

THE GRAPEVINE

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

www.napaumc.org

July 1, 2015



Come Climb That Mountain!



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. Thank You!

THE CHARTER FOR COMPASSION

On Tuesday morning, June 9th, I joined about a dozen others from across Napa to present the Charter for Compassion to the Napa County Board of Supervisors urging their adoption as a proclamation. On Sunday, June 14th, I referred to a Napa Valley Register article about the same. The Charter of Compassion is a document that transcends religious, ideological, and national differences. Supported by leading thinkers from many traditions, the Charter activates the Golden Rule around the world.

The Charter reads as follows:

The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the center of our world and put another there, and to honor the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.

It is also necessary in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathetically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others—even our enemies—is a denial of our common humanity. We acknowledge that we have failed to live compassionately and that some have even increased the sum of human misery in the name of religion.

We therefore call upon all men and women – to restore compassion to the center of morality and religion – to return to the ancient principle that any interpretation of scripture that breeds violence, hatred or disdain is illegitimate – to ensure that youth are given accurate and respectful information about other traditions, religions and cultures – to encourage a positive appreciation of cultural and religious diversity – to cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings—even those regarded as enemies.

We urgently need to make compassion a clear, luminous and dynamic force in our polarized world. Rooted in a principled determination to transcend selfishness, compassion can break down political, dogmatic, ideological and religious boundaries. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity. It is the path to enlightenment, and indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.

While the Napa County Board of Supervisors adopted this proclamation, these words can only be of significance to the extent that they become embodied in the words and actions of people like you and me. I invite you to prayerfully consider how you might join me as, over the coming months and years, we engage in conversation and actions in the public square where others might come to know a more compassionate community ... a kinder, gentler Napa.

- Pastor Lee

SUMMER SUNDAYS @ A GLANCE!

Summertime brings opportunities for vacations, family reunions, and an easier pace of restful times both in and out of town. But, I'm sure you'll be as excited as I am to see the summer schedule for Sunday morning worship. In fact, I believe each Sunday you'll be able to worship with us will be a blessing for you and your family and friends. So, plan on joining us for the following Sundays:

- June 28th Cathedral Choir's Sermon in Word & Song at both 9:30 and 11:00
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- July 5th Reflections on Capitalism and Democracy Lee Neish
Sacrament of Holy Communion and Independence Sunday
- July 12th Wesley's Top Ten Countdown of All Time Favorite Hymns Lee Neish &
Jan Lanterman
- July 19th Sierra Service Project Sunday with Youth Testimonies Lee Neish &
Mike Roback

SPEAKING OF GOD MESSAGE SERIES

- July 26th Speaking of God: Eternal Life Lee Neish
Everest VBS Children's Musical Performance
Porchfest Performance by Napa First UMC's musicians
- August 2nd Speaking of God: Salvation Lee Neish
Sacrament of Holy Communion
- August 9th Speaking of God: Redemption Guest Speaker
- August 16th Speaking of God: Holy Spirit Lee Neish
- August 23rd Speaking of God: Love Jan Lanterman
- August 30th Speaking of God: Sacrament Michael Herzog
Labor Sunday

BOOK OF REVELATION MESSAGE SERIES

- September 6th Revelation: Visions of Heaven Lee Neish
Sacrament of Holy Communion
- September 13th Jesus and the End of the Age Lee Neish
- September 20th Message of Revelation Part I Lee Neish
- September 27th Message of Revelation Part II Lee Neish

Report by the South Napa Earthquake Recovery Group

Since Easter, I've been meeting weekly with the executive committee of the South Napa Earthquake Recovery Group as we endeavor to provide community-based efforts to assist our neighbors impacted by the 2014 South Napa Earthquake. We further desire to develop a robust long term recovery program for the disaster survivors in Napa and Solano County.

Despite its reputation as a well-heeled wine growing destination, a 2013 study by Stanford University and the Public Policy Institute of California ranked Napa County as having the second highest rate of poverty in California, only behind Los Angeles. The study evaluated factors such as cost-of-living, available housing and the number of households needing public assistance.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the City of Vallejo has an unemployment rate of 8.5%, two percentage points higher than the state average of 6.5%. The city's budget for schools and other basic services is still strained from the loss of the Mare Island Naval Base and a municipal bankruptcy.

