

THE VALLEY MESSENGER.

A publication of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church

Pursuing a life with God and a life with each other by following Jesus,
thriving in community, and healing the world.

Our Values: Inclusion, Inspiration, Impact



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FAITHFUL TOGETHER.

With God. With Each Other. For the World.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. ~ Acts 2:44-47

As summer turns toward fall, we begin a season that invites us to reflect on who we are, what God is calling us to become, and how each of us can participate in the life and ministry of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church.

We are launching our stewardship push for 2027 this month, and our theme for this year is **Faithful Together**. Those two words name both a promise and a need. We are not meant to follow Jesus alone. We are formed in a community of worship and prayer; we grow through

relationships of care and encouragement; and we are sent together to bring hope, mercy, justice, and healing into the world God loves.

If you were with us for the Financial Q&A following worship on August 30, you heard Finance Chair Jill Shibuya share an **early look at our preliminary 2027 ministry budget: \$1,164,000**. It is a real and lofty vision, no doubt. It represents significant resources and a shared commitment from all of us. But it is not simply a number on a page. It is a statement of what we believe God is calling us to do and be.

That preliminary budget represents worship that grounds us in God's grace; staff and leaders who care for people and equip ministry; children, youth, and families who need a church home where they are known and loved; music and hospitality that welcome people into the life of faith; small groups and opportunities for spiritual growth; care for those who are grieving, hurting, or facing uncertainty; and ministry beyond our walls as we seek to heal the world.

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question before us is not merely, “Can we meet a budget?” **The deeper question is, “Will we rise together to the vision God has placed before us?”**

At SRVUMC, our shared vision is to pursue a life with God and a life with each other by following Jesus, thriving in community, and healing the world. That vision is beautiful—and it is demanding. Following Jesus asks us to orient our whole lives around his way of love. Thriving in community asks us to move beyond simply attending church and become people who know, serve, encourage, and carry one another. Healing the world asks us to turn outward with courage and compassion toward the places and people where God’s love is most needed.

None of this happens by accident. It happens when people pray, show up, serve, give, invite, lead, learn, and share their gifts. It happens when we understand that the church is not a service someone else provides for us, but a shared life that we help create.

As United Methodists, we describe our participation in the church through the promises of our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. These are more than words spoken when we join the church. They are practices that shape us into disciples of Jesus Christ. Our financial gifts matter, certainly, but they are part of a larger offering

of our lives to God and to one another.

Throughout September, we will explore that calling through a four-week worship series:

- **September 6: Following Jesus — “A Life Given.”** We will reflect on how Jesus shapes our priorities and invites us to offer our whole lives in love and service.
- **September 13: Thriving in Community — “A Life Belonging.”** We will celebrate the relationships, worship, care, learning, and shared ministry that make SRVUMC a place where people can find and practice belonging.
- **September 20: Healing the World — “A Life Poured Out.”** We will consider the ways God calls us beyond ourselves: to share bread, seek justice, serve neighbors, and become repairers of what is broken.
- **September 27: Faithful Together — “A Life Shared.”** On Commitment Sunday, we will bring our 2027 pledges and commitments of giving as an act of worship, gratitude, and hope.

This is a stewardship campaign, but I hope it will be much more than a campaign. It is an invitation to spiritual reflection. What has God entrusted to you? How has this church shaped your faith or carried you in a difficult time? What ministry do you hope will be here for another child, another family, another **(continued on next page)**

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neighbor, or another person looking for a place to belong? Where might God be inviting you to take a faithful next step?

For some, that step may be beginning a regular practice of giving. For others, it may be growing toward percentage-based giving, starting recurring giving, or increasing a current pledge as circumstances allow. For still others, it may include offering time, leadership, skills, prayer, or presence in a new way. Every person's circumstances are different, and no one should respond out of guilt or pressure. **Yet every one of us has a place in this shared calling.**

We need everyone because every person is part of the body of Christ. Your participation matters. Your story matters. Your gifts matter. Together, our prayers, presence, gifts, service, witness, and faithfulness help form a community that can pursue life with God, life with each other, and healing for the world.

