

THE IVY VINE

July & August 2023

God is Still Speaking Volume 18 Issue 5



Dear Church family and friends,

I invite you to join me in praying and contemplating the following prayer by Gwyn Cashmore and Joan Puls, throughout July and August:

God of surprises,
You call us
From the narrowness of our traditions
To new ways of being church
From the captivities of our culture to
Creative witness for justice
From the smallness of our horizons
To the bigness of your vision
Clear the way in us, your people,
That we might call others to freedom
and renewed faith.
Jesus, wounded healer,
You call us
From preoccupation with our own
histories and hurts
To daily tasks of peacemaking
From privilege and protocol
To partnership and pilgrimage
From isolation and insularity
To inclusive community.
Clear the way in us, your people,
That we might call others to
wholeness and integrity.
Holy, transforming Spirit,
You call us
From fear to faithfulness
From clutter to clarity
From a desire to control to deeper trust
From the refusal to love
To a readiness to risk
Clear the way in us, your people,
That we might all know the beauty and power
And danger of the gospel.
Amen.



With blessings & love,
Pastor Jen

Hi All,

Thank you so much for your support of our Pedal to Resettle lunch stop.

All the cyclists were so appreciative - it was fun to talk with them. And it was great so see them all sit down and take time to enjoy the rest and the snacks we provided. (That's pretty much been our experience over the past years we've done a lunch stop.) One of the women from World Relief said "This is amazing to see them stop and enjoy a break and nourishment. Usually they just pull in, check their tires, and have some water. This was a fun event." No wonder UCC gets kudos for providing a great lunch stop.



And everyone loved the bell ringing to celebrate the riders.

Lavonne & Jim



Thank you to everyone for sharing your photos!



(More photos page 3)



Thank you to everyone who participated raising money and who supported the lunch stop!



(More photos page 4)



The scholarship program has been in place for 8 years and in that time we have given 10 awards. The discrepancy in the numbers is due to the fact that we cannot always narrow it down to just one winner. We have had very good candidates! The award that we give is for \$1000 per year for 4 years and is possible due to money that was set aside at its inception along with some very generous donations. Serving along with me, on the selection committee are Jim Nameny, Marilyn Michelon, Jules Volper and Bev Westenberg. We all agree it is our favorite committee.

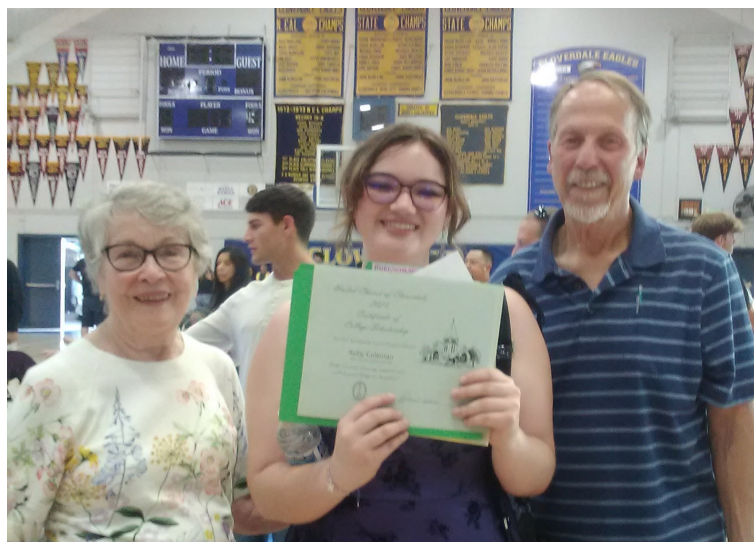
What makes this our favorite committee is of course the candidates. They give us hope and joy. We search for candidates with empathy, compassion and a sense of justice. We prefer to find candidates who are the first in their family to attend college. Our winners often speak of their desire to make their parents or family proud and express their desire to make life better for disadvantaged and marginal groups. They are so optimistic and willing to do something. They are thankful too.

The winner this year is Ruby Coleman. Ruby will be attending SSU this fall with a major in psychology. She has a goal to be a counselor and work with young people. Our committee was impressed with her perspective regarding her own struggles and family dynamics leading to her desire to help smooth the path for teenagers and children in similar situations. Additionally, Ruby has a clear sense of social justice and the challenges that face certain groups in our society. She will speak for those who voices are not heard.

During the ceremony last month at the high school, I had the pleasure to present Ruby with her award. Below is an excerpt from that presentation that I think sums up our feelings for this very deserving candidate.

We search for a person with compassion who has a strong social conscience and will use their talents and education to help others. This year's recipient displays those qualities and many more. We are impressed with her passion, her maturity and perspective, and her dedication to family and friends.

It has been a pleasure to serve on the Scholarship Committee. We can all be very proud of our selection.



Food Pantry June 2023



Thank you to everyone who pitches in to support the Cloverdale Food Pantry in-front and behind the scenes!

Thrift Shop

Things are changing and growing in the Thrift Shop. We are now accepting credit cards and have purchased hand baskets so our customers have an easier time shopping! We have worked out a plan to rotate stock and are taking suggestions from our volunteers and customers and collaborating and brainstorming together to come up with ideas to grow and increase our outreach in the community! We are open to your ideas/suggestions. If you wish to share with the committee you can email Jilloni, Pastor Jen, Linda or Holly.

We have specific needs for teams to sort items and volunteers to handle the schedule. If you can help please reach out to one of the team members! You can pair up with a friend and work as a team on so many of the things we do in the thrift shop! Even if you have never volunteered in the Thrift Shop before you are welcome and we would love to have your support!



