



THE IVY VINE

"An open mind and a devout spirit"

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER, 2011

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

The church council is calling a congregational meeting for Sunday September 18th for the purpose of making a change in the United Church of Cloverdale's by-laws. We have had 3 people serving on the nominating committee but wish to change that to 5 people. Please plan to remain after church briefly to vote on this change.

ANNUAL CHURCH BARBEQUE

by Polly Lile

Come one and come all, to our end-of-summer church barbeque on Sunday, September 11th. It will be held after worship service and in our parking lot if it is not a hot day. If it is scorching outside, we will gather in Fellowship Hall. Please bring your own table service and a "side" or a dessert to share. The Congregational Life Board will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments and beverages. Hope to see you there.

MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

by Marilyn Michelon

When we think of change in our lives, it puts us on alert! Is it going to be good or traumatic? Will it start us on a positive and happy path or will we regret it and long for the past?

When change is sudden and unexpected, it seems we kind of go into shock and are unable to move. We feel uncertain, confused and maybe alarmed. It takes awhile before we can think clearly and move ahead. If we know that change is necessary or unavoidable and we have time to plan for it, we can gradually feel more at ease with what will happen and can even anticipate it with hope and excitement for the future.

Here at United Church, many changes are happening. It may seem to some that it is taking a long time. By design, it is a gradual process so that we can plan deliberately where we want to be and how we can make wise decisions for our church. The more of our membership that is involved in making these decisions and changes, the more comfortable we can be with the outcome. Your ideas are needed and welcome. Please make time to come to the Forums, cottage group meetings, Council or Board meetings, or talk to the pastor and each other.

Your tool for survival this month is a candy mint to remind you that you are worth a mint to your church family, United Church of Cloverdale!

PEOPLE PAGE

O God, We lift up prayers for:

Health, Healing and Comfort:

Bert DiNoto-Spence, Lori Serrano, Diane Sigala,
Bob Jordan, Gary Murray, Helen Stewart,
Flossie Gallegos

Please communicate your prayers of Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Care Needs to the Church Office. For urgent Pastoral Care needs, please contact Marilyn's home (894-2849) or Cell (236-0806) phone.

Birthdays

9/1 Wanda Ebel
Thea Greenhalgh
9/5 Charlotte Lewis
9/6 Maya Biery
9/9 Carl Westenberg
Ehren Werner
9/16 Conny Welch
9/20 Cary Fraser
9/24 Claudia Clow
9/26 Carol Romero
9/27 Lori Serrano
9/28 Carolyn Crandall
9/30 David Romero
Helen Smith

Anniversaries

9/4 Audrey & Lew Dick
Dolly & Ron Garrison
9/7 Cary & Bob Fraser
9/9 Sue & Mark Tharrington
9/17 Denaire & Mike Nixon
9/26 Jeannine & Mike Pendleton
9/27 Debbie & Mike Shanahan
9/30 Madelyn & Clay Ketchum

Flowers

9/4 Carolyn Crandall
9/11 Dolly & Ron Garrison for Anniversary
9/18 Jean & Tom Clark
9/25 Grace Dilley

Greeters

9/4 Diane DeVerte
9/11 Available
9/18 Available
9/25 Available

Coffee Hour Hosts

9/4 Available

9/11 Church BBQ
9/18 Congregational Life Board
9/25 Available

Lay Readers

9/4 Bob Timm
9/11 Tom Clark
9/18 Richard Werner
9/25 Jean Craig

Counters

9/4 Art Jewett & Ginny Corzine
9/11 Ginny Corzine & Bette Jewett
9/18 Bette Jewett & Laurie Kneeland
9/25 Laurie Kneeland & Nikki Lane

Ushers

9/4 Nikki Lane, Mike Shanahan,
Richard Werner, Holly Werner
9/11 Jean Craig, Eddie Bentall,
Bob Timm, Grace Dille
9/18 Tom Clark, Jean Clark,
Mary Dixon, Laurie Kneeland
9/25 Jerry Huot, Art Jewett,
Nikki Lane, Mike Shanahan

Communion Servers

Ginny and Bill Corzine
Jean Craig & Bob Timm

Communion set up & clean up

Laurie Bilbro

The Ivy Vine is the newsletter of
United Church of Cloverdale,
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Sunday Worship 9:55 a.m.

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Editor's Note: Articles for the Ivy Vine should be submitted to artjewett@earthlink.net by the 15th or the month preceding the publication date.

