

ANNUAL REPORT

2014 – 2015



The 149th Annual Meeting of the
Community Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Benicia, California

**Community Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Benicia, California**

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 – 2015

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LEADERSHIP TEAM 2014-2015**STAFF**

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Pastor | The Rev. Renie Stamm-Kirk |
| Minister of Music | Dr. Barbara Hamm |
| Church Secretary | Vacant |

OFFICERS

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Moderator | Keith Read |
| Vice-Moderator | Laura Pyles |
| Church Clerk | Dale Olm |
| Financial Secretary | Nancy Gilman |
| Treasurer | Shelby Riddle |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Building and Grounds Ministry | Jim Lessenger/Greg Cox |
| Christian Education Ministry | Tanya Nemcik |
| Congregational Care | Vacant |
| Fellowship | Susan Stofan & Allison Stamm-Kirk |
| Social Outreach Ministry | Sarah Thompson |
| Stewardship Ministry | Nancy Aldritt/Carla Goad |
| Welcome and Growth | Debi & Dale Stanley |
| Worship Ministry | Bruce Smith |

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Member-At-Large | Karyna Mitchell |
| Member-At-Large | Jackie Lawrence |



Pastor's Report

The Rev. Renie Stamm-Kirk

Dear Beloved,

Mother Theresa said, "We are not called to be successful, we are called to be faithful" and faithful this church has been and still is today. We are faithful in our outreach faithful in our bold steps of inclusion, long before inclusion was popular. We've never been a really big church, but we have always had a really big heart. We have always managed to give to those outside our doors, always managed to include all at the table of grace.

And if you look to our history, which we will do a lot in the next year, we were a feisty congregation although the congregation was small in number, the souls that were here carried on, stayed true to their faith, met for worship, and supported each other. In this last year with our parking lot torn asunder we continued to gather, support one another and our greater community. We have always been a faith community that did not give up, did not give in, did not disperse, and did not dissolve.

This past year we started off with the loss of one of our dearest and oldest members, Helen Nelson. Though she had been away from worshiping with us for a while, many remember all that she contributed to our congregation.

This past year has been a year of change for us. After much research and many small gatherings and congregational meetings, we moved forward on our "Campus Enhancement" project. With the steady leadership of Jim Lessenger and Greg Cox the impact to the congregation was minimalized. The congregation rose to the occasion and stepped up with greeters; parkers and folks who continued to assure many all were going to be alright.

We also were presented with an opportunity to look at the rental of our CE building in a whole new way. The congregation made not just one major decision about the future of the church, but two. We gained confidence in our ability to listen and engage each other respectfully through our dialog to fix the parking lot, and when the opportunity came to take on a new tenant in the CE building we took a leap of faith. And really, both of these projects have had and will continue to have MAJOR impact on the future of the church. Yes, it was not 100% unanimous decision but, even in our disagreement, we came to a strong consensus and moved forward. And now the parking lot is complete and safe and attractive to one and all and the Playing to Learn Daycare has completely revitalized our Christian Ed building. On any given day, the sound of happy children is heard throughout the community. Yes, we are a faithful people, listening to the direction God calls in our everyday lives, to be more, to do more and to follow Jesus with integrity.

This last year we also hired our new Youth Leader. And the change Della brings to our teens is engaging them in a new way to be youth in church.

My goals for the coming year are to work towards a thriving educational and spiritual growth ministry for all ages and to strengthen our means of outreach and welcome, to have more doorways into the life of the church. We accomplished a tremendous amount last year, and it builds a sense of confidence that we can make great strides with our new hopes and challenges. I can't wait to see where we are June 2016 when we celebrate 150 years!





Music Ministry

Dr. Barbara Hamm



On June 7 of this spring, CCC celebrated the role of music and musicians in the worship of the church. Music has historically held a very important place in worship; indeed, Brian Wren, one of the most influential modern hymn writers, describes the importance of congregational song to the formation of our faith (*Praying Twice: The Music and Words of Congregational Song*, Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000). Music holds an important place in the life and worship of CCC; certainly for me it is of central importance in my service to God through the ministry of music in the church, fulfilling a deep need in me to use my gifts and talents while empowering and providing opportunities for others to do the same.

The Sanctuary Choir is one of these opportunities, as it sings most Sundays from September through June, in a wide range of genres and levels of difficulty. The intergenerational Women and Girls' Chorus sings several times a year, occasionally joining the Sanctuary Choir for special music—as they did on June 7. There is also a Girls' Choir which sings on special occasions throughout the year, as well as a Children's Choir—which for a couple years running has proved to be the hit of the annual Christmas concert! Singers are always welcome to join these groups. Additional opportunities are provided for both adults and youth for solos, duets, or small group ensembles.

Opportunities are also abundant for instrumentalists at CCC. They include playing for worship, for the second Saturdays in Vallejo when CCC provides food for our friends on the street, and for the Christmas concert and the Christmas Orchestra. The Rolling Tones Handbell Choir, directed by Leslie Lessenger, plays for worship, at the second Saturdays in Vallejo, at the annual Christmas concert, and at Baskin Robbins during the Christmas season. They also played at the HOPE Quarterly Concert in El Sobrante, at Rancho Benicia Mobile Home Park, for Chole McGraw's retirement celebration, and at the groundbreaking for our campus enhancement project. Deborah Shanks provided unique arrangements that allowed the handbells to accompany choir and congregational singing. The choir sought out opportunities to use a variety of bell techniques in rhythmic pieces, sometimes even adding hats appropriate to the occasion! Marilyn Scrutchins and Liz Cleves, aka The Hippie Chicks, have played guitar and banjo for second Saturday and also entertained at the Council Christmas party.



Jazz Gorilla, consisting of Shelby Riddle on clarinet, Dean Gilman on bass, and Barbara Hamm on keyboard, is also quite involved in musical outreach. We play regularly for worship and for second Saturdays in Vallejo. We played for the 152nd anniversary worship service of our sister UCC church in Redwood City, for the Thanksgiving feast for over 200 low-income seniors at the Vallejo Elks Lodge, for the annual Global Faire at the Disciples of Christ Church in Vallejo, for the Longest Night Christmas Service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, for the CCC annual Christmas concert, for the Emeritus Retirement Home in Vallejo (formerly Merrill Gardens), and for the June 2015 UCC Annual Gathering, held for the first time at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park.



Our musicians also employ their talents beyond the church, participating in a number of musical venues in Solano County and elsewhere. Laura Pyles sang with the Vallejo Choral Society, while Nancy Gilman, Dean Gilman, and Gail Mason sang with Cantare Con Vivo in Oakland (for both of which choirs Dean Gilman provides professional recording services). Cholé McGraw sang with the Melody Choral Singers, and Leslie Blackie sang with the Broadway Chorus in Pleasanton. Deborah Shanks participated several times in the quarterly concerts at Hope Lutheran Church, inviting The Rolling

Tones to play bells and Barbara Hamm to sing for the June 5th concert. Besides playing with Jazz Gorilla, Dean Gilman plays in the Vallejo Just for Fun Jazz Band, which does musical outreach for seniors. He also plays with 2 rock bands: Astral Kitchen in Napa and a new start-up band in Fairfield. Shelby Riddle plays with the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers and participated in their spring tour concerts. In addition she plays regularly with the Pleasant Hill Taizé group, which Barbara Hamm also occasionally accompanies. While these groups are not a part of CCC, they attest to the level of musical commitment and accomplishment of our musicians, who carry their CCC association with them wherever they go.

As your Minister of Music, my most important role is to support and enrich the worship of this church by coordinating all those who contribute their talents and energies in creating the music for worship and other CCC programming. I was also privileged to accompany Marcia McFee in her plenary session at the July Hymn Society Conference in Columbus, OH. In September I had the opportunity to serve as the accompanist for the Disciples of Christ-UCC Women's Retreat at the Mission Springs Retreat Center in the Santa Cruz Mountains, with the keynoter being the Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President of the Disciples of Christ. Later in September I accompanied group singing and conducted 2 workshops on new music for congregational singing for the KS-OK Conference of the UCC in Wichita, KS. In June I held 3 Taizé morning worship meditations at the UCC Annual Gathering at Sonoma State University and participated with Jazz Gorilla in playing for the Friday evening worship service.