As we enter September, I invite you to worship with us, listen for God's invitation, and prayerfully consider your commitment for 2027. Let us be faithful—not alone, but together. With Great Hope,

P. Sam | syun@srvumc.org

P.S. If you are relatively new to San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church, I invite you to consider joining me for one of the two Discovery Dinners planned for this month: Monday, September 21 at 6:30 pm or Wednesday, September 23 at 6:30 pm. This is an opportunity to learn more about our church, our history, our vision, and our connections. This two-hour session will be filled with helpful information and a time to get to know each other better. Please email me by Wednesday, September 16 to RSVP.



faithful together.

STEWARDSHIP 2027

All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:44-47

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING SOON: NEW FAITH FORMATION CLASSES.

By Bill Rust, Faith Development Chair

Become a curious seeker! Join us in learning, sharing, good conversation, and being “opened” in these popular faith-growing adult classes.

Pay attention to where you are on the pathway to becoming a disciple, a follower of Jesus. You will find a class that speaks to you right where you are! These class descriptions will help you. Or talk to Pastor Sam about which class is right for you. Then join in! It will nurture your soul.

We want these classes to grow our understanding of the call our church’s guiding vision statement makes on us: **PURSUING A LIFE WITH GOD AND A LIFE WITH EACH OTHER BY FOLLOWING JESUS, THRIVING IN COMMUNITY, AND HEALING THE WORLD.** What does that look like in practice? Come find out. You’re invited!

Our congregation’s **CORE VALUES** are at home in every class and group study we offer: **“INCLUSION:** We welcome seekers and doubters, friends and strangers, those with labels and those without.
INSPIRATION: We invite the Spirit of

God to touch our hearts and transform our lives.

IMPACT: We reach out to make a measurable difference wherever and whenever we can.”

Classes for 2026-27

These classes are a great way to experience **community** and **connection**. They are for busy people! Several are short (6 or fewer sessions), making participation easier. Longer classes may be “drop-in” or for a set group. You can mix and match them for what works for you and fits your schedule.

Sunday mornings after worship.

Taking the Sermon into the World.

Drop-in, 11:45 AM-12:30 PM, meets weekly, ongoing. Coordinator: Bill Rust. Come join in an inquiring conversation on the morning worship sermon message on how each of us can live out the message in the community. Discussion leaders: Bill Rust, Julie Klug and others.

Monday evenings, “The Spiritual Brain” book study. Dave Coombs, our acclaimed teacher, will lead. Twenty-four weekly (**continued on next page**)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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sessions (with some breaks), Sept. 14–Mar. 22, 7:00–8:00 PM, by Zoom. Each session includes introductory remarks by Dave followed by group discussion facilitated by Dave.

Tuesday mornings, Disciple Fast Track Bible Study (“Disciple I”).

September 15–March 23; weekly, 10:30 AM to noon. For beginners; engaging directly with Scripture. Co-leaders: Pastor Sam, Doug Beck and Renee Beck. Twenty-four weekly sessions, with breaks at Thanksgiving (1 week), Christmas (2 weeks) and, as applicable, Easter (1 week).

Wednesdays, after work, Disciple Fast Track Bible Study (“Disciple I”).

September 16–March 24, weekly, 5:00–6:30 PM (or TBD by the group). For beginners; engaging directly with Scripture. Co-leaders: Julie Klug and Bill Rust. Twenty-four weekly sessions, with breaks at Thanksgiving (1 week), Christmas (2 weeks) and, as applicable, Easter (1 week). with Pastor Sam.

Friday mornings, **Friday Morning Coffee Group**, a weekly off-campus,

drop-in faith-sharing community. Meets each Friday, 9:30 A.M., at Bagel Street Café in the Danville Livery Shopping Center.

