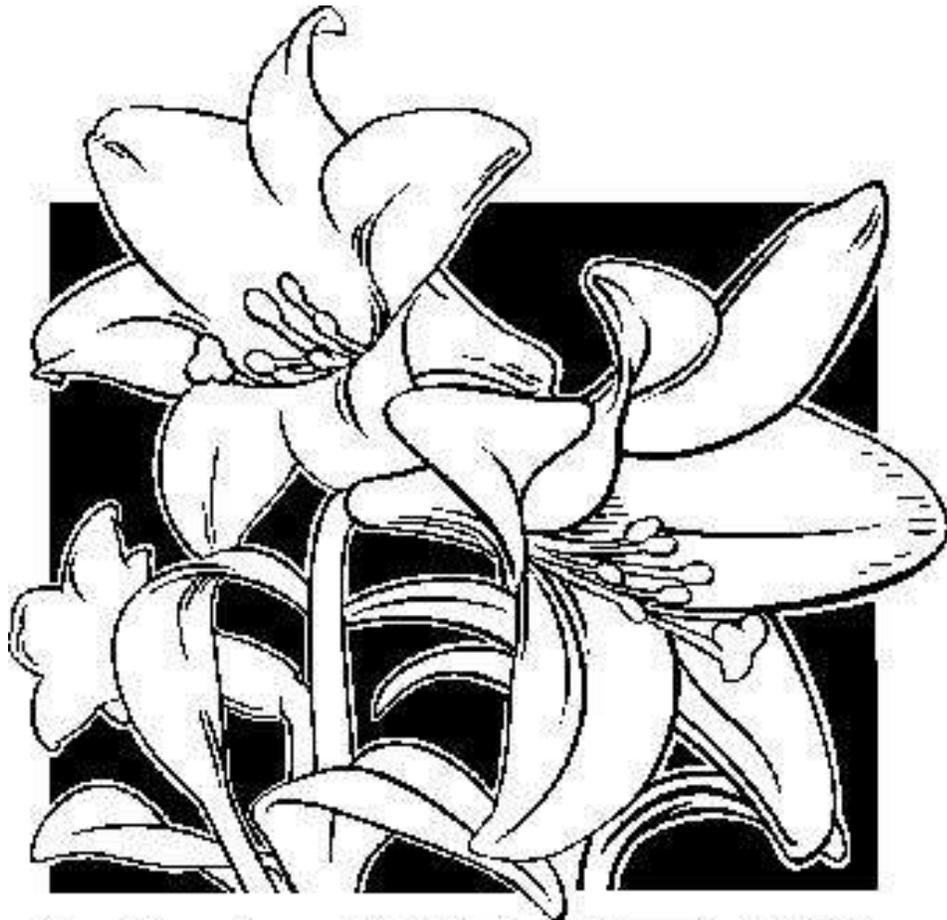


# *THE GRAPEVINE*

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NAPA (707) 253-1411

[www.napaumc.org](http://www.napaumc.org)

April 1, 2015



# EASTER

*We are grateful to the Napa Community Seventh-day Adventist Church for their gracious invitation to worship in their church at the Corner of Brown and G Streets each Sunday and during the Advent Season.*





## **Holy Week Services**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** – April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6 pm - Kagawa Room  
Please bring a salad to share.  
Bread and juice will be provided!

**GOOD FRIDAY** – April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Outdoor Interfaith Urban Stations of the Cross  
11:00 am - Meet on the steps of the First Presbyterian Church

**EGG-STRAVAGANZA** – Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – 2 – 4 pm – Kagawa Room

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** – April 5<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 am – Tulocay Cemetery

**EASTER TRADITIONAL WORSHIP** – April 5<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 am  
Seventh-day Adventist Sanctuary

**EASTER FUSION WORSHIP** – 11:00 am – Seventh-day Adventist Chapel



# Napa First UMC Seismic Upgrade and Repair Project Report

Many of you have taken interest in the scaffolding that has been erected surrounding the tower and other parts of the church building. And, you've asked for an update regarding progress. So, what follows is an attempt to capture the major work currently being undertaken by a great number of skilled and talented workers.

