

AVUCC KALOS

Newsletter for the
Almaden Valley
United Church of Christ

Pastor Kevin's Corner

“Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love”

Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of another...May the God steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

-- Romans 14:13, 15:5

Paul was writing to the church in Rome. Paul did not found this church, but he hoped to visit the congregation. The church, like all churches, had been having some disputes and disagreements over various things, for instance, what was “clean” and what was “unclean,” what was the proper food and drink and what was not.

The church in Rome is not unlike many churches of today and even our own Almaden Valley UCC. When we bring humans together to share in something each one cares about dearly, there is bound to be disagreements and differing points of view from everything to the color of the carpet to matters of great theological interpretation. We are a diverse people of differing generations, cultures, and temperaments. What we have in unity, though, is that we are all loved by God, and Jesus Christ is at the center of our faith.

Though we have unity in the Spirit we do not have nor need to have *uniformity* of mind about everything. Our diversity of theological beliefs, carpet color choices, and other matters makes us rich and interesting. Through our differences each one of us is challenged to question, seek, and grow in our faith. Our diversity also makes us inviting to people who want a church where diversity of opinion is welcomed, honored, and respected. Jesus recognized the diversity of people in his time and land and sought them out to become his disciples and to share a meal. And he showed love to each of them—even those who condemned him and eventually crucified him. *Forgive them because they know not what they do...*

KALOS

Monthly Newsletter

Almaden Valley United Church of Christ
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May 2006

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Pastor Kevin's Corner, continued

Because of our diversity of opinions and beliefs we have to try extra hard to communicate with one another with respect, sensitivity and gentleness. If we all agreed on everything, all the time and in all circumstances, communication would be a breeze, but life would be pretty shallow.

There are on-going discussions within our church council, in the Long Range Planning Committee, and in our church corridors about how to communicate effectively and gracefully. I welcome and encourage this dialogue! Recently I attended a wonderful workshop and discovered some recommendations for creating ways of "Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love." This small pamphlet, produced by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, suggests the following things for all of us to keep in mind as we share our beloved church together. I paraphrase:

- Accept conflict – it's a normal part of life in the church.
- Affirm hope – God is with us and will help us work through our conflict.
- Commit to prayer – pray for mutually satisfactory solutions.
- Go to the other in a spirit of humility – go directly to those with whom we disagree in gentleness, patience and humility.
- Be quick to listen – seek as much to understand as to be understood.
- Be slow to judge – suspend judgments, avoid labeling, discard threats, be non-defensive.
- Be willing to negotiate – work through disagreements constructively.
- Be steadfast in love – hold fast to our common foundation in Christ.
- Be open to mediation – it's okay to seek skilled help and call upon the gifts of others to help us work together.
- Trust in community – both ours and the larger community of the wider church to help when professional mediation is needed.
- Be the Body of Christ – commitment to peace, justice and mercy.

All of the above recommendations are buttressed by reference to various scriptures. (If you are interested in

Pastor Kevin's Corner, continued

reading the full pamphlet, please contact me and I'll be glad to share it with you.)

Thank you all for your generous and loving attitude towards one another. As we worship, sip coffee and meet together, let us always seek to extend God's grace to our neighbor. In the spirit of Christ's love, Amen.

Pastor Kevin

Church Council Notes

Moderator: Steve Coutinho
Vice-Moderator: Kelly Yamanishi
Treasurer: Jay Caturay
Recorder: Carolyn Dingman
At-Large Members: Dot Allfrey,
Sue Hamilton, Al Nieders, Janey Sanders, and Bart Smith
Pastor Kevin Smith, *ex officio*

Summarized below are minutes from the Church Council meeting held on April 18th. Minutes of Council meetings are posted on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall once they have been approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Kevin confirmed his vacation plans which will include Sunday, May 7 and the first two Sundays in July. Tom Rose of the Worship Committee will locate replacement preachers for these Sundays.

Emergency Preparation Classes will be held in either June or September, depending on the availability of those who have signed up from both UCC and ECA.

For tax purposes, there will be a redesignation of payments from the minister's salary package so that an additional \$5,000 per year is allocated for housing. This change was requested by Kevin after consulting with his tax advisor and the Conference.

Treasurer's Report: Jay Caturay's reports were presented *in absentia* as he was en route to the Philippines, and no problems or questions were noted. Jay also presented a report recommending that the church's accounting functions continue to be set up on Excel since it is a format that future treasurers are likely to know.

Council Notes, continued

Old Business: Final revisions to the new Memorial Funds Policy were agreed upon by members of the Council and the committee. The next step is to publish the policy guidelines in the *Kalos* and seek feedback from members of the congregation (see article in this month's *Kalos*). Implementation of the new policy will follow.