I continue my work with the Rev. Dan Damon on hymn writing and was thrilled to see 8 of my pieces appear in *At Your Altars*, a collection of short songs and refrains for worship released by Hope Publishing Company in the summer of 2014. A new collection of hymn texts by Ruth Duck, containing 3 of my tunes, was released in June 2015 by Hope Publishing Company. The collection, entitled *The Poetry of Grace*, will be debuted at the July Hymn Society Conference in New Orleans. I still study jazz piano and played piano bar several times at Max's Opera Café in San Francisco and at the Hotel Mac in Point Richmond. Last summer I even had the opportunity to play a few numbers at Le Pavillon Hotel in New Orleans and the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco, courtesy of the resident piano bar player—what fun!

Lists of Participants in All Groups:*Sanctuary Choir**

Leslie Blackie
 Debbie Conway
 Mary Susan Gast [on call]
 Dean Gilman
 Nancy Gilman
 Priscilla Lane
 Chol  McGraw
 Jackie Sayles
 Deborah Shanks
 Marlan Shanks
 Bruce Smith [fall season]
 Susan Stofan
Barbara Hamm - Director

Women and Girls' Chorus

Ella Beatson
 Audrey Benton
 Lydia Benton
 Journey McCoy
 Karyna Mitchell
 Katie Stamm-Kirk
 Autumn Thomas
 Holly Thomas
 Meadow Thomas
 Maddie Vlnar
 Leslie Blackie
 Michelle Cavagnuolo
 Debbie Conway
 Mary Susan Gast
 Nancy Gilman
 Priscilla Lane
 Chol  McGraw
 Laura Pyles
 Jackie Sayles
 Deborah Shanks
 Susan Stofan
 Kim Webb
Barbara Hamm - Director

Children's Choir

Ella Beatson
 Jack Beatson

Audrey Benton – Director for the Christmas concert and Christmas Eve!

Lydia Benton
 Colin Cavagnuolo-Pyles
 Natalie Daffern
 Emily Margolati
 Karyna Mitchell
 Berke Nauright
 Lily Nauright
 Katie Stamm-Kirk
 Autumn Thomas
 Meadow Thomas
 Holly Thomas
 Benjamin Thomas
 Maddie Vlnar
 Samantha Willingham
Barbara Hamm – Director

Vocalists – solos, duets

Audrey Benton
 Lydia Benton
 Leslie Blackie
 Mary Susan Gast
 Barbara Hamm
 Dean Gilman
 Nancy Gilman
 Deborah Shanks
 Bruce Smith
 Katie Stamm-Kirk

The Rolling Tones Handbell Choir

Chol  McGraw
 Pat Obendorf
 Keith Read
 Laurie Read
 Deborah Shanks
 Kim Webb
Leslie Lessenger – Director

Instrumentalists – solos, duets, ensembles

Leslie Blackie – violin
 Stuart Blackie – drum
 Liz Cleves – guitar, banjo

Dean Gilman – acoustic and electric bass
 Leslie Lessenger – flute
 Dale Olm – mandolin
 Shelby Riddle – clarinet, fiddle, drum
 Marilyn Scrutchins – guitar
 *Deborah Shanks – guitar, piano, organ [accompanist]
 Bruce Smith – guitar, piano [accompanist]
 Barbara Hamm – piano, organ [accompanist]

Christmas Orchestra

Dean Gilman – bass
 Barbara Hamm – piano
 Leslie Lessenger – flute
 Dale Olm – mandolin
 Shelby Riddle – clarinet
 Deborah Shanks – guitar

Benicia Celtic Band

Leslie Blackie – fiddle
 Dean Gilman – bass
 Barbara Hamm – piano/keyboard
 Dale Olm – mandolin
 Shelby Riddle – fiddle/clarinet [coordinator]
 Deborah Shanks – guitar

Jazz Gorilla

Dean Gilman – bass, vocals
 Shelby Riddle – clarinet
 Barbara Hamm – piano, vocals

*Deborah Shanks has been of invaluable service to the music program at CCC, providing arrangements for both handbell and choir music as well as substituting when Barbara is absent.

Moderator

Keith Read



I want to start by thanking everyone for participating in the work of this church. I am blessed to have served as your Moderator for this past year. And what a year it has been.



In June this church made a bold move to expand our outreach by partnering with Playing To Learn Childcare in its mission to provide safe and affordable childcare to families in need. Together with our Building & Grounds team, PTL invested in extensive renovations of our CE Building. Since February, our campus has been filled with the joyous sounds of happy children ever since.

Realizing our vision continued as we broke ground on the new parking lot in February, and celebrated its completion in April. The installation of new, state-of-the-art, solar lighting, which brought us up to code and into the 21st Century, was completed soon thereafter. We welcomed the next phase of improvement with the start of the landscaping project, and our youth showed up in force to help kick it off in June.

Throughout all of the changes and challenges this year, the worship and work core to this church never faltered. We continued to share communion with our friends on the street every second Saturday, rain or shine. We helped children in coastal farming communities start school with backpacks full of supplies. We supported young adults moving out of the foster system to live on their own. We listened to the wise words our youth bravely shared with us. We stood proudly as they took the lead time and again to remind us how important it is to reach out to the least, the last, the lost, and the lonely, walking in the path of Jesus.



This church, our community and our hearts, never cease to amaze me. I marvel at your fortitude and courage. I am humbled by your grace and your love for all of God's creation. Most of all, I am grateful to walk this journey with each of you.

As we move into our 150th year, our future looks bright. Our church grows in hope. May peace be with you all.



Vice Moderator

Laura Pyles

Serving as Vice-Moderator over this past year afforded me the opportunity to participate in the church in new ways. Ostensibly, the Vice-Moderator acts as stand-in for when the Moderator may be absent. Our Moderator, Keith Read, made sure he attended most all of the Council meetings, so I did not get to substitute for him too often. However, I did have plenty of chances to hold the microphone for Keith whenever he made special announcements at the start of service. All joking aside, though the role may seem vague, important duties do come with the position. One of the main functions of Vice Moderator is being chairperson of the Pastor Parish Relations Committee ("PPRC"). It was my distinct honor to serve in this capacity along with Pastor Renie, Nancy Gilman, Priscilla Lane, as well as Susan Stofan, Dale Olm who served through December. The PPRC usually met once a month with Pastor Renie to discuss confidentially any congregation- or pastor-related issues, and to provide support to Pastor Renie.



Attending the Council meetings offers me insight into the inner workings of our church. The leadership of our church devotes their time, talents, and treasures to keep Community Congregational a going concern. I am ever grateful to have this community and this space to worship and grow spiritually and as a human being. I am humbled to be sitting beside them every month as we discuss the business of this church. I welcome each of you to join us at least once; Council meetings are open to any who wish to attend. And like everything else we do, there is always a tasty treat or two for noshing.



