



THE IVY VINE



February 2018

God is Still Speaking

Volume 13 Issue 1

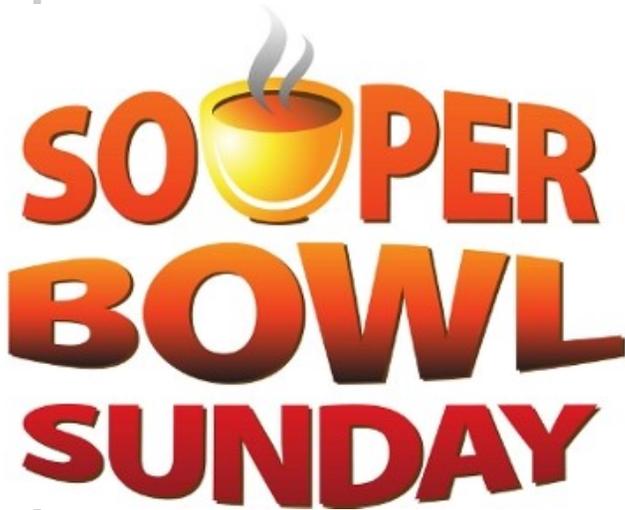
A Monthly Publication of the United Church of Cloverdale
 An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ (UCC)
Continuing Testament Extravagant Welcome Changing Lives

Hearts and Ashes submitted by Jen Collins

This year Ash Wednesday - which is also the first day of Lent - falls on February 14. The last time it fell on February 14 was in 1945. After it happens again in relatively quick succession in both 2024 and 2029 it will not occur again until 2170! As a result, we truly have a unique opportunity this year to focus on our individual relationship with God and to reflect on God's everlasting love for each of us. The UCC website shares that "self-examination, study, fasting, prayer and works of love are disciplines historically associated with Lent. Conversion—literally, the "turning around" or reorientation of our lives towards God—is the theme of Lent." This Lenten season I invite you to intentionally focus on your individual relationship with God and to consider the following questions: "What do I need to release?"...and "What do I need to receive in order to remove any obstacles that keep me from growing closer to and strengthening my relationship with God?"



"Ashes to Go" on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018
 Rev. Jen Collins will be available at the church office
 between 9:00 am – 2:30 pm to provide ashes for anyone
 who wishes to receive them.



**SOUPER
BOWL
SUNDAY**

Souper” Bowl Sunday is February 4th! Please bring cans of soup (preferably pull top open) to church with you, there will be a collection tub in the sanctuary and the cans are then delivered to the food pantry! UCC runs the Food Pantry in the month of February! If you would like to help out contact Jerry Huot at 707-894-3179



During Jack’s leave Jen Collins will be our acting interim Pastor, she will be in the office on Weds from 9-1:30pm and by appointment as needed, she is available for any pastoral needs such as hospital visits or home visits or any church family in need support! You can call her cell at 951-454-9911

The Kitchen and Pantry are now locked over the weekends due to facility rentals. If you feel you need a key or want more information contact the office at 707-894-2039.

Annual Meeting is Feb 25 after church services! Deadline for team reports is February 2nd. Please submit your report even earlier if you can. I have so many responsibilities and this is a big job that coincides with a lot of other things happening in the office, such as newsletter. Annual meeting is followed by our annual soup luncheon!

Thoughts From the Moderator

As I come to the end of my year as your moderator, I'd like to share some thoughts with you. First let me say it has been a privilege to serve our congregation this year. At our annual meeting next month I will be replaced by Bob Timm, perhaps the best prepared moderator in my 12 years as a member of this wonderful church. So, the future is in good hands. But what of the future? When Rev Molly Baskette, author of "Real Good Church," visited us last year, she expressed optimism about our future. But let us keep in mind the prediction from Molly and other engaged observers that probably only 20% of the mainline churches today will survive in 20 years. How do we be one of those? Molly does not offer any magic solutions. But clearly there are givens such as financial health, shared commitment, hard work, and the presence of the Holy Spirit in all that we say and do. We were given a wonderful opportunity not just for survival but for on-going health and mission with the Hovsepien bequest. The question for us in 2018 is whether we will use that gift simply to survive or will we use it to thrive. Survive or thrive? That is the question. To simply survive means to put off the day of reckoning, not to avoid it. I think we are on the cusp of that dichotomy and this is a critical period. We will proceed and succeed or not according to whether we all commit our time and talents as well as financial resources. As we age as a congregation, it becomes more difficult to do all that needs doing. But failing to do so will surely lead to the demise of our church. We still have time, but not unlimited time. We need renewed commitment. We need to recognize that the leadership jobs must be filled and that the many tasks of mission require many hands. When we are asked to volunteer for a job but think, "let someone else do that, I'm burned out," look around and ask who else. The answer? As the hymn says, "It is I Lord."

