

THE IVY VINE

June 2021

God is Still Speaking Volume 16 Issue 5

United Church of Cloverdale



We Were Made For These Times

Dear Church family and friends,

This month I would like to share the following excerpt from *We Were Made For These Times* by Clarissa Pinkola Estes.

My friends, do not lose heart. We were made for these times. I have heard from so many recently who are deeply and properly bewildered. They are concerned about the state of affairs in our world now. Ours is a time of almost daily astonishment and often righteous rage over the latest degradations of what matters most to civilized, visionary people.

You are right in your assessments. The lustre and hubris some have aspired to while endorsing acts so heinous against children, elders, everyday people, the poor, the unguarded, the helpless, is breathtaking. Yet, I urge you, ask you, gentle you, to please not spend your spirit dry by bewailing these difficult times. Especially do not lose hope. Most particularly because, the fact is that we were made for these times. Yes. For years, we have been learning, practicing, been in training for and just waiting to meet on this exact plain of engagement.

I grew up on the Great Lakes and recognize a seaworthy vessel when I see one. Regarding awakened souls, there have never been more able vessels in the waters than there are right now across the world. And they are fully provisioned and able to signal one another as never before in the history of humankind.

Look out over the prow; there are millions of boats of righteous souls on the waters with you. Even though your veneers may shiver from every wave in this stormy roil, I assure you that the long timbers composing your prow and rudder come from a greater forest. That long-grained lumber is known to withstand storms, to hold together, to hold its own, and to advance, regardless.

In any dark time, there is a tendency to veer toward fainting over how much is wrong or unmended in the world. Do not focus on that. There is a tendency, too, to fall into being weakened by dwelling on what is outside your reach, by what cannot yet be. Do not focus there. That is spending the wind without raising the sails.



We are needed, that is all we can know...Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach. Any small, calm thing that one soul can do to help another soul, to assist some portion of this poor suffering world, will help immensely. It is not given to us to know which acts or by whom, will cause the critical mass to tip toward an enduring good.

What is needed for dramatic change is an accumulation of acts, adding, adding to, adding more, continuing. We know that it does not take everyone on Earth to bring justice and peace, but only a small, determined group who will not give up during the first, second, or hundredth gale.

One of the most calming and powerful actions you can do to intervene in a stormy world is to stand up and show your soul...To display the lantern of soul in shadowy times like these - to be fierce and to show mercy toward others; both are acts of immense bravery and greatest necessity.

Struggling souls catch light from other souls who are fully lit and willing to show it. If you would help to calm the tumult, this is one of the strongest things you can do. There will always be times when you feel discouraged. I too have felt despair many times in my life, but I do not keep a chair for it. I will not entertain it. It is not allowed to eat from my plate.

The reason is this: In my uttermost bones I know something, as do you. It is that there can be no despair when you remember why you came to Earth, who you serve, and who sent you here. The good words we say and the good deeds we do are not ours. They are the words and deeds of the One who brought us here. In that spirit, I hope you will write this on your wall: When a great ship is in harbor and moored, it is safe, there can be no doubt. But that is not what great ships are built for.

(Clarissa Pinkola Estes is an American poet, post-trauma specialist and Jungian psychoanalyst, & author of Women Who Run With the Wolves.)

I believe that we - the United Church - are indeed a great ship made for these times. It is up to each us to ensure that we keep standing up and displaying our "lantern of soul."

With a grateful heart
for each of you,
Pastor Jen





Pastor Jen's Installation & Golden Gate Association Spring Gathering

**Saturday June 12, 2021 at 10 am
Join us in person at church**

or on zoom from your home

ZOOM ID: 825 6279 6553

If you wish to watch the whole service you will need to bring your own device
(cell phone, Tablet or Laptop).

If you do not have a device we can pair you with someone who does! Contact the office!

Contemplative Worship

The Rev. David Starbuck Gregory, CCC Tiburon.

Installations

The Rev. Jen Collins, United Church of Cloverdale, UCC.

