Dear Friends,

The remodeling program that we began in the late summer is well on its way. According to the construction company in charge, we are just over half way through. It has been interesting to watch the progress as it is being made. I hope you have taken a moment and watched our videos displayed in the atrium from time to time with pictures of the construction. There have been areas in which people have had to deal with the dust from the work and a little inconvenience here and there with meeting places, but all in all things continue to go smoothly.

As far as the financial part of the construction, there has been roughly $650,000 spent so far. This includes architect and engineering fees as well as the actual construction. The great thing about this is that we did not have to borrow any money. With what we had on hand and because of what people have given along the way, we have paid as we have gone along. This month will be the first money borrowed from our construction line of credit to pay for the work. You are to be commended for your support and commitment to this project. This is saving a lot of money that would have to go to interest on our line of credit.

We had our Commitment Sunday for this project, “Envisioning Our Future,” on April 29, when we each made our financial commitment. We set June 1 for giving to begin on the estimate of giving we made for the three year program. There has been a steady flow of contributions coming in and this has enabled us to go so long without borrowing. Obviously, the more we give now the less we have to pay back later. I was asked the other day if people could still make a financial commitment to the project and the answer is “yes.” There are commitment cards in the office that can be filled out with your commitment.

Each time I think about the work that is being done, I am reminded of what the end result is going to be. We will have a new room for our youth to meet. We will have a great place for our music department to rehearse as well as store music, instruments, etc. The library area and Necia’s office will be remodeled. We will have gotten rid of a lot of asbestos that was part of the older structure. We will have a family friendly restroom and an enlarged kitchen that is located near the Heritage Room. We will have remodeled restrooms near the Fellowship Hall and added a shower in both the men’s and women’s restrooms—for youth groups and other groups who stay overnight while they are on mission trips. And, finally, we will have a new cooling and heating system that will be environmentally friendly and energy efficient, which will mean a savings on our utility bills.

What we have committed to do will have a long range positive impact on the future ministry of this church. As pastor, I want to thank you for your continued commitment and support!

See You Sunday,

Alan
In Church This Week

ATTENDANCE

17 Thursday
4:00 Chimes Rehearsal, Rm. 415-Not Meeting
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga, Rm. 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

18 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404

19 Saturday
20 Sunday
8:15 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service

21 Monday
Martin Luther King’s Birthday
Church Office Closed

22 Tuesday
8:30 Men’s Group, Heritage Room
9:00 Daniel Plan Essentials, Room 403
10:15 Golden Yoga, Room 404

23 Wednesday
9:00-3 Healing Touch (by apt. only), Rm 403
10:00 Children’s Story Time, Diane Neill Dorsey
Memorial Children’s Library, Room 413
4:45 Handbells Rehearsal, Rm 418
6:00 Grateful Hearts, Room 308
6:00 Youth Group, Chapel

24 Thursday
4:00 Chimes Rehearsal, Rm. 415
5:45 Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga, Rm 404
7:00 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

25 Friday
9:30 Golden Yoga, Room 404

26 Saturday
27 Sunday
Blood Pressure Sunday
8:15 Worship Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship Service

Altar Flowers Needed

The 2019 flower chart is hanging up in its usual spot for sign-ups.

March 10 is the next date open. They are the same price of $49. Rosebuds are $10.

Please call the Church office if you are interested in filling one of these dates.

Thank you

CONCERNS

If you would like yourself or a family member removed from or placed on the Concerns List, please notify the office (457-2416). The information on this sheet is printed on Thursday mornings.

Address Change:  Don and Susan Frey, 3263 Vineyard Avenue #167, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Call for Volunteers: We need volunteers to be Usher Captains for May/November 2019. Regular Ushers needed at 8:15 a.m. for February/August and June/December. Call the Church Office to volunteer.

Disciples for Sunday, January 20, 2019

Coffee Hosts: 8:15 Joe and Kathy Swindell; 10:45 Lane and Joe Hudgins

January Nametags: Betty Graig

Outside Greeters: Gary and Jan Austin

Van Drivers: John Graig

Welcome Center: 8:15 Barb Bedient; 10:45 Pam Yarbrough

Children’s Church: Cayden and Carlisle Hinde, Joan Hart

Youth Helpers: Brenden McNally

Children’s Church Registration: Sharon Sims

Doris Irene Osborn
Born September 3, 1927 and entered into Heaven on December 27, 2018

You are Loved.
You are Missed.
You are Remembered.

Her family wanted to share with you that services were held for her on January 2, 2019 at the Christ Lutheran Church in Saskatchewan, Canada.
Ringers needed. One or two handbell ringers are urgently needed for our handbell choir in the new year. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. All you need are basic rhythm reading skills. Please contact Bob Weiss (rweiss@siu.edu or 618-203-1672) if you are interested.

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Parents and children are invited to join us Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Diane Dorsey Memorial Children’s Library

Join Ms. Jane for stories, music, games, and crafts as we learn about the Bible and how Jesus taught us to live and love.

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Morning Circle will not meet in January or February.

Feb. 7—Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m.

March 7—Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m.

March 19—Morning Circle, 10 a.m.

April 4—Priscilla Circle, 1 p.m.

April 16—Morning Circle, 10 a.m.

April 27—UMW Cache River District Meeting

Location: Grace United Methodist Church

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Event: Opening to God 2019: A Retreat
Purpose: Providing immersion experiences to explore spiritual disciplines that people don’t often practice, such as Dayenu, praying in color, Taize prayer, Ignatian meditation and so on
Date: 2/15 (Friday, beginning from 4 pm) and 2/16 (Saturday, ending at 5:30 pm)
Place: Little Grassy Camp
Cost: $75, or $50 for commuters (includes Saturday breakfast and lunch); if plus Friday sack supper, $84, or $59 for commuters
Registration: www.igrc.org/openingtoGod, by 2/1
Note: If youths, young adults or young families are interested and need financial support, please contact Yiwen

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STORYTIME
Parents and children are invited to join us Wednesdays 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Diane Dorsey Memorial Children’s Library
Join Ms. Jane for stories, music, games, and crafts as we learn about the Bible and how Jesus taught us to live and love.

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Join Us
SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children’s Opportunities, Sundays
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Children’s Sunday School (K-5th grade) uses the Deep Blue from Cokesbury. Main Topic: “Healing Families” — January 20 Sunday School—“Jesus Heals a Young Woman”

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Children’s Church (K-5th grade). All children are invited to Children’s Church following the Children’s Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Youth Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
9:30 a.m. Junior/Senior High Class meets in Room 414 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today’s youth.

Adult Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Renew - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection and prayer. They meet in Room 402. Women of all ages are welcome.

The Investors Class - The Investors Class will resume THE STORY CONTINUES in Room 404, the Chapel on December 30. Everyone welcome!

The Electives Class - Scripture studies following the lectionary led by Rev. John Sims. They meet in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

Small Group Opportunities
The Daniel Plan Essentials meets in Room 403 at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Everyone welcome.

Grateful Hearts meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in Room 308. They are studying Anxious for Nothing by Max Lucado.

Youth Group meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Chapel.

Men’s Group All men of the church are invited to coffee and refreshments on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. We discuss anything and everything from the perspective of our relationship with God.

Gentle Toning, Stretch, and Yoga Techniques meets on Thursdays at 5:45 p.m., Room 404, the Chapel.

Golden Yoga meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and on Fridays at 9:30 a.m., Room 404, the Chapel.

Get Connected...to great opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship on your Christian journey.