Council discussed the JV Bylaw revisions that have been tabled for a number of months by both AVUCC and ECA. Since concerns still exist about personnel policies in the Joint Venture, it was decided that Council members will review the current JV Bylaws and proposed revisions so that a letter can be drafted to the JV Board at the May meeting.

There was a lengthy discussion about the LRPC's request for Council input on communication guidelines for AVUCC. Pastor Kevin distributed a resource providing an alternative approach to addressing conflict resolution in congregations. It was decided to hold a facilitated discussion with LRPC to address next steps.

Other Business: Janey Sanders reported that proceeds from the Taste of New Orleans dinner totaled \$1700. This amount will be sent to the national UCC office for Hurricane Katrina relief.

*Carolyn Dingman
AVUCC Recorder*

Memorial Policy Proposal

In order to establish an effective, meaningful, and respectful way to handle donations of memorial gifts, a committee comprised of Betsy Shoup, Jay Caturay, Carolyn Dingman, and Pastor Kevin has been meeting to formulate a policy for AVUCC.

The guidelines printed below are the final draft approved by the committee. The guidelines call for the establishment of a new Committee of Remembrance Ministry to maintain a list of appropriate memorial items, process and acknowledge gifts to the church, and provide for a permanent, public record of those who have been honored.

Members of the congregation are invited to read the proposed policy and give feedback to the Council before the policy is implemented. Please give comments in writing to Carolyn Dingman by June 1, 2006.

PROPOSED POLICY FOR

A MINISTRY OF REMEMBRANCE

The Almaden Valley United Church of Christ has established a means for honoring loved ones through memorial gifts, honor gifts, and an endowment fund. AVUCC recognizes that people wish to give special gifts to the church. It is our desire to encourage gift giving and to use gifts in a way that will strengthen the church.

- *Memorial Gifts* – Gifts that honor the memory of a person, a means of saying that a person was important and will be missed.
- *Honor Gifts* - Gifts given in celebration of a birthday, an anniversary, a thank you, or to honor a Sunday School teacher, youth worker, choir director, or other leader in the church.
- *Endowment Fund Gifts* - Gifts to a long term investment fund where the income or interest is used for the mission and ministry of the church.

Policy for Gift Funds

1. The Church Council, with input from the Remembrance Ministry Committee, Joint Venture Board and ECA, as appropriate, shall decide what kinds of gifts the church would like to receive each year through memorial and/or honor gift funds.
2. The list of gifts desired by the church shall be revised annually and approved by the Church Council.
3. An appropriate and immediate response will be given to donors and the family of the person being honored.
4. Memorial gifts and honor gifts may be chosen from the list of gifts the church would like to receive.
5. All funds given as a memorial gift or honor gift will be spent or allocated within six (6) months of the time that money was given to the church.
6. All funds given as an endowment gift shall be used in accordance with the policies established for the Endowment Fund.
7. If there has been no declaration of intent, the Church Council will determine the use of the money.

Memorial Policy Proposal, continued

8. If the family has previously selected a use of the money but not enough money was given to purchase the selected item, the family should be given a choice to:
 - a. Select a new use for the funds consistent with the amount that has been given; or
 - b. Arrange for the donation of additional funds to fulfill the gift selection.
9. There will be an annual public and permanent record of the names of persons being honored through memorial and honor gifts.
10. There will be an annual public and permanent record of the donors (but not the amount of the gift.)
11. A report will be made to the congregation at AVUCC's annual meeting of gifts, purchases, and the balance of any memorial or honor gift funds.

Committee of Remembrance Ministry

1. The Committee of Remembrance Ministry shall be three (3) members selected by the church council. The committee will meet as needed to fulfill its responsibilities.
 - a. *Chair*
 - i. The Chair shall be the liaison between the Remembrance Ministry Committee, the congregation, and the donors.
 - ii. The Chair will help people in the congregation and other potential donors know that they can make gifts through this fund and help select how the gifts are to be used.
 - b. *Correspondent*
 - i. Will send acknowledgments of gifts.
 - ii. Will send recognition that a gift was received to the honoree or a member of the honored person's family, not including the amount of the gift.
 - c. *Recorder*
 - i. Will keep records of who gave gifts;
 - ii. The amount of the gift; and
 - iii. How the money was spent.
 - iv. Notify the Church Treasurer of the gifts.
 - v. Keep the family informed regarding the memorial gifts, especially when their final use is determined.

Memorial Policy Proposal, continued

2. The Committee will be responsible for meeting the requirements and goals of the church's Planned Gift Strategy, including:
 - a. Facilitating a person's desire to give a gift to the congregation.
 - b. Establishing a time to recognize publicly those persons who have died in the past year or who have been honored with gifts to the church, and to consecrate the gifts put into the ministry of the church through memorial and honor gifts. Persons who represent the honorees shall be invited to this recognition service.
 - c. Establishing and maintaining a public listing that records the names of honorees and donors.