The Rev. Dr. Carol Manahan, Community Church of Mill Valley, UCC

Presentations

Pray Their Names, with the Rev. Katie Morrison, FCC Sonoma San Francisco Night Ministry with Rev. Valerie McEntee.

Business

Election of GGA Officers and budget approval

For information: uccoffice@sbcglobal.net or call 707-894-2039

We will be celebrating Pastor Jen's Installation on
a later date(June 27th) We will share more

information as the date gets closer!

To use the Zoom ID: Open the Zoom app, and type in the meeting ID in the box.

RSVP by email to Uccoffice@sbcglobal.net or by phone 707-894-2039



**The Granddaughter of Jean & Rich Craig
Graduated Class of 2021!
Congrats Talia Nash!**

You may have noticed the painted half barrels around town. This was a project done thru Jefferson & Washington Schools. Our barrel was painted by a kindergarten student and her family! It will be ours to care for thru the summer!



Notice the QR code on the front. Come by and scan it and see where it leads you!

I created this display of flags in honor of memorial day! There are more days to celebrate and I would love ideas and/or help creating some displays for the front lawn! We essentially have "ocean front property" and we need to use it to engage with our community and be seen and heard! Lets stand out in a variety of ways!

Our next holiday will be 4th of July, if you have any ideas please share them by email to uccoffice@sbcglobal.net or by phone 707-894-2039 to Jilloni Hopkins Church Administrator



Re-Opening and Covid Updates

Although the state of California is relaxing the Covid Protocols the re-opening committee has decided at this time to keep our own church protocols in place.

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

1. If you are not feeling well please do not come to the church campus for any reason.
2. If you have been around anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19 (**this also applies to having contact with someone who has potentially been exposed**) please refrain from coming to the church until one of the following has occurred:
 - a. Get a Covid-19 test (With Negative results); or
 - b. Stay at home for 10 days.
3. Wear a mask at all times when on the church property.
4. Maintain safe social distancing between individuals from different households.
5. Wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer on a regular basis.
6. Office is Available by Appt. Please knock on the door or window to be let in or met outside.

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

Additional Updates

- We will be resuming Coffee Hour June 27th but it will look a little different. We will have the snacks individually portioned out for you to enjoy.
- We will be putting sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall for Coffee Hour Hosts, Greeters and Altar Flowers.
- We will be having Pennies From Heaven on the 3rd Sunday of each month, which we use to support Heifer International.
- The survey results showed that our church family is comfortable singing in church with masks on during this time. If you have any concerns about this please contact the office at uccoffice@sbcglobal.net or 707-894-2039.
- The office is working hard to re-vamp the usher, counters and reader lists. I will be contacting the pre-pandemic participants to see if they are willing and able to continue but we always welcome new people. If you wish to join contact the church office.



Like us on
Facebook

6/1 Lou Enge
6/2 Mary Volper
6/7 Madelyn Ketchum
6/7 Hannah Sharp
6/7 Richard Werner
6/15 Polly Lile
6/21 Julia Nash



Wednesday Prayer at 10 AM

Subscribe



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

[Give](#)



Hold In Prayers
Darlene & Bruce Reuser and Family
Jen Collins & Family, Mimi Domke
Conny Welch, Hannah and William
Jim Nameny and Lavonne Blucher-Nameny
All the First Responders for Covid -19
**We continue to hold in prayer
all our church family**

6/12 Pastor Jen's Installation 10am, Sanctuary
6/18 NA Meeting 7:30p, Education Bldg.
6/20 Pennies From Heaven at Services
6/27 Celebration of Pastor Jen's Installation (After Church)
Weekly Activities
Fridays NA 7:30pm Education Bldg.
Sundays In-person Church Services in the sanctuary
(also available on Zoom and our YouTube Channel)



**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!**

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!

Ivy Vine Contact Information

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YouTube Channel United Church of Cloverdale

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Articles for The Ivy Vine? submit to 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.