



THE IVY VINE

November and December 2019

God is Still Speaking Volume 14 Issue 9

United Church of Cloverdale



Message from our Moderator

Members and Friends of United Church,

It would be an understatement to say that our church has seen some changes lately. The resignation of Pastor Jack Dawson and the retirement of Janice Timm as Minister of Music have left us in unfamiliar territory. A small group of church members has thought hard about our situation and is working to preserve the things we do and trying to formulate a long-range plan. This is as it should be – in terms of governance, we are a Congregational church, where the final authority (and responsibility) rests with the congregation as a whole.

In the near term the Reverends Jen Collins and Carolyn Woodson will be sharing the duties of worship leader and providing limited pastoral care. Guest musicians for Sunday morning worship have been arranged. The Taizé-style meditation service on 4th Sundays has been well-received, and we hope to continue it into 2020. We will have Sunday morning worship services with music throughout the holiday season and beyond. Our church administrator, Jilloni Hopkins, continues to coordinate the day-to-day functions of the church, and for that we should all be grateful. Our missions (Food Pantry, Thrift Shop, Music Together, Scholarship Program, and others) are still in place and will continue as long as we are willing to participate and support them.

Attendance at Sunday worship is steady, but critically low. It may be that some members are waiting to see what will transpire after all of the recent upheaval. The lack of member participation has taxed the church leaders, the budget, and to some degree our church missions. To be able to continue it will be necessary to establish a stronger base of active members. We are thankful that we have a sufficient endowment to allow us to weather the current situation until we are able to move forward with calling a new pastor and re-establishing our music program.

The purpose of this communication is to thank you for your efforts in this difficult time and, if you have been away for some time, to inform you that we are still here and invite you to rejoin us on Sunday mornings.

It is also an appeal for your help. This is a time of new beginnings and an opportunity for you to consider if you would like to help us envision a different future. We have multiple copies of the recent book by Michael Piazza entitled *Vital Vintage Church - How Traditional Congregations Thrive* available for you to borrow. Jilloni has copies to loan to you in the church office; it's an "easy" read. Many Council members have already read this book and have said it provided them hope for our church's future. Your participation, attendance, and ideas are always welcome.

Richard Werner, *Moderator*

Draft Mission Statement

After discussion at the October Council meeting, the following is proposed as the first draft of a new Mission Statement for United Church of Cloverdale:

With an open mind and a devout spirit, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice and equality for all, inspired by God's grace.

We encourage input and comments by all members on this draft statement. Please provide your thoughts to Richard Werner (Moderator) or Marilyn Michelon (Clerk) within the coming weeks so that Council can work to finalize our Mission Statement.

“HAPPINESS IS”

Blessings and Thanks for Time and Talent 2019 “Happy Hours”

About 30 or so members and friends enjoy lively conversations, delicious food prepared by Chef Linda, and refreshing no-host beverage bar of beer, wine, and “mocktails.” Thanks to Linda Clapp, Holly Werner, and Robbyn Turner for their food and beverage donations. Thanks for your attendance that provided an opportunity for a heartwarming social time.

Thanks to all for your participation with your donations of events, silent auction items, and cash. Thanks to the purchasers, all the event signups were sold out and all the silent auction items were sold.

As the event coordinator (on restricted mobility), I am so appreciative and thankful for our Leadership Team and members who provided the physical setup and cleanup for the event.

The revenue from the event is \$1600.

Jean Craig, *Coordinator, Time and Talent 2019*



Ideas and Coordination for Future Fund Raisers Needed

United Church is blessed to have a small and mighty core of folks who are able to support the Church's Missions and Ministries with their regular contributions and fundraising.

The recent Time and Talent event indicates a need for periodic fun social events that provide an opportunity for us to come together in friendship and generate funds for our General Operations.

Please put on your thinking caps and look at ways you and a group of folks might hold an event, such as an after-worship brunch, spaghetti feed, karaoke, game or movie night.

Please contact the church office (email: uccoffice@sbcglobal.net) with your ideas. These will be forwarded to the Leadership Council.

