

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



Non Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit #19
Carmel, CA 93923

**Upcoming Dates
For Your Calendar**

**Harvest Fair
Saturday, Nov. 19**

**Quarterly Meeting
and Potluck
Sunday, Nov. 27**



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
831-624-3060 (Shop)

Oct /Nov 2016

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula

Independent and United Church of Christ

Inside

Welcome

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!

Minister
Pg. 2

Birthdays
Pg. 4

Calendars
Inserts

Our Mission

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, November 20!

From Our Minister

October/November

Dear Friends,

We continue our study of the letters of St. Paul in the order in which they were written, paying particular attention to the theological development and maturation that took place in Paul's thought over the course of many years.

Please read 1 Thessalonians 4:4-14

Many contemporary writers in the area of religion are making a connection between holiness and wholeness. What they mean by this is that holiness, far from being mere pious feeling, is a formative attitude which guides our actions. Real holiness leads to wholeness – a basic unity between spirit and body which, in turn, leads to a close correspondence between inward attitudes and outward actions. This “modern” insight is really a return to the thought of St. Paul! For him, holiness naturally expressed itself in wholeness of body.

Then – as now—in the context of a sexually permissive society, resisting sexual immorality was an important part of a Christian's call to holiness. Paul saw the Christian's power to respond to this challenging calling not in the realm of willpower, but in God's will as realized in their (and our) relationship with God.

In 4:4-6 Paul describes what holiness means in terms of sexual morality. It means that the Christian will strive for wholeness by respecting his/her own body, and that he or she will not seek to take advantage of others. A Christian is called to revere his or her own sexuality and that of others.

He concludes this section (4:7-8) by reemphasizing that fact that this call to holiness is not some man-made morality, but God's call. As such, the motivating power to live it comes from God in the person of the Holy Spirit, and not from ourselves.

Even in the area of mutual love—an area in which the Thessalonians excel – Paul challenges them not to rest content, but to make “even greater progress” (4:10-12). Paul's co-worker Timothy had apparently reported to him that the Thessalonians had a tendency to become lost in longing for the Lord's return. This had led to a certain amount of idle curiosity and just plain idleness. Given this situation, Paul counsels calmness, discreetness, and a good day's work.

Since Paul's departure, some of the Thessalonian Christians had died. The community was rather shaky on its theology of the Resurrection and of the Second Coming, and erroneously thought that their dead friends could no longer be present to experience the joy of Jesus' return. Thus they grieved unduly. Paul writes to comfort and to clarify in 4:13-17. Faith in Jesus' Resurrection is primary (4:14) It entails a connection between his death and the death of his followers, between his Resurrection and the resurrection of those who believe in him. He will develop this connection between Christ and the Christian into the notion of the solidarity of the Christian with Christ and the doctrines of the Communion of Saints/Mystical Body of Christ in his pastoral (second) letter to the Corinthians. Here he simply states the reality of the connection and does not elaborate.

The reality of Jesus' Resurrection can be our starting point and guiding compass just as St. Paul encouraged it to be for the Thessalonian Christians.

Blessings and Peace,



CCMP CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT!
Please put October 23rd at 4:00 on your calendar!
“Young at Heart”

Transcend with the keys of Michael Martinez, Richard Carr, Stephen Yoo, and George Peterson, as they also accompany Opera, Jazz, and Cabaret! Louie Lebherz, former Principal Bass with the LA Opera, will introduce the opera portion (and maybe more!)

Date: Sunday, October 23, 2016

Time: 4:00-6:00 PM

Location: CCMP Sanctuary

Tickets: \$15.00 donation

Youth Bake Sale for the Heifer Project during Intermission
Please Join Us as we continue to raise funds for our outreach ministries!

