

AVUCC

KALOS

*Newsletter for the
Almaden Valley
United Church of Christ*

Pastor Kevin's Corner:

Thanksgiving

It has been a trying year for many of us, filled with sickness, hard financial times, and anxiety about the future and regret about the past. Some of the members of our church family have moved on and some have experienced significant and critical life changes due to health or other problems only they know. Our church, in an effort to become even more inclusive and welcoming, has experienced a downturn in Sunday morning worship attendance, but new folks are finding their way to our welcoming doors. Still through these hard times, we who call AVUCC our church home have persevered.

I would like to take this Thanksgiving opportunity to thank all of who have given so much to our church family. I personally appreciate all your efforts towards deepening our faith formation and learning how each of us alone and together can learn to walk in the way of Jesus to heal the world, heal our community, and experience the loving and freely given grace of God so that we may, in turn, live in grace with each other and with our neighbors near and far. God has blessed us with our church family and even in the midst of tough times we are learning to act with grace and hope for what God has in store for us in the future.

Thank you to all those who give so much of your time and energy whether it's participating in outreach activities or for helping to keep the "trains running on time (and well!)" in worship, on the council, on the joint ven-

November 2009

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Important Reminder!

**AVUCC
Annual Meeting**

**November 8, 2009
After Church
in Fellowship Hall**

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Monthly Newsletter
Almaden Valley United Church of Christ
6581 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120
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Visit our website: www.avucc.org

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ture board, or keeping our church grounds looking and being inviting and clean. Bless you each one for the special God-given gifts you bring to this church family. You are beloved.

As we enter into the Advent season may we act in grace and anticipation of brighter days ahead led by the bright light of one who comes to us as a child of love, grace, peace, and most of all, hope. Thank you for being a member of this special place that is our home of faith.

Pastor Kevin

Treasurer's Cubicle

At its 13 October meeting, the Council discussed financial results for September 2009. Detailed results are posted outside Fellowship Hall.

Account and Fund Balances	Beginning Balance 08/31/09	Credits	Debits	FINAL Balance 9/30/09
Bank Account Statement Amounts:				
Checking	24,419	42,472	-24,937	41,954
MM	42,841	9	-30,000	12,851
CD	40,156	45	0	40,201
CU	0	0	0	0
SmithBarney	0	0	0	0
Total Bank Accounts	107,416	42,527	-54,937	95,005
Fund Allocations:				
Past operating	17,342	0	0	17,342
Current income	96,567	11,174	0	107,741
Current expense	-112,207	0	-24,937	-137,144
Future operating	3,768	0	0	3,768
Committee funds	3,159	20	0	3,179
Donation funds	756	1,332	0	2,089
Transfer funds	0	30,200	-30,200	0
Long term funds	98,030	0	0	98,030
Total Fund Allocations	107,416	42,727	-55,137	95,005

September showed a cash-basis operating deficit of \$14000 to offset the cash-basis surplus for August. Together August and September showed an averaged monthly deficit of \$5000, which is about normal.

With 75% of the year over, operating budget was close to plan, with income at 74% of budget for the year and expense at 76% of budget.

Every month we have a minimum of \$13000 and an average of \$15000 of budgeted operating expense to be paid. Our collective historical pattern is to fall behind in the summer and catch up by December. I hope that will hold true again. In the meantime, \$30000 was transferred from the Money Market to Checking accounts to cover deficits in the remaining months of 2009.

Also at its October meeting, the council approved a simplification of our long-term and short-term fund structure. Our various persistent non-operating funds have been consolidated into five: Pastoral, Christian Growth, Music and Arts, Venture, and Men's Breakfast. That will make it easier for future donors to fund the most suitable area of church life, and also makes it easier for future council members to determine the most suitable fund to charge for a particular expense. Please read the details at <http://avucc.oakapple.net/treasury/2010/funds-consolidation.html> and let me know if you have any questions.

People in the Pews

[Editor's note: We are missing the wonderful way Dot Allfrey has of keeping us all updated on the comings and goings with our congregation, and continue to pray for her and Bill as they manage these challenges of late. We have had some wonderful visits from our extended out of town church family and even have some new members to welcome. Watch this space for a more thorough update in December brought to you by either by your trusty editor or some other brave soul willing to rise to the call! (hint, hint....)]

Thank You!!

Thank you for all the help and support given me while I recuperated from knee surgery.

Thank you for the Caring Committee who coordinated the support.

Thank you for the wonderful lunches, dinners, and snacks provided.

Thank you for the cards and phone calls.

Thank you for the transportation.

Thank you for delivering equipment to my home.

Most of all thank you for being the wonderful caring church you have always been.

