

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



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Permit #19
Carmel, CA 93923

**Upcoming Dates
For Your Calendar**

Tuesdays 9:30
Prayer Shawl
Ministry

Sunday,
March 13
WA Salad
Potluck Lunch
after worship



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

March 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.

Wherever you are
on your
faith journey, you
are welcome here!



Next Newsletter Deadline:
Sunday, March 21

March 2016

From Our Minister

Dear Friends,

Think of some of the painful events in your life. For how many of them are you grateful today, because thanks to them you changed and grew? Here is a simple truth of life that most people never discover. Happy events make life delightful but they do not lead to self-discovery and growth and freedom. That privilege is reserved to the things and persons and situations that cause us pain.

Every painful event contains in itself a seed of growth and liberation. In the light of this truth return to your life now and take a look at one or another of the events that you are not grateful for, and see if you can discover the potential for growth that they contain which you were unaware of and therefore failed to benefit from.

Now think of some recent event that caused you pain, that produced negative feelings in you. Whoever or whatever caused those feelings was your teacher, because they revealed so much to you about yourself that you probably did not know. And they offered you an invitation and a challenge to self-understanding, self-discovery, and therefore to growth and life and freedom.

Try it out now: identify the negative feeling that this event aroused in you. Was it anxiety or insecurity, jealousy or anger or guilt? What does that emotion say to you about yourself, your values, your way of perceiving the world and life? If you succeed in discovering this, you will drop some illusion you have clung to till now, or you will change a distorted perception or correct a false belief, or learn to distance yourself from your suffering. You just may find that you are full of gratitude for those negative feelings and to that person or event that caused them.

Now take this one step further. Look at everything that you think and feel and say and do that you do not like in yourself: Your negative emotions, your defects, your handicaps, your errors, your attachments and neuroses and hang-ups, and yes, even your sins. Can you see every one of them as a necessary part of your development, holding out a promise of growth and grace for you and others, that would never have been there except for this thing that you so disliked?

And if you have caused pain and negative feelings to others, were you not at that moment a teacher to them, an instrument that offered them a seed for self-discovery and growth? Can you persist in this observation till you see all of this as a happy fault, a necessary sin that brings so much good to you and to the world?

If you can, your heart will be flooded with peace and gratitude and love and acceptance of every single thing. And you will have discovered what people everywhere are searching for and never find. Namely, the fountainhead of serenity and joy that hides in every human heart.

Blessings & Peace,



PLEASE NOTE

OUR EMAIL ADDRESSES WILL BE
CHANGING ABOUT MARCH 10

paulccmp@yahoo.com
caroleccmp@yahoo.com

Fellowship Department



Fellowship is looking for two people to host the Sunday Morning Coffee Hour for a month. A sign-up sheet will be posted in Woodhull Hall. Please remember that donations of store bought or baked goods are always welcome! (This helps defray cost of coffee hour supplies and to stay within our budget!) Blessings, Liz Tarozzi



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held weekly on Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m. All knitters are welcome! We meet in the Broaddus Room just off Woodhull Hall. Call Pam with questions at 624-8759.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

I-Help For Women

We will be hosting and feeding a small group of homeless women here at CCMP on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Our dinner for March is on the 15th. 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 7 nights of the week and will expand as more churches participate in it.

Women's Association

At their February meeting the Board of the Women's Association appointed Joanne Anderson to be the Administrator of the Giving Tree Shop. Joanne will work closely with the manager.

You are invited to a
Potluck Salad Luncheon
sponsored by the Women's Association
Sunday, March 13 after worship



Program: Dr. Richard Gray
"Heart Disease in Women"
Bring a salad to share!

