ONENESS IN CHRIST STATEMENT

We affirm that all persons are precious to God and of sacred worth. God pours out amazing love and grace to everyone. We seek to be an inclusive church. We warmly invite into our life and mission all people without regard to race, nationality, sexual orientation, ability, age, gender identity, financial circumstances, or marital status. We are a large and diverse community of faith. We certainly do not always agree on theology or public issues. Our desire, however, is to build bridges of understanding and mutual respect. Above all, we seek to love one another as Christ has loved us. We are learning that the words of our founder, John Wesley, are true: “We do not have to think alike to love alike.”

REACH UP, REACH OUT!

We the people of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa commit ourselves to the mission of growing loving communities of faith centered on Jesus that express themselves through both personal spirituality and social responsibility; reaching up to God and reaching out to all people in God’s love.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2150 Giffen Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
phone 707-545-3863

1551 Montgomery Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405  
fax 707-545-5375  
www.FumcSantaRosa.org

WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
Advent marks the beginning of the Christian year, a season when we prepare anew for the birth of the Christ Child. The celebration of Christ’s birth offers the promise of newness, a fresh beginning.

The Church Council has launched a Discernment Team to consider God’s vision for the congregation for the next 3-5 years. The process will be guided by three questions:

• Who are we? Not who do we want to be, or who did we used to be, but “Who are we?”
• What is God calling us to be and do?
• Who is my neighbor?

Members of the team are: Norm Bryan and Bill Stephens, Co-Chairs; Sonda Anderson, Sam Cox, Mike Ferrel, Pat Hannon, April Nichols, Paul O’Rear, Coral Saxe, Bill Ward, and Lori Sawdon. During the process, there will be opportunities for input from members of the congregation.

A vital way in which all can participate beginning now is through prayer for this process and for the congregation. I pledge to renew the spiritual practice of Centering Prayer for 20 minutes a day so that I can attune my spirit to the Spirit of God. I invite you to be intentional about prayer time for the church, listening for God’s guidance. We don’t expect that God will reveal a vision in grand Hollywood style! We trust that we will experience gentle nudges, wonderings, and glimpses that point us toward the future. As you receive insight from your prayerful reflection, please share it with members of the Discernment Team.

We undertake this venture not with a sense of hopelessness, but with curiosity and wonder about the new thing that God is up to with First UMC, Santa Rosa. Please join us in prayer as we seek to “uncover” God’s desire for this vital congregation.

Blessings,

Pastor Lori

It’s late into the service. In the shadows, the outlines of poinsettias move in the flicker of candlelight. The sanctuary is awash in relative stillness and silence. And then, as the organ declares a familiar tune, the lights flip on and the people arise. The final hymn not only marks the end of worship, but it declares the beginning of a holiday.

With so much emotion wrapped up in the experience of singing, “Joy to the World,” it is easy to forget what makes it such a rarity among Christmas carols. The words are not based on the Gospel of Luke or the prophet Isaiah, but rather are drawn from Psalm 98. They are anticipatory, more than celebratory, with most of the verses looking ahead to Christ’s Second Coming and the renewal and freedom He will bring. This unspoken complexity of “Joy to the World” makes it a fitting theme for our Advent season.

Often, we understand joy as simply a synonym for “happiness,” but in truth “joy” means so much more than that. Joy is not simply a reaction to something pleasant, but is a state of being cultivated within. Joy is not frantic or whimsical. Joy requires gratitude and connection. It is grounded in hope and love, and begets peace. Joy can present in either exuberance or stillness, but with unsuspecting depth that goes far beyond the surface.

Advent 2019 arrives in the midst of serious times. We have already come through dark days, and the world in which we find ourselves is troubled. Also, it is not so different than the one into which Jesus was born more than 2000 years ago. And so we boldly declare joy to the world. Over the next four weeks, we will explore all of the depth that the season has to offer, so that, filled with joy, we can announce the coming of Jesus into this world that needs Him more now than ever.