The party for John Noerenberg was most appreciated. His children have written notes of thankfulness. He seems to be adjusting to his new home. His address is:

John Noerenberg
500 Carlson Parkway #236
Minnetonka, MN 55305
Phone: (952) 476-2324

Joan Curtice

Men's Steak and Stein Update

On September 19, the annual Men's Steak and Stein was held at ECA / AVUCC. Approximately 30 men showed up and a good time was had by all.

The purpose of this annual event has become a fundraiser for the Joint Venture Churches, and it is open to all men and their guests of the JV Churches.

One of the more memorable guests this year was an invitee by a new member of AVUCC. This guest was a retired Methodist minister who really had a great time and intends to be with us again next year.

I want to thank the committee members who made this event happen: Ron Howie and Mike Reilly -- Grill Masters Mark Ciccarello, Dwight Dorsey and Craig Stephan -- Chefs and final food prep Those of you who stopped by the BBQ to lend advice on how to cook meat, turn sausages, and so forth.

Your suggestions are always welcomed. I noticed that no one stopped by the kitchen to give any advice. Was that because the kitchen crew were all armed with knives? I want to thank the set-up and tear-down teams who really pitched in. Some of the faces I remember seeing were Rob McClaine, Alex Dykes and Sam Sarmecanic. For those I failed to recognize, I will do a much better job next year. Not to be outdone or left out was AVUCC member Chuck Smith who was there to help with the clean-up, dishes and anything else that needed to be done.

Our contribution back to the Joint Venture Fund will be \$330. Thanks again to everyone who attended and assisted with this event

David Byers

Outreach

Aluminum Cans for Habitat

Our next collection of aluminum cans for Habitat for Humanity, and the last collection this year, is the weekend of November 14 and 15. When you see the Habitat Aluminum Can Collection sign hanging in front of the church, cans may be left anywhere in the vicinity of the sheds by the Rose Garden. These cans will be moved to a secure area periodically and after the weekend, taken to the recycler for cash. That cash is then donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Thanks to our dedicated soft drink and other canned beverage drinkers, plus their willingness to collect, save and deliver those empties to church, you have raised \$447 for Habitat for Humanity so far in 2009. This will also be the last Habitat can collection for Tom the Can Man. If someone is willing to take over this task, please contact me. Availability of a pickup truck or utility trailer (which I no longer have) to transport the cans to the recycler is useful but not required.

Tom Gerber
268-4819

Outreach Special Offering

At "press time" the amount shared for our annual "Strengthen the Church" special offering was \$1,090. Thank you for your generosity!

Beneficio

Bags of Beneficio (More Than Fair Trade) Coffee make great Christmas/hostess gifts or "stocking stuffers". Also, for your holiday entertaining or your everyday enjoyment, don't be "caught short". Each 12 oz. bag still sells for \$8.75. Please contact Phyllis Chai at 226-7150 to order. At this time of year, processing can be expected to take longer, so please don't delay if you wish to order.

Alternative Christmas-December 6

This time of year we give special thoughts to the needy people in our community and the wonderful outreach projects of our churches. Please come with open hearts and checkbooks to the Alternative Christmas Market in Fellowship Hall between services Sunday, December 6. Some of the offerings may be to support "Turning Wheels for Kids", Heifer Project International, and Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity. In return, you will receive a card to give your gift recipient, telling them the items have been donated in their name as a Christmas gift that keeps on giving...Too, contributions may be made to InnVision, Santa Maria Urban Ministries, African Team Ministries (by purchasing jewelry and handmade crafts), and also to Peter Nyok's ministry to orphans in Kenya. Please be generous to our annual outreach fundraiser!

Women's Weekend Winter Retreat

Please consider joining us for the UCC Women's Network (in partnership with Disciples of Christ Women's Ministries) annual winter weekend retreat January 29-31, 2010 at Mercy Center, Burlingame. The theme will be: "Heartbeat of God: Making

Whole Body and Soul". You will find more information and registration forms on the downstairs hallway bulletin board, or you may contact Phyllis Chai at 226-7150.

Phyllis Chai

Events

Christmas Dinner

Hi Kalos Readers!

Please note that our annual Christmas social event will be

"An Elegant Holiday Dinner."
It will be held on
December 12
at 6:30 PM
in Fellowship Hall.

More details will follow shortly. Meanwhile, save the date on your holiday calendar.

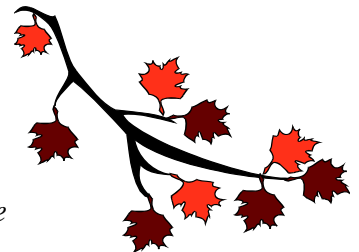
Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast, Saturday, December 5, 2009 at 8:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Women are invited for the 8:30 AM Talk.

