

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula  
P.O. Box 222811 Carmel, CA 93922



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A Newsletter for the Community  
Church of the Monterey Peninsula

**Contact Information:**

Write: P.O. Box 222811  
Carmel, CA 93922  
Visit: 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.  
Call: 831-624-8595  
Fax: 831-624-8927  
Website: www.ccmp.org

**Upcoming Dates  
For Your Calendar**

Women's  
Association  
Installation  
Luncheon  
Thursday  
January 21  
Noon  
Rancho Canada



January 2016

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula

Independent and United Church of Christ

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Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula. We are both independent and United Church of Christ, as governed by the members. Openness independent thinking and inclusivity are critical for our journey together. We encourage individual spiritual exploration and do not require adherence to a creed or a single view of what it means to be a Christian or to follow Christ. We journey by heart and our goal is to love God and all that God loves.

In our worship and activities beyond Sunday, we invite you to experience the transforming power of God and walk daily with Jesus as you live out your spiritual journey. Welcome to the journey!

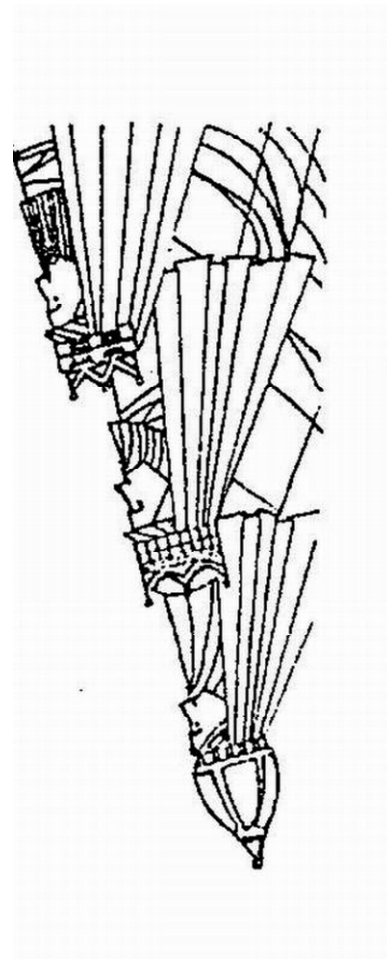
The Mission of The Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula is to welcome independent-minded people of all ages, build a diverse Christian community, and nurture one another to love God, neighbor and self.

Our mission is grounded on ten core values:

- God loves all people.
- We welcome all people, wherever they are on their life journey.
- Worship is the life breath of our community.
- We are the heart and hands of Christ serving others.
- We grow spiritually in Christ.
- We provide creative, open, lifelong Christian education.
- We are stewards sustaining all of God's creation.
- We promote understanding and cooperation among people of all faiths.
- We are a vital democracy and value independent thinking and dialogue..
- We joyfully support our mission with time, talent and treasure.

Next Newsletter Deadline:  
Sunday, January 24

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS  
When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
the work of Christmas begins:  
to find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among the people,  
to make music in the heart.



## From Our Minister

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January 2016

Dear Friends,

Recall the kind of feeling you have when someone praises you, when you are approved, accepted, applauded. And contrast that with the kind of feeling that arises within you when you look at the sunset or the sunrise or nature in general, or when you read a book or watch a movie that you thoroughly enjoy. Get the taste of this feeling and contrast it with the first, namely, the one that was generated within you when you were praised. Understand that the first type of feeling comes from self-glorification, self-promotion. It is a worldly feeling. The second comes from self-fulfillment, a soul feeling.

Here is another contrast: Recall the kind of feeling you have when you succeed, when you have made it, when you get to the top, when you win a game or a bet or an argument. And contrast it with the kind of feeling you get when you really enjoy the job you are doing, when you are absorbed in the action that you are currently engaged in. And once again notice the qualitative difference between the worldly feeling and the soul feeling.