While these are persistent socioeconomic issues that cannot and will not be addressed by the South Napa Earthquake Recovery Group, they point to the large number of vulnerable populations in Napa and Vallejo whose circumstances were greatly exacerbated by the disaster and who are in crisis as a result.

As we began to address unmet needs, SNERG was able to hire a case-management supervisor and two case managers on a \$100,000 grant from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). During a 90-day period from when case management began in March until early in June of this year the case management team and a handful of volunteers have been methodically going through approximately 3,500 case files that were opened at a Local Assistance Center shortly after the earthquake. In the painstaking work of contacting each of the survivors who submitted files at the LAC, determining their needs status and demographic data and, when necessary, opening a case file, the SNERG case management team has so far opened 209 unmet needs cases from persons and families who still need help after Federal and local assistance. Our current projected unmet need costs are \$1,579,565.

Please keep our recovery efforts in your prayers and all those who are working to address unmet needs. We are grateful to Dan Grant who has been the contractor assessing the construction costs for most of these open case files. Soon, we'll be entertaining Volunteers-In-Mission Teams from United Methodist Churches from across our California Nevada Conference and beyond. I know there'll soon be ways that many of you can assist in either housing or providing meals for these teams – or perhaps joining in on one of these teams yourself!

I'll keep you updated as information becomes available to me. Thanks for your prayerful support!

- Pastor Lee

*'Now its time to say goodbye to all my family,
N. A. P. (a) UMC.... a blessed home for me!'*

Once upon a time, there was a man who did not know how to join in. He knew he would like to be part of something larger, greater, something more than he had currently. But he did not know how. He was worried others would take advantage of him or that he would have to pledge to beliefs he did not believe in, or that it would simply be worse to join in than it would be to stay apart. He was not happy about this situation but he could not seem to find another way.

But then he was blessed; he fell in love and the one he loved, loved him back. And so over time, though slowly at first, love came into his life. He learned to let creation; people and relationships and God, the whole catastrophe, enter into and fill his meager existence. This ongoing spirit directed change eventually brought him to Napa, to the United Methodist Church and to one of the most extraordinary experiences of his life. Right up there with falling in love, with having children and raising them, with the best elements of his professional career and with the closest and most intense experiences of his spirit. He discovered that being part of this Napa church to be a lifesaving Godsend that taught him how to rejoice and love and weather the storms of community and of the spirit.

Dear friends,

When I came to Napa UMC for the first time, I had no idea that it would be such a good fit. But once I met Lee and Michael and had a tour of the facility, from sanctuary to Bonner building, I knew that this was a good place, a spirited place, and the right place for me to be. I could tell that this church was my home and then it got even better. For I began to meet the other folks who were and are part of the church; Dianne and Doug and Dave and Barb and Jan and Barbara and Bill and Peter and Kathryn and Pat Hitchcock and Mark and Mark and Peter and Liz and Sally and so many, many more. All of you in fact..... :)

I found that this church brought new life, new hope and a sense of community far greater than I had known in years.

So I thank you. I thank every one of you, for your kindness, your generosity, your spirit and your faith. It is a wondrous place, this Napa United Methodist Church. A community where great things happen everyday and where the world is being transformed by each of you, through your steady, loving, faith filled hearts and minds.

Blessings to you now and forever more,

Burke
aka
Pastor Burke

Report by the Executive Committee on Construction

Each Wednesday morning, the Executive Committee on Construction meets to review progress, make construction decisions, and approve spending and subsequent billing. In addition to Pullman Structural Group representatives and occasional subcontractors and architects, Napa First UMC (the owner) has been represented by Church Council chair Dave Whitmer, Trustee Board chair Gary Neal, Committee on Finance Chair Susan Archer, and Pastor Lee Neish. Music Director Jan Lanterman has also consulted with us regarding acoustical issues for the sanctuary as well as Karen Brothers, Dianne Mahler and Kay Neal assisting in color choices.

In an effort led by Susan Archer and Liz Marks, the Gasser Foundation under the direction of Joe Peatman is providing a \$100,000 grant to our church, \$50,000 of which is being set aside for debt service on an upcoming bank loan. An additional \$50,000 grant was given to the Napa Valley Chamber Music Organization to pay for lime wash applications to the new sanctuary plaster.