Clerk

Dale Olm

Dedications

Dylan Otero, Jr.: March 15, 2015

Weddings

Trudy Riggs and Jennifer Tubiello: December 28, 2014

Adam Olm and Della Waters-Smith: January 2, 2015

New Members

Debra Thomas: January 18, 2015

Della Olm: January 18, 2015

Trudy Riggs: January 18, 2015

Jennifer Riggs: January 18, 2015

Mary Susan Gast: January 18, 2015

Roger Straw: January 18, 2015

Debra Thomas: January 18, 2015

Della Olm: January 18, 2015

Trudy Riggs: January 18, 2015

Jennifer Riggs: January 18, 2015

Mary Susan Gast: January 18, 2015

Roger Straw: January 18, 2015

Dropped Membership

Jane Robinson

Elizabeth Munnelly

Transferred Membership

Rev. Candace Fraley

Andree Bouty

Matt Daffern

Rhonda Hicks

Deceased

Member

Helen Nelson: July 1, 2014 | Memorial Service: July 9, 2014

Members Place On Inactive List

Nancy Atkins

Stephen Atkins

Larry Oraboni

John Huebner

Vreni Huebner

Chris Francis

Rick Beeson

Tim Mautz

John Hanna

Jeff Garrigues

Kay Sirota

Lynette Toney

Valerie Hartzell

Gina (Esparza) Russo

Natalie Kidder

Cheryle Kidder

Roland Smith

Linda Smith

Hope Wingert

Bob Cox

Total Members: June 30, 2014 128
 June 30, 2015 109

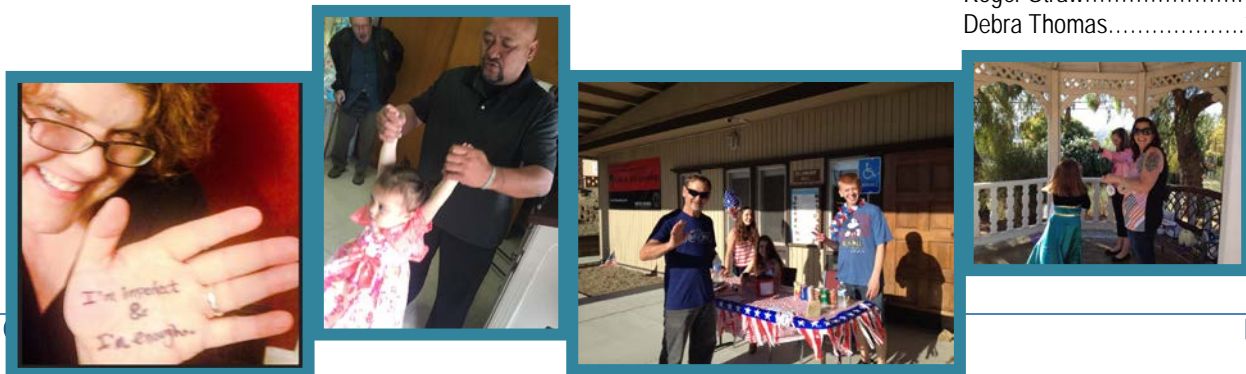


MEMBER JOIN DATE

| Member Name | Join Date |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Nelson, Helen | 4/6/1950 |
| Mortensen, Eleanor | 11/21/1954 |
| Burns, Karen | 8/16/1955 |
| Estey, Frances | 3/25/1956 |
| Updyke, Karen | 3/25/1958 |
| Estment (Wyatt), Patricia | 10/9/1959 |
| Stone, Peg | 10/25/1959 |
| Stephens, Carol | 11/4/1964 |
| Stofan, Susan | 2/24/1974 |
| Hammonds, Maryo | 9/15/1974 |
| Hammonds, Sam | 9/15/1974 |
| Atkins, Nancy | 3/28/1976 |
| Atkins, Stephen | 3/28/1976 |
| Martin, Pam | 10/22/1978 |
| Osada, Carolyn | 6/8/1980 |
| Wingert, Hope | 2/8/1981 |
| Scrutchins, Marilyn | 6/7/1981 |
| Lane, Priscilla | 12/5/1982 |
| Cox, Bob | 6/5/1983 |
| Hutchins, Patricia | 10/16/1983 |
| Read, Laurie | 2/17/1985 |
| Read, Keith | 2/17/1985 |
| Wong, Jan | 11/10/1985 |
| Cox, Betty | 3/23/1986 |
| Sayles, Jackie | 4/5/1987 |
| Oraboni, Larry | 10/10/1993 |
| Huebner, John | 3/13/1994 |
| Huebner, Vreni | 3/13/1994 |
| Kravets, Kathleen | 4/12/1998 |
| Kravets, Rob | 4/12/1998 |
| Read, Robyn | 5/31/1998 |
| Olm, Dale | 9/27/1998 |
| Francis, Chris | 2/14/1999 |
| Beeson, Rick | 2/14/1999 |
| Conway, Debbie | 4/25/1999 |
| Mason, Carl | 11/14/1999 |
| Mason, Gail | 11/14/1999 |
| Murrell, Janet | 11/14/1999 |
| Taylor, Penny | 11/14/1999 |
| Thomas, Jeff | 1/16/2000 |
| Thomas, Milly | 1/16/2000 |
| Blackie, Leslie | 7/30/2000 |
| Blackie, Jonathan | 7/30/2000 |
| McGraw, Chol  | 2/25/2001 |
| Cox, Greg | 2/25/2001 |
| Cox, Daniel | 5/12/2002 |
| Cox, Regina | 5/12/2002 |
| Read, Kristen | 5/12/2002 |

| Member Name | Join Date |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Sindt, Cassidy | 5/12/2002 |
| Hamm, Barbara | 6/30/2002 |
| Gilman, Nancy | 7/20/2003 |
| Watson, Jim | 7/20/2003 |
| Benton, Graham | 1/25/2004 |
| Thompson, Sarah | 1/25/2004 |
| Hicks, Rhonda | 3/28/2004 |
| Gilman, Dean | 12/12/2004 |
| Olm, Sam | 5/15/2005 |
| Blackie, Lindsay | 5/15/2005 |
| Mautz, Tim | 6/26/2005 |
| Schaffer, Larry | 5/7/2006 |
| Stamm-Kirk, Rev. Renie | 6/3/2007 |
| Riddle, Shelby | 6/3/2007 |
| Olm, Adam | 6/3/2007 |
| Parsons, Natalie | 6/3/2007 |
| Stamm-Kirk, Allison | 12/2/2007 |
| Eubank, Eileen | 12/2/2007 |
| Hanna, Karen | 12/2/2007 |
| Hanna, John | 12/2/2007 |
| Garrigues, Jeff | 12/2/2007 |
| Munnely, Elizabeth | 12/2/2007 |
| Lawrence, Jackie | 12/2/2007 |
| Lawrence, Lynn | 12/2/2007 |
| Stanley, Debi | 6/1/2008 |
| Stanley, Dale | 6/1/2008 |
| Lessenger, Jim | 6/1/2008 |
| Lessenger, Leslie | 6/1/2008 |
| Scott, Mickey | 6/1/2008 |
| Robinson, Jane | 12/21/2008 |
| Schaffer, Nancy | 12/21/2008 |
| Sirota, Kay | 12/21/2008 |
| Hanna, Christopher | 5/17/2009 |
| Hanna, Mathew | 5/17/2009 |
| Cooper, Brent | 6/14/2009 |
| McDonald, Reiko | 6/14/2009 |
| Ensminger, Veronica | 10/4/2009 |
| Sullivan, Jessica | 10/4/2009 |
| Watson, Lance | 10/4/2009 |
| Toney, Lynette | 10/4/2009 |
| Hartzell, Valerie | 1/24/2010 |
| Hartzell, Patricia | 1/24/2010 |

| Member Name | Join Date |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Blackie, Stuart | 1/24/2010 |
| Gauger, Eleanor (Nora) | 1/24/2010 |
| Gauger, Hal | 1/24/2010 |
| Esparza, Gina | 6/27/2010 |
| Esparza, Jill | 6/27/2010 |
| Frawley, Candace | 7/20/2010 |
| Bouty, Andree | 7/20/2010 |
| Aldritt, Nancy | 3/20/2011 |
| Kidder, Natalie | 3/20/2011 |
| Stauffer, Cheryle | 3/20/2011 |
| Goad, Carla | 3/20/2011 |
| Dolter, Jean | 3/20/2011 |
| Dolter, Bill | 3/20/2011 |
| Hawthorne, Heidi | 3/20/2011 |
| Brisena, Sophia | 5/15/2011 |
| Brisena, Isabelle | 5/15/2011 |
| Cooper, Kieran | 5/15/2011 |
| Herr, Liberty | 5/15/2011 |
| Stamm-Kirk, Katie | 5/15/2011 |
| Beatson, Leslie | 4/8/2012 |
| Cavagnuolo, Michelle | 4/8/2012 |
| Daffern, Tracy | 4/8/2012 |
| Green, Jennifer | 4/8/2012 |
| Hill, Donna | 4/8/2012 |
| Otero, Dylan | 4/8/2012 |
| Pyles, Laura | 4/8/2012 |
| Smith, Roland | 4/8/2012 |
| Smith, Linda | 4/8/2012 |
| Vlnar, Eric | 4/8/2012 |
| Vlnar, Maria | 4/8/2012 |
| Benton, Audrey | 6/10/2012 |
| Daffern, Matt | 6/10/2012 |
| Daffern, Kyle | 6/10/2012 |
| Daffern, Natalie | 6/10/2012 |
| Mitchell, Karyna | 6/10/2012 |
| Carol Brubaker Walton | 3/23/2014 |
| Jerry Alan Walton | 3/23/2014 |
| Anna Atuatasi | 3/23/2014 |
| Sione Atuatasi | 3/23/2014 |
| Tanya Thompson | 3/23/2014 |
| Debra Thomas | 1/18/2015 |
| Della Olm | 1/18/2015 |
| Trudy Riggs | 1/18/2015 |
| Jennifer Riggs | 1/18/2015 |
| Mary Susan Gast | 1/18/2015 |
| Roger Straw | 1/18/2015 |
| Debra Thomas | 1/18/2015 |



Financial Secretary

Nancy Gilman

The Financial Secretary job requires work done behind closed doors. On Sundays, after worship, I make my way into the office along with one of my Council-approved counters. My loyal counter Jett Thomas moved to Vacaville and no longer graces the office. Thanks to Nancy Aldritt, Carla Goad, Laura Pyles and Shelby Riddle for their help in counting.