## FINANCIAL

Since receiving a check from our California Nevada Conference Earthquake Self Insurance Fund in the amount of \$1,552,500 in January, we've been in the process of applying to other sources that may help us complete the scope of work yet before us. As you'll recall, the total projected cost of the seismic upgrade and repair project is \$1,900,000. Thus, we will need to locate an additional \$347,500 to complete this phase of the work.

Church Council Chairperson Dave Whitmer has taken on the task left unfinished by church member Jon Lander following his untimely death in December. This phase of the work entails working with both the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Small Business Association (SBA) emergency loan department to discover if we, as a local church affected by the earthquake, qualify for emergency grants (from FEMA) or loans (from SBA). As a local church, we are not likely to qualify for any large sum of money unless we can demonstrate that portions of the effected buildings are used for arts or community oriented purposes. Dave has been working diligently on behalf of the church to do just that. However, we're not likely to know the fruit of his efforts for weeks – perhaps even months.

Pastor Lee Neish is completing the application process for a potential grant from church rebuilding funds from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Since knowing the extent that our local annual conference was able to financially contribute toward the repair project, we can now complete the information requested from UMCOR on their grant application. Their funding board meets in April so we should likely know by May what they might be able to do for us.

So, by May, we should begin the process of our own fundraising through a capital campaign across the congregation. Prior to the campaign, it is important to know how much we might expect to receive from outside funding before launching our internal effort. There is so much at stake for the future of our congregation when it comes to funding projects that had been originally scheduled to be included in the remodel prior to the earthquake that we cannot afford to put any additional dollars toward earthquake repair that could have or might yet be reserved for those projects.

## STRUCTURAL

The City of Napa granted Building Permits for the completion of proposed structural repairs and seismic upgrades on March 13<sup>th</sup>. That's why you've seen so much activity such as erecting external scaffolding and a bevy of construction workers and architects on site. John Kangsgaard of the Napa Valley Chamber Music Association was kind enough to provide the services of Chicago-based Acoustician Larry Kirkegaard for consultation as we return our sanctuary into a world class acoustic hall for music performance as well as for purposes of

weekend worship. He was with us over the March 13-15 weekend and his report and recommendations are forthcoming. In an informal email which forecast some of his findings, he's recommending a lime wash treatment to the plaster application throughout the sanctuary which should guarantee best results for sound.

In the crawl spaces underneath the social hall and sanctuary there are new engineering applications installed to interface between the foundation upon which the historic building sits and the structural supports for the building itself making it much less susceptible to the displacement that often results from the shaking of higher magnitude earthquakes. A new roof had been designed and will be constructed to serve as a diaphragm for the entire historic building to lessen the chances of gable dislocation such as we witnessed along the eastern side of the church which the separation of the upper wall from the roof. And, as the new roof is applied, we're considering having the entire campus reroofed to address the many instances of leakage and water damaged suffered over the past decade.

Vertical structural supports are being installed alongside existing vertical members to give greater strength in supporting the existing structure. Insulation is being "blown in" to provide greater temperature control and energy conservation than what was previously possible. At the same time, we're considering the installation of additional ducting and ventilation to make the sanctuary and social hall areas more comfortable and resistant to the heat of the summer months and the cold of the winter months. A new entrance has been proposed on the west side of the social hall from the parking lot to allow better access for all entering the building as well as the installation of an elevator to assist those with physical challenges to access second floor meetings and ministries. Such additional items not in existence prior to the earthquake is beyond the scope of the authorized repairs and would be the subject for congregational conversation and, perhaps, projects approved for moneys raised through the capital campaign.

## PROJECT COMPLETION

There is yet no completion date projected because, following the completion of the structural repairs, we'll be moving back into the sanctuary to reinstall pews, piano, organ and organ pipes, etc. We still have no schedule, no form of payment on hand for such completion projects. However, we have hope that we'll be able to return to our sanctuary prior to the year's end. And to that end, please keep this entire project, additional funding to be sought, and everyone's safety first and foremost as a matter of your prayers as, in a manner we could not have anticipated at last July's fundraiser and dinner at the Hanna's Vineyard, we ***Build a Church for God.***

## Simplicity as a Soul Issue

As this season of Lent draws to a close, some of us may reflect back upon any disciplines we adopted on or around Ash Wednesday and chart our progress, or lack thereof, in receiving the spiritual growth for which we had hoped. Some of us may actually have attempted to refrain from purchasing more goods and services and, perhaps, others attempted to jettison what we already possessed. An examination of our possessions inevitably leads to an examination of our hearts. Christ warned us it would. So how can de-cluttering and simplifying lead to spiritual practices? These thoughts are from Jill M. Johnson, a freelance writer and director of Inviting Ministries at Bethany United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas.