Susan Archer was successful in securing a bank loan from the Bank of Napa in the amount of \$550,000. The Gasser Foundation has guaranteed the loan with 2 payments of the principle of \$125,000 in December and \$100,000 in June 2017 which at that time makes the loan amount approx. \$325,000.

The loan of \$550,000 will satisfy the \$348,000 difference between the \$1,900,000 construction and structural repairs of the Pullman contract and the \$1,552,000 grant from the Earthquake Self Insurance Fund from the California Nevada Conference.

On the next page is the breakdown of the costs, funds received from grants, donations, the loan and approx. funds needed. We are making every effort to reduce these costs where possible and practical.

Following discussions of remaining potential add-ons for the historical building and renovation plans for the Bonner Building, we'll be able to announce the scope and plans for an upcoming capital campaign for later this year.

In the meantime, please keep all those whose contributions (time, talent and treasure) have made such a difference in our strong return from devastation caused by the August, 2014 earthquake in your prayers. And pray for the role you might play in making our progress complete by the end of this year.

Thank you for your faithful giving through the first part of 2015. Your generosity has provided the resources necessary to continue offering all the ministries asked of us to our congregation, community and world. May God richly bless us during the coming months as we've received blessing upon blessing throughout the first part of this year.

- Pastor Lee

		Costs Improvements	Loan Grants Donations
Pullman Balance of Contract	Earthquake repair contract \$1,900,000 \$1,552,000 Funds from Cal/Nev Conference	\$ 348,000.00	
Acoustical restoration	Lime Wash includes development costs	\$ 40,062.00	
NV Chamber Music Grant	Pays Lime wash		\$ (40,062.00)
Tower	Shutters and louvers	\$ 3,500.00	
2 Windows to Fellowship Hall	Recapture 2 Windows in Fellowship hall	\$ 5,000.00	
Insulation	Blown In @ Attic	\$ 9,085.00	
Interior Lighting & fans	Pendant Lights, Sconces, Balcony Cans. Attic Fans, balcony floor lights	\$ 15,000.00	
Exterior lights and security	15 lights and surveillance	\$ 5,000.00	
Sound System	Jeremy Piner and electrical	\$ 22,500.00	
Electrical Upgrades	Installations (not fire system)	\$ 60,000.00	
Ceilings with popcorn	Finish Ceilings, Drywall & paint and electrical	\$ 30,000.00	
Fire Notification System	Napa Fire Equipment and Electrical Installation	\$ 103,000.00	
NV Earthquake Foundation	Will be sent directly to Napa Fire Equipment		\$ (25,000.00)
Window repairs	Dry rot on windows (does not include on parking lot side)	\$ 12,500.00	
Organ and piano reinstall	Reinstall Organ NO EXACT QUOTE YET	\$ 30,000.00	
Interior painting	Meeting rooms, hall, office, library, kitchen	\$ 15,000.00	
Bonner building gas lines	Potential CalOES grant \$30,000	\$ 40,000.00	
Pews and carpet	put pew back, clean, install carpet tiles in fellowship hall	\$ 6,000.00	
Bank of Napa Loan	\$520,000 (80% value of Parish) \$ 30,000 unsecured until Jan 2016		\$ (550,000.00)
Earthquake Fund	Donations received		\$ (60,000.00)
Gasser Grant \$100,000	\$50,000 set aside for payments		\$ (50,000.00)
	Sub-totals	\$ 744,647.00	\$ (725,062.00)
	BALANCE OF FUNDS NEEDED		\$ 19,585.00

Youth Group News

It's now summer time and everyone loves to be outside and doing things in the sunlight. So therefore I feel that meeting youth groups every single week will be a little difficult, considering our attendance lately has been on and off. Of course I totally understand the attendance because its summer! :) Please call Curtis or Mike or the church office with your preference.

Mike and I had discussed that maybe we can change our meetings to once a month or every other week, whichever we can decide on. And those meetings will be like small summer parties, just to get together and still be in contact with our group through the summer. We will also continue working on our interviews project, and start finishing them to complete our book to present to the church!

So please if anyone has any ideas, comments, suggestions I'd love to hear them. And if we can agree on this then maybe we can start planning a youth group party in late June!! Hope everyone is doing well, can't wait to hear back!