Carolyn Dingman
Church Recorder

People in the Pews

On Easter Sunday the choir sang "Lift High the Cross," and the flower covered cross had been transformed – the bare wooden cross was completely hidden by the beautiful flowers. Thanks to all who brought flowers and a special "Thank You" to *Sandy Mueller* for her bucket full of Easter lilies, which made our cross even more spectacular.

It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces in our pews. The choir and John Leslie gifted all of us with their beautiful voices, and we are grateful for all the hard work they go through to make our Sunday music so special.

The Easter sunrise service (the first one in several years) had to be in Fellowship Hall because of the weather, but all who attended were grateful to be a part of that special time. Next year the sun will shine!

Betsy Dingman, who attends Hobart William Smith college in N.Y., missed being with AVUCC at Easter time, so she arranged to have the first ever Easter Sunrise Service on the shores of Lake Seneca and she was joined by nine other student friends.

TWO MORE STARS TO BE RECOGNIZED: *Chris Coutinho* and *Matt LaRochelle*, two of our young teenagers, also had parts in the recent presentation of *Anne of Green Gables*. From all reports they did very well in their acting roles.

People in the Pews, continued

FOLKS NOT FEELING UP TO PAR: *Alice Bullard* has been hospitalized with some lung problems and we hope she will be up and about and back at Sunday worship soon.

Debbie Bemis had another surgery (this has to be the last one) and is awaiting further treatment for cancer. She is still having a good bit of pain, but grateful the surgery is behind her and now she can focus on whatever treatments will be needed.

Bessie Hutchins is much improved after her bout with pneumonia. She still lacks her usual energy, but she is on the mend. She also had the fun of a visit from her new granddaughter. David and his wife spent several days here and were joined by Aunt Christina.

WELCOME BACK: We welcomed back *Hi Dong and Phyllis Chai* from their trip to China. It was a great experience for both of them. Glad they are back in choir and home safe.

Bill and I missed three Sunday worship services as we were traveling in our motor home. We did miss most of the rain as we sunned ourselves in Palm Springs. Grateful, we arrived home safely despite the rain and our non-working windshield wipers.

Dot Alfrey

Fellowship and Thank Yous

New Orleans Dinner!

Thank you to the awesome team who presented "A Taste of New Orleans" on April 1, 2006. Many of them worked on a variety of projects from start to finish: advertising, cooking, decorating, entertainment, food preparation, kitchen assistance, set up and clean up.

Our goal was to give you "glimpses" of a unique American City, to develop your appreciation for its culture and history, and to encourage you to open your hearts to "renew, restore and rebuild" New Orleans and the surrounding areas.

I'm sure that we met those goals based upon the many positive comments we have received and given the amount of the donation which we will be able to make to the UCC Hurricane Relief Fund. Council has approved a

Fellowship, Thank Yous, continued

recommendation to pay the music trio from the current Fellowship Fund, making our total contribution to the relief fund over \$1700.00.

Merci beaucoup:

Jim Ballek	Marian and Byron Henderson
Betty Benson	John Leslie
Cliff Click	Joan Okumura
Jan and Al Day	Carol and Dave Pullen
Kathi Quinn	Carolyn and Joe Dingman
Robyn Dorsey	Jennifer and Tom Rose
Charlotte Duerksen	Ariss and Bob Thomas
Susan Gaydon	Audrey Wiedrick
Phyllis and Bob Green	Harriet Yamada
Gwen Hacker	

Thank you to the Hauswirth Family - Jim for his yummy gumbo; high school sons Josh and Tyler for their community service; and Lynda for her help in the kitchen.

Thanks to the fabulous trio of Dave Kawamoto, Jack Herschkorn and Galen Smiley.

Thanks to all of you who assisted with set up and clean up, but whose names I do not have; to all of you who came; and to those who made donations to the cause even though they were unable to attend.

The memories are so sweet!!

Janey Sanders
Fellowship Coordinator

Men's Breakfast, April 1, 2006

"BE PREPARED" was an important message of "Disaster Awareness: How You and Your Family Can Be Prepared in the Face of Potential Disasters." This talk was given by Jennifer Enault, VP and Manager of the Disaster Recovery Program of Comerica Bank, at the Men's Breakfast in April.

A large audience of AVUCC and ECA members listened intently as Jennifer outlined how we can and we must be prepared in the event of any disasters.

On January 7, 2006 Dr. Earl Stevens from San Jose led an informative discussion on the importance of disaster planning. Joint Venture has been promoting the need to get

Fellowship, Thank Yous, continued

members and community involved in this important project. San Francisco's terrible experiences following a severe earthquake and fire one hundred years ago and the scientists' vision of another severe quake compel us to be better prepared. The experience of Katrina, tornadoes in the Midwest, extensive fires in Texas and California, flooding, and the possibility of bird flu make the case that preparation is a vital issue.

