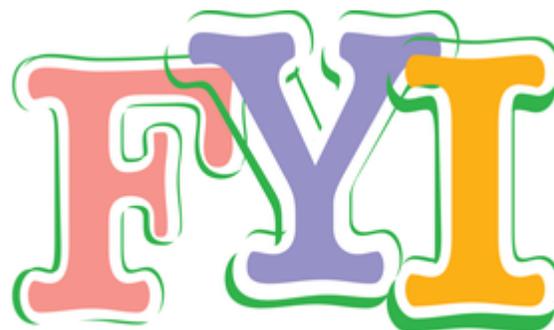


Come and Receive Ashes

Lent is upon us. March 6th is Ash Wednesday. I will be in the Sanctuary from 10 am - 12 noon and from 1pm - 3 pm on that day to dispense Ashes. If you would like to receive Ashes, come by during that time.

Blessings,

Jack



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

Notes from Council and Annual Meeting

The newly elected Moderator is Richard Werner and the Moderator Elect is Louise Graddy. Each will serve one year in their respective offices.

New cushions are being purchased for the back pews of the sanctuary.

The Hall restroom in the office/thrift shop building has been designated as a gender neutral accessible restroom and will be open during church events and meetings. Changes are being made in the format of the Time 'n Talent fundraiser. More information will be forthcoming.

Many thanks to Bob Timm and Andy Gross for their leadership and service on the Council as their terms end.

heaven's
closet

thrift shop at the united church of cloverdale

Hello from Heaven's Closet Thrift Shop
Happy New Year from all of us, Business has been booming the last few months. We have customers who come from all around; we have shoppers from Mendocino County who love our shop and schedule Doctor appointments according to the Thrift Shop Schedule on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1-3pm.

We have started a new promotion with the 1st Saturday of each month being Senior Citizen Day (age 60 & Over) all seniors get half off clothing and linens.

In March we will be trying something different and extending our shop hours on Saturdays we will be open 10-4pm The shop storage shed was broken into last year several times and Rich Craig has been kind enough to fix the damage. Lucky there have not been issues lately so Rich has had a break from that work! Thank you Rich! It is always nice to see Jerry Huot come in the shop and he is always helpful moving the donations we can't sell down to the Goodwill, along with Pastor Jack taking items as well.

Thanks to Carolyn Crandall, Jeanette Hartwig and Susan Munger, who keep the shop looking like a lovely boutique! A special welcome to some new volunteers, Gale Ladd, Susan Hartley and Sheena Babbini! Also a big thank you to Colleen Tyler for all her hard work scheduling the volunteers to run the shop and to Laurie Bilbro who opens and closes and handles the paperwork! The Shop wouldn't be here without all the dedicated volunteers! Thank you EVERYONE!

A Different Kind of Sunday Morning – join us on 4th Sundays!

from Jean Craig, Holly Werner, Mimi Domke, Louise Graddy, & Janice Timm

From March through July, on the 4th Sunday of each month, the 10 am gathering will be a prayer service in the style of the community of Taizé.

We are feeling excited and positive to bring you this new opportunity to pray, sing, and meditate to protect the good gift of creation and our Mother Earth. In this monthly gathering, we will unite to pray for the urgent need to find solutions to the crisis facing our common home.

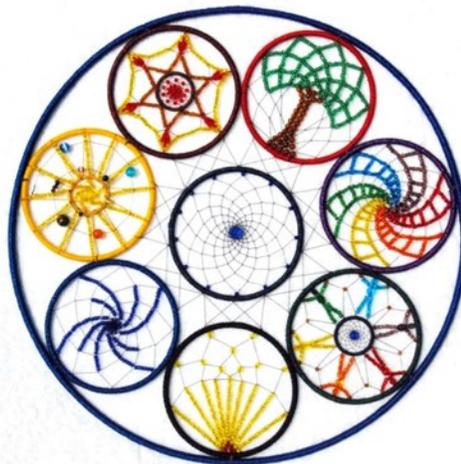
There will be:

- communal prayer & extended time of silence
- meditative music
- a scripture reading and a responsorial psalm
- an atmosphere of meditation and peace
- and possibly -- a short and very informal time together (between the service and coffee hour) to talk thoughtfully about the theme and/or scripture readings
- Rev. Jen Collins will be our reader of the spoken word, and will sit with us during the time of silence.

If you have never experienced this sort of service before, no worries. It is easy to follow and the singing leads you to a place of meditation and mindfulness. Plan ahead. Dates are March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, & July 28.

Oh – and the coffee will be on if you need a cup before the service (and we'll have fellowship time as usual afterward).

For more information about Taizé, this style of gathering and prayer, etc – use your “Google” or visit the church’s website (www.UCCloverdale.org) for some links to follow.



Grace and Peace to you from God, the Creator, Jesus, our Savior and Teacher, and the Holy Spirit that guides you. Amen!

Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God. (Matthew 5:14-16 selected verses)



On Sunday, Janice invited us to keep the United Methodist Church in our prayers, as the denomination met to consider the ordination of gay persons and support for same sex marriages. UMC is the largest mainline protestant church. They have churches around the world, including a third of which are in Africa.

Sadly, in my eyes, they chose to continue their opposition to same sex marriage and to the ordination of LGBTQ persons. In fact, it appears there will be a harsher punishment imposed on clergy, who disobey this and continue to perform same sex marriages.

As you might guess, this has left many in the LGBTQ community reeling. The church, which throughout the years, has so often treated them as unwelcome, outsiders, and unworthy of God's love, has again, at least in one of its manifestations, done it again. So much hurt, pain and anguish; so much meanness and hatred towards a group of God's children.

It was twenty years ago our church became Open and Affirming and fourteen years ago the United Church of Christ became the first denomination to support same sex marriage. How sad that on many levels this still is an issue.

In whatever way we can, we need to stand in solidarity with LGBTQ community that has continued to be a part of the United Methodist Church and those Methodist congregations who have already voted to become Reconciling and Welcoming. They need to know we are with them. It is hard to stand against your denomination and we can be of support to them. There was a post on FB today of a sign that the congregation, Barbara Nixon, a UMC pastor in Corvallis, has placed outside the church. The sign reads (in Rainbow Colors I might add), "We denounce the immoral decision of the global United Methodist Church. We stand with GLBTQ persons unconditionally." Well said!

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a letter from the UCC leadership, entitled An Open Letter to the United Methodist Church. I hope you will take time to read it. May we keep our brothers and sisters from the LGBTQ community in our thoughts and prayers. As the scripture says at the top, "You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world." May we be light to those who have been marginalized for far too long!

Love and Blessings,

Jack

An Open Letter to the United Methodist Church

February 26, 2019

The United Church of Christ, an Open and Affirming Communion of the Body of Christ, practices a belief in both a still-speaking God and an extravagant welcome. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, through the faithful renderings of our sacred texts, and standing in a long line of reformers who have come before us we proclaim with great fervor that no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome.

We hold in prayer those whose past wounds have been reopened by the recent debates of the governing body gathered in St. Louis. The Body of Christ has, throughout its long history, not always been kind and loving to those who live outside its established norms and conformities. We confess to our own history and complicity with racism, misogyny, transphobia, and homophobia. Our hope is that we can and will continue to struggle with our closed hearts and minds as we seek to live more fully into the vision of God's shalom for all.

We hold in prayer the entire Body of Christ around the world. It is living through a time of division and separation as it struggles to wrestle with what have become irreconcilable differences. There are countless wounded on all sides of these divisions, and as a uniting communion called to find the common ground in support of a hoped for vision of unity within diversity we suffer alongside our United Methodist kindred who today feel the deep pain of a new brokenness.

Know that we stand ready to serve all who are in need of healing and all who seek simply to know the power of the risen Christ fully articulated in the expression of a love that knows no bounds.

We understand that it is with great sadness and a good deal of grief that many will have been left to feel unwelcome in a spiritual home that gave you hope, sustenance, and nurturance. Many of us have felt the sting of that same rejection – and know full well the grief that attaches to it.

We hold the entire United Methodist Church in prayer as it seeks to heal and to express its faith in light of their understandings of scripture and the gospel.

In solidarity with all who call on Jesus, we remain humbly servants of the gospel in search of a more full articulation of love,

Faithfully,



The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President



The Rev. Traci Blackmon
Associate General Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries



The Rev. James Moos
Associate General Minister of Global Engagement and Operations



Andrew Lang
Executive Director
Open and Affirming Coalition of United Church of Christ

DEDICATION

THREE FAMILIES THREE HOMES THREE KEYS



Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County
Invites you to join us at the
Harris Village
three families/three homes/three keys dedication ceremony
2863 West Steele Lane—Santa Rosa—March 23 @1pm —3pm

Special Guest Speaker — Senator Mike McGuire

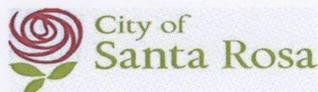
***Many Thanks to Our Harris Village Naming Sponsor:
The Robert & Shirley Harris Family Foundation***

Please RSVP
by
March 15, 2019

to
Jasmine Palmer @
j.palmer@habitatsoco.org



Thank you to our following sponsors:



5thgenpaint, Creative Roofing, PMC Architect, Quality Discount Cabinets

Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County
3273 Airway Drive Suite E Santa Rosa, CA 95403—707.578.7707 - habitatsoco.org

Many of you will remember when David Irvine came to the church and spoke with us about Habitat for Humanity! All the money collect from that special offering went to the three homes mentioned above! We helped make a real difference for 3 families!