As we approach our 150th birthday, It is we, Lord. Give us the strength to be there!
Andy

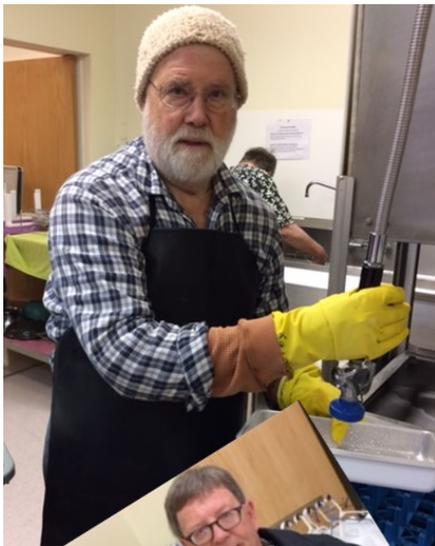


CHS Breakfast

Every Friday morning during the school year, a group of dedicated volunteers arrive to serve the CHS students a healthy and delicious breakfast. They cook, serve and clean up afterwards. (During the week, there is also a group who shops, sets up for the breakfast, and puts away the dishes afterwards.) They include people from UCC, Good Shepherd, Kiwanis, Community-at-large, and even a CHS graduate who began eating breakfast on day 1, and now returns to serve breakfast!



Program Volunteers



Pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, pizza, fruit, sausage, bacon, hash browns, coffee, juice, milk, tea.

An invitation to be a part of our 2018 ...

Time and Talent Dinner
Saturday, April 21, 2018 – 5:30 pm
“Breakfast at Tiffany’s”

Our Time and Talent Dinner and Silent Auction is an annual event at United Church. **It is the major fundraiser for our church**, as well as a time to enjoy good food with family and friends.

EVERYONE is encouraged to offer a donation and / or participate in some way. If you feel hosting an event is too much for you; please consider asking someone to partner with you...many hands make light work. A **Donation Form** is included below.

Here are some suggestions for donations:

Service: Bouquets of flowers delivered to someone’s home; “4 hours of “Mr. Fix-It””; baked goods, delivered; a brunch/dinner delivered or served at purchaser’s home; dump run; cord of wood, split and delivered; art or craft class; massage; a caregiver’s day out, car wash.

EVENTS: HOST A BACKYARD BBQ; A THEME DINNER OR BRUNCH FEATURING REGIONAL, SEASONAL, OR ETHNIC DISHES; A CARD PARTY; WINE TASTING & HORS D’OEUVRES; COOKING CLASSES; A HOLIDAY EVENT, SUCH AS HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY OR A CHRISTMAS TEA; ORGANIZE A FIELD TRIP TO AN EVENT OR POINT OF INTEREST (SERVE PICNIC LUNCH AND ACT AS TOUR GUIDE); GOLF TOURNAMENT; TAILGATE PRE-BALLGAME PARTY.

Silent Auction Items: Popular items have included a weekend “get-away”, a bottle of premium wine, cakes & pies, arts and crafts, gift certificates (vet services, massage, haircut, restaurants. etc.), a gift basket, herb garden, and movie theater or concert tickets. We’ll charge an appropriate amount for your offering to benefit the church. **Please, NO “White Elephants” or “Priceless Art”.** Think **“This is something that I would like to buy for myself”.**

INVITE FAMILY and FRIENDS! Reservation are encouraged...contact the church office.