Jennifer gave us an outline for preparedness:

1. Have a plan.
2. Make a kit.
3. Get community and neighbors involved.
4. Get additional training, for example:
 - a) San Jose Preparedness
 - b) Red Cross--First Aid
 - c) CPR training
 - d) AED use of defibrillator

Here are specifics for your disaster plan:

- Have shoes and a flashlight under your bed for a quick getaway.
- Have your ID card with a medication list ready to take with you.
- Plan to meet at a certain point.
- Teach your family how to shut off the gas.
- Teach your family how to shut off the water.

Here is a list for your preparedness kit with critical supplies for your family, home and pets :

- Water (two quarts per day per person) – rotate this and other supplies regularly.
- First Aid Kit (hydrogen peroxide, antibiotic ointment, prescription medications, aspirin, rubbing alcohol, adhesive tapes that is 2" wide, sterile bandages, large triangular bandage, gauze pads size 4"x4", sterile cotton, ace bandage, butterfly bandages, cold packs/hot pack).
- Food (cans, packages, non-cook baby foods).
- Tools and supplies (can opener, flashlight, radio, batteries, axe, shovel, broom, rope that is at least ½" thick, plastic tape and plastic sheets, crescent wrench for turning off gas).
- Sanitation: large plastic bags, large trash can, soap, detergents, toilet paper, paper towels.

Fellowship, Thank Yous, continued

Here are suggestions for preparing your home:

- Anchor hot water heater to wood studs.
- Secure furniture, bookcase, large TV's, armoires.
- Use museum wax or earthquake wax to prevent items from falling.
- Secure drawers and cabinets with latches.
- Apply plastic film to glass windows and doors.

Collect your vital records in a safe alternate place, such as a family member's home or a bank safe deposit box that is fire retardant. Update documents regularly:

- Deed, wills, insurance and health plans, medical information, medications list, birth certificates, copies of tax records, mortgage papers, credit card list with phone numbers to report lost cards, social security cards.
- Family and friends contact information.
- Copies of funeral arrangements.

It will take time and effort to seriously plan for potential disaster, but the importance of being prepared cannot be over emphasized. Talk with your neighbors and get more information. Here are two sources:

Red Cross www.redcross.org
Homeland Security www.ready.gov

The Men's Breakfast group enjoyed a large enthusiastic crowd as our outstanding cooks, Stan Yumen, Jay Caturay, Dick Shipe, Jim Wright, Al Thompsom and Dick Okumura prepared an excellent breakfast of scrambled eggs, polish sausages, fried rice, fresh fruits, pound cake with orange juice and fresh prepared coffee. Fantastic!!!

Dick Okumura

Men's Breakfast, May 6, 2006, in Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Cathy Noonan, Director and Supervisor of the New Almaden Community Center

Time: 8:00 am, ladies invited to join us at 8:30.

The new Almaden Community Center will be opening very soon in May, and we are fortunate to have Cathy Noonan speak to us about the many programs that will be available to us. So please sign up and join us.

Dick Okumura

Fellowship, Thank Yous, continued

An Easter Thank You!!

What a grand and glorious Holy Week and Easter it was! No matter what plans we make; no matter what works and what doesn't Jesus still rises from the dead assuring us of life eternal.

We thought the church looked especially beautiful this year on both Palm Sunday and Easter, thanks primarily to the work of Betty Consorte and Ariss Thomas.

The combined choirs under the direction of John Leslie did a magnificent job on Maundy Thursday as did the readers for the Last Supper and Tenebrae. Special thanks is also due to Andy Kerr and John Hawes for the wonderful folk music at the sunrise service on Easter morning.

Special thanks also to the 75 faithful who braved the rain and showed up at the park and later Fellowship Hall for the sunrise service. You exceeded our expectations. Katie McCormick coped with the inclement weather to pull off the Easter egg hunt in a lull in the rain. Special thanks goes to all the acolytes, altar guild members, worship assistants, layreaders, chalicebearers, choir members, singers and participants for your help in glorifying this, the holiest week of the year.

Desi pumped out the bulletins with the gracious volunteer assistance of Mary Leal and Phyllis Chai.

All the wonderful images of the day; the beautiful bulletins, the flowered cross, the special music and musicians, baptism and Amber Rose, all these combine to make Holy Week and Easter special in the lives of those who came. We know we will treasure those images and this time for a long time to come.

Thank you all and bless you!

Kevin and Steven

Fellowship, Thank Yous, continued

Pastor's Installation!

Thank You!

I want to thank you all for helping our church to create a meaningful and joy-filled installation service.

Many people helped with the planning and implementation of the service and reception and for that I am deeply humbled and grateful!

Our "gilded gold clay jars" were full of God's Spirit as we celebrated this important milestone in the life of our beloved community.