I send out quarterly statements to all who make a contribution to our church. These statements should be helpful in keeping track of your giving. If you are in need of a statement at any time you can e-mail, call or talk to me on Sunday.



Community Congregational Church, United Church of Christ - Benicia CA Donations Account Balances (07/01/2014 - 06/30/2015)

Monday, July 20, 2015

Page 1 of 1

| Account | YTD Balance | Account Name |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Giving Accounts | | |
| 060 - Pledges - Current Year | 114,310.69 | Pledges - Current Year |
| 065 - Parishioner Contributions | 17,411.12 | Parishioner Contributions |
| 070 - Building Use - Preschool (HH) | 11,706.93 | Building Use - Preschool (HH) |
| 071 - Building Use - Other | 4,140.00 | Building Use - Other |
| 073 - Building Use - Playing To Learn | 17,400.00 | Building Use - Playing To Learn |
| 085 - Fundraiser - Stewardship | 3,594.00 | Fundraiser - Stewardship |
| 087 - Fundraiser - Crab Feed | 3,855.00 | Fundraiser - Crab Feed |
| 098 - Refunds & Misc Deposits | 181.83 | Refunds & Misc Deposits |
| 099 - Other Sources of Funding | 37,296.08 | Other Sources of Funding |
| 409 - Puente de la Costa Sur | 286.00 | Puente de la Costa Sur |
| 412 - Xmas Fund (Vets/Cross) (UCC) | 473.00 | Xmas Fund (Vets/Cross) (UCC) |
| 426 - Care to Share, Vallejo Together | 240.00 | Care to Share, Vallejo Together |
| 600 - Capital Imp/Bldg Fund - Pledge | 22,111.02 | Capital Imp/Bldg Fund - Pledge |
| 671 - Rental Deposit On Account | 2,500.00 | Rental Deposit On Account |
| 703 - Concert Series (Music Series) | 218.00 | Concert Series (Music Series) |
| 705 - Christian Ed / Sunday School | 64.00 | Christian Ed / Sunday School |
| 706 - Youth Ministry / Youth Group | 75.00 | Youth Ministry / Youth Group |
| 708 - Pastor Restricted Fund | 1,655.56 | Pastor Restricted Fund |
| 710 - Gift Funds | 15.00 | Gift Funds |
| 711 - Weekend in the Trees | 3,705.00 | Weekend in the Trees |
| 712 - FellowshipFreewillOff - Budget | 120.00 | FellowshipFreewillOff - Budget |
| 714 - Xmas & Easter Flower Fund | 935.00 | Xmas & Easter Flower Fund |
| 721 - Memorial Funds-Recent Contribu | 110.00 | Memorial Funds-Recent Contribu |
| 726 - Holiday House | 58.50 | Holiday House |
| 728 - Youth Camp Scholarship | 1,019.00 | Youth Camp Scholarship |
| Total Giving Accounts | \$243,480.73 | |

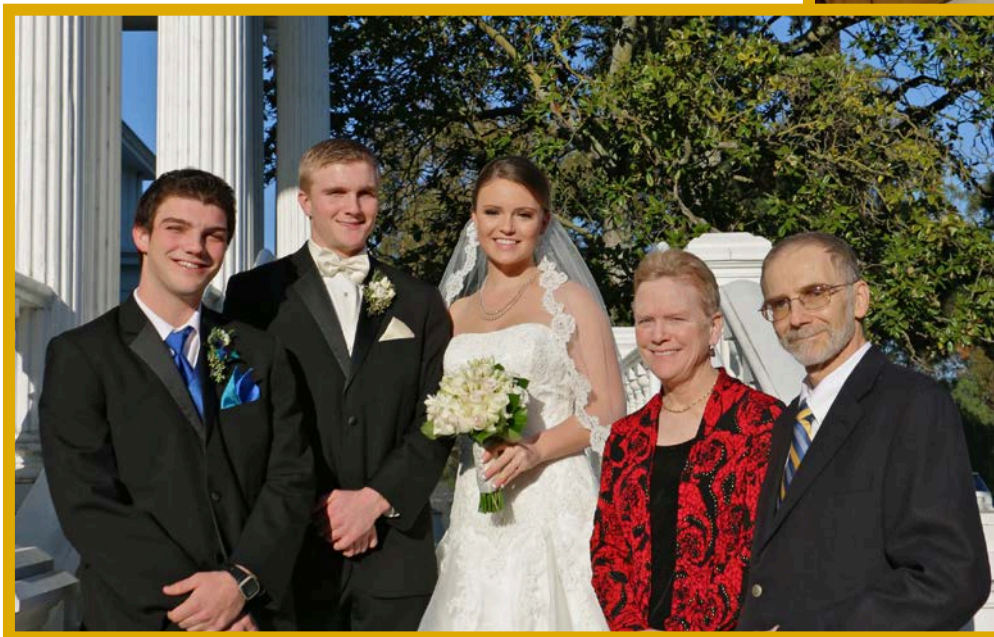
Count: 25

Period: 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2015

Year: 2014

Treasurer

Shelby Riddle



Community Congregational Church UCC, of Benicia

Balance Sheet Summary (Assets vs Restricted Funds)

Cash Basis

As of June 30, 2015

| | Jun 30, 15 | Jun 30, 14 | \$ Change |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Checking/Savings | | | |
| US Bank | 8,841.48 | 24,769.75 | -15,928.27 |
| Payroll Services Direct Deposit | 4,477.37 | 0.00 | 4,477.37 |
| Cornerstone CD#9001 8/5/11 | 15,899.91 | 15,742.05 | 157.86 |
| Cornerstone CD#9002 2/5/12 | 15,929.50 | 15,771.35 | 158.15 |
| Cornerstone CD#9003 2/9/12 | 30,878.77 | 30,572.17 | 306.60 |
| Vanguard Money Market Fund | 3,493.01 | 37,222.55 | -33,729.54 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 79,520.04 | 124,077.87 | -44,557.83 |
| Other Current Assets | | | |
| Petty Cash Accounts | 170.59 | 170.59 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Current Assets | 170.59 | 170.59 | 0.00 |
| Total Current Assets | 79,690.63 | 124,248.46 | -44,557.83 |
| Other Assets | | | |
| Campus Renovation 2015 | 349,153.13 | 0.00 | 349,153.13 |
| Total Other Assets | 349,153.13 | 0.00 | 349,153.13 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 428,843.76 | 124,248.46 | 304,595.30 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | | |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Other Current Liabilities | | | |
| Payroll Tax liabilities | 345.26 | 325.04 | 20.22 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | 345.26 | 325.04 | 20.22 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 345.26 | 325.04 | 20.22 |
| Long Term Liabilities | | | |
| Cornerstone Loan - Parking Lot | 349,153.13 | 0.00 | 349,153.13 |
| Total Long Term Liabilities | 349,153.13 | 0.00 | 349,153.13 |
| Total Liabilities | 349,498.39 | 325.04 | 349,173.35 |
| Equity | | | |
| Pastor Restricted Fund | 960.86 | 1,162.17 | -201.31 |
| Missions & Outreach Restricted | 10,965.99 | 10,981.21 | -15.22 |
| Capital Improvements Fund | 1,050.05 | 22,340.21 | -21,290.16 |
| One Brick at a Time | 200.00 | 200.00 | 0.00 |
| New Sound System | 50.00 | 50.00 | 0.00 |
| Special Renovation Projects 725 | 589.67 | 589.67 | 0.00 |
| New Furniture Fund | 77.39 | 77.39 | 0.00 |
| Parking Lot Renovation Campai... | 2,277.34 | 30,427.00 | -28,149.66 |
| Sabbatical set aside (accrued) | 8,043.12 | 5,983.08 | 2,060.04 |
| Pledges Paid in Adv (use sub) | 0.08 | 3,630.37 | -3,630.29 |
| Set-asides for current yr exp's | 179.82 | 209.39 | -29.57 |
| Special Restricted Equity Accts | 5,953.21 | 8,289.88 | -2,336.67 |
| Net Assets | 37,923.01 | 31,798.51 | 6,124.50 |
| Net Income | 11,074.83 | 8,184.54 | 2,890.29 |
| Total Equity | 79,345.37 | 123,923.42 | -44,578.05 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 428,843.76 | 124,248.46 | 304,595.30 |

