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  phone 707-545-3863
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

fax 707-545-5375

1551 Montgomery Drive  www.FumcSantaRosa.org
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
Seeds of a Sower

Pentecost, the birthday of the Christian church, falls on June 9 this year. We remember the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the followers of Jesus, empowering them to continue his ministry and mission.

The United Methodist Church has been longing for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, leading us into a future without continued tension over the inclusion of LGBTQ persons. Unable to find resolution, we find ourselves in a middle time between what we have known and what is yet to be revealed. Such a middle time is unsettling, provoking anxiety and even fear.

Such seasons of uncertainty can strengthen our faith. The spiritual practices are meant to keep us anchored and centered through such a season, which inevitably come personally and communally. Worship, scripture, prayer, the Lord’s Supper, Christian Conferencing, and fasting/abstinence are disciplines that draw us closer to God, especially when life is chaotic. Come to worship and be nurtured in the faith. Have holy conversation with friends in the faith to share concerns and offer mutual encouragement. Your pastors are available for conversation. I trust that the Holy Spirit is moving among and through the people called “Methodist,” even bringing new life to birth.

On Tuesday, May 28, at 7:15 in Fellowship Hall we will offer an update about happenings in the denomination following several meetings in May. Resources to keep you informed include:

- Instant Connection weekly email from CA/NV Conference, subscribe at www.cnumc.org
- United Methodist News Service, subscribe at www.umnews.org

In the meantime, we must not give up hope but persevere in the ministry of Christ entrusted to our care. Let us act on our conviction to be a Reconciling Congregation, inclusive of all God’s people, making God’s love visible in all that we do and say.

Blessings,
Pastor Lori

Sabbath is essential to the rhythm of our faith. Dating back to the creation story in Genesis and the Law given to Moses, a time apart from work is prescribed in our weekly schedule. Less known are the laws of Jubilee, which commanded months and years of rest for the fields and debt forgiveness for the people. As an observant Jew, Jesus lives out this rhythm of work and sabbath. Every so often in the Gospels we find that after he has ministered to the needs of the masses, he is on his way to a lonely place to pray.

There are many reasons why sabbath is essential to a life of faith. First and foremost, sabbath is a pause in the work. Time apart prevents work from becoming frantic and reactionary. Sabbath gives us time to catch our breath and reset, a time to reflect, to step back from work, shift our perspective, interpret our lives more clearly, see places we can grow, and discern how God is calling us anew.

We have gone through many cycles of our congregational life during my six years here, especially since October 2017. I have been granted a three-month Sabbath, a renewal and study leave to begin in July. I will return on October 1. During that time, dedicated lay folks, and perhaps some retired clergy, will cover many of my responsibilities. I am committed to planning ahead, so that my leave will have a minimal impact on the congregation.

I am looking forward to spending time with friends and family who live farther away. I will also take time for solitude and spiritual retreat. I have a long reading list, as well as a few writing projects that could use attention. Most important for me in the three months, however, is to take sabbath. I will take time apart to recenter, to refocus, and to reflect on all that the past six years of ministry have meant.

I look forward to returning in October with a renewed sense of call, and a clearer perspective on our life together.

Pastor Lindsey
WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

WORSHIP SCHEDULE JUNE 2019

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

JUNE 2
An Amazing Detour, Acts 16:9-15
Holy Communion
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lori
12:00 a.m. – Fijian Worship – Pastor Lori

JUNE 9
THE ULTIMATE SURPRISE PARTY ACTS 2:1-21
Pentecost Sunday – Wear red, orange, yellow!
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori – Reception
of New Members
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey – Confirmation of
Youth
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

JUNE 16
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lindsey
12:00 a.m. – Fijian Worship – Pastor Lindsey

JUNE 23
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lori
12:00 a.m. – Fijian Worship

SPIRIT CAFE
Tuesday, May 4
5:30 p.m. – Spirit Café – Pastor Lori

Tuesday, May 11
5:30 p.m. – Spirit Café – Pastor Lindsey

Tuesday, May 18
5:30 p.m. – Spirit Café – Pastor Lori

Tuesday, May 25
5:30 p.m. – Spirit Café – Pastor Lindsey

DESSERT WITH THE PASTORS
(NEWCOMER ORIENTATION)

Wednesday, May 29
7:00 p.m.
Stony Point Campus,
2150 Giffen Ave.

