

A CRACK IN THE EARTH

Connections

CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST

MARCH 2018

Lenten Activities and Worship

PUB THEOLOGY (through March 28)

Tuesdays @ 7:30 pm, Third Street Aleworks, 610 3rd St, Santa Rosa

Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm, Sprenger's Tap Room, 446 B St, Santa Rosa

Thursday Mornings @ 9:00 am, A'Roma Roasters, 95 5th St. Santa Rosa

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Holy Thursday

Thursday, March 29 6:30 pm Christ Church United Methodist

Good Friday

Friday, March 30 7:30 pm First United Methodist Church, Montgomery

Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 31 7:30 pm Christ Church United Methodist

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 1 9:30 am Christ Church United Methodist

FROM THE PASTOR...

Beloved,

On February 14, we observed Ash Wednesday along with members of FUMC at the Stony Point Campus. It was a meaningful remembrance of our own mortality and of

Jesus' call to return to God with our whole hearts. There were only a few of us in attendance from CCUM, which is not atypical for a congregation of our denomination and general political affiliation. Many Methodists feel squeamish or uneasy about dreary subject of mortality, and many progressives resist rituals in the church that feel too "traditional".

And yet, on February 14, it was the most Christian and progressive thing to call our entire nation to remember our morality and to change our hearts. The school shooting in Parkland, Florida reminds us – yet again – how we worship both violence and individualism at the expense of safety and community. And Ash Wednesday reminds us that we are given life to live for others, and if we hope to make change in our society we must first seek change in our own hearts.

This Lent, we seek that change by reexamining our relationship with God through stories from the life of Jesus. Holy Week is the culmination of those stories, in which we experience Jesus' own resistance to the worship of violence and individual freedom. We remember his willingness to offer his life in this resistance and for the sake of others, and realize – again – what this story says about the nature of God and God's hope for humanity.

I don't know anything that resists violence and individualism more than observing Holy Week in its entirety. So if, like me, you are seeking a change in society and a change in heart, join us for a contemplative Holy Thursday (6:30pm CCUM) and a radical Good Friday (7:30pm FUMC, Montgomery). If you're still unsure, I welcome questions/conversation about what Holy Week means, and why its important. Please don't hesitate to contact me.

On the journey with you,

Lindsey



EASTER OFFERING

This year's Easter Offering will support VIDAS Legal Services and The Living Room.





KID'S CORNER

Scripture Theater

We are so fortunate to have Nick Lawrence bring Scripture Theater to our Sunday school.

The children have a new way to experience and ask questions about scripture. Nick asks questions like "from your perspective what do you hear? What's going on here?"

We have alternative activities planned as well. Stay tuned!

During Children's Time on **March 4th** you will hear our children's perspectives about Matthew 18: 21-22 When Peter asks Jesus how many times should we forgive someone?

Palm Sunday is **March 25th**. The children have begun learning a song which they will sing with the choir.

Easter is **April 1st**! Don't forget our annual Easter Egg Hunt after worship.

Silent Auction is Saturday, **April 21st**. The children will be part of the musical program. We will have a special table for auction items for the kids.

Teaching Assistant

We thank Maddie Boevers for helping set up the room for Sunday school and assisting with younger children as well as other activities.

The Next Family Life meeting will be Sunday, **March 11th** after worship to make plans for Easter and this spring. Your ideas are always welcomed.

A promotional poster for a Silent Auction. On the left, a silhouette of a person in a hat playing a trumpet is set against a background of a green-to-purple gradient. Musical notes are shown floating from the trumpet. The text 'CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST' is in the top left. The words 'Silent Auction' are written in a large, yellow, cursive font in the center. At the bottom, it says 'EVERYONE WELCOME!'. On the right side, against a blue background, there is text about the event: 'Don't miss this fun-filled event! Please bring a finger food to share.' followed by the date and time 'SATURDAY, APRIL 14TH 4:00 - 6:00 PM' and the location 'CCUM SANCTUARY'. A list of activities includes 'Finger foods', 'Desserts', and 'And great entertainment'.

BEAM ANNOUNCES GRANT AVAILABILITY FOR 2018

Is there some church project you'd like to see done but hesitate because of the cost? Well, here's your chance to get financial support.