PASTOR'S PAGE

by Wr'near Wilcox

Genesis and Family Systems

Shortly after my arrival as your (part-time) Interim Minister last November, some of you may remember my speaking (both within our weekly “sacred conversations” during Worship and here in the *Ivy Vine*) about the importance of our being aware of *synchronicity*, which is another way of saying we should be looking for the mysterious ways in which the Holy Spirit uses what we might otherwise think of as “coincidences” as the opportunity to attune us to the spiritual potential within our everyday experience.

Recently (beginning in Late June and continuing throughout most of July and August), we were given a set of lectionary readings from the Book of Genesis, consisting of a set of stories that speak eloquently to the timeless nature of “family systems” relationships.

The synchronicity of hearing again some of these timeless, archetypal stories, here within the family system of the United Church of Cloverdale, has not escaped me, and I am assured that many of you have noted this also. For me personally, it is a reminder of why the Interim Ministry Network, in its training of transitional ministers, has placed such emphasis upon “family systems theory” in its curricula.

As I have worked with your Transition Steering Team (the TST whom you selected in ballots placed early this year), I have noticed a growing awareness of the presence of “family systems dynamics” which take place in the everyday activities and interactions within this congregation. This can be very useful in learning to handle some of the negative emotions we all experience from time to time, and the TST is looking forward to the upcoming cottage groups which will be meeting for the first time (other than at last week’s Public Forum) in the upcoming month or so. (Each cottage group will be planning their first meeting so as to accommodate as many of its members as possible.)

Back to the synchronicity of Genesis – As we heard in biblical story after story, hurt feelings, jealousies, betrayals, and a host of negative relationship issues were time and again revealed as a potential for witnessing the faithfulness of God on behalf of those who eventually recognize and own up to their own roles, strengths, and weaknesses, in conflict after conflict. Why should it be any different for us here in this time and place? And it begins with facing and talking through the breach in relationships that have occurred here. As Roberta Hestenes, one of the participants in Bill Moyers’ series *GENESIS: A Living Conversation*, put it:

“One of the realities of a broken relationship is that if there’s no move to healing, if what you do is run away from it, then that moment gets frozen in time and perhaps even amplified.”

Yes, it is time for a thaw to take place, for an ending of blame, denial, or escapism, and a decision to embrace the very love that has always had the capacity to bring out the very best in any family, regardless of its troubled history.

My prayer for each of you is that, like the TST before you, you will embrace the opportunity to dialog within a safe and receptive cottage group, moving a giant step toward your participation in a new and effective future ministry blossoming here in Cloverdale.

Wr'near

STEWARDSHIP

by Carol Huot

As stewardship chairperson, I have been doing some reading and thinking about stewardship. Last year David Bergman Hill gave a wonderful sermon, which some of you heard and others missed. I have hard and digital copies of it if anyone would like to read it. He spoke of a spiritual journey, about giving and generosity that could transform your life.

We all have a relationship with our money- what to spend, what to save, and what to give and many worry that it won't be enough.

I looked at the UCC theme this year "Count Yourself Blessed" and it helped me to put things in perspective. Although our nation is in turmoil and day to day we are all concerned with its financial and economic problems, in retrospect we need to look around and say to ourselves, "everyday I am blessed," and be thankful for all we do have instead of worrying about what we don't have.

Most of us wake up to fresh clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, and a roof over our heads. Are we blessed? YES!

I remember when we were once asked to do random acts of kindness; it was fun and caught on with many to be more thoughtful of others.

I would like you to think of ways you have been blessed and make a list for yourself. It reminds me of the lyrics of an old tune, "When I'm worried and I can't sleep, I count my blessings instead of sheep and I fall asleep counting my blessings."

WAYS TO SERVE

by Marilyn Michelon

Chances to help to make a difference in our church, are many! This month we will be having a short but important meeting to change the by-laws, as you can read elsewhere in this newsletter. It will provide leeway for more of you to serve on boards and committees if you have a special interest. I am always encouraged to see that people are enthusiastic to serve when it is something they love to do! That is what we need!

Oktoberfest is quickly approaching and requires ALL of us to participate in some way. Please offer to serve where you will have fun. Contact Laurie Kneeland or Jacquie Gross to volunteer. Oktoberfest is being planned right now. YOU are needed!

We are still trying to raise money to frame our historic pictures of all past pastors of United Church. If 10 people each give \$10 we would have it! Please consider it. Designate the contribution to the Photo Restoration Fund.