October, **UMC 101 Class**: An exploration of United Methodist theology; the “polity”/structure through which The United Methodist Church does ministry; the role of San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church (SRVUMC) in the larger Methodist ministries, and how we (SRVUMC, the congregation, and individual members) can join in these ministries. See, e.g. www.umc.org; www.umcjustice.org; and www.umcmmission.org. This class will be a follow-up to a sermon series in September. Watch for an announcement of time and place and class details.

Weeks of December: Advent Book Study. Advent Sundays November 29–December 20. This congregation-wide **Advent Book Study** is coordinated with Pastor Sam’s Sunday sermon messages. We encourage all groups and classes to join in the study and hear Pastor Sam preach on **(continued on next page)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(continued from previous page) the weekly topic in his Sunday sermon message.

Weeks of February 10 (Ash Wednesday) – March 21 (Palm Sunday): Lent Book Study. This congregation-wide **Lent Book Study** is coordinated with Pastor Sam's Sunday sermon messages. We encourage all groups and classes to join in the study and hear Pastor Sam preach on the weekly topic in his Sunday sermon message.

Winter/Spring: New Study Class: Living Out the SRVUMC Vision Statement. A refresh study series on living out the SRVUMC Vision Statement and practicing our Core Values in our everyday living. The time, place and class details will be announced.

In addition to these classes and studies, many of our ongoing groups also present complementary book and video studies and other faith growing experiences. Pay attention to their announcements in "The Valley Messenger" newsletter and in the Friday Memo.

Be curious. Open your heart and mind through Bible study and deepening your faith. For more information, contact **Pastor Sam**, syun@srvumc.org.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US FOR “DISCIPLE FAST TRACK” BIBLE STUDY.

By Bill Rust, Faith Development Chair

DISCIPLE FAST TRACK is a foundational, disciplined, 24-session small group Bible study designed to connect us to Scripture. Scripture draws each of us to explore who we are, our relationship with the Holy, and our relationships with each other and the world. Scripture has something to say directly to you. Are you listening? The weekly study lessons guide you into Scripture, but they do not tell you what you should take from Scripture. That's your job! You “live” in Scripture and “listen” for how it speaks directly to you.

DISCIPLE FAST TRACK is a part of the acclaimed United Methodist-created **DISCIPLE** family of Bible studies that is active throughout The United Methodist Church and 33 other denominations. It is for beginners and those seeking to be refreshed through Bible study.

Please join us. We have two new **DISCIPLE** study groups now in formation. The first will meet weekly on Tuesday mornings, 10:30-12:00 PM, from September 15 through March 23 (with breaks at Thanksgiving, Christmas and, if

applicable, Easter). Pastor Sam and Doug and Renee Beck will co-lead this Tuesday morning group. The second group will meet weekly on Wednesday afternoons after work, about 5:00-6:30 PM (time to be set by the group) from September 16 through March 24, with holiday breaks. Julie Klug and Bill Rust will co-lead the Wednesday group.

We will read a large portion of the Bible. The program asks for weekly preparation and attendance.

DISCIPLE meetings quickly become a natural part of the rhythm of your week: Scripture is telling your story, and you want to know more. Your bonds with the group grow. You just want to be there! Contact Pastor Sam at syun@srvumc.org to join either group or if you have questions.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGISTER FOR RISE AGAINST HUNGER.

Rise Against Hunger, an international humanitarian organization, is growing a global movement to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives and responding to emergencies. With locations across the U.S. and five international offices, the organization provides immediate nourishment for those facing hunger today and implements sustainable solutions that will lift entire communities for years to come. Rise Against Hunger has facilitated volunteer meal packaging of more than 540 million meals to be distributed to countries around the world.

SRVUMC will be hosting a Rise Against Hunger meal packing event on **September 13 from 11:30AM to 1:30PM.**

Scan the QR code to register for the event!



Our goal this year is to raise \$8,000 to ship thousands of meals where they can make the most impact.

