

CCAVUCC

KALOS

*Newsletter for the
Congregational Church of
Almaden Valley, UCC*

Moderator's Note

Spring is nearing soon, and the Council has been busy getting back into the “swing” of things. Since I last wrote we had our first of two goal setting meetings, with great results of identifying our hopes and expectations for the part-time interim minister and next steps to quickly find a great match (included below). We also planned out some of the fun events that bring our congregation together, coming up with a few new ideas to add on to what worked well last year.

On everyone’s mind is the status of the search, as with many organizations, it has taken longer than we anticipated getting profiles, etc. The interim search committee has been very active to find that “great match”, and I am happy to say that we are days from finalizing this as I type... We plan to announce who the Council will hire at the next Congregation Meeting set for March 13. Our hope is that this interim minister will start on March 16th. (A reminder, the interim search committee interviews/assesses and makes a recommendation to Council who then votes to hire.)

Our next step will be to have the second goal setting meeting with our new interim minister, as well as set up a few informal get-togethers to get to know the new interim minister better. Can’t wait!!!

Meanwhile, our daily ebb and flow of CCAVUCC life goes on. The atmosphere at church and church activities is so warm and loving. On top of it, we have quite a few talented folks who add many joys for all to experience; from the beautiful choir music and fun folk choir; to the splendid and lovely voice of Risa Feely’s, heard at the City Diners restaurant (every 3rd Friday night of the month). We continue to be blessed with Melanie’s moving sermons, and we had a special treat to hear from ECA’s new Priest, Rev Kate Flexer who led a service a few weeks back, another truly stimulating sermon! Wait, it doesn’t stop there, we have a special guest leading our service on March 13th, our very own Hi-Dong

March 2011

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Let Us Hear Your News!

Chai! Hi-Dong has been inspired by Melanie and has written a sermon that he would like to share with us.

I do hope everyone can come to church on Sunday March 13th, not only to hear and be inspired by our very own Hi-Dong, but to also attend the Congregation meeting.

So, as we continue to deal with the daily ebb and flow of life, with the days growing longer, and spring approaching, let's take a moment to reflect on what inspires us? All of the above that I've mentioned in one way or another inspire us to do more, listen more, care more, and love more. Sometimes we need a little help to be inspired, especially when things are not going well. I know we can all lean on each other in those times. Let me leave you with one way I get inspired on a daily basis, I subscribe to the Daily Devotionals from the UCC website. I don't always have time to read them, sometimes they pile up in my in-box and I read a few at a time over the weekend, sometimes I read every day. I find them inspiring and thought provoking. Give them a try, you have nothing to lose!

Here's what we published to recruit interim minister candidates:

The following are our hopes and expectations for the part-time transitional minister. The job requirements are listed in order of importance:

- 1. Leading and providing spiritual leadership in worship services, including celebration of Communion and Baptism; officiating at weddings and memorial services; as well as being a spiritual leader and a teacher for this small congregation.*
- 2. Leading and providing pastoral care for the afflicted; and counseling troubled individuals and/or families.*
- 3. Advising the congregation regarding outreach to the community, promoting healing (e.g., current efforts include feeding at the shelter each month and Friends Outside (a program of support for the families of incarcerated individuals)).*
- 4. Serving as interim pastor on Boards and Committees as required, but especially, being a representative to our Joint Venture Board. These meetings will require approximately 6 hours per month.*
- 5. Leading our membership in the development of a vision for the congregation's future, and helping us to achieve that vision. In collaboration with the congregation, assist in developing a plan for growth in order to assure future viability and in helping guide the congregation to an ideal and called pastor.*

We are proud of our church. We are a small congregation going through a transition.

We became an ONA Congregation several years ago after a painful struggle, which caused approximately one-third of the congregation to leave. Our membership has declined over the last few years, although during the last year we have had some new attendees on a regular basis.

Our members are close and work harmoniously in all endeavors. We share our building with an Episcopal congregation (which has a new Rector), youth programs, music programs, and some adult Christian education; and that relationship is harmonious as well.