Community Congregational Church UCC, of Benicia
Detailed Annual Budget vs. Actual YTD
 July 2014 through June 2015

| | Jul '14 - Jun ... | Budget | \$ Over Budget | % of Budget |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | | |
| Income | | | | |
| Loose Offering - Parish Contrib | 20,986.12 | 11,475.00 | 9,511.12 | 182.9% |
| Pledges - Operations & Ministri | 113,691.01 | 120,446.04 | -6,755.03 | 94.4% |
| Pledges - Cap Improvement Fund | 21,916.10 | 22,302.00 | -385.90 | 98.3% |
| Use of Building | 35,746.93 | 33,744.96 | 2,001.97 | 105.9% |
| Fundraisers | 4,415.00 | 6,165.00 | -1,750.00 | 71.6% |
| Trans Cap Imp Fund-Loan&Cap I... | 33,484.85 | 17,894.04 | 15,590.81 | 187.1% |
| Transf Equity/Reserves to Rev. | 3,060.00 | 3,060.00 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| Other sources of funding (int.) | 626.59 | 616.00 | 10.59 | 101.7% |
| Total Income | 233,926.60 | 215,703.04 | 18,223.56 | 108.4% |
| Expense | | | | |
| Ask Bookkeeper | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| B & G - Utilities | 8,997.04 | 9,124.08 | -127.04 | 98.6% |
| B & G Custodial | 5,160.00 | 5,160.00 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| B & G- Maintenance & Janitorial | 5,502.42 | 5,302.56 | 199.86 | 103.8% |
| B& G-Taxes | 707.42 | 638.04 | 69.38 | 110.9% |
| Insurance- Property | 7,215.78 | 6,668.04 | 547.74 | 108.2% |
| Loan Payoff | 5,252.40 | 11,274.00 | -6,021.60 | 46.6% |
| Transf to future loan payments | 0.00 | 11,028.00 | -11,028.00 | 0.0% |
| Cap Impr Fund Disbursements | 50,148.55 | 17,894.04 | 32,254.51 | 280.3% |
| Christian Education / Youth | 129.01 | 1,079.92 | -950.91 | 11.9% |
| Fellowship | 963.37 | 1,050.00 | -86.63 | 91.7% |
| Music, Adult & Youth Choirs | 898.07 | 1,124.49 | -226.42 | 79.9% |
| Stewardship | 0.00 | 94.65 | -94.65 | 0.0% |
| Mission, Outreach & UCC Support | 11,199.33 | 12,044.88 | -845.55 | 93.0% |
| Welcome (Growth) | 186.99 | 156.00 | 30.99 | 119.9% |
| Worship | 636.58 | 564.48 | 72.10 | 112.8% |
| Unexpected Expenses/Continge... | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Finance & Administration & IT | 3,356.92 | 3,164.68 | 192.24 | 106.1% |
| Office/Computer/Copier Supplies | 3,410.87 | 3,006.88 | 403.99 | 113.4% |
| Professional Expenses | 207.00 | 828.47 | -621.47 | 25.0% |
| Sabbatical budgeted set aside | 2,060.04 | 2,060.04 | 0.00 | 100.0% |
| Staff | 116,819.98 | 129,391.68 | -12,571.70 | 90.3% |
| Total Expense | 222,851.77 | 221,654.93 | 1,196.84 | 100.5% |
| Net Ordinary Income | 11,074.83 | -5,951.89 | 17,026.72 | -186.1% |
| Other Income/Expense | | | | |
| Other Income | | | | |
| Donations In Kind (Non-Cash) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Total Other Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Other Expense | | | | |
| In-kind donations used | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Total Other Expense | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Net Other Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Net Income | 11,074.83 | -5,951.89 | 17,026.72 | -186.1% |

| Community Congregational Church UCC, of Bendita Proposed Budget 2015-2016 Congregational Meeting_Overview.xlsx | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|--|
| | Ordinary Income/Expense | Actual Revenue and Expense - not Budget | | | | | | Budget | | Proposed New Budget | |
| | | Jul '08 - Jun '09 | Jul '09 - Jun 10 | 2010-2011 | 2011-2012 | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | | |
| | Income | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Loose Offering - Parish Contrib | 19,928 | 13,237 | 21,727 | 16,679 | 20,317 | 11,006 | 11,475 | 15,000 | | |
| 2 | Total Pledges - Operations & Ministri | 102,005 | 108,883 | 110,011 | 117,126 | 129,351 | 137,671 | 120,446 | 126,935 | | |
| 3 | Pledges to Capital Improvement Fund | 9,567 | 11,788 | 10,865 | 12,821 | 12,283 | | 22,302 | 24,330 | | |
| 4 | Use of Building | 24,884 | 25,593 | 26,215 | 26,521 | 27,345 | 27,422 | 33,745 | 38,507 | | |
| 5 | Fundraisers | 7,862 | 6,442 | 5,760 | 6,243 | 4,975 | 4,793 | 6,165 | 6,000 | | |
| 6 | Youth Fundraisers | | | | | | | | 1,500 | | |
| 7 | Trans. from Reserves/Net Assets | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,060 | 2,060 | 10,848 | | |
| 8 | Transfer to(-)/from(+) Cap Imprvmt/Parking Lot | -4,147 | -1,698 | -3,956 | -11,491 | 2,832 | 0 | 17,894 | | | |
| 9 | Transfer from M&O | | | | | 531 | | | 7,155 | | |
| 10 | Transfer to/from M&O for missions | 13,917 | 12,419 | 21,657 | 14,552 | 14,935 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | | |
| 11 | Total Other sources of funding | 968 | 50 | 6,392 | 511 | 1,863 | 821 | 616 | 623 | | |
| | Total Income | 176,984 | 176,806 | 198,677 | 185,516 | 214,557 | 184,773 | 215,703 | 231,898 | | |
| | Expense | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Total B & G - Utilities | 7,200 | 8,289 | 8,431 | 7,918 | 8,637 | 8,958 | 9,123 | 10,035 | | |
| 13 | Total B & G Custodial | 3,600 | 4,125 | 4,800 | 4,629 | 5,160 | 5,160 | 5,160 | 6,000 | | |
| 14 | Total B & G- Maintenance & Janitorial | 5,745 | 3,874 | 5,022 | 4,951 | 6,822 | 5,581 | 5,303 | 6,120 | | |
| 15 | Total B & G-Taxes | -2,631 | 1,000 | 635 | 634 | 288 | 676 | 638 | 707 | | |
| 16 | Insurance- Property set aside | 4,960 | 5,264 | 5,264 | 5,264 | 4,896 | 7,103 | 6,668 | 7,216 | | |
| 17 | Total Cornerstone Loan Payments | 1,113 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11,274 | 22,548 | | |
| 18 | Transfer to future loan payments & Q&P, (K&P&K&P) | | | | | | | 11,028 | 1,782 | | |
| 19 | Capital improvement Fund Disbursements-other | 5,420 | 10,090 | 6,909 | 1,331 | 15,115 | | 17,894 | - | | |
| 20 | Total Christian Education / Youth | 849 | 1,092 | 2,166 | 1,807 | 273 | 361 | 1,080 | 2,000 | | |
| 21 | Total Congregational Care | 0 | 0 | 0 | 140 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | | |
| 22 | Total Fellowship | 941 | 998 | 1,113 | 1,425 | 716 | 238 | 1,050 | 1,100 | | |
| 23 | Total Music, Adult & Youth Choirs | 1,176 | 1,560 | 1,261 | 1,079 | 1,515 | 989 | 1,124 | 1,125 | | |
| 24 | Total Stewardship | 0 | 0 | 82 | 90 | 23 | 95 | 95 | 150 | | |
| 25 | Total Mission & Outreach - total UCC support | 3,620 | 3,690 | 3,690 | 3,900 | 12,900 | 13,818 | 12,045 | 10,155 | | |
| 26 | Total Welcome (Growth) | 869 | 1,190 | 664 | 590 | 336 | 276 | 156 | 190 | | |
| 27 | Total Worship | 2,514 | 1,836 | 1,006 | 1,332 | 1,070 | 414 | 564 | 450 | | |
| 28 | Total Council & Discretionary Funds | 910 | 1,828 | 503 | 927 | 499 | 0 | 0 | 270 | | |
| 29 | Total Other Expenses - Finance&Admin | 2,345 | 2,868 | 3,255 | 3,704 | 4,147 | 3,139 | 3,164 | 3,000 | | |
| 30 | Total Office/Computer/Copier Supplies | 4,979 | 4,928 | 4,768 | 2,883 | 3,837 | 3,423 | 3,007 | 3,000 | | |
| 31 | Professional Expenses | 919 | 1,664 | 2,727 | 1,167 | 827 | 828 | 828 | 1,300 | | |
| 32 | Sabbatical budgeted set aside for future sabbatical | 2,000 | 2,000 | 3,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,060 | 2,060 | 3,579 | | |
| 33 | Total Staff | 112,049 | 106,191 | 110,977 | 124,221 | 132,413 | 124,153 | 129,389 | 151,171 | | |
| | Total Expense | 173,276 | 174,905 | 187,931 | 189,044 | 214,940 | 177,274 | 203,756 | 231,898 | | |
| | Net Ordinary Income | 3,708 | 1,901 | 10,747 | -3,528 | -383 | 7499 | -5,947 | (0) | | |