In hope, love, peace, and joy,

Pastor Lindsey
WORSHIP SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2019
CELEBRATING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF “JOY TO THE WORLD”

8:00 a.m, 9:30 a.m, and 12:00 p.m.
at Montgomery Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. at Stony Point Worship Center
Tuesday 5:30 p.m. Spirit Café in
Montgomery Fellowship Hall

DECEMBER 1  HOPEFUL JOY
PSALM 98, ROMANS 13:11-14
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship – Pastor Lori

DECEMBER 8  LOVING JOY
ISAIAH 11: 1-10, MATTHEW 3: 1-12
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Children’s Christmas Play:
Christmas Visions, written by Elizabeth Walton
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

DECEMBER 15  ABUNDANT JOY
ISAIAH 35: 1-10, LUKE 1: 46b-55
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

DECEMBER 22  PEACEFUL JOY
ISAIAH 7:10-16, MATTHEW 1: 18-25
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

TUES., DECEMBER 24  INCARNATE JOY
LUKE 2: 1-20
4:00 p.m. – Family Worship at Stony Point Campus, 2150 Giffen Ave. – Pastor Lori
5:30 p.m. – Spirit Café, Fellowship Hall, 1551 Montgomery – Pastor Lindsey
7:00 p.m. – Worship at Christ Church UM, 1717 Yulupa Ave. – Pastor Lindsey
8:00 p.m. – Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir, 1551 Montgomery – Pastor Lori
10:00 p.m. – Fijian Language Worship, 1551 Montgomery Drive

DECEMBER 29  ALL CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICE
A SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND STORIES
10:00 a.m – 1551 Montgomery
ADVENT SMALL GROUP STUDIES
Sundays, December 1-22, 9:30 a.m.
Giffen House, Stony Point Campus
Coral Saxe (707 230-2832) leads a group reflecting on the devotional. Keep Watch with Me: An Advent Reader for Peacemaker, by Claire Brown and Michael T. McRay. Order books from Amazon.com or Cokesbury.com. Keep Watch With Me is a collaborative daily devotional featuring diverse contributors: black, white, LGBTQ, Latinx, Palestinian, incarcerated, Native American, Australian, Americans, Irish, South African, clergy, laity, activists, authors, organizers, and more. The season of Advent, as the church prepares for the birth of Christ, is a penitential season of reckoning with our need and the needs of the world. Keep Watch With Me offers stories, reflections, prayers, and spiritual practices to sustain and challenge the faith of those who work for justice and peace, and long for the coming of God with us.

Sundays, November 24 - December 22, 11:00-12:00 noon in Carriage House
Mondays, November 25 – December 23, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in Carriage House
A study of Not A Silent Night, Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem, written by Adam Hamilton, led by Norm Bryan. This year, experience Advent and Christmas with the one who knew Jesus more intimately than anyone else—His mother, Mary. Imagine the pain she felt at the crucifixion, her pride as Jesus’ ministry grew, and her unrestrained joy when she looked into His tiny face that fateful night in the stable. Adam Hamilton helps you witness the life of Jesus from Mary’s unique perspective, starting at the very end and traveling back in time to the very beginning—the night of Christ’s birth.

GIVING TREE
Purchase gifts indicated on tree tags. Wrapped gifts due at the church office no later than December 8. Volunteer Elves deliver gifts on Sunday, December 22, at 12:00 noon.

COLLECTION OF SOCKS, UNDERWEAR, AND TOILETRIES
December 1 – 22
Donations may be placed in the brightly-wrapped boxes at both campuses.

ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS
Thursdays, December 5 and 12, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall, Montgomery Campus. Bring your soup bowls and spoons, ready to enjoy hot, delicious soup prepared by church members. We’ll have time to reflect on the Advent theme of Joy.

Craft activities for children. On December 12, weather permitting, we will carol in the neighborhood!

PRESCHOOL WINTER CONCERT
Friday, December 6, 6:30 p.m.
Montgomery Fellowship Hall

CHRISTMAS VISIONS
Sunday, December 8, 11:00
Worship, Stony Point Campus
Children’s play written by Elizabeth Walton.

UMW CHRISTMAS POTLUCK LUNCHEON
Tuesday, December 10, 12 noon

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE
December 15, 5:00 p.m.
St. John’s UMC, Rohnert Park

CAROLING AT RL STEVENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Wednesday, December 18, 8:15 a.m.
(across from Stony Point Campus)
Come join our choir to spread Christmas cheer to Stony Point neighborhood students.

CHORAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Saturday, December 21  7:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 22  4:30 p.m.
Montgomery Sanctuary
Canticle of Joy cantata, Chancel Choir with orchestra; guest performers, Four for His Glory. Bring a friend to enjoy the joyous sounds of the season.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES
4:00 p.m. – Family Worship
Stony Point Campus, 2150 Giffen Ave.