Newcomers and those interested in church membership are invited to get acquainted with Pastors Lindsey and Lori and with one another, and learn more about First UMC. We will receive new members on Pentecost Sunday, June 9.
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE KINDNESS

Last week three of our Sunday School children spent their morning preparing a breakfast for our Safe Parkers at Stony Point—banana chocolate chip muffins and a bacon and broccoli quiche! This project stems from a Sunday School lesson presented last month on the subject of storing up treasures, identifying them as either Earthly or Heavenly. Through an exciting penny hunt (150 count!) and following an animated discussion, we realized that the “stuff” of the world may be fun and exciting for a while, but generally falls into the Earthly category. It’s the kindnesses and acceptance we extend to those around us that can be treasures in Heaven.

We found that most of our ideas of treasure easily fit into the Earthly column, but we also found that some of these treasures had the potential to live in both columns. For example, buying the newest iPhone for the purpose of playing games or having instant internet access was definitely a treasure of Earth, but using that same phone to offer comfort to somebody who is struggling is a Heavenly call.

These kids understand how giving unsolicited service to someone else is a prime example of a Heavenly treasure. The breakfast was very well received by our overnight guests, and they were happy to return the kindness by giving a bevy of gratitude cards to our children.

What a wonderful way to share the love of God!

YOUTH TAKE PART IN PALM SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

After serving a yummy breakfast for churchgoers to raise money for our Sierra Service Project campers, five youth who are to be confirmed led our all-church Palm Processional up Montgomery Drive. Then they participated in the worship service by leading the Call to Worship and reading scripture. The youth also joined Sunday School children in singing with the Chancel Choir!

What a special all-church celebration!

UPCOMING UMYF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
Graduation Sunday. Celebrate our Graduates!
There will be an insert in the bulletin celebrating the accomplishments of youth and young adults. The Foundation Scholarships will also be announced. Come and cheer them on!
UMYF BBQ, 12:30 p.m., Stony Point

June 9:
CONFIRMATION, 9:30 Christ Church UMC, 11:00 Stony Point

June 11-14
VBS Summer of Service, Stony Point

July 7-12:
Sierra Service Project, Smith River

July 14-19
Camp Lodestar
WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

**BIKE DAYS AT FUMC PRESCHOOL**

We missed National Bike to Work Day in May, but we are still determined to hold our annual Bike Days at FUMC Preschool. We'll invite the children to bring (or ride!) their bikes to Preschool on June 12-13 to ride together in Fellowship Hall. They will learn the rules of the road, how to yield to pedestrians, and how to watch out for each other. It will be a very special day for the children.

**TAIZÉ REMINDER**

As we reported in the May Roseleaf issue, Taizé services will be taking a summer break beginning in June. Services will resume in the fall.

**UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FOUNDATION**

In the past month our YOUTH have been busy:

- “Sign the Beam” Dedication of the Youth Room. There are now 13 signatures on the Youth Room beam!
- 12 end-of-year Care packages were sent to our out-of-town college young adults. Yummy treats were baked by Sally Gearhart, Carmen Rapp, Dian Jorgensen, Jane Hollar, and Sonda Anderson. We hope our college young adults’ finals were a bit “sweeter”!! Look for a bulletin insert honoring our college graduates on June 2!
- Many thanks to all who baked coffee cakes, cooked the yummy breakfast, ate the yummy breakfast, and/or served, including former SSP youth who came to support this year’s team! Over $700 was raised to send our four SSP youth and their adult advisor to Smith River.