God Bless You,

Pastor Kevin

Fellowship, Thank Yous, continued

Church Picnic - Saturday June 3

Mark your calendars for the annual church picnic on Saturday, June 3 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Bring your friends and neighbors to this fun family event featuring sand volleyball, croquet and more. Hamburgers, hot dogs and ice cream sundaes will be provided. \$3.00 per person or \$10.00 per family. Please sign up in the fellowship hall to bring a potluck dish. Contact Tami and Al Nieders at 268-7681 or Janey Sanders at 997-0875 for any questions.

Al Nieders

Tai Chi

Thank you for allowing me to hold a Tai Chi Class at the Joint Venture Church. I have enjoyed teaching this class. We have completed the review of the 36 postures required for the short form and now can perfect the flow of these movements

Tai Chi classes will be ending on May 19 for a summer hiatus. New classes will be available in the fall for beginning and continuing students.

Joan Wagner

Meetings

JV Book Group: JV Book Club will meet on May 18, at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Kathy Kisabeth, 312 Los Pinos Way, San Jose. Our book is *When The Emperor Was Divine* by Julie Otsuka. Is a book of enormous power, during a shameful episode of our history. Please respond to Kathy if you are coming (227-3898) or to Robyn Dorsey (3239230). Thanks.

Robyn Dorsey

Grief and Loss Support Group: This group meets with Pastor Kevin and Bee Mania, Caring Chair, on the first and third Fridays of every month at 10:00 am. The group is open to all who are experiencing loss in their lives. Loss can be the death of a loved one, a child moving away from home, loss of a job, loss of a pet, loss of a relationship, retirement, loss of physical ability due to illness or aging, illnesses in a family, and many other things. Grief is the result of loss. Sharing our experiences and feelings and giving support to each other divides the grief and doubles the joy. Well welcome all, men and women.

Bee Mania

Caring and Outreach

Caring Committee: The Caring Committee Co-chairs for the months of April and May are Mary Kingsley (268-8464) and Audrey Wiedrick (268-3843). Anyone able to assist with food, transportation, home and hospital visits, or who are in need of these services, please call Mary or Audrey. Thank you.

Bee Mania
Caring Chair

Beneficio Coffee: To order "Beneficio More Than Fair Trade Coffee," contact Phyllis Chai at 408-226-7150. The beans are bought from farmers in Costa Rica and roasted at the Sacramento, CA company; they are freshly ground when ordered, and arrive in San Jose in 1-2 days. The Full City mild blend coffee is served at the J.V. churches coffee hours; stronger, French Roast and medium Decaf are also available.

Phyllis Chai

Aluminum Cans for Habitat for Humanity: Thanks to your efforts collecting, saving and delivering aluminum cans to church, we raised \$182 for Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity in March. Not bad for a wet, wet, February and March! Our next bi-monthly can collection weekend will be May 13 & 14. Look for the Habitat Can sign in front of the church the week leading up to the 13th & 14th and drop those empties off by the enclosed area at the back of the parking lot at that time. Thank you again for helping.

Tom the Can Man

ps: Look for the results of our survey of JV friends' and members' favorite beverages and brands soon.

Request

Greeters and Coffee Hosts: I am looking for people willing to be greeters/coffee hosts for Spring (any date after Easter) and Summer. I have detailed instructions on how to do these duties and will also find you a helper if you need one.

Carol Pullen
d.c.pullen@earthlink.net

Music Notes

La Cage Aux Folles

Greetings! Our JV Music Director, John Leslie, will be appearing in Saratoga Drama Group's upcoming production of *La Cage Aux Folles*. He will play the part of the café-owner (NOT the nightclub-owner, and NOT the restaurant-owner!).

Also in the cast will be P. J. Gallego (ECA) and Kendrick Hough (AVUCC).

There will be a Gala Opening Night performance on Saturday, May 13 at 8:00 pm, followed by a champagne reception with wedding cake in honor of the young couple in the show who are planning their marriage.

A JV theatre party is being planned, and there are already 40 of your friends from both AVUCC and ECA signed-up to attend.

Please read the attachment which includes more details, and call or E-mail John at the church right away to make your reservation. Tickets for this special Opening Night are going fast, and you don't want to be left out!

As the song says: "So hold this moment fast, and live and love as hard as you know how, and make this moment last because THE BEST OF TIMES is now...is now...is now!"

Thanks for your time and consideration.

John Leslie

JV Director of Music

HOLY WEEK and EASTER MUSIC: Thanks to all who helped to prepare and present our wonderful music for Holy Week and Easter services. Thanks to John Hawes and the AVUCC Folk Choir musicians for providing all the music for Palm Sunday. Thanks to all the choir members who joined with the ECA choir for the beautiful Joint Venture Maundy Thursday service. Thanks again to John Hawes, as well as to Andy Kerr, for assembling and preparing the musicians for the Joint Venture Easter Sunrise Service. Thanks to all who were able to be with us and sing on Easter morning: the rousing "Lift High the Cross" as the flower Cross was raised, and our Easter anthem "Break forth into Joyous Singing." Special thanks to Ann Mayers (ECA) for playing bassoon on Maundy Thursday, and to Tom Eschenfelder for providing, moving and playing timpani for our exciting Easter music offerings!