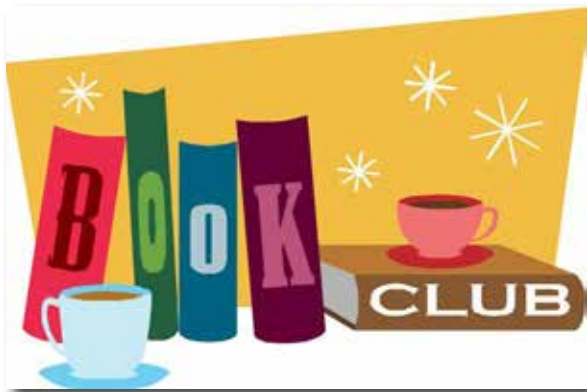
BEAM (Board of Endowment and Asset Management) encourages requests for grants up to \$1000.00 for the year 2018. These grants are to fund ministry projects not covered by church budget. Recipients can be church leaders, teachers or any person inspired to reach out in creative ministry.

Applications are in the church office in the BEAM cubby. Filled out applications are due by April 1. Applicants can give applications to any member of BEAM: Charlene Bunas, Linda Carroll, Anne Colby, Ron Simpson. Applications can also be turned into the office. Additionally, applications can be obtained and filled out and sent to 2charbee@att.net.

Grants will be decided by April 10 and announced in church during May. Grants may be fully funded or partially funded.

Put on your creative hats and decide which project you'd like to offer for grant money support.

This grant money comes from the Endowment Fund, which is funded by individual contributions. This fund is held in perpetuity, meaning it's kind of like a pension fund. The principal stays put and the church can get a percentage each year. The more money in the Endowment Fund, the more money for special projects. Giving to the Endowment Fund is easy – indicate "Endowment Fund" on the lower left hand corner of your check. It's a way to honor or remember someone in your life.

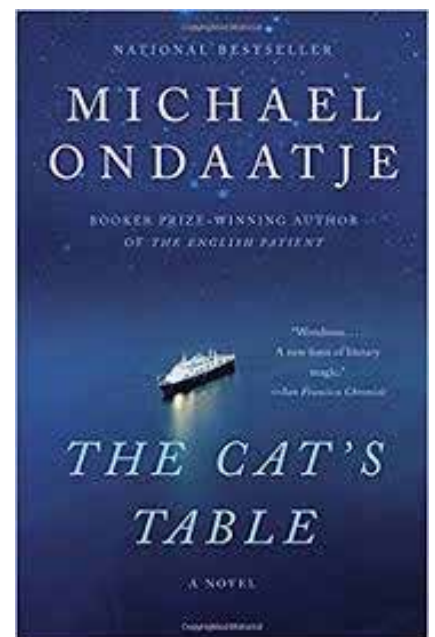


WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

Monday, March 12
Anita Pitzer's House

March 12 we are reading and discussing *THE CAT'S TABLE* written by Michael Ondaatje (author of *THE ENGLISH*

PATIENT). As the narrative moves between the decks and holds of the ship and the boy Michael's adult years, This book tells a spellbinding story about the magical and forbidden discoveries of childhood and a lifelong journey that begins unexpectedly with a spectacular sea voyage.





RECONCILING CORNER

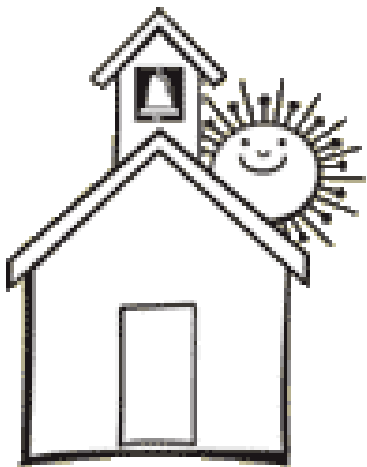
Changing our Minds:
Wise words from Bishop Ough

“The clue to changing our minds to the new mind of Christ is emptying of our need to control and our anxious passion for security. And as our minds change, we come to new freedom. We are unbound, unburdened, able to live without fear.