Yet another contrast: Remember what you felt like when you had power, you were the boss, people looked up to you, took orders from you; or when you were popular. And contrast that worldly feeling with the feeling of intimacy, companionship – the times you thoroughly enjoyed yourself in the company of a friend or with a group in which there was fun and laughter.

Having done this, attempt to understand the true nature of worldly feelings, namely, the feelings of self-promotion, self-glorification. They are not natural, they were invented by society and culture to make you productive and to make you controllable. These feelings do not produce the nourishment and happiness that is produced when one contemplates nature or enjoys the company of one's friends or one's work. They were meant to produce thrills, excitement – and emptiness.

Then observe yourself in the course of a day or a week and think how many actions of yours are performed, how many activities engaged in, that are uncontaminated by the desire for these thrills, these excitements that only produce emptiness, the desire for attention, approval, fame, popularity, success, or power.

And take a look at the people around you. Is there a single one of them who has not become addicted to these worldly feelings? A single one who is not controlled by them, hungers for them, spends every minute of his/her waking life consciously or unconsciously seeking them? When you see this you will understand how people attempt to gain the world and, in the process, lose their soul.

And here is a parable of life for us to ponder: A group of tourists sits in a bus that is passing through incredibly beautiful country; lakes and mountains and green fields and rivers. But the shades of the bus are pulled down. They do not have the slightest idea of what lies beyond the windows of the bus. And all the time of their journey is spent squabbling over who will have the seat of honor in the bus, who will be applauded, who will be well considered. And so they remain till the journey's end.

Something to think about!

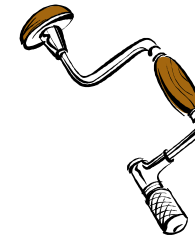
God Bless!

*Paul*

## Our Property Steward

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Bill Daniel



Thanks to the following persons who have donated their time and talent to maintaining our facility. Jerry Blanchard, Clint Henry, Mark Holbrook, Paul Holbrook, Richard Howell, Larry Kuck, Ron Parsons, Peter Sewald, Russel and Karen Wolter, and Rick Wilkerson. Without the effort of these individuals our grounds and appearance of our facility would leave a lot to be desired.

Our 2016 Property Steward is inheriting a considerable amount of projects that need timely attention. These projects will not disappear; they must be taken care of in a timely fashion. I know he will be delighted if above individuals continue their efforts - and it would be nice if more individuals stepped up to assist.

In signing off, I want to give a very special person who has assisted me in many ways, solving problems and taking care of several projects a "Thank you" - Carole French.

## I-Help For Women

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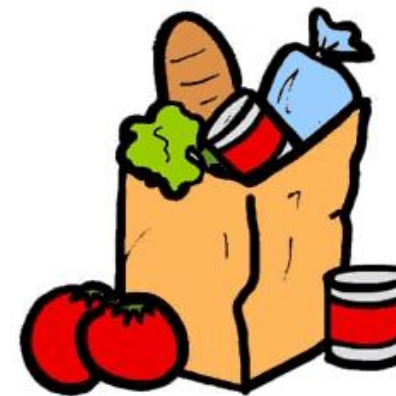
We will be hosting and feeding 10 homeless women here at CCMP on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Our dinner for January is on the 19th. We will have a simplified menu with about 8 items, rather than the 14 items we have for our larger group of 24 men. OutReach Unlimited will supply the counseling and transportation and other resources as they do for the men. This is a pilot program operating 2 nights of the week and will expand as more churches participate in it. There will be a sign up sheet in Woodhull Hall. For questions: Dolores (224-5215 cell; 484-2489 home; djoblon@sbcglobal.net)



## Remember Our Food Basket

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You may bring non-perishable foodstuffs which will be distributed in our local community through the Food Pantry at St. Mary's Church in Pacific Grove. Suggested items: canned fruit, vegetables, tuna, milk, stew, hash, chili, ravioli, Vienna sausage, and peanut butter, jelly, boxed macaroni and cheese, cereal and juice in small boxes etc. You will notice our food basket as you enter the narthex! This is a project of our Missions Committee. And thanks to Larry and Peggy Kuck who take the food to St. Mary's.