In Bill Hybels' book *Simplify: Ten Practices to Un-clutter Your Soul*, this pastor and founder of Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Illinois, argues that busyness and clutter can harm relationships, jobs, sanity, and health. He encourages practices such as filling your spiritual bucket by spending time with God, organizing your calendar and making time for family and recreation, being a good steward of your finances by tithing, practicing forgiveness and peace, deepening healthy relationships by spending time with friends and wise people, and filling your life with gifts from God that will provide true satisfaction.

In the book *Simplicity: The Freedom of Letting Go*, Franciscan priest Richard Rohr writes that the gospel revolves around the art of letting go, ridding ourselves of the need to be successful, right, or powerful. In his version of simplicity, the emptying of self allows us to walk a path of service to others.

Churches are also jumping on the simplicity bandwagon. University United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas, offered a church-wide Lenten study entitled "Christian Simplicity: A Gospel Value." This study recognizes that voluntary simplicity is a growing movement among Christians around the world and that the daily choices we make are damaging creation and hurting people in other countries. This study asks the question, "How can we [as people of faith] live in a way that is environmentally sustainable and socially just?" Topics in the study examine food buying and eating habits, water conservation, energy and transportation alternatives, and gratitude and generosity.

Simplifying and de-cluttering can also involve some fun and simple steps. The blog *Slow Your Home: The Simpler Life You Want* offers tips for taking action. Writer Brooke McAlary suggests performing a quick "clutter-bust," no longer than 45 minutes, and tackling just one area at a time. She encourages people to rearrange their living room to foster conversation, rather than making the television the focal point, and to add plants as a way to "detoxify the air in our homes."

Another practical tip is to start an "exit drawer," a place "to keep everything that needs to leave your house when you do," such as letters that need posting, clothes that need repair, and bills that need paying. McAlary states, "Starting (and using) your exit drawer is one sure-fire way to reduce clutter. You will clear your head of 'things I need to remember when I leave.'" She also touches on some spiritual practices such as gratitude, acceptance, and meditation as ways to foster a slower life and a healthy, balanced perspective.

Even our Methodist heritage gives us tools for simple living. You may have heard the saying "Gain all you can; save all you can; give all you can." John Wesley developed these

three rules for the use of money. Wesley believed we should *gain all we can* through honest work, but never at the expense of our neighbor or our health. He also believed we should *save all we can*, not as a mandate to accumulate wealth, but rather as an admonition not to waste money on unneeded possessions. Finally, to *give all you can* means we are to be wise stewards of all we have and use our gifts to glorify God.

An oft-told story about John Wesley reveals that although his income increased throughout his life, his lifestyle remained simple. He did not increase the amount of money he spent on himself over the years, instead giving away the difference to the poor. He had few possessions, wore inexpensive clothing, and ate simple food.

According to Henry H. Knight III, author of *Eight Life-Enriching Practices of United Methodists*, John Wesley had strong concerns about the dangers of riches. Knight states that Wesley believed that our desire for riches leads us to trust in them rather than God, preventing us from truly loving God and our neighbor. In his book, he quotes theologian and author Richard J. Foster, who states that our desire to give our lives meaning through consumption and possessions is “psychotic” because it has “lost touch with reality.”

Wesley’s claims call us to question: What truly governs our lives? And how do we become free to serve God and our neighbor better? Wesley believed that living simply was a step toward a genuine Christian lifestyle. Join us throughout late April and May as we explore what the *revival* begun by John Wesley in England during the 1700’s might look like in the United States today through the series of Sunday messages entitled ***Revival; Faith As John Wesley Lived It.***



## Spiritual Checkup

### Practical Strategies to Increase Your Emotional Quotient – Part 3 of 4

#### **SOCIAL AWARENESS:**

Social Awareness is looking outward to learn about and appreciate others. Social awareness is centered on your ability to recognize and understand the emotions of others. One of the intriguing things about building an acute sense of social awareness is that emotions, facial expressions, and body language have been shown to translate across many different cultures. You can use these skills wherever you are. The following strategies will help you work with the obstacles that get in your way and provide you with a helping hand when things get rough.