Speaker: Jim Livingstone CPA
Subject: 2009 Income Tax Returns

Jim's presentation will make us aware of current tax laws and changes for 2009 that will affect our immediate tax needs. This will be an opportunity to ask him about tax concerns that you may have. Come, learn and be aware of your 2009 tax situation.

Bob Greene



November Birthdays

YAMADA, Harriet	11/3
HARRIS, Dave	11/6
HALEY, Karen	11/8
SCAFF, Sue	11/11
HALEY, Shannon	11/13
FARR, Linda	11/15
GREEN, Bob	11/17
GRAHAM, Bonnie	11/18
CLICK, Melanie	11/19
SYN, Toh-Bee	11/21
THOMAS, Robert	11/25
ANDERSON, Ed	11/27
MARTIN, Carol	11/29

November Anniversaries

David & Gloria Dunlap	11/4
Kevin Smith & Nancy Palmer Jones	11/9

November Worship

Sermons/Children's Time Rev. Kevin Smith

November 1	Pastor Kevin
November 8	Pastor Kevin/Jean Shipe
November 15	Pastor Kevin
November 22	Pastor Kevin
November 29	Pastor Kevin

Lay Readers Sandy Baldwin dsbald@comcast.net

November 1	Rae Harris
November 8	Dennis Elliott
November 15	TBD
November 22	TBD
November 29	TBD

Ushers Dot Allfrey 268-2973

November 1	Dave Harris
November 8	Dot Allfrey, Stan Yumen, Toh-Bee Syn
November 15	Dave Harris
November 22	Dave Harris
November 29	Dave Harris

Greeter/Coffee Host Linda Farr 268-8210

November 1	Laura Hall & Barbara Alumbaugh
November 8	Marina & Claire Henderson
November 15	Bemis/Blake Family
November 22	Mary Kingsley & Sue Hamilton
November 29	Kimberly & Maggie Garg

Communion Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall
November 1 Jim & Kathryn McAbee

Break-out Tami Nieders 268-7681
November 15 TBD
November 22 TBD

Bread Making Melanie Click 323-8283
November 29 TBD

Sanctuary Flowers Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall

November 1	Suzanne Mayo
November 8	Kathleen Eagan
November 15	TBD
November 22	Liz Criner
November 29	TBD

We need volunteers to help with worship service. This is an essential part in the operation and vitality of our church. Many of you have and will continue to help with worship and other activities in the church. This is a great opportunity for those of you who have yet to help in our worship service.

Worship duties included: Ushering, Communion Service, Greeting & coffee hosting, Lay reading, Break-out for the kids, Bread baking, and providing Altar Flowers, doing one of the Children's Sermons, and for those of you who want a real challenge with the approval of Pastor Kevin, an Adult Sermon.

The really great thing about doing service for the church is that you get more out of it than you put into it. Take one step towards God, and He will take two steps towards you.

Dennis Elliott

NOVEMBER 2009

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 12:00 PM ECA Birthday Party & Lunch	2 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #294 meeting	3 6:30 PM Almaden Valley Womens Club meeting 7:00 PM Christian Ed & Youth Committee Meeting	4 9:30 AM Quest Meeting 5:15 PM JV Bell Choir 7:30 PM Shalom Choir rehearsal	5 3:30 AM Girl Scout Troop 60332 meeting 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:30 PM ECA Choir rehearsal	6	7 8:00 AM AVUCC Men's Breakfast 4:30 PM ECA Pastoral Search Committee Meeting
8	7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 8:45 AM ECA Adult Forum 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 10:10 AM AVUCC Annual Congregational Meeting 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 12:15 PM ECA Adult Forum 6:00 PM SHYG Bowling Night	9 8:00 AM Salvation Army Pickup 9:00 AM San Jose Assistance League Board meeting 3:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #11227 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #294 meeting	10 7:00 PM AVUCC Council Meeting 7:00 PM ECA Vestry Meeting	11 9:30 AM Quest Meeting 11:30 AM JV Staff Lunch 5:15 PM JV Bell Choir 6:45 PM AVUCC Folk Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM Shalom Choir rehearsal	12 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:30 PM ECA Choir rehearsal	13 3:00 PM ECA Montgomery Meals 6:00 PM JHYG Meeting 7:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 282 Den 1	14 Habitat for Humanity Aluminum Collection 10:00 AM JV Knitting Group
15	Habitat for Humanity Aluminum Collection 7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 8:45 AM ECA Adult Forum 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship Folk Sunday 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 12:15 PM ECA Adult Forum 2:30 PM Wild Things at Vision Quest Ranch	16 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #294 meeting	17 4:15 PM AVUCC Shelter Food Service 7:30 PM JV Board Meeting	18 9:30 AM Quest Meeting 5:15 PM JV Bell Choir 7:30 PM JV Book Club 7:30 PM Shalom Choir rehearsal	19 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM San Jose Assistance League general meeting 1:15 PM Unicorn Thrift Shop meeting 3:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 60332 meeting 7:30 PM ECA Choir rehearsal	20	21 8:30 AM Cursillo Meeting
22	7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 8:45 AM ECA Adult Forum 9:00 AM AVUCC Thanksgiving Service 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 12:15 PM ECA Adult Forum 6:00 PM Youth Pie Crust Making	23 3:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #11227 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #294 meeting	24	25 11:30 AM JV Staff Lunch 4:00 PM Youth Pie Baking	26 JV Office Closed	27 JV Office Closed	28
29	First Sunday of Advent 7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 6:00 PM SHYG Event	30 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #294 meeting	1 6:30 PM Almaden Valley Womens Club meeting 7:00 PM Christian Ed & Youth Committee Meeting	2 9:30 AM Quest Meeting 5:15 PM JV Bell Choir 7:30 PM Shalom Choir rehearsal	3 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:30 PM ECA Choir rehearsal	4 6:00 PM JHYG Meeting	5 8:00 AM AVUCC Men's Breakfast 12:00 PM ECA Christmas Party