When you host an event, the money you spend on the event is tax-deductible; you should fill out a Non-Cash Contribution Form with your receipts attached and submit it to the Treasurer after your event. Your expenses will be show on your Statement of Giving to United Church. The form is available in the church office or contact the Church Treasurer.

----- clip and submit -----

Donation Form
Time and Talent Dinner - Saturday, April 21, 2018
“Breakfast at Tiffany’s”

I / We offer the following for:

Event **Service** **Silent Auction** **(Please write legibly)**

Description (be specific):

Event **Date(s):** _____ Event **Time:** _____

It is best to have dates finalized. We ask that you do not indicate TBA (to be announced)

EVENT LOCATION: _____

Number of people, items/services: _____ Event Cost per person: \$ _____

Estimated Market Value: \$ _____ Suggested Minimum Bid: \$ _____

Donor’s Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Place this form in the Sunday offering plate, or return it to the Church Office not later than Friday, March 30th.

MEETINGS & EVENTS



2/3 Men's breakfast 8am	Zini's Diner
2/7 Project Linus 9:30am	Corzine Home
2/11 Indivisible Group Meeting 3-4:30pm	Fellowship Hall
2/14 Ash Wednesday	Office
2/18 Council Meeting, After Services	Fellowship Hall
2/21 Women's Breakfast, 8:30am	Zini's Diner

REGULAR BUILDING USE

Sundays

10am Morning Worship	Sanctuary
5-8 pm Casa de Christiana	Sanctuary
NA Meeting 7pm	Christian Education Bldg.

Monday-Friday

"The Flour Girl"	Kitchen & Pantry
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Tuesday-Friday

Church Office is Open 8:00am-1:30 pm

Tuesdays

Coro de Paz Children's Choir 4pm	Fellowship Hall
Music Together 5:30pm	Fellowship Hall
Celebration Choir rehearsals 7pm	Fellowship Hall
NA Meeting 7:30pm	Christian Education Bldg.

Wednesdays:

Music Together 10:30am	Fellowship Hall
Teen Clinic 1:30-4pm	Fellowship Hall

Thursdays

Thrift Shop Open 10am-3 pm

Fridays

High School Breakfast 7-7:45am	Fellowship Hall
Casa de Christiana Bible Study 7pm	Sanctuary
NA Meeting 7:30pm	Christian Education Bldg.

Saturdays

Thrift Shop Open 10am-3pm	
Music Together Class 10:30am	Fellowship Hall



Tom & Jean Clark	2/08
Kirk & Laurie Bilbro	2/24



Birthdays

Beverly Westenberg	2/1
Don Graddy	2/2
Colleen Tyler	2/7
Jilloni Hopkins	2/10
Cyril Colonius	2/12
Doris Hedglin	2/13
Judy Warren	2/14
Jacquelyn Peterson	2/26
Victoria martinuea	2/27
Nancy Randolph	2/28

Ivy Vine Contact Information

The United Church of Cloverdale 439 N. Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale, CA 95425

Phone: 707-894-2039 Fax: 707-894-4015; Website www.uccloverdale.org

Minister: Rev. Jack Dawson, cell phone 209-329-4971

clovepastor@sbcglobal.net

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Proof Readers: Jean Craig and Lori Serrano

Articles for The Ivy Vine? Submit to the uccoffice@sbcglobal.net by the 15th of the month preceding the publication date. Articles submitted after the deadline without prior approval will be published the following month.

We Hold in Prayer

Lori Serrano; Conny Welch; Barbara Sibio; Nancy Randolph
Holly' Werner and family; Shelby Kennedy; Jules and Mary Volper;
Paul Lane; Roy & Mimi Domke; Bob & Barbara Goepel
Bill & Ginny Corzine; AmyJo & CoRina Hendrickson; Jilloni & Rodney Hopkins
Jack and Pamela Dawson & their Family



*No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

UNITED CHURCH OF CLOVERDALE

Church phone: 707-894-2039

439 N Cloverdale Blvd

CLOVERDALE, CA 95425

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MY CHECKLIST FOR FEBRUARY

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- ◇ Time and Talent Donation Form
- ◇ Ashes to Go