

THE IVY VINE

April 2022

God is Still Speaking Volume 17 Issue 4



Dear Church Family and friends,
During this season of Lent, we have been utilizing a devotional entitled 'Full to the Brim: an expansive lent' which was prepared by the creative team at A Sanctified Art. The *Full to the Brim* theme was intentionally created to remind "us to live fully – as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude." Additionally, it encourages us to "increase our capacity to receive and give grace" and to be open to discovering "the expansive life God dreams for us." And it is "an invitation to be authentically who" we "are" as "we allow ourselves to be filled to the brim with God's lavish love," a love which, in turn, will spill "over..." reaching "beyond ourselves" and "touching everything in its path."

With this in mind, for the month of April, I invite you to receive the following blessing:

*Throughout each day,
may you be awestruck by the beauty in this world.
May you laugh, and may it be contagious.
May you overflow with love for those around you.
May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.
And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.
Amen.*

With blessings and love,
Pastor Jen



Leadership Council Highlights

February 22 Council Meeting

- * Welcomed Jone Wesele and John Phillips as our new at-large Council members
- * Appointed Richard Werner to fill the remaining 2 years of Andy Grose's term as Co-Moderator
- * Learned that United Church's location will be a mid-morning stop on World Relief's Pedal to Resettle bike ride fund-raiser, scheduled for Saturday, June 18.
- * Confirmed our special offering opportunities for 2022: La Familia Sana (month of March); High School Scholarship (April 24); UCC Neighbors in Need (October 2); Wallace House (month of October) and One Great Hour of Sharing.

March 27 Council Meeting

- * Designated World Relief's Sacramento area refugee resettlement program as recipient of the net proceeds from our 2022 Easter Flower gifts.
- * We are seeking anyone who might wish to be our congregation's delegate at our UCC Northern California Nevada Conference's annual meeting, to be held June 17-19. See below for details.
- * Noted that our Conference Minister, Rev. Diane Weible, will be our guest preacher at our Sunday worship service on April 24.
- * Confirmed that the formal installation of Rev. Jen Collins as our pastor is scheduled for Sunday, May 22 at 4:00 pm (in place of our usual Sunday morning worship service). Our UCC Golden Gate Association is participating in this service which has been delayed for these many months due to the COVID pandemic.

Annual Meeting of the Northern California Nevada Conference – UCC Theme: Learn. Love. Act. June 17-19, 2022

We are seeking members who may wish to attend this meeting, which will be held in-person at Sonoma State University's campus. (Hybrid options including Zoom rooms and virtual attendance are also available).

United Church has budgeted funds to reimburse costs of registration and lodging for anyone who may wish to be our church's delegate. Our Conference is composed of 113 local churches, stretching from Eureka to Tulare, Monterey to Reno.

For more information about this wonderful opportunity, see <https://ncnucucc.org/annual-gathering/> and talk to Pastor Jen or one of our Co-Moderators.



Our Music Director, Beth has brought her Harpsicord, it's in the sanctuary, when you get a chance have a look at this beautiful instrument!



4/6 Reopening Committee Meeting, 10:30am, Fellowship Hall
 4/17 Pennies From Heaven (during worship services or online giving)
 4/24 The Rev. Dr. Diane Wieble, Conf. Minister Preaching
 4/28 Thrift Shop Closed
 5/1 Council Meeting, after church

Weekly Activities

Wednesdays 1-2pm Choir Rehearsal Fellowship Hall
 Thursdays & Saturdays Thrift Shop Open 10-2
 Tuesdays & Fridays NA Meeting 7:30pm Education Bldg.
 10am Sundays In-person Church Services in the sanctuary
 (also available on Zoom and our YouTube Channel)

Save the Dates

5/22 Pastor Jen's Installation Service & Church 4pm
 6/18 Peddle to Resettle



Gale Ladd 4/1
 Gene Lile 4/7
 Catalina Nash 4/17
 Norma Reilly 4/19
 Jerome Wolter 4/20
 Rich Craig 4/23
 Alice Sheperla 4/26

Online giving available
 thru our website at
uccloverdale.org.
 Just click on the give
 button!