Many volunteers and donations will be needed to make this event a success! A suggested minimum donation of \$20 (or more if you are able) per volunteer is appreciated.. We'd like to have at least 100 volunteers participate in this fun event.

Click [here](#) to donate.

Click [here](#) to register for the event.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERING: RISE AGAINST HUNGER.

Your Special Mission Offering this quarter will go towards supporting Rise Against Hunger. This international humanitarian organization is growing a global movement to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives and responding to emergencies.

You can support Rise Against Hunger's important work by donating to SRVUMC's Special Mission Offering fund [here](https://srvumc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/special-missions-offering) (<https://srvumc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/special-missions-offering>) Learn more about Rise Against Hunger [here](https://riseagainsthunger.org) or visit <https://riseagainsthunger.org>.

ACTIVITY & RECREATION CENTER CLOSES FOR FLOOR RESURFACING.

The Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) will be closed the first week of September because the floor is being resurfaced. The ARC will reopen on Sunday, September 6.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW TO SRVUMC? DINNER IS ON US THIS SEPTEMBER.

If you are relatively new to San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church, I invite you to consider joining one of the two Discovery Dinners this September: Monday, September 21 at 6:30 pm or Wednesday, September 23 at 6:30 pm. This is an opportunity to learn more about our church, our history, our vision, and our connections. This two-hour session will be filled with helpful information and a time to get to know each other better.

Please email Pastor Sam (syun@srvumc.org) by Wednesday, September 16 to RSVP.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SPIRITUAL BRAIN CLASS STARTS SEPTEMBER 28.

This class is facilitated by Dave Coombs and meets Mondays at 7PM on Zoom. It runs from September 28 to around Easter. Each session includes introductory remarks by Dave followed by group discussion.

Is the brain hardwired to experience God? What is happening in the brain when we have transformative insights or mystical experiences? These are some of the questions that will be answered during this exciting lecture series.

Register for the class [here](#) or visit <https://srvumc.churchcenter.com/groups/classes/the-spiritual-brain-class>.

THE RED CROSS DECLARES NATIONWIDE CRISIS.

By Jerry Ricker

Urgent: For only the second time in its history, the Red Cross is declaring a nationwide blood crisis. Blood donations have fallen to a 4 year low, meaning that patients needing a blood transfusions may not receive the timely care they require. So roll up your sleeve and donate NOW. Don't wait for our November 17 blood drive at SRVUMC.

Schedule your blood donation [here](#) or visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> to make an appointment today.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTA FEED & AUCTION FUNDRAISER THIS FALL.

By Larry Pasquale

On **Saturday, October 17, 2026**, the Methodist Men's Group will host an **All-Church Pasta Feed and Auction to help raise funds for the Courtyard shades and a new dishwasher for the Wesley Center.** Every dollar donated to this special fundraiser will help pay for these special projects.

The pasta dinner will feature family recipes brought from Naples, Italy, by Larry Pasquale's maternal grandfather in the early 1900s. He learned these recipes from his mother and grandmother, tracing their origins back to the mid-1800s. His family recipes include pasta sauce, meatballs, and salad dressing along with garlic bread and homemade tiramisu! Gluten free pasta and bread will be available.

Along with an authentic Italian feast, we will hold a **silent auction** featuring items donated by community and church members. Following dinner, a **live auction** will offer vacation homes, timeshares, and ethnic dinners for six or eight guests, generously donated by church members. For more information or to donate an auction item, please contact [Dave McWilliams](#)

(d_mcwilliams410@msn.com) or [Jerry Ricker \(jerryricker19@outlook.com\)](mailto:jerryricker19@outlook.com). Details about live auction offerings will be available in advance, so you can plan ahead.