“We find ourselves with Easter liberty:

- freed to focus on the interests of our neighbor;
- freed to repent of the burdens and limitations we have placed on God’s people;
- freed to love with the same outrageous abandon that God loves us;
- freed to be our true selves and allow others to be their true selves;
- freed to replicate Jesus’ life of humility, surrender and sacrifice in our own lives;
- freed to stand with Jesus in self-emptying obedience;
- freed to replicate Jesus’ pattern of expanding the boundaries of whom God loves and includes in the Kingdom”

From a sermon from Bishop Bruce R. Ough, President of the United Methodists Council of Bishops , given at a special meeting in Dallas on Feb. 25th as the Council began to receive reports from the Commission on a Way Forward.



CHRIST METHODIST PRESCHOOL

This month at CMP we enjoyed Summer in the midst of Winter! We celebrated all things Valentine’s and had a wonderful time together at our PJ story time! This month we welcomed even more new friends as our school grows and thrives! We spent time learning about hibernation,

cats and transportation! Now we are gearing up for March ,rainy days and everything else spring will bring!!!

Arlene Taylor





SOCIAL ACTION GOES to the MOVIES

A FILM SERIES TO INFORM, ENGAGE, & EMPOWER!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 7:00 P.M.

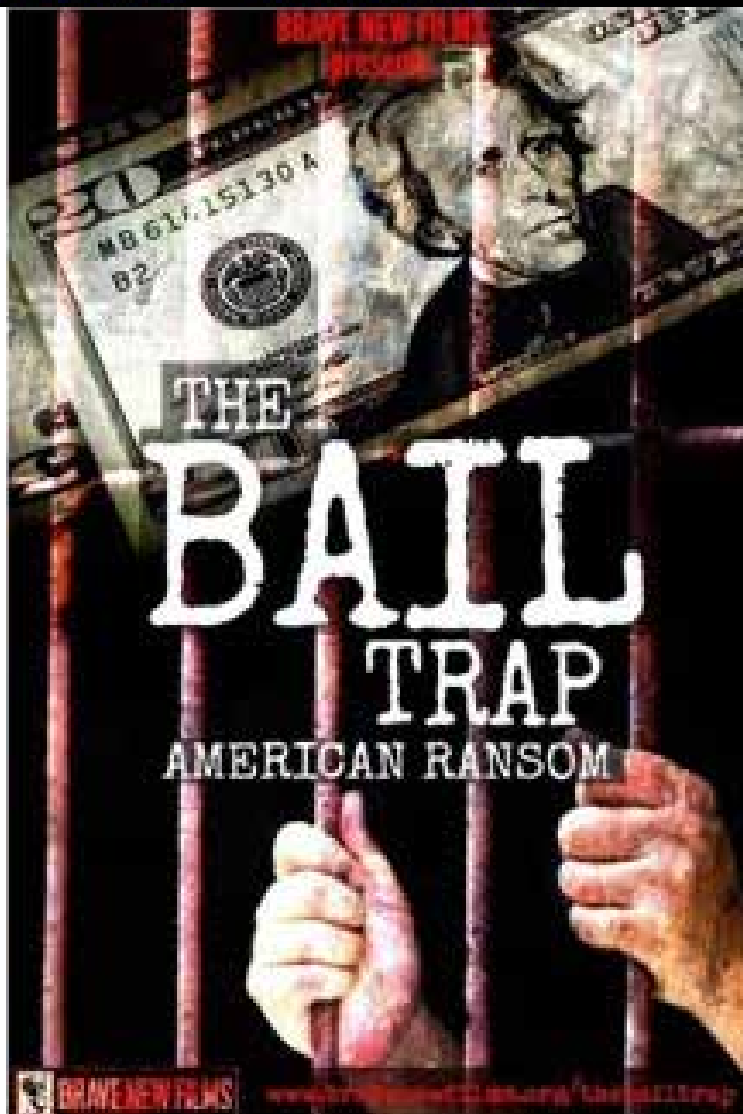
SOCIAL CONCERNS

Fix It Documentary

Saturday, March 17, 7:00 pm

Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa

Explore the advantages and challenges of a single payer health care system. Screenings start at 7:00pm. Panel Discussions follow film. Free and open to the public. Donations accepted.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



- 5 John Davenport & Stella Strand
- 7 Bob Gaiser
Anita Pitzer
- 8 Cindy Piccinini
- 15 Abby Gunter
- 21 Liesel Magnuson
- 26 Rachel Gunter
- 29 Allan Jones
& Lois Nimmo
- 30 Pamel Fitz Lawrence