Chuck Scardina

A Love Note from ABBA

Poetry Corner

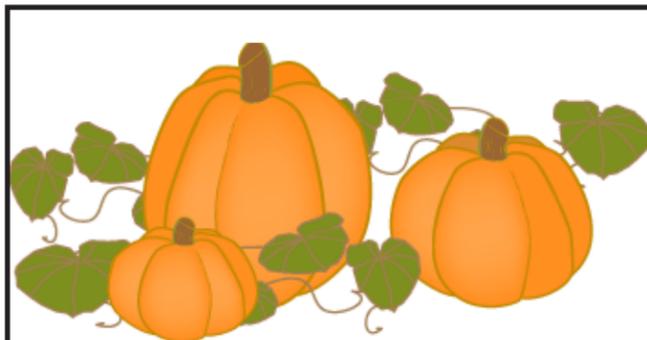
When you're nothing but a vast wilderness of
overwhelming problems,
When you can't tell your loved ones, or even your
friends,
No one that you are suffering from a strange and dreadful
loneliness,
When your life is filled with unbearable triviality,
Please give me some time.

Sit with me,
Breathe with me.

Our attraction is based upon mutual desire...
No?
Then, why are you making me chase you again?

So what-da yuh say, my love
Just a few moments?

Dodie Scardina, 2016



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL
HARVEST FAIR
Saturday, November 19, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Start your holiday shopping with us.
Local vendors will provide handcrafted items.
Doughnuts and Lunch items are available to purchase.

Sign up for set up Friday and/or working at the sale on Saturday.
Items for the Baked Good table are requested.
Sign up if you can help in the kitchen.
Please see Joanne Anderson with questions



Givingtree Benefit Shop

Hours: Wednesday-Saturday 12-4
Donations welcomed during shop hours.
Open Sundays after church for an hour.
Volunteers welcome!

From Lyn Rosen

Prayer and Proverbs

Chapter 24

"Such you must know, is wisdom to your soul..."[24-14] God, you are Father of all and I am mother of one. You know the heartbreak of estranged children, children who are ashamed of You, children who want to care and cannot, children unable to understand because of wounds in their hearts, children who believe You do not love them enough, children who believe You neglect and have abandoned them, children who think you love others more, children who suffer beyond ability to reconcile with You and children who are afraid to love You in return. Please come to my aide; let me know what to do.

God: Pray to Me.

"If you remain indifferent in time of adversity, your strength will depart from you." [24-10] God, it is freezing I am on ice and there is a chasm between my daughter and me we cannot cross. With each crack my heart jumps with longing to leap over and get to her I am afraid I will die before we have a chance to know each other; she is fearful to trust me and at times it is easier if we do not try...so risky, so hurtful, we may not survive if we allow ourselves to be hopeful and vulnerable yet again for naught. God please be a bridge for us so we may walk towards each other or the treacherous crevasse will continue to deepen and split until unable to stand the unbearable sadness one of us gives up.

God: Pray to Me.

"For suddenly arises the destruction they send,..."[24-22] God, our hearts were connected once now they are ripped wide open from a disease that is lethal and still you live. My heart is dying quickly please mend this ragged tear; stop the bleeding; deep scarlet tears circulate throughout my body touching each cell as I tremble with earthshaking anguish. With Your loving care mend gently this fragile membrane between us so our "love from creation" for each other may revive.

God: Pray to Me.

"By wisdom is a house built,..."[24-3] God, hurts run deeply, mine new hers old from when she was very young. Tears we shed sometimes in torrents unstoppable or in the middle of the night tears of great sadness gentle like dew. My heart is drowning; each beat is weaker please redeem our relationship, let our tears fall on receptive ground nourishing the dry dusty desert separating us; allowing new life to emerge from frigid winters of old.

God: Pray to Me.

"For it is by wise guidance that you wage your war,..."[24-6] God I ask for Your help, only You can heal this tragedy of a mother and daughter whose caring for each other unraveled from a thousand broken promises each isolated strand now yearning to return and be part of the whole. My heart is lonely and grieving for what is lost; with Your grace entwine us loosely and make us complete once more.

Please bring her near.

Amen

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry meets Tuesdays 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.