Thanks to Kirk Bilbro and Jean Craig for sorting through the Bank Deposit Box and making decisions about the contents which are being reorganized and secured. Paula Bentall and Andy Grose worked on a Document Retention Policy so we all will have guidelines to follow when saving documents.

Thanks to Richard Craig, and other trustees, for their ongoing work on replacing shingles on the south side of the building.

United Church appreciates you and all you do and all you give. Thank you!

TRUSTEES

by Bob Timm

The exterior shingle renewal on the south side of the Fellowship Hall building and final sealant is progressing well, thanks to Rich Craig's work.

Yard cleanup day on August 6 following men's breakfast was very successful; lots of overgrown and derelict ivy was removed (and it will grow back). Thanks to all who came to lend a hand!

A preliminary professional opinion on foundation settling in the narthex area suggests it may be due to lack of soil drainage, begun when the new parking lot was installed and soil became more compacted. We're proceed to see if we can get soil testing done in hopes of finding an appropriate remedy.

The Trustees greatly appreciate all boards and others who have pitched in and helped clean the interior of the various church buildings.

We remind all who have keys to the office / thrift shop building not to loan them to others who do not understand how to shut off the burglar alarm system!

MISSION & OUTREACH

by Barbara Goepel

September is the month that UCC will hear about the Wallace House Shelter and all the services they provide for homeless and very low income people. Helping people get back on their own with dignity by providing emergency shelter, transitional housing, and some low income units is their mission. We have invited someone from Wallace House to share "MOMENTS for MISSIONS" on September 11th and 25th during the church service. There are many ways we can support the work they do by donating toward meal tickets, laundry, and transportation vouchers. Please lend your support.

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT ON SEPTEMBER 24

by Janice Timm

Trio de Mar of Mendocino County will be performing at United Church in September. Put together by Sue Goodman, impresario of the Fort Bragg Chamber Music Series, Trio de Mar includes Beth Aiken, oboe, Elizabeth MacDougall, piano, and Eve Kidwell, Bassoon. Beth and Elizabeth perform with the Ukiah Symphony, and Eva and Beth perform for the Symphony of the Redwoods. Elizabeth MacDougall is familiar to our church as a favorite substitute musician for Sunday mornings.

The trio will perform music by Poulenc, Stamitz, Diamond, and Telemann. The September 24 concert is at 7:00 pm. Admission is a \$15 donation, \$10 for students. Mark your calendars now for this special concert!

STUDENT CLASSROOM.....STOCKED!

by Lavonne Blucher-Nameny

Mission and Outreach handed over the results of the "Stock a Student Classroom" to the principals of Jefferson & Washington schools on August 11. The generous citizens of Cloverdale donated 580 pounds of supplies. And hang on to your seats we received \$920 in cash donations. YIPPIE! So after the schools get started and have an idea of additional supplies they need, we will go on a super shopping trip. The teachers are thrilled, and M&O is thrilled. Thanks to all who participated.

FINANCE BOARD

by Andy Grose, Jean Craig & Jim Nameny

Finance Board Report for July,				
General Fund				
	Budget	Yr to Date Budget	Yr to Date Actual	Difference Actual - Bdgt
Income				
Pledged	\$71,820	\$41,895	\$42,301	\$406
Other Income	\$41,485	\$24,200	\$26,071	\$1,871
Total Income	\$113,305	\$66,095	\$68,372	\$2,277
Expenses	\$113,306	\$66,095	\$63,684	-\$2,411
Excess (Shortage)	-\$1	-\$1	\$4,688	\$4,689

We continue to exceed our budgetary targets through July, although, as usual, there are some timing issues involved. However, based upon current status, and budgetary expectations, we have a good chance to end the year in the black.

There is a major caveat to this, and that is that we must have a successful Oktoberfest. Many people are working very hard to make this happen, but they are still looking to fill some key roles. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall, or contact Laurie Kneeland or Jean Craig, and they'll find an activity that you'll enjoy. It's a fun event so let's all join in!

The Finance Board has been diligently working on writing up the various policies and procedures related to our Board's mandate. Kudos, especially to Andy and Jean, who are doing most of the heavy lifting here.

We plan to initiate our budgeting process for 2012 fairly soon. We will be asking the relevant boards and committees for input. We are hoping for a robust response, as this aids our understanding of next year's financial needs.

HEAVEN'S CLOSET

by Barbara Goepel

There are so many people to thank for helping our shop, it would take too much time to acknowledge everyone by name. There is one special lady though, that has worked so hard at cleaning the shop windows outside front and back that I want to say thank you to Madelyn Ketchum, for working so hard for the Thrift Shop. Thank you everyone for all the donations and dependable service. Our shop is a regular stop for many people.