***Blessings to all,
Kathryn McAbee
CCAVUCC Moderator***

Treasurer's Cubicle

Treasurer's Annual Report for 2010 – Audited Results David Hough

Accounts and Funds:

Account and Fund Balances	Balance 12/31/09	Balance 3/31/10	Balance 6/30/10	UNAUDITED	
				Balance 9/30/10	Balance 12/31/10
Bank Account Statement Amounts:					
Checking	50,173	42,545	22,385	13,573	37,790
MM	12,859	12,867	22,877	7,888	12,884
CD	20,185	20,260	30,312	30,338	10,333
SmithBarney	0	0	0	0	0
SmithBarneyTransfer	0	0	0	0	0
Total Bank Accounts	83,217	75,671	75,573	51,799	61,007
Fund Allocations:					
Budget income	144,237	27,450	78,805	99,745	145,287
Budget expense	-181,314	-33,923	-86,526	-129,735	-166,222
Transient funds	1,439	245	295	-286	1,198
Persistent funds	118,854	81,899	82,999	82,075	80,744
Total Fund Allocations	83,217	75,671	75,573	51,799	61,007

Budgeted operations on cash basis:

Current Year Operating Income and Expense	Balance 12/31/09	Balance 3/31/10	Balance 6/30/10	Balance 9/30/10	AUDITED Balance 12/31/10	%	FINAL Budget 05/10/10
Income							
Pledge	127,754	25,414	69,932	87,348	129,391	107	121,000
Plate	13,723	1,915	8,532	11,973	15,397	128	12,000
Interest	1,216	82	145	182	199	17	1,200
MiscInc	119	39	196	241	300	300	100
Fund Raising	1,424	0	0	0	0	0	1,000
Total Income	144,237	27,450	78,805	99,745	145,287	107	135,300
Expenses							
Salary	-35,650	-7,214	-17,398	-26,311	-35,223	102	-34,625
Housing	-21,510	-4,481	-10,755	-16,133	-21,510	100	-21,510
SETaxOffset	-4,257	-889	-2,134	-3,198	-4,262	100	-4,269
Benefits	-21,100	0	-8,907	-13,341	-13,341	75	-17,893
MinistersExp	-736	-118	-405	-405	-464	23	-2,000
Minister's Package	-83,253	-12,702	-39,598	-59,387	-74,801	93	-80,297
UCCShare	-4,000	0	-2,000	-4,000	-4,000	100	-4,000
Insurance	-2,198	0	-2,154	-2,276	-2,276	99	-2,300
Miscellaneous	-341	-44	-760	-1,342	-1,578	158	-1,000
Nursery	-1,790	-140	-140	-140	-140	100	-140
Postage	-385	-200	-200	-79	-79	13	-600
Admin/General	-8,714	-384	-5,254	-7,838	-8,074	100	-8,040
JVOperating	-83,347	-20,837	-41,673	-62,510	-83,347	100	-83,347
JVCapital	-6,000	0	0	0	0		0
Total Expenses	-181,314	-33,923	-86,526	-129,735	-166,222	97	-171,684
Excess/(Deficit)	-37,077	-6,473	-7,721	-29,990	-20,935	58	-36,384

We ended the year with operating budget expense below plan, and income above plan, so our final deficit of \$20935 is only 58% of plan. Expenses were lower because, with no permanent pastor, no pension and benefits were payable for the first quarter of 2011. Consistent with the cash-basis financial reporting instituted last year, all pledges are counted in the year deposited in our bank. More prepaid pledges than in the prior year contributed to income above plan, and plate was above plan too. The Pledge Recorder will continue to keep track, in individual pledge accounts, of which pledge amounts are for current years and which for future years.

In February 2010 the Pension Boards of UCC refunded \$918 of a \$1025 payment made in November 2009.

These revised statements show that amount as a debit from the Transfer fund in November when it was paid, and a credit in March when the refund was deposited.

Non-operating funds	Balance 12/31/09	Balance 3/31/10	Balance 6/30/10	Balance 9/30/10	AUDITED Balance 12/31/10
Endowment	17	17	17	17	17
ShelterFeed	44	-73	-149	-454	21
Christmas	276	0	0	0	405
CropWalk	0	0	0	0	0
Disaster	0	0	0	0	0
Habitat	410	0	226	0	385
Heifer	1,320	0	0	0	320
InnVision	90	0	0	0	0
NIN	0	0	0	0	0
OGHS	0	0	0	0	0
Strengthen	0	0	0	0	50
SB	0	0	0	0	0
SBTransfer	0	0	0	0	0
TaxShelter	200	300	200	200	0
Transfer	-918	0	0	-50	0
Transient funds:	1,439	245	295	-286	1,198
Pastoral	65,959	65,959	65,959	65,959	65,959
Growth	29,412	29,442	30,783	29,358	28,878
Music	3,181	3,291	3,291	3,766	3,771
Venture	2,961	2,942	2,702	2,728	1,872
PastDeficit	17,342	-19,735	-19,735	-19,735	-19,735
Persistent funds:	118,854	81,899	82,999	82,075	80,744

Off-budget donations:

Besides our operating budget, we collected these amounts:

Shelter feeding	\$1214
Christmas Fund	\$ 405
Habitat	\$ 751
Heifer	\$1130
Neighbors in Need	\$ 470
Strengthen our Church	\$ 50
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 620

Amounts received in December were transmitted in January.