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“STUFF” TO DO DURING LENT

MARCH

- 1 Read. [Frederick Buechner's](#) books and [Mark Jarman's](#) poems make good Lenten reading.
- 2 Fast today—or give up TV.
- 3 Talk with family or friends about what it means to repent or to return to God.
- 4 Go to church. Begin the process of making Cascarones by blowing the yolks and whites out of twelve eggs. Invite friends over to enjoy an omelet and to decorate the eggs.
- 5 Read *Romans 5:6–19*. Spend some time reflecting on God's awesome gift in Jesus Christ.
- 6 Write a statement of faith. What do you believe about Jesus?
- 7 Take a walk. Spend some time alone with God.
- 8 Pray *Psalms 32:1–11*. Ask God to direct your life.
- 9 Fast today—or give up fast-food.
- 10 Collect canned goods, and deliver them to a food bank.
- 11 Go to church. Go caroling for Lent. Sing hymns and songs about faith and repentance.
- 12 Research local and national charities that might be the recipients of your pocket change. Choose one.
- 13 Pray: “God, let us live new life, free of sin, through Christ Jesus. Amen.”
- 14 Talk with friends or family about the meaning of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
- 15 Read *2 Corinthians 5:20–6:13*. Let go of all that keeps your heart from opening wide to God.
- 16 Fast today—or give up sweets.
- 17 Weed your neighbor's garden.
- 18 Go to church. Invite friends to make bread or hot cross buns.
- 19 Read *Romans 6:5–11*. What does it mean to you to die with Christ? to be alive to God?
- 20 To complete your Cascarones, fill with confetti the eggs you decorated earlier. Glue tissue paper over the hole.
- 21 Pray the Lord's Prayer slowly, reflecting on each line. How could praying this prayer seriously and regularly change your life?
- 22 Journal about what it means for you to be united with Christ.
- 23 Fast today—or give up time you would spend on the computer or on video games.
- 24 Make a cross out of wood. Paint the cross or cover it with pictures.
- 25 PALM SUNDAY Go to church. Wave palm branches and shout, “Hosanna!”
- 26 Count your pocket change. Give it to the charity you have selected.
- 27 Visit someone in a hospital, nursing home, or prison.
- 28 Imagine walking with Jesus. Hear him teach. See him heal. Listen to him say, “The Son of Man must suffer and die.”
- 29 MAUNDY THURSDAY Attend a communion service. Reflect on Jesus' words: “This is my body given for you; this is my blood of the new covenant.”
- 30 GOOD FRIDAY Go to a Good Friday service. Or spend time in silence from noon to 3 p.m. Light a candle. Read *Mark 14:32–15:47* or *Luke 22:39–23:56*.
- 31 HOLY SATURDAY Wait. Be in silence. Pray: “Merciful God, in life and in death, we belong to you, through Jesus Christ. Amen.”

APRIL

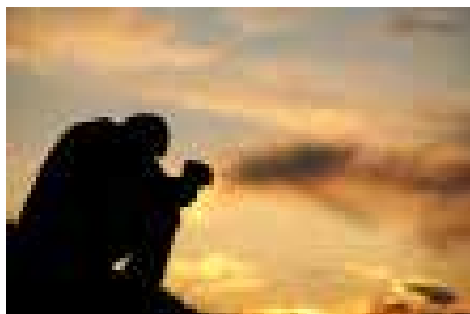
- 1 EASTER DAY Celebrate! Shout, “Christ is risen!” Bop someone over the head with a confetti egg and say, “Live the new life in Christ!”

BRAVO!

There are so many of you who serve Christ Church... without mentioning a word about it.



- No more squeaking doors! Thanks to Deborah Dawson and her handy oilcan, the squeaks are gone. She also took care of our first aid kits so they are stocked with all the necessary supplies and ready for cuts, scratches and headaches. Thanks!
- Ted Wilmsen keeps us warm by keeping the heaters in the office, conference room and room 8 working. It is much appreciated!
- Thank you to Mary Rankin for organizing the reflections after worship every Sunday.
- Thank you, Ray Magnuson, for taking care of the sound for worship every Sunday.
- You might have noticed our roses are looking very nice with their new haircut, thanks to Jim Rankin!
- Ron Simpson works tirelessly to keep our facility running: getting carpets cleaned, fire inspections and extinguisher inspections current, ensuring everything is in working order. Thanks!
- We are thankful that we are Christ's Church!