We may have a small yard sale in conjunction with the fall "bag sale" this year. If you will keep that in mind when cleaning out things as the weather cools it would be great. This is a perfect time to go thru Christmas decorations that are no longer used. We could offer those items for sale.

Now I want to mention the kids garden!!!!!!!!!! The Sun Flowers are so beautiful; have you seen them? They are spectacular. Come by to take a picture, and when you come to see the flowers, step into Heaven's Closet. There are spectacular buys in there!

GETTING TO KNOW US, (an exploration of who we are)

Bill Corzine – interviewed by Lori Serrano

When you first meet Bill Corzine, you are immediately drawn in by his warm friendliness and easy smile. Once you begin to converse with him, you are struck by his compassion for others, deep thoughts, and down-to-earth sense of humor. As Bill says, humor is the “seasoning” that adds so much to life.

Bill was raised on a 160-acre farm, close to the small town (pop. 1500) of Assumption, IL. This farm was where he learned about hard work and responsibility. During WWII he was needed by his father to run the family farm. In 1947, Bill began studying at the University of Illinois, majoring in Agriculture. He met Ginny at the Wesley Foundation where they were both active members. In 1949 they were married, and now have shared 62 years of happiness!

Bill has had 3 principal professions. First, was farming. Next, after graduating in 1956 from Yale Divinity School, student work at the University of Wisconsin and then Sacramento State. In 1961 Bill moved to Nashville where he worked as national adviser to the Methodist Student Movement. As he says, the 1960’s were turbulent and challenging times. He worked with students, promoting peace and civil rights, participating in such events as the march in Selma, Alabama, with Rev. Martin Luther King. In 1964 Bill led a Latin America travel/study seminar of nine U.S. students through six countries where they interviewed key people involved in social/political change. This involved extensive travel in Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil.

But the travels didn’t end there! In 1967, Bill and the family (4 boys by now) moved to Geneva, Switzerland, where Bill for a year planned an international conference for the World Student Christian Federation held in Turku, Finland. The family’s next move was to California, where Bill earned his PhD in Human Behavior. This led to career #3, as he opened his own office for family counseling, and also worked for a time at a Kaiser Chemical Dependency Clinic.

Finally came the year to retire. Bill and Ginny were looking for a small town with a rural flavor, and finally chose Cloverdale where they were drawn to the U.C.C. One of his projects here was to help create the Cloverdale Senior Center that benefits so many of this community. Bill has also helped at U.C.C. with the Thrift Shop and was part of a writing group at the Cloverdale Senior Center. Central components of Bill’s journey are his 4 sons and their families (including 5 grandchildren). Bill and Ginny are very close with their family, and enjoy traveling and visiting with them as often as possible.

Bill is a great example of someone who personifies a devoted Christian, and what our church stands for; open and welcoming to all, with a strong commitment to helping others in our community, as well as concern for our world situation.

Next Month, Bill will report on Bob Goepel

DIACONATE

by Jean Clark

Altar Flowers - If you would like to bring flowers for the altar to celebrate a special event (birthday, anniversary, graduation, etc.) or to share some flowers from your garden, you can sign-up on the flower chart in Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, contact Dolly Garrison (894-0418). (Editor’s note: In order to have your donation in the Ivy Vine, please sign up before the 15th of the month prior to publication.

October 2, 2011 – Blessing of the Waters – Pastor Wr’near invites anyone traveling during the month of September to bring water back from their trip. (If you traveled earlier this year and brought back water, please bring that to church on Sunday Oct. 2.) This water will be used for renewal of Baptismal vows.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