Birthdays In October

And November

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| 1st | Anna Kasper |
| 6th | Lisa Sargisson |
| 7th | Mary Parsons |
| 11th | Tammi Lyon |
| 12th | Clint Henry |
| 13th | Beverly Pugh |
| 18th | Pam Klaumann |
| 19th | Emma Parsons |
| 30th | Linda Pugh Lyon |

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| 1st | Ashley Lyon |
| 2nd | Blair Hyde |
| 4th | Dolores Joblon |
| 8th | Carolyn Gray |
| 17th | Lyn Rosen |
| 19th | Barbara Tadlock |
| " | Janice Akin |
| 27th | Joanne Anderson |

I- Help Dinner for Men

The I-Help Dinners for Homeless Men will be held on October 12 and November 9. (They occur on the second Wednesday of each month.) You can help by signing up to bring something for the meal. The men arrive about 5 p.m. and we eat at about 5:30. The sign up sheet is in Woodhull Hall. Thanks to those who constantly support this fine outreach!

Church Women United



Church Women United will meet in October on Friday the 7th at 9:00 a.m. for a General Gathering at St. James Episcopal Church, 381 High Street, Monterey. We will gather donations for the Women Alive Project in Salinas. (Personal items such as panties, socks, toiletries, etc. are requested.)

In November the CWU meeting will celebrate "World Community Day" on Friday, November 4, at 10:00 a.m. at St. John's Episcopal Chapel, 1490 Mark Thomas Drive, Monterey. Blanket Fund monetary donations are requested.

If you have any questions about CWU, see our representative Kathy Warthan.

Rose Garden Tea

Peggy Goering Kuck

It is never too late for Thank You !! I failed to mention Pam Klaumann's loving help with getting the Rose Tea in place back in June. She was an invaluable resource with all her past experience with the tea (and just everything!) and did so much "behind-the-scenes," without which I would not have been able to make it happen. I greatly appreciated her support! And I apologize for this being so tardy.

Property Steward

Peter Sewald

Open and/or unlocked doors continue to occur. The latest was September 11 when both doors to office were unlocked and door to kitchenette was open. Nuff said!

Earlier this year (pre fire), I noticed someone I took to be a local taking care of a problem. The grass in median along CV Road was high enough to possibly be a problem for those turning into or out of Canada Way. The "local" who stepped up was our George Brehmer. Last month, Ron Parsons took it upon himself to prune the trees and clean up the paths around the labyrinth; he saw something that needed doing and he did it.

Bill Daniel, Jerry Blanchard, and the Kuchs (Larry and Peter) reset toilets and snaked drains in men's/women's restrooms. Missed the clogged sinks in women's but that should be cleared up by Monday, 9.19. Jerry has also been checking and repairing the chairs in fellowship hall. Of late, the crew was removing those yellow flowers around the property; worse than dandelions and wreak havoc on weed-sacker. And I hope it will be noticed that the uneven sections of walkways have been made more even; less opportunity to trip. The ice plant has finally been removed and, after a couple more feet of juniper is removed, we can finally move that pesky banner back onto church property.

There is lots of "stuff" that needs doing and is a bit daunting for only a handful of individuals. So come on down on Wednesdays and Saturdays. I am sure we can find something for you to do. Or come down some other day if you see something that "needs doin'"

From Rev. Elizabeth Wrightman

I will facilitate a women's support group beginning Friday, October 21 at 11:30 am. One hour and 15 minutes; {brown bag lunches welcome}. It is not a book club/discussion group, but we will use the book Lots of Candles Plenty of Cake by Anna Quindlen as a jumping off place for our own sharing. Someone not reading it at all will feel completely comfortable too. Drop-in attendance welcome. All sharing is confidential and voluntary. It will be a 6 week group initially and when I return after traveling it may begin again for an indefinite time period. Religion will not be the target subject matter, but being a woman of faith in 2016, aided by the fellowship of others...{getting through the day!}. This is a gentle, no-agenda biographical book. (Just for fun I also recommend Traveling Mercies by the Bay Area's Anne Lamotte as well, but her comedic and faith-fill book can be a little graphic for me, in terms of my goals for this gathering.) Friends and neighbors welcome in the church library..... RSVP welcome.



You are invited to our 2016 Fourth Quarterly Meeting & Potluck after the worship service

November 27 in Woodhull Hall. Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share!