Music Notes, continued

SUMMER MUSICAL – PERFORMERS and

HELPERS: Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the Music and Education Office if you are interested in any aspect of our summer musical: performing, sets, costumes, make-up, props, etc.

SUMMER MUSICAL – REHEARSALS:

Music rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evenings at 8:30 pm, following our regular AVUCC choir rehearsal. Everyone is welcome to join us for choir at 7:30, or just come at 8:30 for Anything Goes music. Beginning in June, the entire rehearsal will be devoted to music from the show.



Music Notes, continued

Tap dance classes will be offered on Saturday mornings at 10:00, beginning May 19. Depending on interest and experience, we might offer two classes – one for beginners, and one for those who have had tap dance lessons before. These classes will help prepare anyone interested in being part of the tap ensemble for “Anything Goes.”

We will have a read-thru of Act One script and music for the show on Sunday evening, May 14, at 7:00pm (“Happy Mothers’ Day!”) The full cast is encouraged to attend.

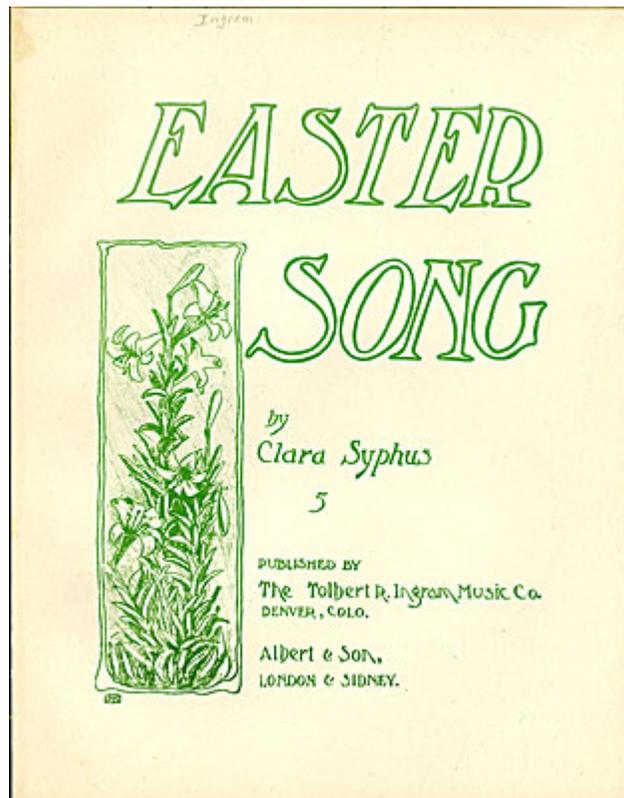
JV CHILDREN’S CHOIR: The JV Children’s Choir will have their final rehearsal on Saturday, May 13. Thanks to all the girls and their parents for their dedication to singing praises to our Lord!

JV BELL CHOIR: The JV Bell Choir continues to rehearse Wednesdays from 4:45-6:00pm. We are planning a concert for some time late in May, or in June. Please watch for further announcements.

*Come, celebrate in your feasting that the God of liberation
Brings us to new life, new wholeness, and forgives
in joy and love.
With voices and happy drumming let us sing the
triumph song.
God is alive and among us, now our dancing
hearts rejoice!
Celebrate that Christ is living and then wait for
God’s great gift:
The divine and holy Spirit now may come into our
hearts.*

Mortimer Arias (transl. Roberto Escamillo and
Elise S. Eslinger)

Music Notes, continued



Music Calendar:

Wed. May 3 6:30pm AVUCC Folk Choir rehearsal
7:30pm Shalom Choir rehearsal
8:30pm Anything Goes music rehearsal
Sat. May 6 10:00am JV Children's Choir rehearsal
Wed. May 10 7:30pm Shalom Choir rehearsal
8:30pm Anything Goes music rehearsal
Sat. May 13 10:00am JV Children's Choir rehearsal
Sun. May 14 7:00pm Anything Goes rehearsal
Wed. May 17 7:30pm Shalom Choir rehearsal
8:30pm Anything Goes music rehearsal
Sat. May 20 10:00am tap classes for Anything Goes
7:30pm Almaden Adventures in the Arts Concert
featuring Doce Brazil
Sun. May 21 7:00pm Anything Goes rehearsal
Wed. May 24 7:30pm Shalom Choir rehearsal
8:30pm Anything Goes music rehearsal
Sat. May 27 10:00am tap classes for Anything Goes
Sun. May 28 7:00pm Anything Goes rehearsal
Tue. May 30 7:30pm JV Choir rehearsal for Pentecost
and Confirmation

John Leslie

Youth News

SHYGS Are Growing and Having Fun Doing It

Do you feel like it's raining so much that you can see the grass grow? While we're all getting a little tired of the wet, it's brought such an abundance of green and flowers and growth that it's also been a good thing. It's that visual sign of spring and Easter that this is a time of rebirth and growth. We see this growth in our SHYGS as well.