JACK'S SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01 DAY OFF	02 DAY OFF
03 Jack Preaching Communion Sunday	04 Morning Office Afternoon Visitation	05 Morning Office Afternoon Visitation	06 ASH WED. Sanctuary 10 -12 1 - 3	07 DAY OFF Book Study	08 DAY OFF	09 DAY OFF
10 Jack Preaching	11 Morning Office Afternoon Visitation	12 Morning Office Afternoon Visitation	13 DAY OFF	14 DAY OFF	15 DAY OFF	16 DAY OFF
17 Jack Preaching	18 Morning Office Afternoon Visitation	19 Morning Office Afternoon Visitation	20 DAY OFF	21 DAY OFF	22 DAY OFF	23 DAY OFF
24 Alternative Worship Style Jack out	25 DAY OFF	26 DAY OFF	27 Morning Office After- noon Visita- tion	28 Morning Office After- noon Visitation	29 Morn- ing Office After- noon Visitation	30 DAY OFF
31 Jack out						

Jack will be available by Phone anytime. Please Feel Free to Call!! Phone #: (209) 329-4971

Anniversary Milestones in 2019

150 Years: In 1869 a small group of people who were meeting in yards and homes, established themselves as the Congregational Church of Cloverdale. They subsequently built a small church building on land that was donated for that purpose by John Kleiser. We have now been ministering to the people of Cloverdale for 150 years.

40 years: In 1979 the local Congregational/United Church of Christ merged with the local Methodist church and was renamed The United Church of Cloverdale.

30 years: In 1989 a young couple walked through our doors as an answer to the pastor's prayer for a leader for a children's choir. Janice Hawthorn Timm has taken that opportunity and has embellished and enhanced the worship and ministry here since that day. Thanks to her talents and expertise and spirituality, we have served and continue to serve and educate generations of children and their families. Add to that Janice's leadership of the Chancel and Celebration choirs and her inspiring voice and music at the organ and piano keyboards and you have a huge gift to United Church, which continues to this day. Janice was recognized with the "Excellence in Teaching Award"; one of only five awarded that year, and the first musician; given at the National United Church of Christ's General Synod in 2005. We are truly blessed to have Janice as our Minister of Music.

20 years: In 1999 United Church, after much study, made the decision to become an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome all people regardless of race, religion, national origin or sexual orientation. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We fly the rainbow flag with pride. We will be celebrating this anniversary in June during Pride Week.

We Hold in Prayer

Jack & Pamela Dawson; Alice Sheperla (Mother of Cindy Wolters)
Lori Serrano; Conny Welch; Carl & Bev Westenberg
Gale Ladd; Jules & Mary Volper; AmyJo Hendrickson
Roy & Mimi Domke; Barbara Goepel ; Louise Graddy
Bill & Ginny Corzine, Chance Willis & Victoria Martineau
Jilloni and Jordan Hopkins; Jen Collins and Her parents

MEETINGS & EVENTS



3/2 Men's breakfast 8am	Zini's Diner
3/6 Project Linus 9:30am	Corzine Home
3/23 Women's Breakfast 8:30am	Zini's Diner
3/27 AVH Board Meeting	Fellowship Hall



Denaire Nixon	3/2
Robbyn Graddy	3/12

REGULAR BUILDING USE

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

Monday-Friday
"The Flour Girl" Kitchen & Pantry

Tuesday-Friday
Church Office is Open 8:00am-2pm

Tuesdays
Coro De Paz Children's Choir 3:30pm Fellowship Hall
Music Together Family Class, 5:30pm Fellowship Hall
Celebration Choir Rehearsal 7pm Fellowship Hall
NA Meeting 7:30pm Christian Education Bldg.

Wednesdays
Music Together 10:30am Fellowship Hall
Teen Clinic, 2-4pm Fellowship Hall

Thursdays
Thrift Shop Open 10am-3 pm

Fridays
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



3/26 Roy & Mimi Domke

If you have any items you would like included in the newsletter or put on the website email the request to uccoffice@sbcglobal.net

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
Minister of Music: Janice Timm, jtimm@sonic.net
Church Administrator: Jilloni Hopkins, uccoffice@sbcglobal.net
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.

Check the website at musictogethercloverdale.org For updated schedule and check UCCloverdale.org for other calendar dates!





UNITED CHURCH OF CLOVERDALE
 Church phone: 707-894-2039
 439 N Cloverdale Blvd
 CLOVERDALE, CA 95425

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Return Service Requested

Inside This Issue

- Pg 1 Connect Team
- Pg 2 FYI
- Pg 3 A different kind of Sundays
- Pg 4 Message from Pastor Jack
- Pg 5 Open Letter to United Methodist
- Pg 6 Habitat for Humanity
- Pg 7 Jacks Schedule for March
- Pg 8 Anniversary Milestones
- Pg 9 Calendar

MY CHECKLIST FOR MARCH

- ◇ Ash Wednesday
- ◇ Men's breakfast
- ◇ Women's breakfast
- ◇ Invite Friends to worship
- ◇ Join the Connect Team or just meet to paint some rocks!