#### **1. Greet People by Name.**

Greeting people by name is one of the most basic and influential social awareness strategies you can adopt. It’s a personal and meaningful way to engage someone. Greeting people by name not only acknowledges them as the essence of who they are but also allows you to remain connected to them in more than just a superficial way. By making it a goal to remember

someone’s name when you meet or greet him or her, you are focusing your mind, which will only increase your awareness in social situations.

## **2 Practice the Art of Listening.**

Listening isn't just about hearing words; it's also about listening to the tone, speed, and volume of the voice. What is being said? What is not being said? What hidden messages exist beneath the surface? Here's a strategy to practice when someone is talking to you. Stop everything else and listen until the other person is finished speaking. When you are on a phone call, don't type an email. When your son asks you a question, put down your laptop and look at him while you respond.

## **3. Live in the Moment.**

Make being in the present moment a habit; it will only lift your social awareness skills. If you are at a meeting, be at the meeting. Wherever you are, be as present as possible so that you see the people around you and experience life in the moment. If you catch yourself being somewhere else mentally, snap back to the present. Remember, planning the future and reflecting on the past are valuable exercises, but doing this throughout your day interferes with what is in front of you – your present.

## **4. Watch Body Language.**

Becoming expert readers of body language enables more accurate social awareness. To get a complete read from a person, do a head-to-toe body language assessment. Start with the head and face and pay special attention to what the eyes communicate. Look at a person's smile. Does the smile appear to be authentic? Once you finish with the face, move to the shoulders, torso, and limbs. Are the shoulders slouched or held naturally upright? Are the arms, hands, legs, and feet calm or fidgety? Notice beyond their words.

## **5. Step into Their Shoes.**

Walking in the shoes of another is social awareness at its best. We gain perspective and a deeper understanding of others, improve our communication, and identify problems before they escalate. To practice this strategy, you need to ask yourself questions that start with, "If I were this person..."

As always, your Congregational Care Ministers stand ready to assist you in practicing social cues that can help you become more present to your situation. Please know that you may contact your Congregational Care Ministers for all your pastoral care needs. We are Barbara Barrett, Jim Dunaway, Dianne Mahler, Pastor Lee Neish, Helen Reddick, and Kathryn Tolman and may be reached through the office (707) 253-1411 or Pastor Lee's mobile phone (408) 655-2872. We acknowledge Travis Bradberry and Jean Greaves for the information offered above (Bradberry, T. & Greaves, J. (2009). *Emotional Intelligence 2.0*. San Diego: TalentSmart).



## *Youth Group News*

Our kids are having fun! Many thanks to Curtis Tinloy and Mike Robak!  
If you are in middle or high school, come and see for yourself.  
Each Sunday from 1:00 – 3:00 pm in the Kagawa Room



## *Sierra Service Project News*

The 2015 SSP Team will head to Smith River on Sunday, July 12th-18<sup>th</sup>.  
Please call Curtis or the church office to let us know that you want to go.

We will be housed at the Smith River United Methodist Church and Smith River Elementary School which are across the street from each other. Our cooks will prepare meals and we will eat at the church. We will be showering a few blocks away at the Smith River Baptist Church and some other locations around the town.

If you are interested in having this wonderful opportunity for service, acceptance, and faith deepening experience, please call Curtis or the church office so we can get you registered. You will have the time of your life!!!



## Support Your Hope Center

Show your support for outreach to the homeless and our Hope Center by joining the conversation at the Town Hall meetings listed below. The discussions will be held in small groups with a facilitator, so you shouldn't have to worry about speaking to a large group or feeling intimidated. Come and contribute your voice strategies and solutions to homelessness, "The Triangle," and Napa First United Methodists place in the neighborhood and Downtown.

Please Join us at the First Presbyterian Church gymnasium from 6:00PM to 8:00Pm on

April 9, 2015

Concerns/information gathering

April 28, 2015

Developing strategies

May 20, 2015

Action planning for change

If you have questions or need more information,  
please contact me at 707 815-2475

Show our Neighbors and Community WE CARE!