March brought Happening! and we had four of our teens attending: Alex Bemis, Josh Bemis and Kristin Petruzzelli all attended the spiritual weekend held at Good Shepard Church in Salinas, where they explored their faith and the tremendous love that God has for them. It was wonderful to be able to attend their closing service and to see the dedication of the staff (most of whom are teens) and our SHYGS helping to lead the service.

Our March meeting topic focused on our uniqueness, and we explored the Scripture from Genesis that describes how God made us in God's image, both male and female. We asked if that meant that God looks like a man and a woman but determined that this Scripture doesn't refer to a physical image. We explored the idea that being made in God's image means that we have the qualities of God: compassion, creativity, personality, consciousness, soul and spirit. This led to each SHYG doing an art project that represented what made them unique. We finished up with Psalm 139, which talks again about how we are wonderfully made and a responsive reading. We are growing in our knowledge of who we are!

In addition to the introspection, SHYGS also had a blast on their Tweak Hunt, led again by Kyle Dando. The reports we hear back are that this is a 'must do' every year and that the only request from SHYGS is that the hunt is longer -- they can't get enough! Kyle brings a lot of creativity to the events he provides for our teens, and we offer up a lot of thanks to him for that.

Speaking of fun and Kyle's creativity, in April he was back with Catacombs! This is the activity that our SHYGS just LOVE every spring. It is the time where Kyle takes them back to the early days of Christianity when Christians had to meet together in secret down in the catacombs and often evade the Roman soldiers. Kyle takes the teens through fun challenges and scenarios where they must evade the guards. We thank Kyle and his volunteers for making this another successful evening and also for taking charge of this event so that we could have a weekend away.

Youth News, continued

Our April topic was centered on our charge to be good stewards of the earth-this was in conjunction with Earth Day on April 22. Some of our SHYGS handed out fliers to assist AVCS (Almaden Valley Counseling Service) to get the word out about their E-Waste Collection event on April 27-28. This event provided free disposal of e-waste and also was a fundraiser for the counseling service. SHYGS had originally planned a beach clean-up for Earth Day, but due to weather we have postponed that until this summer where we will go up to Half Moon Bay State Beach and do a clean-up and planting. It will also give us a chance to see where we are camping in August!

We are still trying to get an accurate list of all of current 8th graders so that we don't miss anyone who will officially be a SHYG after school is out this year. If you have an 8th grader and you haven't emailed or called me, please do. We need their name, their birth date, and the school they will be attending in the fall -- thank you!

Robin and Terry
268-1203
robinroot@yahoo.com

Coming Up:

Fri-Sun, May 5-7- Heifer Global Village Experience-Ceres, California-We leave late Friday afternoon and return Sunday afternoon

Sunday, May 21-Car Wash (Tickets will be sold during coffee hour on May 7 and May 14) (This event is a 'all hands on deck' event-every SHYG is to attend if all possible)

Sunday, May 28-Go Karts-Malibu Grand Prix (Memorial Day Weekend)

Sunday, June 4-Regular Meeting 6:30

Saturday, June 17th-Attend Greg Lukanc's Eagle Scout ceremony

Sunday, June 18th-Regular Meeting

Robin Root

Youth News

Calling all 8th grade parents!

Terry and I are starting to plan for our coming year and want to make sure that we've identified all current 8th graders at both churches. If you have an 8th grader, even if they currently don't attend youth group, please email both Desi and myself with the name of your teen, their birthdate and the name of the school they will attend in the fall. We are really excited about the coming year and want to make sure each new freshman gets the opportunity to try out SHYGS!

The email addresses are: office@eca-sj.org and robinroot@yahoo.com.

The 8th graders we currently have identified:

John Beecher
Bailey Bishop
Monique Rousseau
Marcus Bond
Andrew Garg
Harry Hall
Fallone Kabeja
Doug Lukanc
AJ Nigro
Monique Rousseau
Isaac Tysanner

Worship Schedule for May:

Pastor Kevin will be on vacation the first week in May. Terry Shoup is preaching on May 7th. Pastor Kevin will be preaching the remaining Sundays.

Lay Readers:

May 7th - Jim Ballek
May 14th - Dot Allfrey
May 21 - Steve Coutinho
May 28 - Betsy Shoup

The Folk Choir will be singing the first Sunday in May instead of its usual second Sunday.