The Methodist Men's Breakfast Group is covering the cost of this event, allowing all donations from the dinner and auction to be credited directly to your church account. **Suggested donations are \$45 per adult and \$25 for youth, children, college-age attendees, and church staff.**

If you have not attended a dinner-auction before, you can expect an enjoyable evening filled with great food, laughter, and fellowship as church members bid on unique auction items. Proceeds from the auction will help restore our beautiful courtyard shades and ensure the Wesley Kitchen remains equipped for large group events.

We are excited about a fun evening for all!

Click here to register or visit <https://srvumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/signups/3831488>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. KIM RISEDORPH TO FACILITATE 2027 WOMEN'S RETREAT.

Friday, January 29 - Sunday January 31
at Villa Maria Del Mar in Santa Cruz on the ocean

"The Joy of Living with Courage"
led by Pastor Kim Risedorph

When we know we are being authentic, we feel fully alive. No matter our age or experiences, being our truest selves takes practice, awareness and courage. And, being our true selves is not just about us as individuals. There's more at stake.

Being authentic and courageous is how we help heal the world around us. Nothing delights God more than when we are living as God's beloved. Join us for a joyful exploration of God's love for us, here and now.



HAPPY LABOR - DAY - SEPTEMBER 7



ANNOUNCEMENTS

BALANCE AND MOBILITY CLASS MEETS WEEKLY.

Balance and Mobility class for adults over 55 meets Thursdays from 12-12:45 PM in the Fireside Room.

Move with strength. Age with confidence.

Falls are one of the top reasons older adults land in the emergency department. As a former ER nurse, instructor Teri DeLaMontanya has seen firsthand how often loss of muscle, mobility, and balance are to blame—and how much of it is preventable.

After age 30, we lose up to 5% of muscle mass each decade. That decline affects strength, reaction time, and stability. But it doesn't have to. With focused movement and strength training, you can rebuild muscle, improve coordination, and protect your independence at any age.

This class is designed for adults 55+ and led by Teri—a Registered Nurse, Ironman triathlete, and lifestyle coach with deep medical knowledge and personal experience. Whether you're recovering, maintaining, or building

strength for the future, Teri will meet you where you are.

Join us at San Ramon Valley Methodist Church—a welcoming space where you'll train your body to stay upright, energized, and in motion.

It's never too late to start.

This is a donation based class and is open to the public. Suggested donation is \$15 payable to PEACE (Providing Easier Access to Care Everywhere).

Click [here](https://www.behavioralfitnesstoday.com/schedule/be-fit-classes-and-groups/) to sign up or visit <https://www.behavioralfitnesstoday.com/schedule/be-fit-classes-and-groups/>.

Contact [Rob Rudow](#), at robert_d_rudow@yahoo.com for more information.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLING ALL MAKERS OF BEAUTIFUL THINGS!

It's time to begin planning for our **Harvest Festival** craft fair on November 14, 2026, featuring treasures created by our own church folk and members of the community. For the past 16 years we have consistently shown high-quality handmade items such as quilts, table linens, handmade shawls and sweaters, fused glass ornaments, jewelry, handmade caramels and preserves, wooden planters and benches, windchimes, and many other unexpected and beautiful finds. Many of our previous artisans are returning, and we always love welcoming new artists. If you have creative talents, we need you! It's time to reserve a space and get busy creating works of art or tasty treats. Invite your friends and family members to join us this year.

A space fee of \$35 and 10% of your total sales will be donated to the church for various mission projects. Let's bring out all our hidden talents and make the **17th Annual Harvest Festival Craft Fair** the best yet! Contact Shannon Dever (shannondever62@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: ODIS JOHNSON.

By Sarah Stribling

SRVUMC is thrilled to welcome Odis Johnson as our Facilities Technician. Raised in West Pittsburg, Odis has always enjoyed fixing various items. Part of his strong work ethic comes from his grandfather who was a cement mason and refurbished houses. Odis likes the process of taking something that doesn't work quite right, fixing it, and getting it ready to sell.