Here is a note received by the Youth Ministry Council:

“Dear UMYF:
You all really impress!! What a great job you did at the recent [Palm Sunday fundraiser] church breakfast! You know that you ‘made a difference,’ not only to the eager eaters, but also to the breakfast workers, who needed your help and got it. Most of all, the church family loved seeing you! For sure!! ‘Warmly,’

Your Church Family”

**SUMMER OF SERVICE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

During the week of June 11 - June 14, Tuesday to Friday, children ages 3-11 years will be flocking to our Stony Point Campus for a week of fun, fellowship, and most importantly, faith development, as we dive into five “neighbor” scriptures from the New Testament. Our original theme, S.O.S.- A Summer of Service, will help us define who our neighbors are; how we are commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves; how we are to treat each other well and share with everyone we meet! Finally, we will discover that every neighbor is invited to experience the love of God.

Through Bible stories, music, and a multitude of activities, our mission is to learn how God calls us to be good neighbors and how we can be in service to one another. Keeping our outreach local, each day we will be engaging the campers (and adult leaders too!) in projects that members of our church are currently invested in, such as the FUMC Community Garden, FISH Food Pantry, The Living Room, Homebound Seniors, and Compassion without Borders.

Family and friends are invited to our Friday night closing celebration on June 14 at 5:30 p.m., when we will wrap up our Summer of Service VBS with lots of singing, daily reflections, and a slideshow of our fabulous week. A love offering to support our FUMC Good Shepherd fund will be collected.

Youth and adult volunteers are still needed to guide our young ones along their faith journeys. See Elizabeth Walton or Su Rood Cox to join the team!
SUMMER VACATION REMINDER

When you visit a hotel this vacation season, collect your extra toiletries and bring them back for use at the Living Room. You may leave them in the Outreach and Service mailbox at the Montgomery office.

GALLERY 1551 ART SHOW

I know you have been enjoying the present show: Ruth Norman and Family. We are hoping this show will give you ideas and inspiration for the next show:

Sharing God’s Gift of Creativity
All-Church Show

You can submit photos, art, sewing, knitting, drawings, or any creative piece that is ready to hang. This show is open to all ages. Please don’t be that person who says,"Hmm! I could have put something in the show."

We will need your creative piece on Sunday, July 14. Contact me for more information chealhome@gmail.com.

Shirley Cheal

UMW “MISSION U” COMES TO SANTA ROSA FUMC!

Saturday, August 3
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Montgomery Campus

United Methodist Women’s Mission U events are great opportunities to study current issues impacting society, grow spiritually, and be in community with fellow United Methodists working to put faith, hope, and love into action. This year’s studies are Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship; Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission, and What About Our Money? Mission U hosts three events in various cities, including one on August 3 here in Santa Rosa at our own FUMC.

Registration deadline July 3.

Mere Nabou is the Dean of Mission U.

This event is open to any who would like to attend. Plan to come for an experience of spiritual formation, worship, and Christian community.

SAVE THE DATE!
UMW FIJIAN LUAU

Saturday, July 20
12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.
Montgomery Fellowship Hall

$15 per person

Enjoy this delicious annual Fijian feast from the islands, plus Great Island Entertainment!
Has there ever been a time in your church life that you felt like things were finally settled, comfortable…normal? It did not last long, did it? There is always something going on, challenges being met, problems being worked through, and new relationships forged and celebrated. Through it all, our Christian values are pondered, tested, affirmed, and reaffirmed.

Today is no different. But look at where FUMC is today and where we are going! FUMC has so much to celebrate and look forward to. Pastors Lori and Lindsey continue to provide fresh, energetic leadership with a clear focus for the coming years; our professional staff and outreach teams challenge our comfort zones with opportunities to grow and serve; the committee and commission leadership is as strong as it has ever been, with an amazing potpourri of activities directed at positive ministries for both our membership and our community. Our two campus locations offer us the strength and encouragement that come from young families. Who needs “settled,” “comfortable” or “normal”? That is soooo--1981! We are FUMC and today is 2019!!!

There are many ways for us to be part of the vibrant life of our church and its missions. One way is by contributing to the work of our own United Methodist Foundation of Santa Rosa --

- through “The Miracle of 1854” (i.e., investing $18.54 per month, that in 1854 at 8% would be worth $1,052,513,267 today!),
- remembering an important person in your life with an honorarium or memorial,
- including the Foundation in your estate planning.