Rev. Kevin M. Smith
Home study phone: 408-920-6513

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Church Benson	5/2
Kevin Haley	5/2
Judy Martin	5/2
Amy Smith	5/2
Tom Rose	5/4
Kathy Kisabeth	5/8
Jessica Rose	5/8
Charlotte Ohlsen	5/11
Nathan Daley	5/14
Dick Okumura	5/14
Christine Phillips	5/15
Jim Ballek	5/17
Greg Hearn	5/17
Patrick Daley	5/18
Kathleen Quint	5/18
Dick Specht	5/19
Dennis Elliott	5/20
Joshua Bemis	5/21
Barbara Alumbaugh	5/22
Susanna Hough	5/22
Tim Coutinho	5/23
Alex Specht	5/25
Marcia Bush	5/27
Tom Gerber	5/28
Megan Haley	5/28
Bessie Hutchins	5/30
Dee Chase	5/31
Brian Quint	5/31

Anniversaries

Dick & Joan Okumura	5/5
David & Janey Sanders	5/5

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KALOS – May 2006

KALOS Deadline for the June Issue

The deadline for the June issue of the Kalos is **Sunday May 15, 2006**. Items should be submitted to the Kalos address: kalos@avucc.org.

Editors: Sue Scaff (408) 448-3038
Kelly Yamanishi (408) 997-3373

-Daily Lectionary- May, 2006

These lectionary readings are from A Daily Lectionary-Scripture readings for Every Day based on the New Common Lectionary. Please share this resource with members of your church.

**The readings listed for Sundays are from the UCC Desk Calendar and are not part of the daily lectionary cycle.*

Day	Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Epistle
Mon.	May 1	Daniel 4:1-18	John 20:19-23	2 Tim. 1:1-14
Tue.	May 2	Daniel 4:19-27	John 20:24-31	2 Tim. 1:15-2:13
Wed.	May 3	Daniel 4:28-37	Mark 9:38-50	2 Tim. 2:14-26
Thu.	May 4	Daniel 5:1-12	Mark 10:23-31	2 Tim. 3:1-17
Fri.	May 5	Daniel 5:13-30	Mark 12:1-11	2 Tim. 4:1-8
Sat.	May 6	Daniel 6:1-15	John 10:1-10	2 Tim. 4:9-22
*Sun.	May 7	Psalm 23	John 10:11-18	Acts 4:5-12
Mon.	May 8	Daniel 6:16-28	John 10:22-30	1 John 1:1-4
Tue.	May 9	Daniel 12:1-13	John 10:31-38	1 John 1:5-10:
Wed.	May 10	Ezek. 34:11-16	Matthew 7:1-12	1 John 2:1-6
Thu.	May 11	Deut. 30:15-20	Matthew 7:13-21	1 John 2:7-11
Fri.	May 12	Jeremiah 14:14-18	Matthew 7:22-27	1 John 2:12-17
Sat.	May 13	Isaiah 40:9-11	Matthew 7:28-8:4	1 John 2:18-23
*Sun.	May 14	Psalm 22:25-31	John 15:1-8	Acts 8:26-40
Mon.	May 15	Song of Sol. 2:1-7	Matthew 8:5-17	1 John 2:24-29
Tue.	May 16	Song of Sol. 3:1-5	Matthew 8:18-27	1 John 3:1-10
Wed.	May 17	Song of Sol. 5:1-8	Matthew 8:28-34	1 John 3:11-18
Thu.	May 18	Song of Sol. 5:9-16	Matthew 9:1-8	1 John 3:19-24
Fri.	May 19	Song of Sol. 6:1-10	Matthew 9:9-17	1 John 4:1-6
Sat.	May 20	Song of Sol. 8:1-7	Matthew 9:18-26	1 John 4:7-12
*Sun.	May 21	Psalm 98	John 15:9-17	Acts 10:44-48
Mon.	May 22	Isaiah 63:3-9	Luke 12:13-21	1 John 4:13-21
Tue.	May 23	Isaiah 45:1-8	Matthew 13:1-17	1 John 5:1-5
Wed.	May 24	Ezek. 1:1-14	Matthew 13:18-23	Eph. 1:1-10
Thu	May 25	Psalm 47	Luke 24:46-53	Eph. 1:15-23
Fri.	May 26	Ezek. 1:15-28a	Matthew 22:41-46	1 John 5:6-12
Sat.	May 27	Ezek. 1:28b-3:3	Matthew 28:11-20	1 John 5:13-21
*Sun	May 28	Psalm 1	John 17:6-19	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Mon.	May 29	Ezek. 3:4-17	Luke 10:1-17	2 John 1-13
Tue.	May 30	Ezek. 3:17-27	Luke 10:17-24	3 John 1-8
Wed.	May 31	Ezek. 4:1-17	Luke 10:25-37	3 John 9-15