5:30 p.m. – Spirit Café – Fellowship Hall
Montgomery Campus, 1551 Montgomery Dr.

7:00 p.m. – Worship
Christ Church United Methodist, 1717 Yulupa Ave.

8:00 p.m. – Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir
1551 Montgomery Dr.

10:00 p.m. – Fijian Language Worship
1551 Montgomery Dr.

ALL CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICE
December 29, 10:00 a.m.
Montgomery Sanctuary, 1551 Montgomery
A Service of Christmas Carols and Stories.
WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make plans to join us in this special service. **The children of FUMC will offer a special dramatic play** as we ready ourselves for the birth of Christ. In the play **Christmas Visions**, written by Elizabeth Walton, the Angels of Advent visit an overworked and tired woman, helping her to realize where the Spirit of Christmas really resides. Mark your calendars now to attend this very special service. The children are a delight, and they have a wonderful message to share with us all!

**CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT DECEMBER 21-22**

Saturday, December 21
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22
4:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir, along with guest performers Four For His Glory, will present their 2019 Christmas Concert. The centerpiece of the concert will be the cantata **Canticle of Joy** by Joseph E. Martin, performed with orchestra. From the lighting of the first candle to the final celebratory chords, **Canticle of Joy** gives us the chance to lift our praise to the newborn King! Many familiar Christmas carols are sprinkled throughout the entire work, which is by the same composer who created this year’s Good Friday cantata, **Song of the Shadows**. Please plan to join us for one of these two concerts.

**Jan Lappin**
Director of Music

**FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE**

Sunday, December 8
11:00 a.m.

Stony Point Worship Service

Bring your soup bowls and spoons, ready to enjoy hot, delicious soup prepared by church members. We’ll have time to reflect on the Advent theme of Joy. Craft activities for children. On December 12, weather permitting, we will carol in the neighborhood!

**FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE**

Stony Point Worship Service

Our annual Christmas Concert on Friday evening, December 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the Montgomery Fellowship Hall. Please join us for this short, 15-minute concert, followed by fellowship and holiday desserts with the Preschool families. **NOTE:** the FUMC Preschool and Child Care Center will close for the holidays from Monday, December 23, through Wednesday, January 1. We re-open on Thursday, January 2, 2020.

**Diane Wikse**
Preschool Director

**CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT DECEMBER 21-22**

Saturday, December 21
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22
4:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir, along with guest performers Four For His Glory, will present their 2019 Christmas Concert. The centerpiece of the concert will be the cantata **Canticle of Joy** by Joseph E. Martin, performed with orchestra. From the lighting of the first candle to the final celebratory chords, **Canticle of Joy** gives us the chance to lift our praise to the newborn King! Many familiar Christmas carols are sprinkled throughout the entire work, which is by the same composer who created this year’s Good Friday cantata, **Song of the Shadows**. Please plan to join us for one of these two concerts.

**Jan Lappin**
Director of Music

**ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS**

Thursdays, December 5 & 12
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Montgomery Fellowship Hall

Bring your soup bowls and spoons, ready to enjoy hot, delicious soup prepared by church members. We’ll have time to reflect on the Advent theme of Joy. Craft activities for children. On December 12, weather permitting, we will carol in the neighborhood!

**CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT DECEMBER 21-22**

Saturday, December 21
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 22
4:30 p.m.

The Chancel Choir, along with guest performers Four For His Glory, will present their 2019 Christmas Concert. The centerpiece of the concert will be the cantata **Canticle of Joy** by Joseph E. Martin, performed with orchestra. From the lighting of the first candle to the final celebratory chords, **Canticle of Joy** gives us the chance to lift our praise to the newborn King! Many familiar Christmas carols are sprinkled throughout the entire work, which is by the same composer who created this year’s Good Friday cantata, **Song of the Shadows**. Please plan to join us for one of these two concerts.

**Jan Lappin**
Director of Music

**FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE**

Sunday, December 8
11:00 a.m.

Stony Point Worship Service

Make plans to join us in this special service. **The children of FUMC will offer a special dramatic play** as we ready ourselves for the birth of Christ. In the play **Christmas Visions**, written by Elizabeth Walton, the Angels of Advent visit an overworked and tired woman, helping her to realize where the Spirit of Christmas really resides. Mark your calendars now to attend this very special service. The children are a delight, and they have a wonderful message to share with us all!

**FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE**

Sunday, December 8
11:00 a.m.

Stony Point Worship Service

Make plans to join us in this special service. **The children of FUMC will offer a special dramatic play** as we ready ourselves for the birth of Christ. In the play **Christmas Visions**, written by Elizabeth Walton, the Angels of Advent visit an overworked and tired woman, helping her to realize where the Spirit of Christmas really resides. Mark your calendars now to attend this very special service. The children are a delight, and they have a wonderful message to share with us all!

**FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE**

Sunday, December 8
11:00 a.m.

Stony Point Worship Service

Make plans to join us in this special service. **The children of FUMC will offer a special dramatic play** as we ready ourselves for the birth of Christ. In the play **Christmas Visions**, written by Elizabeth Walton, the Angels of Advent visit an overworked and tired woman, helping her to realize where the Spirit of Christmas really resides. Mark your calendars now to attend this very special service. The children are a delight, and they have a wonderful message to share with us all!

**FAMILY ADVENT SERVICE**

Sunday, December 8
11:00 a.m.

Stony Point Worship Service

Make plans to join us in this special service. **The children of FUMC will offer a special dramatic play** as we ready ourselves for the birth of Christ. In the play **Christmas Visions**, written by Elizabeth Walton, the Angels of Advent visit an overworked and tired woman, helping her to realize where the Spirit of Christmas really resides. Mark your calendars now to attend this very special service. The children are a delight, and they have a wonderful message to share with us all!

**TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICES**

Fridays, Dec. 20 & Jan. 17
7:00 p.m.

Lehman Chapel, Montgomery Campus

Come sing and pray with fellow Christians in a close time with God! We meet on the third Friday of every month in the Chapel at FUMC Montgomery. Hope to see you there!

**TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICES**

Fridays, Dec. 20 & Jan. 17
7:00 p.m.

Lehman Chapel, Montgomery Campus

Come sing and pray with fellow Christians in a close time with God! We meet on the third Friday of every month in the Chapel at FUMC Montgomery. Hope to see you there!

**TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICES**

Fridays, Dec. 20 & Jan. 17
7:00 p.m.

Lehman Chapel, Montgomery Campus

Come sing and pray with fellow Christians in a close time with God! We meet on the third Friday of every month in the Chapel at FUMC Montgomery. Hope to see you there!

**F.I.S.H. HAS MOVED!**

F.I.S.H has moved into their new location at 1710 Sebastopol Road, and it is so nice! Please stop by and look it over. Or if you have some spare time, consider becoming a volunteer. F.I.S.H. can use all the help it can get to assist in supplying the needs of our community. A great big thank you again for your continued generosity!

**Dian Jorgensen**

FUMC
Preschool & Child Care Center

F.I.S.H. HAS MOVED!

F.I.S.H has moved into their new location at 1710 Sebastopol Road, and it is so nice! Please stop by and look it over. Or if you have some spare time, consider becoming a volunteer. F.I.S.H. can use all the help it can get to assist in supplying the needs of our community. A great big thank you again for your continued generosity!

**Dian Jorgensen**

FUMC
Preschool & Child Care Center
COLLECTION FROM DECEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 22

Give the gift of warmth! We are collecting new socks, underwear, and toiletries to help those who will be forced to brave the cold this winter. All donations will be distributed through the Homeless Services Center at Catholic Charities. Your donations can be brought to either campus and placed in the brightly-wrapped collection boxes—no later than December 22. Thank you for your support!

Outreach & Service Commission

2019 CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Outreach and Service Commission has designated the recipients for this year’s Christmas Offering: the Family Support Center and The Living Room, both of which are organizations concerned with homelessness in our community.

The Family Support Center (FSC) is a comprehensive shelter program in Santa Rosa for homeless families, serving up to 138 people daily. FUMC has sponsored the largest room at the shelter for many years. Families are provided with food, clothing, and a warm bed, plus case management for employment, housing counseling, and services designed to move them toward self-sufficiency. Programs for parents, youth, and children. FSC’s stated purpose: Builds Relations, Integrates Development Goals, and Establishes Support for youth, or “BRIDGES.”