- Curtis Tinloy



**And don't miss the final Sunday in this series on June 28th
when the Cathedral Choir performs a medley from:
*Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat***

This was the first musical produced by the team of Tim Rice (lyricist) and Andrew Lloyd Webber (composer). It was premiered at the Colet Court School, Hammersmith on March 1, 1968, and at that time was only about 20 minutes in length. It was extended in 1972 to a full-length musical, and its revival in 1992 has been modernized.

Based on the biblical account of Joseph, the favored son of Jacob, this musical chronicles his favored status in the family, his exile to Egypt, and his popularity with the King because of his ability to interpret dreams. Beginning at chapter 37 in Genesis, perhaps the greatest story ever written on forgiveness culminates in a most dramatic and unexpected ending in chapter 50. While not required, your appreciation for the story told musically will be enhanced if you take the time to read through those final fourteen chapters in the Book of Genesis. And, due to the special nature of this Sunday morning presentation, GRAPE Express will not meet. Only child care in the nursery will be provided.

SPEAKING OF GOD . . . RETURNS.

A year ago we presented a sermon series and a devotions guide to be used by small groups and individuals based around six words about God and our religious life chosen by the congregation. We are going to do "Part Two" with the next six words, and we need your help. We are inviting the congregation to write up to 250 words about one (or more) of these words for inclusion in the devotions guide.

Here are the words:

Eternal Life
Salvation
Redemption
Holy Spirit
Love
Sacrament

Our goal is as it was in "Part One," that is to receive your reaction to the selected word and how your understanding of it affects what you do. We are more interested in your personal response rather a dictionary definition.

250 words maximum - Scriptural support welcomed, but not required. Bible passage will not be printed, only referenced. - Electronic submission preferred, but not required. - Deadline 6 July 2015 - Questions -- submissions to: Pat Hitchcock dnhitchcock@sbcglobal.net or Michael Herzog MSHWRITE@aol.com

Look for Pat and Michael during fellowship time. We'll have clipboards and are eager to sign you up. Call us. Be part of this series. Share your thoughts with us all. The sermon series begins 26 July. We need your help. The clock is ticking. We can all be: **SPEAKING OF GOD . . .**



Hello United Methodist Women:

Thanks to many of you who have put together **health kits**. For anyone who has not turned theirs in, please drop them by the office tomorrow, **June 8th. It is the last day that we are collecting them.**

Our next **Unit meeting** is later this month on **Sunday, June 28th, after church**. Lunch will be hosted by the Sarah Crosby Circle and the program will be **"Standing With Women"**. We will also be **voting on our slate of officers** for the coming year.
Ruth Jenkins-McIntire :-)



HELP NEEDED!

Vacation Bible School for 2015 is fast approaching (July 20-24). Help is needed to transform the Bonner Building into a snow-covered Mt. Everest! Listed below are some items that will be needed.

A crew is needed this year to help make the décor, set it up and take it down. I have a few ideas, but assistance with creative ideas is most welcome. The company that produces the curriculum provides a DVD with decorating ideas. There are posters, etc. that can be purchased as well. Any help with ideas that will save money is most welcome.

Please contact Vicki Poli at vpoli@sbcglobal.net or 707-299-7596 (cell) I will set up a meeting for those who are interested.

Items needed (the list may grow as more ideas flow):

- White flat sheets (to cover the pews and use for "snow banks")
- Camping equipment (GRAPE Express has a small tent that will be set up to use as "base camp". Camping items are needed to set up around the tent.)
- Items to make fake rocks - boxes, etc.
- Icicles to hang from ceilings, etc.
- Cotton balls, etc. for snow, snowflakes and snowballs
- Fake campfire

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

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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

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 is on Summer Schedule – Look for the next great summer event!

To make an online pledge or donation go to www.napaumc.org/onlinegiving.shtml



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*
Director of Children's Ministries: *Vicki Poli* Director of Fusion Worship: *JoAnne Neish*
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.

email—secretary@napaumc.org website: www.napaumc.org
You are welcome to visit us on Facebook: [NapaFUMC](https://www.facebook.com/NapaFUMC) or Twitter: [NapaFirstUMC](https://twitter.com/NapaFirstUMC)