We Hold in Prayer

Alice Sheperla (Mother of Cindy Wolters)

Lori Serrano; Conny Welch; Carl & Bev Westenberg

Bill & Ginny Corzine, Chance Willis & Victoria Martineau

Jen Collins and her parents; Bruce and Darlene Reuser and Family

World Relief & Friends Pedaled,

Refugees are forced to flee their homes due to persecution and arrive in Sacramento with hopes of establishing a new life. This year, World Relief Sacramento again offered a unique opportunity to show support for this transformational work. They organized a three-day cycling tour from Santa Rosa to Sausalito. Each cyclist set a minimum fundraising goal of **\$1,951** that will be used to provide housing assistance, transportation, English language classes, legal aid, job skills training, interview and resume preparation, and much more! Over \$50,000 was raised. **YAY!** \$1,500 for example, fully furnishes an apartment for a family of 4.

Refugees contribute immensely to the economy and culture of welcoming cities, and an investment in a refugee family's integration in the U.S. is an investment in our communities.



We served 23 riders and 4 World Relief staff members. All left-over food was donated to the homeless of Cloverdale

UCC Nourished, Refugees Resettled

UCC has sponsored many of the efforts of World Relief. This year we provided a lunch stop for the riders. So many people from our church participated – shopping, loaning chairs and coolers, prepping food, delivering it to the site, setting up at the site, cleaning up, transporting everything back to the church, taking photos, even setting up a bike repair station (thanks to Jerry and Carol’s son Blake). And it was so much fun to see the riders as they came in. They were all profuse in their thanks for the stop and lunch we provided.



MEETINGS & NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER EVENTS

11/2	Men's Breakfast 8am	Hamburger Ranch
11/20	Women's Breakfast 8:30am	Hamburger Ranch
11/24	Taize Service 10am	Sanctuary
11/27	AVHC Board Meeting	Fellowship Hall
12/4	Project Linus	Corzine Home
12/8	Men's Breakfast 8am	Hamburger Ranch
12/18	Women's Breakfast	Hamburger Ranch



Jean Craig	11/5
Laurie Bilbro	11/7
Cindy Wolter	11/7
Gus Wolter	11/8
Jackie Cofield	11/14
Jesse Timm	11/25
Louise Graddy	12/03
Annika Lewis	12/12
Chance Willis	12/13
Jean Clark	12/24
Henry Magnusen	12/24

REGULAR BUILDING USE

Sundays

Morning Worship 10am

Sanctuary

NA Meeting 7pm

Christian Education Bldg.

Monday

Tai Chi Classes 9:45-11:15am

Fellowship Hall

Monday-Friday

"The Flour Girl"

Kitchen & Pantry

Tuesday-Friday

Church Office is Open 8:00am-2pm

Tuesdays

NA Meeting 7:30pm

Christian Education Bldg.

Wednesdays

Teen Clinic 2-4pm

Fellowship Hall

Thursdays

Thrift Shop Open 10am-3 pm

Fridays

NA Meeting 7:30pm

Christian Education Bldg.

Saturdays

Thrift Shop Open 10am-3pm



11/26 David & Mary Ziegenhagen
12/29 Craig & Sharon Bilbro

MUSIC TOGETHER ENDS NOVEMBER 20

CHECK WEBSITE FOR SESSION DATES AND INFO AT
MUSICTOGETHERCLOVERDALE.ORG

Preacher schedule

11/24	Taize with Rev. Jen Collins and Janice Timm
12/1	Rev. Jen Collins
12/8	Rev. Carolyn Woodson
12/15	Rev. Jen Collins
12/22	Rev. Carolyn Woodson
12/29	Rev. Jen Collins

Remember you can find information on the website uccloverdale.org

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

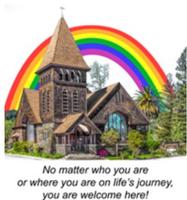
Church Administrator: Jilloni Hopkins,

ucoffice@sbcglobal.net

Proof Readers: Jean Craig & Robert Timm

Articles for The Ivy Vine?

submit to the ucoffice@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.



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

PRSR STD

NON-PROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 PERMIT No. #24
 CLOVERDALE, CA
 95425

Return Service Requested

Inside This Issue

- Pg 1 Message from Moderator
- Pg 2 Top News
- Pg 3-4 Peddle to Resettle photo Essay
- Pg 5 Church Calendar

MY CHECKLIST FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

- ◇ Check the website for calendar updates! Uccloverdale.org
- ◇ Invite Friends to Worship
- ◇ Get Involved