by Jean Craig

UCC Contributions 1-1-2011 thru 7-31-11

Fund Description	Pledged	Unpledged	Total
GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	36,707.30	5,359.07	42,066.37
Time & Talent	0.00	6,469.00	6,469.00
Yard Sale	0.00	1,451.95	1,451.95
Building Rental	0.00	2,189.20	2,189.20
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	1,701.88	1,701.88
United Methodist Trust Fund	0.00	6,789.87	6,789.87
Flowers	0.00	373.50	373.50
Substitute Musician	0.00	695.00	695.00
Camp Caz Donations	0.00	50.00	50.00
Camp Caz Fundraisers	0.00	701.65	701.65
Roundtable/Cookbooks	0.00	10.00	10.00
NCNCUCC Share	240.00	530.00	770.00
Food Pantry	0.00	409.45	409.45
One Great Hour of Sharing	0.00	631.00	631.00
JrHi Yth Fundraisers	0.00	46.00	46.00
Heiffer	0.00	169.00	169.00
Oktoberfest	0.00	45.00	45.00
Preservation&Restoration Chase	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Historical Photos	0.00	100.00	100.00
Council On Aging	0.00	291.00	291.00
Music Ministry	0.00	200.00	200.00
Building Maintenance Deposit	0.00	430.00	430.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	3,592.00	894.00	4,486.00
Thrift Shop Income	0.00	11,095.31	11,095.31
	40,539.30	45,631.88	86,171.18
Non-Cash Contributions	0.00	1,748.69	1,748.69

TRANSITION STEERING TEAM

by Marilyn Michelon

The TST had their sixth meeting on Friday, July 29th at the home of Art Jewett. We had a short discussion about changes that need to be considered in the church by-laws. A committee to work on that will be appointed by the Council this fall.

The main point of discussion was the forming of the "cottage groups". Bob Timm worked to assure that there was a random selection of members for each group. We drew names to choose the leaders of each. Calls were made subsequently to invite all participants to the August 27th forum.

At the Forum, held in the church's Fellowship Hall, everyone met in his or her "cottage group" with their TST leader. Six questions were asked of each person, requiring a written response. The purpose of these was to learn of each person's appreciation and perception of United Church and its role in their lives. Answers were shared with group members.

This was an important step in our transitional process together. The small groups are scheduled to begin in October and then about every four months. If you have not yet expressed an interest in being in a cottage group, it is not too late. Just speak with Pastor Wr'near, or one of the TST members; Bill Lambert, Art Jewett, Lavonne Blucher-Nameny, Bob Timm, Polly Lile, Marilyn Michelon, Tom Clark, or Richard Werner.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, September 1

10 am, Congregational Life - Conf. Room
7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 3

8 am, Trustees Meeting - Fellowship Hall
8 am, Men's Breakfast - Star Restaurant
9:30 am, Diaconate Meeting - Conf Room
10 am, Christian Education - Youth Rooms

Sunday, September 4

9:55 am, Communion Service - Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 6

11 am, Mission & Outreach - Conf Room

Thursday, September 8

7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 11

9:55 am, Worship Service - Sanctuary
4:30 pm, Youth Group Meeting - Youth Rooms

Monday, September 12

7 pm, Finance Meeting - Conf Room

Wednesday, September 14

9 am, Project Linus - Corzine Home

Thursday, September 15

7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 18

9:55 pm, Worship (Pennies) - Sanctuary
4:30 pm, Youth Group Meetings - Youth Rooms

Wednesday, September 21

8:30 am, Women's Breakfast - Star Restaurant
7:00 pm, Council Meeting - Fellowship Hall

Thursday, September 22

7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 24

7 pm, Trio de Mar Concert - Sanctuary

Sunday, September 25

9:55 am Worship Service - Sanctuary

Thursday, September 29

7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall

CHOIR NEWS

by Janice Timm

Celebration Choir begins regular fall rehearsals on Thursday, September 1, 7:30-9:00 pm.

New singers are always welcome! Contact Janice Timm or any choir member if you have questions.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

by Holly Werner

Sunday School: Sunday school resumes on Sunday September 11th.

Sunday School Teachers Needed: Our school year starts in September and we need teachers to lead our children. This is really a rewarding activity as the children are delightful! We need 5 or 6 volunteers. Each teacher takes a 4 to 6-week session. The lessons are easy to organize. Everything you need is in the Leader's Guide and training is provided. Please call Holly at 894-4738, or talk to her after church.

YOUTH GROUP REPORT

Youth group resumes on September 11th. Holly and Dave are our youth group leaders. If you know of a young person, 6th -12th grade, let Holly Know. Or bring them to one of our meetings. Youth group meets every Sunday (except holiday weekends) from 4:30 - 6:00 in the Sunday school building. Call Holly for more information.

Ray's Receipts: Just a reminder to keep bringing in those Ray's receipts. Ray's gives non-profits 1% of the total. Now that might not seem like much, but when you add up all the receipts over the course of a year it can add up to quite a bit. The money from the Ray's Receipts goes into the Camp Caz fund and is used to provide partial scholarships to our church children who go to camp. Camp costs for Caz are from \$325 to \$450, and for Tam are \$250. So you can see why scholarship money for these campers is helpful. Thank you to all of you who bring in your receipts!

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