The Living Room welcomes homeless and at-risk women and their children into a safe and comfortable environment during the day when shelters are closed. Information on temporary supportive social services are made available to them and their children, and they are offered a place to learn new skills and move toward independence and self-sufficiency. The Living Room’s two core programs are the Women’s Program and the Mother and Child Program (MAC) offered by a caring staff and hundreds of volunteers, and utilizing an ever-expanding network of Community Partners working together. Currently, the two programs serve over 1,200 individual participants annually who visit regularly. An average of 70-80 participants receive services every day Monday-Friday. This includes approximately 20-30 children and their mothers who attend the Mother and Child Program. A nourishing breakfast and a hot lunch are prepared and served by our volunteers—about 2,000 meals per month.

FUMC also collects small toiletries for The Living Room throughout the year and contributes school backpacks for children in the fall.

Please give generously.

On behalf of the Children’s Commission, I would like to extend a tremendous “thank you” to everyone who took tags and fulfilled Christmas wishes for dozens of children throughout Sonoma County. This year, as a church family we were able to support over 150 requests from several communities including the CAP Giffen Women’s Shelter, students at our FUMC Preschool, and children who find themselves at The Living Room. Without your kind and generous gifts, these children would have little to look forward to this Christmas Season.

Special gratitude goes to Lisa Sereni for her tireless efforts in coordinating this outreach event. Starting in early November, Lisa works with the community to identify children who would most benefit from receiving our gifts. She manages all the tags and coordinates delivery to over 40 homes throughout Santa Rosa. Job well done, Lisa!

Elizabeth Walton

GIVING TREE THANK YOU!

The Outreach and Service Commission has designated the recipients for this year’s Christmas Offering: the Family Support Center and The Living Room, both of which are organizations concerned with homelessness in our community.

The Family Support Center (FSC) is a comprehensive shelter program in Santa Rosa for homeless families, serving up to 138 people daily. FUMC has sponsored the largest room at the shelter for many years. Families are provided with food, clothing, and a warm bed, plus case management for employment, housing counseling, and services designed to move them toward self-sufficiency. Programs for parents, youth, and children. FSC’s stated purpose: Builds Relations, Integrates Development Goals, and Establishes Support for youth, or “BRIDGES.”

The Living Room welcomes homeless and at-risk women and their children into a safe and comfortable environment during the day when shelters are closed. Information on temporary supportive social services are made available to them and their children, and they are offered a place to learn new skills and move toward independence and self-sufficiency. The Living Room’s two core programs are the Women’s Program and the Mother and Child Program (MAC) offered by a caring staff and hundreds of volunteers, and utilizing an ever-expanding network of Community Partners working together. Currently, the two programs serve over 1,200 individual participants annually who visit regularly. An average of 70-80 participants receive services every day Monday-Friday. This includes approximately 20-30 children and their mothers who attend the Mother and Child Program. A nourishing breakfast and a hot lunch are prepared and served by our volunteers—about 2,000 meals per month.

FUMC also collects small toiletries for The Living Room throughout the year and contributes school backpacks for children in the fall.

Please give generously.
You are invited to

United Methodist Women's
Christmas Potluck Luncheon

Tuesday, December 10 - 12:00 noon - 2:00
in Montgomery Fellowship Hall

Enjoy:
A relaxing afternoon
Lunch and conversation with friends

Program:
Preschool Christmas Concert
Christmas Carol singing

Bring:
A friend
A Potluck dish to share
A Christmas Memory to share with your tablemates

Both men & women are welcome
CHILDREN/YOUTH “CONNECTING TO A HIGHER POWER”-- IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!

The Sunday School program and Youth Ministries are “connecting to a higher power” with the addition of 4G Televisions in both the Giffen House at Stony Point and the Blue Room at Montgomery.

Children and Youth are better able to interpret and understand the scripture topics when they can experience them through various modes of learning. In both groups, we strive to incorporate many styles into our teaching. Not only do we read the written word, but also engage it physically, socially, logically, auditorially, and visually. With the gift of these new Smart TV’s, leaders are now able to connect quickly to the internet to access supplemental materials and videos to Sunday School’s “Deep Blue” and the Youth’s “LinC” (Living in Christ) curriculum.

We are extremely grateful to our United Methodist Foundation and Trustees for granting us the funds and permission to purchase and install these new learning tools. These new additions bring our ministries into the 21st century and speak to our younger members in a more contemporary manner.