## Women's Association Slate for 2016 Board

President, Joanne Anderson;  
1st Vice President, Dodie Scardina;  
2nd Vice President, Millie Daniel;  
Secretary, Jane Heider-Samuels;  
Treasurer, Ruth Elmgren;  
Librarian, Amy Krupski;  
Church Women United Rep., Kathy Warthan;  
Devotions, Elizabeth Wrightman

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Kathy Warthan, Jeanne Brehmer and Liz Tarozzi.

**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, January 21, 2016**

**Women's Association Installation Luncheon at Rancho Canada  
Noon \$22**

## I- Help Dinner for Men

Our I-Help meeting for men in January is on the 13th Please sign up to bring something for the meal for the homeless men who will have dinner here and spend the night.



## Birthdays In January

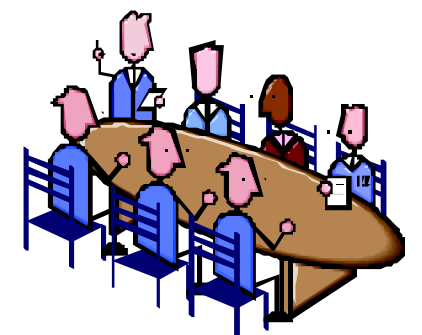
3rd Ruth Elmgren  
7th Michael Petrillo  
11th Kellin Chaffin  
12th Marilyn Hyde  
" Larry Hayes

17th Marcella Stull  
30th Ada Morton  
" Kathy Warthan  
" Harriet Werner

## Our Newly Elected Board of Governors 2016

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Missions  
Public Relations  
Religious Education  
Worship  
Member-at-large  
Membership  
Property Steward  
Fellowship  
Women's Association

JoAnn Holbrook  
Amy Krupski  
Jane Heider  
Patricia Henry  
Dolores Joblon  
Mary Parsons  
Bonnie Bragg  
Lisa Ledin  
Lois Varner  
George Brehmer  
  
Joanne Anderson



## Poetry Corner

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'Neath a Pine Tree  
Sitting here 'neath a pine tree,  
I'm thinking about the Pope.

Affectionately known as the "Papa," by  
Many Italian Catholics,  
The little man addressed our Congress,  
The leaders of our land  
A few days ago.

Speaking of Brotherhood and Humanitarianism  
He also, as expected, alluded to  
The words that Jesus spoke to us  
A few thousand years ago.

Afterwards, he walked with some of the thousands  
Who had come to see him, laughing, touching them and  
Kissing their tiny children.  
Isn't that also what Jesus did?

Then, a congressman being interviewed on TV,  
Talked of how wonderful it was to hear the Pope's words.  
"But," he added, "It doesn't work."

It doesn't work?  
Twenty-five thousand people, some non-Catholics,  
Came to Washington, D.C.,  
Thirty-five thousand came to New York,  
Many thousands came to Philadelphia  
And a few million of us watched him on TV,  
Together, with all of those thousands.  
Spreading peace and love  
That doesn't work?

Does sending the same amount of young people abroad to kill and maim people  
And themselves, work?

Ah, yes, how wonderful it is to sit out here  
Thinking of the Pope, the little "Papa."

Dodie Barkley

## Treasurer's Report

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### Financial Report January Through November

Operating Income	\$174,838.19	
Operating Expenses	166,146.76	
Net Income through Nov.	8,691.43	
Total Cash in Operating Accounts		53,605.20
Cash in Capital Reserve Account		19,084.87
Foundation Trust Fund		6,563.00

Your Finance Committee: Ruth Elmgren, Patricia Henry, Clyde Klaumann

## Church Women United

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Church Women United will meet on Friday, January 8, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. for a "Human Rights Celebration" at Hays C. M. E. Church, 625 Elm, Seaside CA.. If you would like any further information on the meeting or CWU, please see Kathy Warthan, our CWU representative.

From Chuck Scardina

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