Pause and Feel My Presence

When you give a tour at Pt. Sur and a kid walks next to you and talks about himself, know I am with you and pause and feel My presence

When you go to jail and listen to the women there with compassion, pause and feel My presence

When you do anything anonymously without expectation of any kind, pause and feel my presence

When you are in the chapel in the middle of the night and your mind wanders, pause and feel My presence

When you help people through sad times just by bearing witness, pause and feel My presence

When your daughter calls and needs your help and you stop all things to listen to her, pause and feel My presence

When you try hard not to judge others, pause and feel My presence

When you pray to me even though you feel awkward, pause and feel My presence

When you cry at beautiful music, pause and feel My presence

When you work in your yard trying to coax flowers to grow, pause and feel My presence

When you bring joy to others, pause and feel My presence

When your heart is breaking because someone is hurting, pause and feel My presence

When you are up in the middle of the night and it is silent and lovely, pause and feel My presence

Pause and feel My presence in all things you do; in all you write...know I am with you, know I am here. For I am more than the moon and stars, I am more than the galaxies, I am more than what you see and what you cannot see and I am inside you. Choose to use your gifts to help others and you are doing what I intended for you. Pause and feel My presence for all your goodness comes from Me. Be steadfast in this and We will become integrated and closer...We will come together and your life will be full and passionate...and you will learn to love who you are..do not concentrate on who you are not; do not concentrate on who We are not.

Find Me in your actions; love Me in your words.

Property Steward

Peter Sewald

First off, last month, a flooding problem of the furnace room beside the sanctuary was solved by replacement of sump pump at a very reasonable price.

The crew: Bill Daniel, Larry Kuck, Jerry Blanchard, and Russel Wolter have been mowing, weed-whacking, tractor fixing and rat chasing (sometimes killing) in that order, roughly.

With any kind of luck, banner sign may very soon be moved back behind county easement line. If I thought removing juniper/cedar was difficult, it is nothing compared to tackling iceplant.

Wish list: (donations above and beyond pledge)

1. Our weed-whacker is approaching 20 years old. It will not last forever. When Bill next travels to Idaho, we are hoping he will have the funds to purchase a new one at a reasonable price (cheaper than in CA). Any donations toward same - aiming at \$500 - \$600 - would be appreciated.

2. Though not required by county, it would be prudent to install carbon monoxide (CO) detectors. We are aiming to install 4 for starters (about \$30 per).

3. Seems we have a bit of a termite and carpenter ant infestation. While the BOG has approved payment to have this taken care of, it would be appreciated if we could get donations to replenish the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.

Anyone wishing to help, come out on Wednesdays or Saturdays. Can't make those days? Neither can I, so give me a call and we can set up a time/day where we can do the stuff I know how to do.

Birthdays In March

1st	George Brehmer	9th	Ashlyn Chaffin
2nd	Dee MacDonald	22nd	Clyde Klaumann
6th	Courtney Lyon	30th	Diane Goyette

Poetry Corner

The Little Boy

"Mother," he said, "If I fly too high,
will I fall?"

"Never," she answered.

"Never?" he asked with a small pout.

"Never," she said.

"Oh," he said and, pointing his chubby little arms upward,
He flew away, wondering about his next assignment.

She smiled, watching the little Cherub taking on each sunbeam,
Making it as easy as apple pie.

Dodie Barkley

I- Help Dinner for Men

Our I-Help dinner for men in March is on the 9th. Please sign up to bring something for the meal - the sign up sheet is in Woodhull Hall. These homeless men will have a meal, some fellowship, and spend the night. Thank you to those who faithfully support this program!

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report Through January

Operating Income	\$13,699.86
Operating Expenses	18,174.85
Net Income through January	-4,504.99
Total Cash in Operating Accounts	\$77,520.88
Cash in Capital Reserve Account	19,384.87
Foundation Trust Fund	6,863.00

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

From Chuck Scardina



CHURCH
WOMEN
UNITED

The March meeting of Church Women United will be held on March 4 at 10:00 a.m.

We will celebrate the "World Day of Prayer" at St. James C.M.E. Church, 286 Calle Cebu, in Salinas.

All women of the church are cordially invited.

If you have questions about CWU, please direct them to Kathy Warthan, our CWU representative.