Our abundant thanks to Ian Riggle, who researched and purchased the best equipment to fit our needs, and personally installed it within less than a week’s time! Thanks also to the congregation for supporting our younger ministries!

UMY CALENDAR

Sunday, Dec. 1  “TIS THE SEASON FOR TRADITIONS”
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Pastor Lori guest speaker
Blue Room, Montgomery Campus

Sunday, Dec. 15  CHRISTMAS PARTY
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Stony Point Worship Center

Sunday, Jan. 5  “RING IN THE NEW YEAR”
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Blue Room, Montgomery Campus

The Youth Ministry program of FUMC and CCUM kicked off the fall with contemporary programs. We learned about the programs of “Safe Parking” at the CCUM and FUMC campuses with guest speakers John Creager and Jennie Hartman.

A guest speaker from VIDAS, Suzi Becerra, helped us understand the difference between “The Law of the Land and the Law of Love.” We tried to register for Green Cards and discovered how difficult it was to navigate the registration procedure.

We “Crafted for Camperships,” making ornaments to sell at the Snowflake Bazaar, with the proceeds going to camperships.

At our mid-November meeting we inaugurated our new TV, enjoying popcorn and movie watching. Many thanks to the UM Foundation for gifting us with our very shiny, new, and awesome TV!

We look forward to our Advent events in December and continuing into the new year with our combined FUMC-CCUM youth! Thanks to our intrepid Advisors: Lisa Brazie-Barker, Lynne Calvert, Carolyn Derr, and Mark Sawdon! Thanks also to the congregation who supports this piece of the puzzle -- our next generation!

Happy Advent and New Year!

Su Rood Cox
Interim Youth Director
### RECONCILING COMMUNITY OF FAITH GATHERING

**Mondays, Dec. 2 & Jan 6**
4:00 p.m.
Montgomery Library

Information: chealhome@gmail.com
All are welcome to join us as we build bridges of understanding and full inclusion at FUMC.

---

### PFLAG

**Mondays, Dec. 2 & Jan 6**
7:00 p.m.
Positive Images building
200 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa 95404

PFLAG acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. Please join us.

---

### CHURCH OPERATIONS MANAGER REPORT

Here are some of the things that have been accomplished this year at both church campuses.

A new janitorial service has been hired to clean the Montgomery campus on Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday evenings, and the Stony Point campus on Monday evenings. Communication is key, so if you notice something has not been cleaned or needs improvement, please let me know so that I can communicate those concerns to the service. In September we had a Montgomery workday with several volunteers washing windows inside and out, shampooing carpets, and cleaning up debris, among many other projects. A weekly crew tends to landscape needs at the Montgomery campus, and a new team stepped up to mow the fields and lawn at Stony Point.

A new bookkeeper and a Stony Point Worship Band Leader have been hired. We hosted charging stations and provided some meals for people during the Kincade fire evacuation.

**Montgomery Campus Improvements**
- New furnaces and a water heater installed
- Sidewalks ground down in front of the church
- Two new yard compost bins added
- New roof installed on the organ shed
- Leaky faucet in the Janitorial closet repaired
- Kitchen sinks snaked
- Several rooms cleaned, including Lehman’s Chapel and Williams Parlor
- McMullin room door repaired
- Wooden cross repaired
- Gutters cleaned
- Water fountain in Fellowship Hall repaired
- Freezer repaired (still under warranty)
- Temporary mesh fence installed between Preschool and neighbor’s property
- Organ value estimate obtained for insurance purposes
- Photos taken of all furnishings/equipment/facility contents for insurance purposes

**Stony Point Improvements**
- Removed a trailer filled with mattresses, etc.
- Trimmed trees
- Cut up/disposed of large fallen branch
- Boarded up some areas of the cottage
- Gutters cleaned
- Giffen House rented to Women’s Recovery Services during their rebuild

Personally, I would like to thank everyone who has helped accomplish these tasks and express how much I value your knowledge and expertise.

*Janis Brewster*
Church Operations Manager
GO GREEN – SAVE OUR EARTH

Our Montgomery Campus has a new compost dumpster, in addition to the regular dumpster. We can use the green garbage cans throughout the facility to compost much of our garbage.

All the things you can put into your green can at home we can compost (wet garbage, garden trimmings, used paper plates, napkins, soiled paper and boxes, coffee grounds and filters, etc.) Note: PAPER CUPS CANNOT BE COMPOSTED as they are lined with plastic to prevent leakage. Plastic silverware also cannot be composted. Almost everything else can either be recycled in the BLUE BINS or composted in the GREEN BINS.