Building and Grounds

Jim Lessenger & Greg Cox

The 2014-2015 fiscal year was the most productive year for Building and Grounds since the new campus was constructed in 1962. There were two major rebuilding projects and each discussed in detail: The rebuilding of the Christian Education Building and the reconstruction of the parking lot.

Rebuilding the Christian Education Building

Happy Hearts left in January 2015, and Playing to Learn Childcare began its occupancy of the CE building in February. Immediately Deanna Mitchell, who owns PTL, and the B&G committee embarked on a complete rebuilding of the CE facility and grounds. A new fence was constructed and the grounds completely recast by Deanna. The interior was stripped and completely repainted.

The painting project required extensive repairs to the walls. Additionally, the cabinets in the kitchen were repainted, the kitchen was completely rebuilt, new coat hooks for the little children were installed and an entire wall removed. Handicapped bathrooms and two new sinks were installed. The costs of the renovations were paid for by Deanna Mitchell with the church picking up the bill for the handicapped bathrooms and other upgrades.

The parking lot reconstruction

The rebuilding of the parking lot was split into four phases starting in 2013. The first phase was planning and involved coordination with the architect and with the lender. Cornerstone Fund was the lender and a tremendous amount of paperwork had to be done to execute the loan. This required the use of an attorney and a new survey.



The second phase was the construction and this was done by Westgate Construction of Benicia with much of the prep work completed by Genesis House residents and church members. Six change orders were necessary for many reasons but primarily because of problems with the sewer system. We discovered that the sewer from the CE building had completely failed and disintegrated. In addition, drainage from the sanctuary roof was being routed into the sewer – completely out of code. The drain and sewer water drained out of the sewer system and into the substrate underneath the first and second pads and underneath the driveway, turning it into mud. This process of liquefaction resulted in slippage of the second pad onto the first. We knew there was slippage and we knew that it was getting worse. Beginning two years ago, a crack had appeared in the second pad. After the Napa earthquake the slippage increased and the crack widened and extended. We found out after construction started that the city had done an inspection of the property after the earthquake and was preparing to red tag the property due to the instability of the slope. Thankfully we did the repairs just in time.

The construction included new retaining walls and an entirely new drainage system. The sewer was completely rebuilt. The roof drainage no longer drains into the sewer. To avoid having to build an

impoundment basin where the gazebo is, the builders constructed dissipaters to deal with the water. One dissipater is in the meadow next to the gazebo and the other is on the slope between the second and third pads.

The third phase was the lighting. We procured state-of-the-art lighting from Greenshine Industries. These are lights that utilize solar energy, have modern batteries in underground vaults, and state-of-the-art LED lighting (light emitting diodes). With the help of the folks from Genesis house we unpacked the lights. Then Ken Butler and he his apprentice from KButler electric assembled the lights and placed them on the pedestals. They worked. Shane from Genesis house finished off the mortar between the light bases and concrete pillars and church volunteers painted the bolts. The fourth phase of the parking lot construction is the landscaping. We have been told by two experts in the field that the landscaping bill would be about \$50,000. We have decided to do it ourselves. The landscaping is being done in four phases: 1. Planning, 2. Installation of the irrigation, 3. Stabilization of the slopes and groundcover, and 4. Selection and planting of drought resistant plants.



Other projects done this year:

1. Finally, a new street side post office box was installed to replace the post office box.
2. The fences around the upper parking pad were painted.
3. The grounds were completely trimmed.
4. The totally-gross carpet in the office was replaced with polymer vinyl water-proof flooring.
5. The concrete brick walls around the sanctuary were repaired (i.e. glued back together).
6. A LED street light was installed at the front walkway steps.
7. The new Jacuzzi and spa for Greg and Jim in Area 51.



Future projects:

Projects that will have to be done in the oncoming year are as follows:

1. Finishing the landscaping.
2. Painting the buildings. We have been told by two separate contractors that the buildings truly need to be painted.
3. Placement of brick paving.
4. Continued cleanup of instruction materials.
5. Painting the bannisters for the steps.

Contractors

The following is a list of companies and individuals who worked on the parking lot:

Campus Enhancement Committee:

Members: Greg Cox (landscaping), Marlan Shanks (landscaping), Dale Olm (finance), Shelby Riddle (treasurer), Laura Pyles (congregation relations), Leslie Lessenger (secretary), Jackie Lawrence (parking), Debbie Conway (parking), Jim Lessenger (Chair).
Ex-officio members: Nancy Gilman, Keith Read, Rev. Renie Stamm-Kirk.

Architect:

Goring & Straja Architects: Jim Goring.

Financing:

Cornerstone Fund: Denise M. Marvin-Luster.

Legal:

Scott Reep, Esq., Attorney at Law.

Topographic Survey:

Moran Engineering, Inc.: Paul D. Lins,

P.E.

Contractor:

Westgate Construction: Hilton Ham, Steve Homan, Kelli Bishop, Gustavo Delgadillo.

Site survey and staking:

Cullen-Sherry & Associates, Inc: Rodney A. Sherry, P.E.

On-site labor:

Genesis House, Inc.: Lester, Byron, and the guys.

The youth group and adult volunteers.

Lighting supplies:

Greenshine New Energy: Heidi Emmert.

Lighting installation and electrical:

KButler Electrical: Ken Butler and Jake the apprentice.

City of Benicia:

Planning Department employees and inspectors.



Christian Education

Tanya Nemcik

Committee members: Chair Tanya Nemcik, Dale Olm, Greg Cox, Anna Atuatasi, Jennifer Otero; Sunday school childcare staff Kim Osborn and Jojo Descaller.

While our search for a Youth Pastor is on-going, an intrepid core of caring members continues to support the children of our church in their Christian education. We intend to keep on with our search in this next year and welcome more participation from interested members.

In Sunday school we followed a set agenda, starting with lighting the candle, just like church service. We then pass an offering and sing an offering song. We site the bible verse and tell the story. We spend the remaining time preparing a craft, encouraging everyone to talk about their craft in alignment with the lesson. We close in group prayer and then weather and time permitting, spend the remainder of the morning playing outside.