One change this year is that the cumulative operating deficit from prior years is counted as a negative line item among persistent funds, rather than being zero'ed by transferring from one of the named persistent funds.

Results on Accrual Basis:

Cash-basis accounting counts items in the month they are received or paid by the bank. This is easier to audit since no interpretation is required of printed bank statements.

Accrual-basis accounting counts items in the month they are earned or accrued, which might be earlier or later than the month paid. This provides a more accurate indication of financial health but requires much more effort to interpret and audit.

The following cash and accrual results include both budgeted and non-budgeted credits and debits:

	CASH	ACCRUAL
Total of accounts and funds 12/31/2009	83,216.76	97,323.94
Total of accounts and funds 12/31/2010	61,007.09	40,375.45
Deficit for 2010	-22,209.67	-56,948.49
Deficit for 2009	-59,539.09	-27,158.97

Cash results are greater than accrual when credits are received early or debits paid late. Accrual results are greater than cash when credits are received late or debits paid early. 2011 pledges prepaid in 2010 were higher than 2010 pledges prepaid in 2009. However these tend to balance out: the cash deficits for 2009+2010 are fairly close to the accrual deficits for 2009+2010.

David Hough

Outreach

Beneficio Coffee

To order Beneficio Coffee please contact Phyllis Chai (226-7150).

On February 20, 2011 CNN reported that coffee prices are "at their highest in 14 years".

"Beneficio" has felt the price impact, and for the first time since 2008, there is a need to increase the cost per bag. It will continue to be competitive, and will still be \$1.00-\$2.00 less than that of similar brands.

The small farmers and their families in Costa Rica greatly appreciate your continued support!

Shelter Feeding

Our church monthly shelter feeding at two local homeless shelters, continues to be on the third Tuesday of each month. Please call Phyllis Chai (226-7150) to volunteer to help bake cookies, cook, drive, or serve.

The cost for groceries is about \$110.00 to feed the same amount of people each time. In addition bread continues to be donated by Le Boulanger at "Main St." and donuts are given by "Maple Leaf" in Safeway Plaza by the church; our support of these businesses is much appreciated.

The cost of funding our shelter feeding is not included in our annual church budget, as our past Treasurer, David Hough, reminded us in the January issue of the "Kalos". Those able and willing to donate to help pay for the groceries may write a check to CCAVUCC with "Shelter Feeding" in the memo section; checks may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday, in Greg Yamanishi's box at church, or mailed to the church office. Many thanks to those folks who contributed to this cause after the announcement in church recently.

Quest

The Quest weekly ladies group continues to meet on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m.-11:00a.m. in the choir room at church. Not long ago the group finished reading THE FOUR AGREEMENTS and agreed that in it was much "food for thought". Currently the book being read and discussed is FORGIVE FOR GOOD by (Prof.)Fred Luskin. Please know that you are more than welcome to come to the meetings. If you have questions, feel free to contact Phyllis Chai(226-7150) or any other member of the group.

Youth News

JHYG & SHYG

Upcoming 2011 Activities: more details will be provided as meetings/activities approach

Mar 20	Sunday	Regular Meeting
Apr 3	Sunday	Regular Meeting
May 1	Sunday	Regular Meeting
May 15 or 22	Sunday	Carwash
Jun 12	Sunday	Summer Party
Jun 24-26	Fri-Sun	Beach Camping Trip
Jul		Summer BBQ

No youth ski trip is planned for this winter

Jon Mills

Hey All You People In the Pews—Let's hear your News

Please feel free to submit any news or thoughts you'd like to see published in the Kalos. It's always nice for those who are either friends out of town, or locals who are unable to make it to church to get updates on our community. Many also enjoy celebrating good news together, or offering prayers or sharing another's burden when we know what's going on. If you have news worth sharing about members and friends of our congregation or even about you or your own family—don't hold back! We'll plan to consolidate your updates into a new version of People in the Pews as the information comes in. See the submittal information below. Let us hear from you!

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[Please bear with us as we continue the transition into providing content online that can also print into something not too unpleasant to the eye Ideas and suggestions always welcome. -Ed.]

Birthdays and Schedule information can be found in the mid-week e-mails. The Church Calendar is also available online at ccavucc.org.

Submittal Information:

Deadline for the April Kalos is March 20th.

Please e-mail submittals to newsdesk@ccavucc.org

Questions/Comments? Please contact the editor, Kelly Yamanishi, at (408)997-3373 or kelly.yamanishi@gmail.com