SRVUMC's always active campus energizes Odis. "The people are nice. I like the atmosphere," Odis says of his time here so far. Some of the maintenance projects that Odis is looking forward to tackling is securing the back gate by the preschool and power washing the breezeway along the Preschool building and Wesley Center. If readers notice a maintenance need on campus, the best way to bring it to Odis' attention is to fill out the Maintenance Request form in the Friday Memo, send Odis an email (ojohnson@srvumc.org) or tell him when you see him.

When he's not maintaining the church campus, Odis enjoys spending time

with his family, including his wife Nekey and his six kids. Odis is quite a cook! Some of his favorite dishes to prepare are lamb chops, gumbo, jambalaya, and steak.

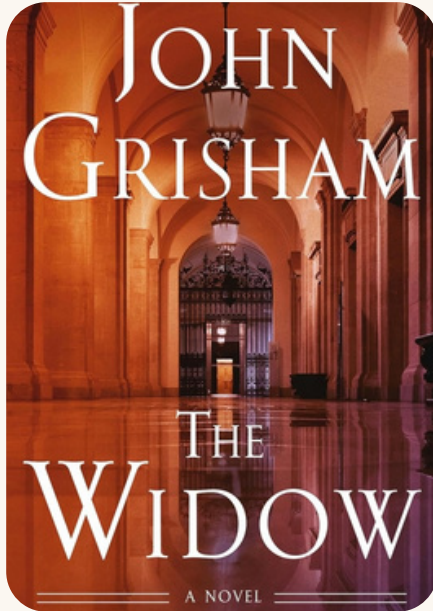
Odis also has musical talent. He has his own record label and a music studio in his house. Some of Odis' favorite artists include Aretha Franklin, Stevie Wonder, and Whitney Houston.

Horea 4:6 is Odis' favorite Bible verse: "My people are lost from a lack of knowledge." "Pray for wisdom in your daily prayers. Protect your mental health," Odis advises.

Odis Johnson and his wife Nekey.



BETWEEN THE BOOKENDS.



September has arrived, which means Fall is not far off. Then we'll enjoy the beautiful changing colors of trees and autumn flowers bursting. Other changes occur not only in nature but also in sports. Baseball books are put away, and they are replaced with The Blind Side, Bleachers, and Playing for Pizza. Readers will also see Sully, the book about our Danville hero pilot on the library cart.

Enjoy Reading!

In John Grisham's latest novel, The Widow, he presents Simon Latch, a small town lawyer in Virginia, who is barely making a living after eighteen years of trying. His

cases are mainly about late child support payments, auto accidents, and then the occasional writing of a will for which he usually charges \$250 per hour. Tillie, his faithful secretary of twelve years, would always type them quickly, file them and keep excellent records of all his dealings. His marriage to Paula is failing. They know it will be hard on their children, but divorce is inevitable.

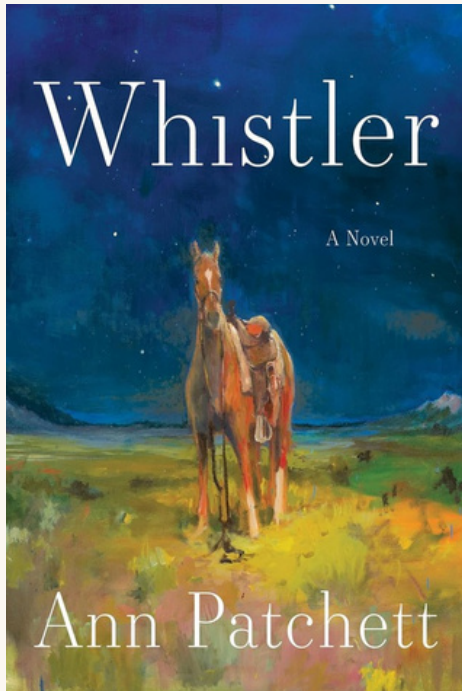
Just as Simon is at his lowest point, into his office an elderly lady comes seeking help on acquiring a will. While chatting with Tillie, it is learned she has a will but does not like her present lawyer because he asks too many questions as she tells Simon. She has no immediate family, lives alone, and simply needs help concerning her millions in Coca-Cola stock. Simon feels luck has finally come his way.