In any of these ways we can all be part of supporting the long-term financial health of the church. Remember that a gift to the Foundation is “the gift that keeps on giving,” as the money we donate is invested, and only the returns earned on the principal are given out, year after year after year. With assets now over $1,500,000 and growing, the Foundation is now able to contribute an average of $60,000 per year toward new ministry programs, upkeep of our buildings and grounds, scholarships to our college students, and one-off projects such as the solar energy system installed a few years ago.
RECONCILING COMMUNITY OF FAITH GATHERING

Monday, June 3
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

Monday, June 3
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. They meet every first Monday. Please join us.

PRIDE PARADE – ALL-CHURCH EVENT

Saturday, June 1
10:30 a.m.
Freemont Park

Join us in the Pride Parade in downtown Santa Rosa. Be an ally and walk a few blocks from Fremont Park down 4th Street to the Square. Fremont Park is located on 4th Street, a block west of Brookwood. Meet around 10:30 a.m. – Parade at 11 a.m. We have signs, joy, and fun to share!

Let’s show Santa Rosa that FUMC is welcome to all!
Information: Shirley Cheal chealhome@gmail.com.

LETTER FROM JANIS BREWSTER

Dear Members and Friends,

I have now been here for three (3) months, and I just want to express how thankful I am to be working for such a welcoming group of people. The members that I have met have all been so kind and helpful, and your ongoing words of encouragement are much appreciated. I had the opportunity to meet and work with your former Administrator, Mary Brunet, and I certainly have some big shoes to fill.

There has been an awful lot of change and uncertainty these past few months, but I hope in the months ahead to settle in and bring some clarity and structure to my position as Church Operations Manager.

I look forward to working with all of you. Please feel free to stop by the office, give me a call at 707-545-3863, or better yet, send me an email at janis.brewster@fumcsantarosa.org.

Blessings,

Janis Brewster
Church Operations Manager

ARE YOU A YELPER???

Give FUMC a Yelp!!! The more Yelp reviews we receive, the more visibility our church will have on a Google search. For those who don’t normally Yelp, here is an easy way to do it: using your computer, go to website Yelp.com; sign up with your name, e-mail address, etc., as requested. Then confirm your e-mail address. Look for First United Methodist Church on Yelp. Then write your review of FUMC!

Happy Yelping!!!

Communications Committee
WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Montgomery Sidewalks
Repair work on the sidewalks at Montgomery will start mid-June. Please use care in walking on our sidewalks before and during the repair. Thank you.

Giffen House - Correction
The Giffen House will be rented out by the Women’s Recovery Services from 5/01/2019 through 10/31/2019, barring unforeseen construction circumstances.
Contact: trustees@fumcsantarosa.org or Lynne Garrison at lynne.chandler@yahoo.com

SUPPORT FUMC WHEN YOU SHOP AT AMAZON!
Did you know that you can help support our church while shopping at Amazon online -- by registering at the AmazonSmile website? A contribution of 0.5% of each purchase you make will be contributed to FUMC. That may not seem like a lot, but as we have learned from our “Just For The Principal of It” fundraising, those coins add up! There is no cost to register. Follow these steps:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com password
3. Click the “Santa Rosa First United Methodist Church” choice from the “Choose a Charity” list
4. Start shopping!

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A SAD GOODBYE TO ANGELS’ ATTIC
JULY 31, 2019

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the upcoming closing of Angels’ Attic, our church’s boutique thrift shop and all-community outreach. **Final closure will occur the end of July.** In the interim, we will be having sales of furniture, clothing, housewares, crafts, and everything to enable us to meet our overhead costs and continue to provide funds to our community outreach.

Why is this happening? We no longer have enough volunteers to cover the shifts to keep the shop open on schedule, nor do we have sufficient income to meet our outreach goals in addition to our overhead costs.