Peace

Mark Andersen



## United Methodist Women

April UMW dates - All are WELCOME  
(notice the change in the time for the Unit meeting on April 16th)

April            9 Newton/Riddell Circle – 10 a.m. Conference Room  
                    9 Lillian Wallace Circle – 1:30 p.m. – homes  
16 Unit Meeting - 10 a.m. – Kagawa  
                    **Program:** "Human Trafficking in the SF Bay Area"  
                    **Speaker** – Linda Young  
                    **Coordinator:** Joan Feury  
                    **Mission Project - Host: The Exec Team**  
19 Sarah Crosby Circle – 8:30 a.m. SdA Church

***Attention sewers, pattern cutter-outers and ironers!*** Please join us for our second United Methodist Women's dress and shorts making workshop on Wednesday

afternoon April 29th from 12:30-3:30 pm in the Kagawa Room at our church campus. Bring sewing machines, your favorite scissors, an ironing board and yes, we need at least two ironing stations. We will help each other create clothing for children. It looks like Rev. Linda Powers has found a pastor traveling to Africa who may transport our dresses to his village. We have fabric to work with but thread would be good for your own machine. Join the sewing bee and let's have some fun too!

Our UMW Mini-Thrift Shop continues to need your donations. Spread the word about our shop as more shoppers are needed for our great bargains and quality second-hand items. We want you to shop with us because the proceeds go to support women and children in Napa and the world. Bring a friend with you too and your cloth shopping bag!

Our next United Methodist Women's Unit meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 10am in the Kagawa Room. **This is a time change** as we are now meeting in the morning! Joan Feury and her team will provide the program and Linda Young will come to talk with us about Human Trafficking. All church women are invited to learn and explore this topic. Please join us for lunch after the program. Our meals are delicious and our company is good too. We will be organizing for the distribution of Human Trafficking Hotline Telephone Number posters to massage parlors and spas as our mission project. Officer Debbie Peecook from the Napa Police Department is assisting us with this outreach project. Hope to see you at our meeting.



## HELP WANTED

Two positions available for loving, caring adults who enjoy being with children ages 4 - 10. Needed July 20 - 24, 2015 / Hours 12:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. after Vacation Bible School. Applicants will plan activities, interact with the children and provide supervision for approximately 8 - 10 children and two teen helpers. Please contact Vicki Poli at [vpoli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vpoli@sbcglobal.net) or 707-299-7596.



**First United Methodist Church**  
625 Randolph Street  
Napa, California 94559  
(707) 253-1411

**Non-Profit Organization**  
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Napa CA 94558

Or Current Resident

**Our Mission Statement** is to build a loving community inviting people into relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Sunday Traditional Worship Service: 9:30 am**  
**Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
**Fusion Contemporary Worship Experience: 11:00 am**  
**Seventh-day Adventist Chapel**  
**Corner of Brown and G Streets, Napa**

**Monday Silent Meditation Group—5:30 pm—FUMC Nursery**  
**Friday Labyrinth Meditation Walk—Noon - FUMC**

Adult Bible Study Group—10:45 am—Young Adult Room, S-d A Church  
GRAPE Express—3 years through 5th grade—9:30-S-d A Church  
Youth Group meets on Sundays in our Bonner Building  
Lenten Devotional Study Groups – check your calendars for date and times

Visit us on Facebook—Napa First United Methodist Church  
[www.napaumc.org](http://www.napaumc.org)—707-253-1411—email—[secretary@napaumc.org](mailto:secretary@napaumc.org)



Pastor: *Rev. Lee Neish*                      Lay Leaders: *Barbara Thompson & Mark Andersen*  
Lay Speaker: *Michael Herzog*                      Office Manager: *Dianne Mahler*  
Director of Music: *Jan Lanterman*                      Organist: *Harold Julander*  
Director of Cathedral Choir: *Jan Lanterman*      Director of Bonner Bells: *Diane Levorsen*

First United Methodist Church ~625 Randolph St.~ Napa 94559~ (707)253-1411  
Since the earthquake we worship at the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Brown and G Sts.

***Please worship with us there each Sunday morning.***

website: [www.napaumc.org](http://www.napaumc.org)

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