Youth Activities:



- Helped with the second Saturday feeding of our friends on the streets.
- Planned and hosted a talent show and spaghetti feed fundraiser to help Jennifer Otero see her kids.
- Planned and hosted a BINGO night fundraiser for youth camp.
- Planned and conducted a youth led service.
- The youth and Sunday school children presented "How It Was", a retelling of the first Christmas with a CCC-UCC twist for the Christmas pageant.
- Youth and children brought in the palm fronds for Palm Sunday.
- Members and youth hosted a fall festival with trick or treating games, costume parade, decorating pumpkins, having all manner of fall fun.
- Stuffed and hid hundreds of Easter eggs and helped children search for eggs for Easter.





Fellowship

Susan Stofan & Allison Stamm-Kirk

The Fellowship Committee wishes to thank all who have contributed to a full and blessed year.

Whether our snacks are appetizers or a full lunch, it makes no difference. It is the sharing of stories and our time together that is important. We appreciate all contributions be it a donation, preparing the food or helping during fellowship time. Remember, fellowship sign ups can be either as an individual or as a team.



Fellowship is best summed up by saying they came, they worshiped, they enjoyed, and the left with both soul and body filled.

Thank you.



Mission and Outreach



We had several projects in the 2014-15 fiscal year:

In July 2014, we delivered backpacks for incoming 1st and 2nd graders to Puente de la Costa Sur in Pescadero. Our backpack mission serves to maintain our wonderful friendship with the community of Puente de la Costa Sur. We show our appreciation for the backbreaking work of grossly underpaid migrant workers whose hard labors afford all of us a bounty of reasonably priced fresh produce throughout the year.

For the past two and a half years now, we continue to come together each second Saturday of the month in humble communion with our friends on the street. This year we expanded our mission by combining our efforts with the Solano Contra Costa Food Bank. Sharing a hot breakfast, “take-way” lunches, gently used clothing, marvelous music, and other simple comforts, dignify and feed the human soul. Our monthly mission continues to bring us spiritual wholeness through our connection with Vallejo’s most vulnerable population.

We also gave a variety of “gifts of thanks” (charitable donations)

- Puente de la Costa Sur
- Families in Transition
- Solano and Contra Costa County Food Bank
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Neighbors In Need
- Strengthen the Church
- Our Church’s Wider Mission
- IAF (Common Ground Dues)
- Soltrans Bus Pass Donation
- Christmas Family Outreach



Nancy Aldritt and Carla Goad



our church. Each step of the way we were appreciative of Michelle's notes, history and past documents.

Our spring fundraiser and Crab Feed were held on Friday, February 27, 2015 with a fun time had by many who were in attendance. There were a total of 88 tickets sold for \$3,825. The auction and raffle brought in another \$1,031 for a total of \$4,856 in income. The expenses were \$2,055 for the crab and \$979 for the Veteran's Hall equaling total expenses of \$3,034. Net profit from the event was a total of \$1,822. This was possible from generous donations of time (Nancy Gilman and Michelle Cavagnuolo) and donations from local merchants and members of the congregation. We could not have done it without you. Thank you all for selling tickets, purchasing tickets, attending and having a great time.



Tell Our Story:
What we hope?
Why we give?

Community Congregational Church, UCC
Stewardship Campaign 2015-2016

For the annual fundraising campaign, Nancy Aldritt and Carla Goad read materials and talked with Pastor Renie as we developed the campaign timeline and theme: *Tell Our Story: What We Hope? Why We Give?* The campaign was held from April 19 to May 17, 2015. There were speakers, information letters, a narrative budget and other materials to help explain and appeal for pledges to meet our dream budget which requires a 25% increase. Letters were sent to the

Congregation which included the 2015-16 desired narrative budget, Pledging FAQs, pledge card and appeal letter. Speakers during worship on Sundays throughout the campaign included Carla Goad, Debbie Stanley, Dale Olm, and Nancy Aldritt who shared their hopes and reasons for giving.

We received confirmed pledges totaling \$126,935 for operating expenses and \$24,330 for the Capital Improvement Fund to cover our Cornerstone Fund loan for the campus enhancement project. The campaign *Tell Our Story: What We Hope? Why We Give?* drew to a close on Sunday, May 24, 2015 with Consecration Sunday. Since that time there has been additional follow-up with those who had previously pledged and those who might consider pledging. To date there are a total of 49 pledging units with 3 people who have requested 60 days to continue their discernment about their giving.

We will follow-up with these individuals in August, 2015. Overall, we are so pleased with the generosity and response from the Congregation who gave so generously. This allowed the Budget and Finance Committee to present a balanced budget to the Congregation for the coming year. The 2015-16 proposed budget was passed at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 28, 2015. We are enjoying serving our Congregation as your Stewardship Chairs and look forward to working with the new Council in the coming year. We continue to grow in this role and to reflect on 2 Corinthians 9-8, "...God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." As we move into our second year of this role, we welcome the opportunity to continue to grow and support our Congregation to live abundantly.



Welcome and Growth

Dale Stanley, Deborah Stanley

*"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
YOU are welcome here!"*

Members of the Welcome and Growth Committee for this fiscal year have been:

Dale Stanley, Co-Chair Deborah Stanley, Co-Chair
Eleanor Mortensen, Greeter
Larry Schaffer, Counter Millie Thomas, Counter



Thanks for special help and assignments:

- Nancy Gilman and Pastor Renie Stamm-Kirk who helped with Sunday Worship attendance counts
- Pastor Stamm-Kirk who helped did data entry from the attendance tracking sheets into the Church Windows database
- People who helped with set-up, counting, and nametags when Debi and Dale were unavailable:
 - Nancy Gilman
 - The Youth Group
 - Laura Pyles and Michelle Cavagnuolo
- Christopher Hanna and Pastor Stamm-Kirk for maintaining the large sign
- Debi Stanley for maintaining the small welcome sign outside the front door and making up new name tags
- The entire Church Council for embracing our principles of "Welcome" and making a good effort to make sure that our visitors are handled well.

Special Activities:

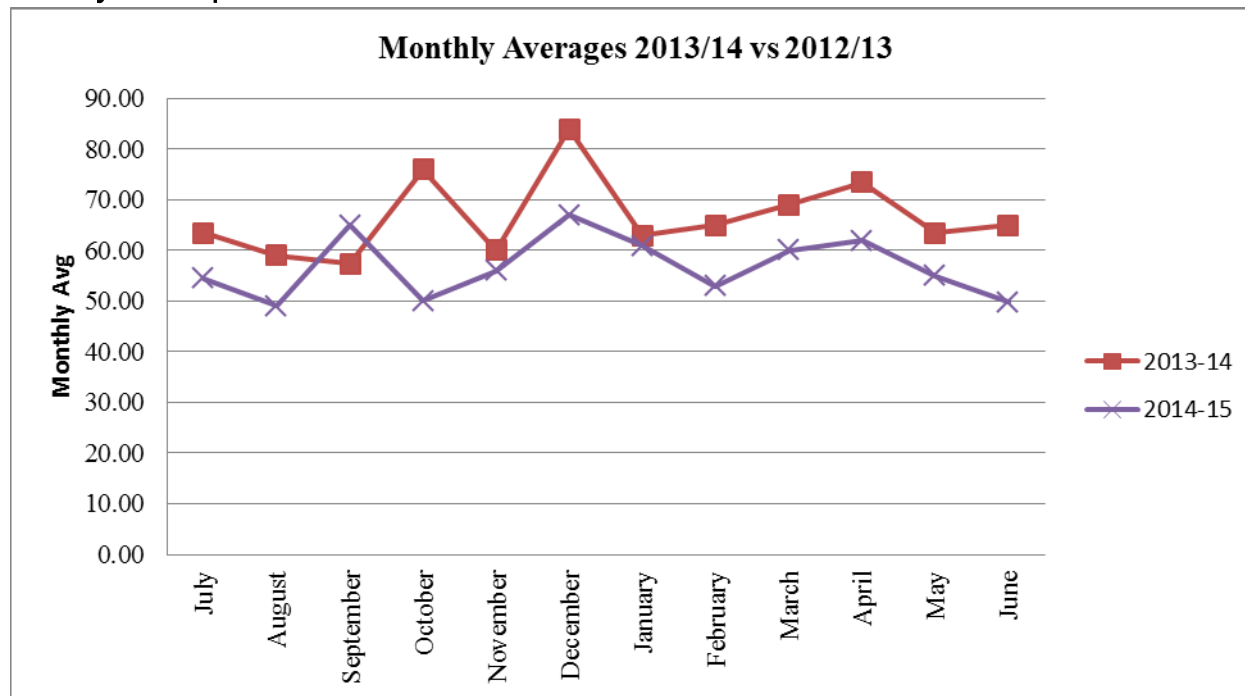
- In order to improve the flow of people coming into the sanctuary and to improve the feeling of welcome, we moved the welcome and name tags table away from the fellowship hall door entry.
- We were sorry to lose Larry Schaffer and Millie Thomas from our committee who were of great assistance in counting and tracking attendance. Dale and Debi took over these duties for the remainder of the year.
- To address the opportunity to welcome 2nd and 3rd – time visitors, we initiated a system of colored dots to be placed on the name tags. First time visitors have hand-lettered name tags when they enter, second- timers get a printed name tag with a single dot and third-timers get two dots on their name tags.
- We initiated a game night in July, intended to be a way to welcome others into our community as a very informal and non-threatening alternative to Sunday Worship. Designated as "BYOW" ("Bring Your Own Welcome" in which we bring our friends, acquaintances, bring our own games, and refreshments. Attendance has averaged 14 and is increasing. While it is popular with church members, no "new" or unfamiliar visitors have attended. Despite not (yet?) fulfilling this original purpose, it is popular, and seems to fulfill