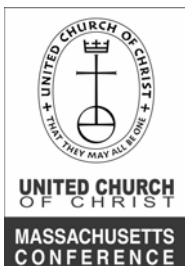
-Daily Lectionary-

November 2009

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.*

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Epistle</u>
*Sun	Nov 1	Ruth 1:1-8	Mark 12:28-34	Heb 9:11-14
Mon	Nov 2	Jer 36:1-10	Luke 13:10-17	1 Tim 1:1-11
Tues	Nov 3	Jer 36:11-26	Luke 13:18-30	1 Tim 1:12-20
Wed	Nov 4	Jer 36:27-37:2	Luke 13:31-35	1 Tim 2:1-7
Thurs	Nov 5	Jer 37:3-21	Luke 14:1-11	1 Tim 2:8-15
Fri	Nov 6	Jer 38:1-13	Luke 14;12-24	1 Tim 3:1-7
Sat	Nov 7	Jer 38:14-28	Luke 14:25-35	1 Tim 3:8-16
*Sun	Nov 8	Ruth 3:1-5;4:13-17	Mark 12:38-44	Heb 9:24-28
Mon	Nov 9	Jer 39:1-18	Luke 15:1-10	1 Tim 4:1-6
Tues	Nov 10	Jer 33:1-14	Luke 15:11-32	1 Tim 4:7-16
Wed	Nov 11	Lam 1:1-12	Luke 16:1-9	1 Tim 5:1-8
Thurs	Nov 12	Lam 2:1-15	Luke 16:19-31	1 Tim 5:9-16
Fri	Nov 13	Ezra 1:1-11	Luke 16:10-18	1 Tim 5:17-24
Sat	Nov 14	Ezra 3:1-13	Luke 17:1-10	1 Tim 6:1-5
*Sun	Nov 15	1 Sam1:4-20	Mark 13:1-8	Heb 10:11-14,(15-18),19-25
Mon	Nov 16	Ezra 4:1-24	Luke 17:11-19	1 Tim 6:6-12
Tues	Nov 17	Ezra 5:1-17	Luke 17:20-37	1 Tim 6:13-21
Wed	Nov 18	Ezra 6:1-22	Luke 18:1-8	Phil 2;1-11
Thurs	Nov 19	Ezra 7(1-10) 11-26	Luke 18:9-14	1 Cor 3:10-13
Fri	Nov 20	Ezra 7:27-28,8:21-36	Luke 23:1-12	Eph1:3-14
Sat	Nov 21	Ezra 9:1-15	Luke 23:35-43	Eph1:15-23
*Sun	Nov 22	2 Sam 23:1-7	John 18:33-37	Rev 1:4b-8
Mon	Nov 23	Ezra 10:1-17	Luke 18:15-30	Rom 15:7-13
Tues	Nov 24	Neh 9:1-25	Luke 18:31-43	1 Thess 1:1-5
Wed	Nov 25	Neh 9:26-38	Luke 19:1-10	1 Thess 1:6-12
Thurs	Nov 26	Jer 3:15-18	Luke 19:11-27	1 Thess 2:1-12
Fri	Nov 27	Jer 4:1-4	Luke 19:28-40	1 Thess 2:13-20
Sat	Nov 28	Jer 23:1-9	Luke 19:41-48	1 Thess 3:1-9
*Sun	Nov 29	Jer 33:14-16	Luke21:25-36	1 Thess 3:9-13
Mon	Nov 30	Jer 33:19-26	Luke 21:10-14	1 Thess 4:1-8



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The deadline for the **November** issue of the Kalos is Sunday, **November 15**. Email your items to: kalos@avucc.org.

Questions—Contact the editor:
Kelly Yamanishi (997-3373)

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