We appreciate your support over the past nearly 15 years and hope you will continue to support us financially, as well as with your time, through these last few months. Additional volunteer help will be desperately needed, so if you can spare some time to help, please contact Diane @ 479-9002 (cell). No experience needed.

Due to our upcoming closure, we will no longer be accepting donations. However, you can still find wonderful bargains, one-of-a-kind items, and even some “steals.”

COME BY AND BUY…
and tell our incredible volunteers how much you appreciate their long-time dedication!

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Ever have a sad feeling that you’ve seen this before, been through this before? That “there’s nothing new under the sun”? When we’re joyous, do we think, “Oh, this old happy thing again”? Haha! No, we are feeling the joy of that moment, whether it is the light playing against some manzanita bark, the feeling of strength from pushing our body just a little more, that lilt to a friend’s voice, or an other-worldly feeling when hearing favorite music. We are elevated in the midst of a joyous moment; we don’t feel sad.

Like me, you probably get that sad feeling when a challenge comes up that feels familiar, “Wait, didn’t I already go through this? Didn’t we solve this already?” For many, that feeling will come up with a recurring pain or ailment; often it will be a familiar interpersonal challenge. These days world events and social/community issues may cause us to think, “What? This again?” with weariness and perhaps even grief.

Being Methodist for nearly six decades, I’ve heard many a sermon. I’ll be honest, sometimes I’ve felt I heard a sermon before, but from a different pastor. Things, even our deepest spiritual things, can get worn into a rut. “I know what I know already, and I’ve spent a long time learning it, thank-you-very-much!”

“Rich and unexpected blessings.” This phrase from Pastor Lori’s recent sermon really captivated my soul:


Can anything in this life really be so new as to be “unexpected”? Are we open to new feelings, new learning, even new joys? I hope I am.

Heather Young
Chair, Church Council

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Our April financial performance was strong with $68,168 in giving. Total revenues were $78,058 and total expenses were $76,028, for an excess of revenue over expenses of $2,030. Through the first four months, we have an excess of revenue over expenses of $22,447. The two primary reasons for the good results to date are our better-than-budgeted giving and lower personnel costs due to budgeted positions not having yet been filled.

Thanks to everyone for getting us off to a happy financial start for 2019!

Life without prayer is empty and meaningless, for it is that communion with the higher part of you which reveals to you the fullness of this glorious life which is your true heritage. Let your prayers be very positive and constructive, and give thanks for what you are about to receive, even before you pray for it. As you pray, feel a oneness, a unity in all life where there is no separation— for all is one.

Prayer unites all; it draws all together and creates perfect oneness. Do not waste time in beseeching God for this, that, and the other, for that is not true prayer. To beseech is to create separateness, and God wants you to create oneness at all times. We are one. God is within you; you do not have to search for Him without. He is always here waiting for you to recognize Him. Recognize our oneness. God is in you and you are in God.

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Elizabeth Dale
Seamstress
707-528-9112

“Heather guided us easily through
difficult waters — she has our highest
recommendation!”
- Earlene & Dick Reichert, FUMC

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Santa Rosa, CA 95405

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**STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**  
707-545-3863

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<tr>
<td>Lindsey Bell-Kerr, Associate Pastor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lindsey.bell-kerr@fumcsantarosa.org">lindsey.bell-kerr@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; ext 207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Lappin, Coordinator of Creative Arts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jan.lappin@fumcsantarosa.org">jan.lappin@fumcsantarosa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Walton, Children’s Ministries</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org">elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; ext 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Wikse, FUMC Preschool Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:preschool@fumcsantarosa.org">preschool@fumcsantarosa.org</a>; 546-7012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janis Brewster, Church Operations Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janis.brewster@fumcsantarosa.org">janis.brewster@fumcsantarosa.org</a>, ext. 204</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Montgomery Campus</th>
<th>Stony Point Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Morning Worship</strong></td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fijian Language Ministry</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Classes</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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United Methodist Youth Fellowship – See Dates & Times inside – Blue Room, Montgomery Campus

**Spirit Café**  
Tuesday evening at Montgomery, 5:30 - 6:50 p.m.; light supper and informal worship

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**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.