a welcoming and fellowship need. We recommend continuing this activity as an ongoing function of Welcome and Growth.

Visitors:

We welcomed more than 31 visitors during this fiscal year (we don't attempt to count visitors on Easter or Christmas Sundays)

Sunday Worship Attendance:



Weekly average for year 2013-14: 66

Weekly average for year 2014-15: 57 (-15%)



Worship

Bruce Smith

The Worship Committee began its year planning for the fall at our mini-retreat in August. The committee this year consisted of five dedicated members (Debbie Conway, Nancy Gilman, Barbara Hamm, Priscilla Lane, and Bruce Smith) and two ad hoc members (Debi Stanley and Jackie Lawrence), whose main job was to support Rev. Renie in presenting quality worship services. The committee met during the year to discuss themes for services, music needs, displays needed, and special needs (such as drama, dance, etc.). Once a schedule of services was designed various members worked independently or collectively to assure the completion of all aspects of each service.



Some of the highlights of the year were:

- A series of services centered on questions from the congregation on the topic “What it’s all about.” The cards listed ideas we worry about, wonder about, and wish for. Special thanks to Debi for the great banner.
- We were blessed this year to have so many guest speakers (five different people) jump in when Rev. Renie needed some overdue breaks.
- Advent and Christmas saw another “Fantabulous” youth drama and many great songs by the choir, bells, and soloists.
- Palm Sunday saw another production with several congregants stepping forward to present a series of vignettes centered around the Easter journey.
- A Maundy Thursday service was held consisting of a simple soup and breads supper.
- Another moving Pentecost Service was led by the youth.
- Although it overlaps with stewardship committee, special thanks to Debi Stanley for the great banners she created for the stewardship drive.

Sometimes things that go unnoticed do so because they are done so well and so flawlessly. For example, getting the candles lit at the beginning of service, a job Jackie Lawrence has done for ages. Also, Jackie took charge of guiding congregants to the correct parking spaces and door during the construction phase of the parking lot, although not *technically* worship allowing worship to flow without a hitch and setting a welcoming atmosphere for worship. Another case is the music that accompanies services. Hymns for the services, special music (choir, bells, solos, offertories, etc.) are primarily planned or coordinated by Barbara Hamm, with input from Leslie Lessenger and Pastor Renie (or the guest speakers). Thanks Barbara for all your hard work.



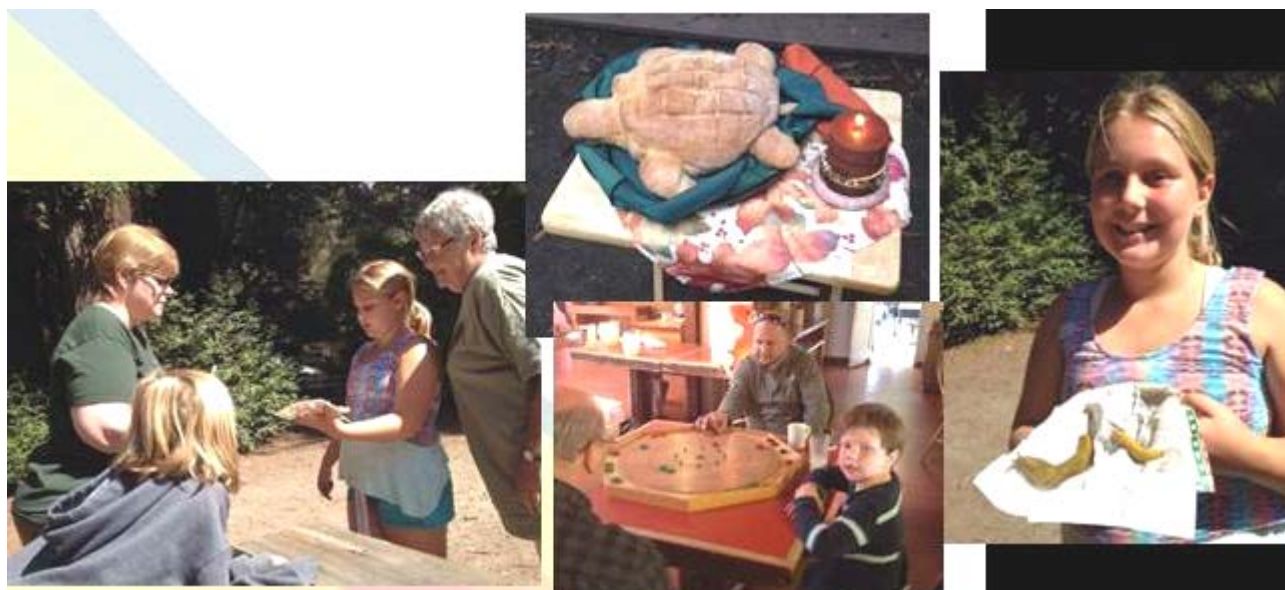
Thanks Barbara for all your hard work.

It’s so easy to lead a group (and a congregation) who jump in and do whatever needs to be done and often before I even think about it.

WITT (Weekend In The Trees)

Keith Read

Life is good! We discovered “What It’s All About”, our theme for our 32nd annual church-wide retreat, Weekend In The Trees (“WITT”) at Monte Toyon Camp in Aptos (near Santa Cruz). Some 30 of us joyfully celebrated time together surrounded by the awesome beauty of a redwood forest. The youngest members of our church revisited “Tree City”, playfully climbing among the fairy rings like forest sprites. We competed enthusiastically, if a bit inelegantly, in outdoor activities by day and with serious intention for the board or table games by night. Some amusements went on so late that a few hearty souls witnessed the rising sun of the new morning. The meals were bountiful and delicious as always. We were certainly grateful to our hosts who spent hours preparing food for us – not to mention keeping our own special coffee supply running well into the evening as we just didn’t want the days to end. Our youth altogether hosted the traditional Saturday night skits in the beautiful amphitheater. They weaved some tall tales, drawing us into their circle as the embers of the fire crackled brightly. We found community and God as we shared our joy and our laughter – and we laughed a lot. We certainly lived up to our church motto to live fully and love wastefully.



We renewed our spirits and rejuvenated our souls, and in doing so continue our service to our church and our community.

After all, that is what it’s all about.



Weekend in the Trees



LEADERSHIP TEAM 2015-2016

Nominating Committee

Laura Pyles, Marlan Shanks, Chole McGraw, Bruce Smith, Rev. Renie Stamm-Kirk

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Pastor

The Rev. Renie Stamm-Kirk

Minister of Music

Dr. Barbara Hamm

Youth Leader

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Mission & Outreach

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