But no, for one afternoon as Eleanor is driving home, she is in a terrible accident which puts her in the hospital with multiple injuries. Simon's life takes a complete change! Now he must become a defense lawyer – seeking answers to exonerate himself. Law and order are at work. The reader will be mystified by all that occurs in this intriguing novel.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP.

FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1 PM IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY.



NEXT BOOK SELECTION: WHISTLER

September 28 we will be discussing Whistler by Ann Patchett. Full of tenderness and complicated family relationships, this book has excellent reviews.

Click [here](#) to buy the book or go to <https://www.amazon.com/Whistler-Novel-Ann-Patchett/dp/0063511630>.

Contact [Jenny Swanson](#) (jenny.swanson646@gmail.com) for more information.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH



Last month, we were treated to Greg Lane's award-winning BBQ! It was such a blessing to gather together again in community.

POTLUCK & PRESENTATION TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 11:45AM, WESLEY CENTER

Join us as Tim McGrath, Town of Danville, shares the many ways adults can stay actively involved and connected to the Danville community. Learn about local recreation programs, classes, activities, and volunteer opportunities. Discover new ways to enjoy all that the Danville area has to offer. Please bring a dish to share - we always have plenty of food, its your company we really want!



SRVUMC has previously hosted a member of Danville's government. Pictured here is former Danville mayor Robert Storer.

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, NOON, WESLEY CENTER

The REAL Mexican Independence Day is 9/16! Come celebrate with a great Mexican Fiesta of Chicken Enchiladas, Taquitos, Taco Salad & Churos and ice cream for dessert. A well crafted meal simply for fellowship and friends - ALL are welcome!

BINGO & BUFFET: SEPTEMBER 29, NOON, WESLEY CENTER

It's BACK!! Our Bingo Day returns for an afternoon of great food, laughter, and friendly competition. Enjoy a buffet of Chinese Chicken Salad, Thai Noodle Salad, and Pot Stickers!

OUT INTO THE WORLD

NANCY & BILL SABIN'S LEGACY OF GENEROSITY.

Last month, our church family gathered to honor Bill Sabin and his late wife Nancy whose generosity has made a positive impact on our church campus. They made it possible to remodel the church sanctuary, upgrade the A/V equipment, and even replace the aging organ with the same model that is used in the Vatican! Bill received the Shine Award during worship. Afterwards, he was presented with a special bronze plaque that will be installed in the church courtyard. SRVUMC is grateful for Bill's enduring legacy of love for this faith community.



OUT INTO THE WORLD

GRILL AND CHILL STRIKES CHORD WITH FIESTA & FELLOWSHIP.

The summer tradition of Grill and Chill wrapped up in August. The theme of the third church bbq was a Mexican fiesta. The chile verde, fiesta rice, chips, salsa, fresh guacamole, and flan for dessert was truly a sight to behold. As if the food weren't enough of a reason to show up, dinner was followed by an enjoyable evening of karaoke!

Special thanks to all the volunteers who made Grill and Chill so much fun this year! Your planning, decorating, and cooking, make Grill and Chill a cherished tradition.



OUT INTO THE WORLD

UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL IS COMPLETELY FLOORED.

The United Methodist Preschool (UMP) welcomed student back for another school year in late August. The Preschool Commission organized a special luncheon to thank the preschool teachers for their work throughout the school year. Members of the Preschool Commission also had the opportunity to see the preschool's new floors that were installed earlier this summer.

May God bless this upcoming school year.
May the students experience UMP as a place of belonging, learning and growing.



OUT INTO THE WORLD

ELEVATED CONNECTION CONCERT.