Pennies From Heaven
 On the 3rd Sunday of each month during our worship service we collect an offering we call "Pennies From Heaven." Many of our church family save up their loose change each month to bring to church, all the monies collected are then used to support Heifer International. With our donations we help families all over the world!

If you have a story you want to share and/or any photos please submit to uccoffice@sbcglobal.net
 We would love to share it in the next newsletter!

Wednesday Prayer at 10 AM



Hold In Prayers
 We continue to hold in prayer Jerome Wolter; Norma Reilly; Carol Fancher (Pastor Jen's Mom)
 Kathy Truelson's sister Melinda, Paul Lane; Lynn Gertenbach; Jilloni, Stacey and her husband Wyatt Castagnetto and Family



Subscribe

NOURISHING HOPE THROUGH COMMUNITY
FRIDAY 1:00 - 3:00 PM
 202 COMMERCIAL STREET
 (COMMERCIAL AT SECOND)
 CLOVERDALE, CA



Everyone is welcome to access the food Pantry
 No ID or income verifications required!

Ivy Vine Contact Information
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 Articles for The Ivy Vine? submit to the uccoffice@sbcglobal.net by the 20th of the month preceding the publication date. Articles submitted after the deadline without prior approval will be published the following month.



Reminder: If you choose to support refugees through Pedal to Resettle, you are reminded to make sure you are donating to this year's campaign (2022) and team (United Shepherds).

UCC has teamed with Church of the Good Shepherd to take the challenge to support World Relief as they resettle refugees in the greater Sacramento Area.

This is how to participate. **Support** the team or a team member with a donation or **join** the team. No matter how you choose to participate, the **first step** is to log on to <https://worldrelief.org/sacramento/pedal-to-resettle/> Click REGISTER which will take you to the Pedal to Resettle 2022 screen. Then decide which option you want (1 or 2).

1. **Support** the team or team member. Scroll down to **Support a Cyclist**. Select the option to see all *teams* or see all *individuals*. Click on who you want to support, and follow the instructions.
2. **Join** the team, click REGISTER again. In the pop-up window, select **Join a Team** and then choose **United Shepherds**. The next window will tell you to register as a Resilience Rider, but don't worry if you don't want to ride a bicycle. As you get further into the registration process you define your own challenge for the month of June. Just follow the steps. Once you register, you will be asked to create your own fundraising page (include your photo, your reason for participating and a description of your personal challenge). You can then send a fundraising letter to your family and friends.

If you want more information about World Relief, or if you have problems with any part of registering, call Lavonne Blucher-Nameny (707-477-8373) and she will help you out.

For Easter, we will decorate the front of our sanctuary with beautiful calla lilies and then deliver them to home-bound members and those needing a little extra TLC. It is also a way for all of us to remember those “saints” who have gone before us, or those “saints” and “angels” who are now present in our lives.

How it works:

You decide how many memorials or “plants” you want to purchase at \$12.00 each. Fill out the form (Legibly, please!) with how you want your memorial to read. Drop them in the offering plate at church or in our secure mailbox or mail your payment and form to the Church office or go to our website ucloverdale.org and fill out the flower form and hit submit and then pay by clicking the GIVE button. The Worship & Sacred Space Team then purchases a set number of plants and oversees delivery of them to our home-bound members. Any extra money collected will be donated to fund World Relief Sacramento.

The deadline is April 10th

I/We wish to purchase _____ Memorial Flowers at \$12.00 per plant/name.

Please make checks payable to
United Church and mark them “Flowers.”

In memory of

In honor of

Your name(s)
(as you want it listed in the bulletin)

Phone number _____

Total \$ _____

All our COVID 19 protocols on church campus will remain in place until further notice.

**Reopening committee meets April 6th,
watch for updates via the bulletin and email.**

- **Coffee Hour temporarily suspended**
- **Saturday and Wednesday morning breakfast are temporarily suspended**
- **Mask required**
- **Practice social distancing**
- **Self screening for symptoms before coming on church campus**
- **Hand sanitize and wash hands often**

Please Note: These apply to everyone, whether you have been vaccinated and received the booster or not.

***Thank you for helping us maintain our commitment
to provide a safe place for all!***