The Spirit Café’ attendees are excited about being able to sort and compost or recycle most of the plates, napkins, etc. that previously went into the landfill. Let’s follow their example. This saves space in our garbage dumpster as well. Watch for the green cans around the church and be part of saving our EARTH! People will be on hand at coffee hour to help you learn where to put your throwaways. For directions, see the poster on the wall by the cans.

THANK YOU!

NOTE FROM TRUSTEES . . .

The Trustees are happy to report that the non-functioning furnaces at Montgomery Campus have been replaced. We would like to thank the Church Council and the United Methodist Foundation for helping us fund this much needed project.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone using the FUMC facilities for individual or group purposes: make sure lights are turned off, doors and windows locked, and garbage cans emptied when you leave. Thank you!

Contact: trustees@fumcsantarosa.org or Lynne Garrison at lynne.chandler@yahoo.com

Lynne Garrison
Trustees Chair

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meeting scheduled for November 9 was postponed by agreement of participants; no significant agenda items needed attention, and many were still dealing with recovery from fire evacuations. The Charge Conference scheduled for October 27 was also postponed, due to the wildfire evacuation concern. Both meetings were rescheduled and held on Sunday, November 24.

Heather Young
Church Council Chair

LOOKING TOWARD A SUCCESSFUL 2019 END AND A GREAT 2020!

We are at that transition juncture in the life of our church finances where we are looking intently toward the end of 2019 and forward to the 2020 budget. In order to plan responsibly for next year, we are striving for a successful December.

Heading into the fourth quarter, we have a 2019 deficit of $13,365.

We do know that various members schedule pledge payments in different ways based on personal situations. Some of us make a weekly or monthly contribution. Some of us make our entire pledge gift in December. Some use the last couple of months of the year to “catch up” or perhaps to make a special gift during the holidays. Any of these schedules of contributions are appreciated!

As we launch an important Discernment Process in 2020 regarding the future ministries to which God is calling us, we are grateful for our church members who are helping FUMC complete our 2019 finances successfully and propel us forward into 2020!

One specific giving idea for those of us who maintain IRA accounts and are subject to the annual “Required Minimum Distribution” (RMD): You can direct all or a portion of your RMD as a charitable contribution and avoid income taxes on that amount. For more specifics, consult the entity managing your IRA and/or your tax advisor.

Again, thank you for your 2019 contributions in the form that works best for you!

Sam Cox
Chair, Finance Committee
WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
**STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lori Sawdon</td>
<td>Lead Pastor: <a href="mailto:lori.sawdon@fumcsantarosa.org">lori.sawdon@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; ext 202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsey Bell-Kerr</td>
<td>Associate Pastor: <a href="mailto:lindsey.bell-kerr@fumcsantarosa.org">lindsey.bell-kerr@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; ext 207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Lappin</td>
<td>Director of Music: <a href="mailto:jan.lappin@fumcsantarosa.org">jan.lappin@fumcsantarosa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Walton</td>
<td>Children’s Ministries: <a href="mailto:elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org">elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; ext 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Wikse</td>
<td>FUMC Preschool Director: <a href="mailto:preschool@fumcsantarosa.org">preschool@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; 546-7012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janis Brewster</td>
<td>Church Operations Manager: <a href="mailto:janis.brewster@fumcsantarosa.org">janis.brewster@fumcsantarosa.org</a>, ext. 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Rea</td>
<td>Stony Point Worship Band Director: <a href="mailto:emma.rea@fumcsantarosa.org">emma.rea@fumcsantarosa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Blum</td>
<td>Bookkeeper: <a href="mailto:laura.blum@fumcsantarosa.org">laura.blum@fumcsantarosa.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Montgomery Campus</th>
<th>Stony Point Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Morning Worship</td>
<td>Sunday Morning Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fijian Language Ministry</td>
<td>Sunday School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Classes</td>
<td>Nursery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>United Methodist Youth Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday evening at Montgomery, 5:30 - 6:50 p.m.; light supper and informal worship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Roseleaf Guidelines**

Please email articles of no more than 300 words to communications@fumcsantarosa.org by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the following month’s Roseleaf. All submissions are subject to editing. Be sure to include your name and contact information with each article.