Thrift shop Donation Requests for items for use in the store:

- storage bins
- felt hangers (thin)
- racks for hanging clothes
- Feather Flag



We need assistance from as many individuals as possible with our expanding Heaven's Closet Thrift Store ministry, and we invite people to sort items for the store on days we are not open to the public. Please contact Jilloni and/or Pastor Jen if you and/or others you know are able to help in any way whether in person and/or from home. Additionally, we ask that you keep this vital ministry in your prayers—Thrift Store Guiding Committee—Jilloni Hopkins, Holly Werner, Linda Clapp, and Pastor Jen Collins.

Persist WITH PRIDE



**We had our Special Pride Service on Sunday June 18th and
Linda clapp did a beautiful rainbow themed coffee hour!**



5th Sunday Service

Sunday July 30th we will have a service of worship, prayer, meditation, contemplation, reflection, etc. It will be in the place of the regular 10:00am worship service. There will be readings, music, and time for silent reflection - a time for personal worship and communion with God.

All people are invited to attend, regardless of religious affiliation or belief. Please, invite your friends and neighbors and come together in the sanctuary of the United Church of Cloverdale, on zoom, or via You Tube on that Sunday at 10:00am.

The Church Administrator , Jilloni Hopkins will be out of the office starting June 28 and will return in mid-August. If you have any immediate needs contact one of the Moderator team, Marilyn Michelon, John Phillips , Richard Werner or contact Pastor Jen.

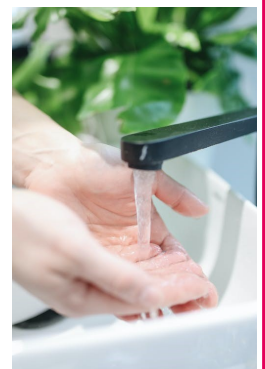
Alter flowers guide/request: Those who bring altar flowers are greatly appreciated. The arrangements always add a lovely touch to the altar decoration. With this in mind, the church has had a recent request regarding flowers brought in for the altar.

When choosing flowers for the altar please avoid choosing strong-smelling flowers such as lilies, lilacs, Narcissus, and the like. Some church members are scent-sensitive and strong-smelling flowers can bring on migraines, asthma, or other reactions. Again, thank you for your floral contributions to the look of the altar and sanctuary.

If you haven't brought in flowers for the altar in a while, please consider signing up on the chart in Fellowship Hall.

COVID & Flu Season Updates:

- ⇒ **Masks are optional with the exception of the office. Please wear a mask in the office!**
- ⇒ **Please continue to be mindful of social distancing and hand washing and/or sanitizing.**
- ⇒ **If you are feeling sick or experiencing any symptoms, Covid, flu, etc. please refrain from coming to the church campus.**
- ⇒ **If you or a household member test positive for Covid please quarantine for 10 days from onset of symptoms and do not return to church campus until you and other household members all test negative.**
- ⇒ **Please notify the church office, Pastor Jen and/or one of the moderator team if you learn you have or might have exposed others, or you have been exposed to covid yourself while on church campus or when off campus at a church related activity.**
- ⇒ **Office will remain by appointment only**



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

July & August CALENDAR (ALL ARE WELCOME)



7/1 & 8/ 5 8:00am Breakfast, Zini's Diner
 7/16 & 8/20 Council Meeting, After worship
 7/28-mid –August Office Closed
 7/13 & 8/10 6:30pm Ukelele Group, Fellowship Hall
 7/19 & 8/16 8:30am Wednesday Breakfast , Zini's Diner

Weekly Activities

Mondays Tai Chi 9:45am at City Park
 AA Book study 7:30pm Education Building
 Tuesdays & Fridays NA Meeting 7:30pm Education Building
 Wednesday- Silent Prayer 10am (all are welcome to join in-person or in spirit)
 Thursdays & Saturdays Thrift Shop Open 10-3
 Sundays In-person Church Services 10am Sanctuary
 (also available on Zoom and our YouTube Channel)

Ethel Muttart 7/1
 Janice Timm 7/1
 Laurie Kneeland 7/4
 Mimi Domke 7/7
 David Randolph 7/7
 Bill Lambert 7/10
 Jules Volper 7/10
 Jenessa Wheeler 7/10
 Andy Grose 7/16
 Camille Volper 7/30
 CoRina Hendrickson 7/31
 Talia Nash 8/3
 Tui Wesele 8/3
 Jaquie Grose 8/17
 Brooke Greene 8/19
 Ryan Bilbro 8/23



Gus & Cindy Wolter 7/8
 Jim & Lavonne Nameny 7/9
 Gene & Polly Lile 7/15
 Don & Louise Graddy 7/17
 Carl & Bev Westenberg 7/26
 Jules & Mary Volper 8/15
 Andy & Jacquie Grose 8/17
 Rich & Jean Craig 8/27



Hold In Prayers

*We continue to hold in prayer
 Gus Wolter; Jilloni Hopkins; Melissa, Madelyn's granddaughter;
 Ukraine and all those impacted;
 United Church of Cloverdale and all members & friends of our church*

Cloverdale Food Pantry

Fridays 11am to 1pm

**June is our month to run the food pantry!
 To volunteer contact Polly Lile!**

**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

The United Church of Cloverdale

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YouTube Channel United Church of Cloverdale

Church Administrator: Jilloni Hopkins, uoffice@sbcglobal.net

Articles for The Ivy Vine? submit to the uoffice@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.