Last month's Elevated Connection featured the classic rock sounds of Ransomed Souls! Director of Music & Worship, Jeff Howe, opened the night with worship songs. Jeremiah, our Director of A/V deejayed the event. As if high energy Christian rock music weren't enough reason to attend the free concert, the MexiNica taco truck provided traditional Mexican food for dinner!

Special thanks to all the volunteers who cooked, cleaned, set up equipment, and everyone who attended this inspiring concert!



CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Dianne Ehlers
Lucinda Huffaker | 18 Dave Coombs
John Harrison
Charlie Rigolfi |
| 2 Julia Philbert | 19 Lyn Arscott
Kirsten Ericson
Gregg Mannell
Ted Wolfram |
| 3 Lucille Eichelberger (102) | 20 Larry Pasquale |
| 4 Austin Maddux
Ellie Maddux | 21 Brad Stribling |
| 5 Jillian Ericson | 23 Irv Skeoch |
| 6 Nick Stocking
Ray Winter | 24 Jane Lang |
| 8 Corey Merchant | 25 Tim Buckley
Peggy Crawford
Linda Albertoni
Don Johnson (95)
Alex Maddux |
| 9 Sienna Isbell
Sheryl Kerr
Christine Pezza
Rick McGuire | 30 Skye Stepper |
| 10 Alan Christian
Jeff Stroin | |
| 11 Terry Stocking | |
| 13 Sandi Cook | |
| 14 Bill Fulcher | |
| 16 Gary Osterhout | |
| 17 Connor Choy
Kelly Nakaso | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | |
|--|
| 1 Patricia Ludwig and Mike Prenger |
| 2 Debbie & John Byers
Brenda & Doug Domergue (54) |
| 3 Susie & Jim McKnight (66) |
| 6 Rebecca & Tom Byrom (51)
Julia & Tom Philbert |
| 11 Joanne & Bill Van Bezey |
| 12 Jan & Bill Foulds |
| 13 Tammy & Adam Webb |
| 16 Lee & Bill Rust |
| 19 Teresa & Jeff Stroin |
| 20 Amy & Sam Sidhom |
| 21 Peggy & Gordon Pierce |
| 23 Annette & Dan Whiting |
| 24 Jeryn Blair & Steven Smario |
| 26 Karen & Brian Steffy |
| 27 Claudia Artiga & Warren Cancel |



AMONG OURSELVES.



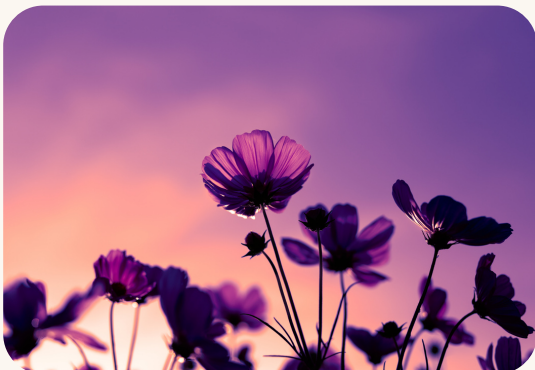
HEALTH CONCERNS

Kay Jones, Jeff Lang, Melanie and Boyd Hasik, Lonnie Bristow, Carol Fhlug, Julie Klug's nephew Taylor, Gerry Carothers' son Brent, Chris Hoff, ClaudeC Johannesen, Bart Jacobi, Pastor Sam's parents, Bill Sabin, Jim Bunker, Mike Henderson, Leigh Meyering, Jess Erickson, and Flo Spanier, Bill Foulds, Jim Burk, Dave McWilliams.



CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR

All those who live with long-term illness, those recovering from unemployment, life decisions, homelessness, and sickness in their families, peace in the world, and peace in our country, affected by flooding in Nepal, areas devastated by earthquakes and wildfires



OUR SYMPATHY

To Dan Sturdivant and his family on the passing of his father.

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Check out our website to keep up with church happenings, sign up for upcoming events and groups, and read our newsletter anytime, anywhere.



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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