One of the ways that we care for each other here at Christ Church is through prayer. We have a team of people who regularly pray for folks who are in need of spiritual and physical healing. Would you like to join those folks who pray daily for others in need? Would you like more prayers for yourself or people you

are close to? Our prayer chain members feel honored to receive prayer requests from you. Contact Barbara Magnuson.



We also welcome written prayer requests you can put in the offering plate on Sundays. Prayer request cards are in the "Gray Pad" folder. We have listed names below so that we might all be in prayer for each other.





IN OUR PRAYERS...

“God does nothing except in response to believing prayer.” ~John Wesley

Roger White

Barbara Schmidt and family

Meg Hurt & family

Glo Wellman and family

Jean Houser

The Coolidge family

Bob & Janet Smith’s granddaughter, Annika, and family

The Lawrence family

All those who were affected by natural disaster

Our church family & community

Those who are experiencing violence throughout the world

Our United Methodist Church as it continues to wrestle with issues of full inclusion in divided world

Spring
Forward
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

set your clocks forward one hour on
Sunday, March 11th

MARCH 2018 CALENDAR

Thursday, March 01, 2018			
	9:00 am	Thursday Morning Theology	A'Roma Roasters
	4:00 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, March 02, 2018			
	1:00 pm	Handicrafts	Conf Rm
Sunday, March 04, 2018			
	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship, Communion	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Library
Tuesday, March 06, 2018			
	6:00 pm	Trustees meeting	Conf Rm
	7:30 pm	Tuesday Night Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks
Wednesday, March 07, 2018			
	5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Potluck	FUMC Stony Point
	7:30 pm	Wednesday Night Pub Theology	Sprengers Tap Room
Thursday, March 08, 2018			
	9:00 am	Thursday Morning Theology	A'Roma Roasters
	4:00 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, March 09, 2018			
	1:00 pm	Handicrafts	Conf Rm
Sunday, March 11, 2018 – DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS			
	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Library
Monday, March 12, 2018			
	7:00 pm	Women's Book Group	Anita Pitzer's house
Tuesday, March 13, 2018			
	7:30 pm	Tuesday Night Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks
Wednesday, March 14, 2018			
	5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Potluck	FUMC Stony Point
	7:30 pm	Wednesday Night Pub Theology	Sprengers Tap Room
Thursday, March 15, 2018			
	9:00 am	Thursday Morning Theology	A'Roma Roasters
	4:00 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, March 16, 2018			
	1:00 pm	Handicrafts	Conf Rm

Sunday, March 18, 2018			
	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Library
Tuesday, March 20, 2018			
	7:30 pm	Tuesday Night Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks
Wednesday, March 21, 2018			
	5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Potluck	FUMC Stony Point
	7:30 pm	Wednesday Night Pub Theology	Sprengers Tap Room
Thursday, March 22, 2018			
	9:00 am	Thursday Morning Theology	A'Roma Roasters
	4:00 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, March 23, 2018			
	1:00 pm	Handicrafts	Conf Rm
	7:00 pm	Taizé Worship	FUMC Montgomery, Lehman Chapel
Saturday, March 24, 2018			
	4:00 pm	CMP Silent Auction	Sanctuary
Sunday, March 25, 2018			
	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship, Palm Sunday	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Library
Tuesday, March 27, 2018			
	7:30 pm	Tuesday Night Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks
Wednesday, March 28, 2018			
	5:30 pm	Wednesday Night Potluck	FUMC Stony Point
	6:00 pm	A Conversation Around the Fires	Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Wednesday Night Pub Theology	Sprengers Tap Room
Thursday, March 29, 2018			
	9:00 am	Thursday Morning Theology	A'Roma Roasters
	4:00 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:30 pm	Holy Thursday Service	Sanctuary
Friday, March 30, 2018			
	7:30 pm	Good Friday Worship	FUMC Montgomery
Saturday, March 31, 2018			
	7:30 pm	Easter Vigil	Sanctuary
Sunday, April 1, 2018			
	9:30 am	Easter Sunday worship	Sanctuary
	10:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt	