miracle" (Isaiah 9: 2-7)

Children's Sermon:A Story of Carols-2(Kathleen M.) Scripture Reading: Elizabeth E..

Advent Lighting: Emma's Family

#### 12/15 (Third Sunday of Advent: Christmas Music Celebration Service): "Jesus Birthday" (Luke 1: 26-38)

Children's Sermon: A Story of Carols-3(Kathleen M.) Scripture Reading: Johanna

Advent Lighting: Kahalley's Family

#### 12/21 (Sat.): Christmas Drama : "Portraits of Christmas" (Steve Schlichter) (7:00 PM) Christmas Refreshments

#### 12/22 (Fourth Sunday of Advent): "Scandalous Love" (Hosea 3: 1-5)

Children's Sermon: A Story of Carols-4(Kathleen M.) Scripture Reading: Wynona

Advent Lighting: Alexandria's Family

#### 12/24 (Christmas Eve Service, 7:00 PM): "Jesus Wish List" (Mt. 25: 31-46)

Children's Sermon: A Story of Carols – 5(Kathleen M.) Scripture Reading: Ingrid H.

Advent Lighting: Emily's Family

#### 12/29 (First Sunday after Christmas Day): Guest Speaker: Hongki Kim

Children's Sermon: A Story of Carols – 6(Kathleen M.) Scripture Reading: Brian R.

#### 12/31: New Year's Eve Vigil, 9:00 PM – 1: 00 AM



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### Shoe Boxes of Joy

To share the joy of the season we are encouraging everyone to bring shoe boxes of joy to share a child. Think of a child who might be getting very little or nothing for Christmas and then imagine their delight at opening a shoe box full of small but fun toys. A boy might like some matchbox cars, a comic book and a yoyo. A girl might like barrettes or scrunchies, a small brush that she could keep in a pocket or purse, and a fun bracelet—and yeah, girls like comic books too. Or think of a teenager, maybe a set of colored markers and book on how to draw cartoon characters. Let your imagination go wild. Fill your shoe box and wrap it up and bring it to put under the Christmas tree. Write a description of the age and sex of the child you were making the box for and attach it to outside of the box.

### Little Dresses for Africa

Thursday, November 21, 1–4 p.m.

Thursday, December 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



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### Caregiver Group Meets

Monday, November 19 and Monday, December 16

The Caregiver Support Group meets in the Fireside room. 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

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## ADVENT STUDIES

**December 1st – 29th (Sundays, 11: 30 a.m. – 12: 30 a.m. at Fireside Room)**

**Led by Pastor Hee -Soon**

**DVD & Book: “The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem” (Adam Hamilton)**

This study will be a Journey with Adam Hamilton (The Pastor at the Church of Resurrection, Kansas City) as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. He is using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth.



The most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.

If you think you know the story of Jesus’ birth, think again! This wonderful Advent Studies set us on a journey to the times and characters of Christmas so that we experience the birth of Christ in our lives in a new way.

**Please register for it to the Church office: [crystalspringsumc@gmail.com](mailto:crystalspringsumc@gmail.com) or 650-345-2381.**

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### DEDICATE A POINSETTIA

**In Memory or in Honor of:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**No. of Pointsettias @ \$10 each**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Donator(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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### Food Drive

San Mateo County is an expensive place for folks to live. Many families live below the poverty level and cannot afford to feed their families. The holidays are especially hard for these families. During the month of November Crystal Springs United Methodist Church will be sponsoring a food drive. A large barrel with a sign will be placed outside the Fireside Room. Please place your donation in the barrel during the day. The deadline for your donations is Sunday, November 24. All of the donations will be delivered to Second Harvest. Any checks can be made out to the church. Below is a list of items that are needed:

#### Food Drive Most Needed Items

Non-perishable canned goods or dry food:  
Canned meats, fish, soup, fruits, vegetables  
Pasta  
Hot & cold cereal  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Rice  
Beans  
Peanut butter  
Personal care items:  
Diapers  
Toothpaste and toothbrushes  
Toilet tissue  
Soap

\* Please no glass containers or expired items.  
Bill Alley, Music Director



## **What is Extravagant Generosity?**

*What do you love about our church?*

*What is your vision and hope for our church?*

What influences you to express your love for God with generous giving?

Wow! Lots of questions! What are these for?

Beginning October 27<sup>th</sup> the members of Crystal Springs United Methodist Church will get to explore and celebrate what matters in our hearts and help answer some of these questions for ourselves and our church to see how we can extravagantly give to our church.

In preparation, you will be receiving emails and letters asking you to think about what you love about our church or what is your vision and hope for our church? You will get a chance to share your answers during our Church Service.

We will also be exploring which characteristics describe your giving to the Church. Is it prayerful, spontaneous, reflective? Does it represent your blessings, not leftovers? Is it proportionate to our means? And do we give cheerfully and joyfully?

There are many ways members share their love and blessings with our Church, including service and financial donations. We are excited to explore this program of Extravagant Generosity and look forward to sharing it with all of you.

Elizabeth Kurr and Finance Committee



## STEVE'S VIEW

There is a target rich environment of political issues that could be written about right now. There is the shutdown, the spectacular Obamacare startup, the continuing fiscal problems, and of course, the many scandals that have not yet been resolved.

But everyone is getting tired of the Washington follies so I will restrain myself this time around. The whole issue is complicated because Washington is so big and has way too much of our money. For now, that is not going to change.

I had my own little tangle with the state tax people recently, which illustrates the intrusiveness of government. For several years I have had to pay a small penalty for my estimated taxes even though I paid more than I owed. Never figured out what was going on until this year when I pressed the FTB for an answer. It seems that you can not pay equal installment as I have been doing. Now the law is 30%, 40%, 0% and 30%. So you have to pay tax on money before you have made it. This didn't seem right so I contacted my two state representatives about it.

I got an answer from one telling me what the law was (I already knew this) and did not comment on the poor policy of the state. But then I was surprised to see that he had listed the penalties I had paid over the last few years. He clearly had gotten access to my tax records. So I asked him where he got the authority to do that. So far no reply. I wrote to the tax advocate, but haven't heard from him either. Tomorrow I will talk to the other representative and see what he has to say. Just another hassle where the state in its wisdom doesn't try to make life easier for its citizens.

We are now visited regularly by two ravens. They eat seed spilled from our bird feeder, but prefer more substantial food like stale bread or even old dog food. We have named them Al and Jesse after our favorite race hustlers. They will fly off, if we go outside, but wait not too far away for us to leave them something. Sometimes we will get yelled at if we go out without any offerings. The ravens have done an excellent job of acclimating themselves to an urban environment. Ravens are among the smartest birds around.

The deer, after several years 'absence have returned to the area where our cabin is located. Have

not figured out what has happened. Perhaps mountain lions cut their numbers. Clover loves to run after them, chasing them off a ways and then returning to the cabin quite pleased with her self. Amber used to do this for awhile but at the end just ignored them. The deer just wait until Clover returns and then they come back.

Last month five of us traveled to Kansas City to attend the Church of the Resurrection UMC Leadership Institute. Thanks to Puma grants, three other churches joined us. There were many courses to be taken and we each attended those of interest to us. For a church this large, 19,000 in four campuses, they did an excellent job of putting this on. An annual budget of two million dollars allows them to have many missions.

The thing that impressed me was their fidelity to their church mission. Everything they do seems to work toward this mission. If it doesn't advance that mission they don't do it. They also seem to have feeling that they can do what ever they put their mind to do. Obviously they have impressive physical facilities, including a coffee shop.

We also got to tour another church whose pastor visited us several months ago when he was in the area. That church was only 2,000 people in size but in its own way impressive. The pastor along with his assistant pastors took us to dinner. He will preach in our church next March.

We all came back with new ideas that could help our church grow and perform our mission better. We will be meeting in the near future to pull our thoughts together so that we can share what we have learned. For example, their digital communication systems go a long way to helping their church. I will be meeting with Esther and Mike to see what we can use to help us in this area.

—Steve Schlichter

*Welcome new members:  
Paul Chung, Angela Chung,  
Grace Chung, Linda Lita,  
Don D'Elia and Johanna  
Anton.*





## STEWARDSHIP

### Prayers, Presence, Gifts and Service

### Prayers



VIM, Ivoni Maama and Family, Cosette Trombino Zugale, Sarah Crane, Jackie Schlichter, Barbara Phillips and Family, Araceli Martinez, Alan Coltart, James Goodwin, Eric Rivello, Sivale and Family, Cheryl Pierson, Kurt Andersen, Diane Musgrave, Leslie Brown, William Orrechiaand Family, Rick Vernali, Sungsim Park-Moskewicz, Tony Gasperich, Carl, Bill, Paula, Phil Riedy, Nancy Tamburello, Sally Brown, the Fergusons, Carson, Mike Riedy, Monica Sheridan, Bill Seivert, Liliena Maama Pepa, John Hauser, Sally Streeter, Russ Brown, Ken Fortich, 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, Iran, China, Syria, Egypt.

### Finances

Through 10 months of 2013, CSUMC received \$114,133.13 from all sources and has paid out \$114,015.36. The good news is that this includes a higher percentage of our share of Conference apportionments than at any time in the last several years.

### Presence

(Attendance at church service)

9/1 - 57	10/6 - 53
9/8 - 57	10/13 - 47
9/15 - 48	10/20 - 53
9/22 - 50	10/27 - 44
9/29 - 52	

### 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.

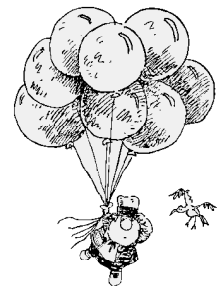
**Samaritan House needs:** disposable diapers, baby food, nonperishable foods, personal hygiene products, toys, games, blankets, towels, used automobiles and trucks in good condition. Put food, etc. in the barrel in the Fireside Room.

### *Our Purpose*

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


### November and December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Nov. 2     Bev & Dick Madden (A)	Dec. 2     Emily Humke
Nov. 3     Brian Rausch	Dec. 3     Sivale Saekua
Nov. 4     Brigitte Shearer	Dec. 12    Wally & Carrie Rutherford (A)
Nov. 6     Thomas Schultz	Dec. 16    Matt Rodney
Nov. 11    Julia Grace Wynn	Dec. 17    Connie Mobley-Ritter
Nov. 13    Will D'Elia	Dec. 18    James Paquette
Nov. 16    Jennifer Mattes	Laura & Conor Johnson (A)
Nov. 19    Pete Shearer	Dec. 20    Ellen Pearce
Nov. 20    Jeff Riley	Dec. 25    Nicky Mobley-Ritter
Nov. 22    Alex Riley	Dec. 28    Karl Pope
Nov. 25    Diane Musgrave	Dec. 31    Steve Schlichter
Nov. 28    David Rodney	




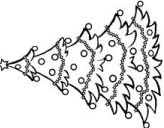



# November 2013



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3</b> 10:00 a.m. All Saints Day 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	<b>4</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>5</b> 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	6 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>2</b> 9:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Church Work Day 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
<b>10</b> 10:00 a.m. Multiculture Appreciation Sunday 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	<b>11</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>12</b> 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	13 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>14</b> 4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>15</b> *Newsletter Deadline 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>16</b> 4:00 p.m. 4-H Cooking 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
<b>17</b> 10:00 a.m. Commitment Sunday 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	<b>18</b> 3:30 Dancing 5:00 p.m. Caregiver Group 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>19</b> 9:00 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Harvest 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	20 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>21</b> 1:00 p.m. Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. CPM Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>22</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>23</b> 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
<b>24</b> 10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Sunday & Friends Sunday 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	<b>25</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>26</b> 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	27 9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>28</b> Happy Thanksgiving Day! 	<b>29</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>30</b> 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

# December 2013

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b> 10:00 a.m. First Sunday of Advent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Advent Studies (1)	<b>2</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>3</b> 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>4</b>  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:00 p.m. Charge Conference 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>5</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>6</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>7</b> 9:00 a.m. Advent Prayer Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Church Work Day 1:00 p.m. Women's Christmas Tea 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
<b>8</b> 10:00 a.m. Second Sunday of Advent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Advent Studies (2)	<b>9</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>10</b> 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>11</b>  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>12</b> 4:45 p.m. Safe Harbor 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>13</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>14</b> 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
<b>15</b> 10:00 a.m. Christmas Music Celebration & Third Sunday of Advent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Advent Studies (3) *Newsletter Deadline	<b>16</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 5:00 p.m. Caregiver Group 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>17</b> 9:00 a.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Harvest 11:30 a.m. PUMA Clergy Meeting 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice	<b>18</b>  9:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Meditation 7:30 p.m. GGRO	<b>19</b> 1:00 p.m. Little Dresses for Africa 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation Workshop 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>20</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>21</b> 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Christmas Drama: "Portraits of Christmas"
<b>22</b> 10:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Advent Studies (4)	<b>23</b> 3:30 Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>24</b> 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Children's Program	<b>25</b> Merry Christmas! 	<b>26</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>27</b> 7:00 p.m. AA	<b>28</b> 6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study
<b>29</b> 10:00 a.m. First Sunday after Christmas Day 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Advent Studies (5)	<b>30</b> 3:30 Children's Dancing 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Meditation	<b>31</b> 10:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Vigil 				



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## *The story of Renaissance Christmas Carols*

There are some beloved carols that we have been singing to celebrate the birth of Jesus since the Renaissance. During the advent season we will be singing these carols once again and learning more about the stories that inspired the carols themselves.

<b>First Sunday</b>	<b>December 1</b>	<b>O Come, O Come Emanuel</b>
<b>Second Sunday</b>	<b>December 8</b>	<b>The Holly and the Ivy or I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In</b>
<b>Third Sunday</b>	<b>December 15</b>	<b>Good Christian Men Rejoice</b>
<b>Fourth Sunday</b>	<b>December 22</b>	<b>While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>December 24</b>	<b>Good King Wenceslas</b>
<b>Sunday after Christmas</b>	<b>December 29</b>	<b>12 Days of Christmas</b>

To keep us in the spirit of the renaissance we will add the castle decorations and banners back to the sanctuary in addition to the traditional decorations.

We will also be creating a special Christmas banner on the Friday and Saturday after the Thanksgiving holiday. If you would like to help with this project call Kathleen at 650-274-8858.



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

**November–December 2013**

