A CALL TO Discipleship

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
As we live through these days of tension in our nation, I share reflections from Bishop Ken Carter, President of the United Methodist Council of Bishops, issued on August 6:

A Call to Discipleship: Living as Disciples of a Non-Violent Lord in a Time of Violence.

“To love our neighbor is to work for a church that does not exclude anyone, that welcomes immigrants, that reckons with the systemic realities of racism, and that honors the faith of people across the political aisle from wherever we are sitting.

“To love our neighbor is the cost of discipleship (Dietrich Bonhoeffer). To love our neighbor may be our most powerful form of evangelism at the present moment. To love our neighbor is to move beyond our fragility toward repentance and reform. For Jesus, questions of eternal life had nothing to do with separation from or superiority toward the other. As disciples of Jesus in the Wesleyan tradition, holiness is not separation; holiness is love of God and neighbor (Plain Account of Christian Perfection, The Almost Christian). We cannot love God, whom we have never seen, if we do not love our brother or sister whom we have seen (1 John 4). It turns out that the neighbor we are called to love is the one we have profiled and labeled as our enemy. By teaching us to love our enemy (Matthew 5), Jesus is forming us in a holiness without which we will not see the Lord (Hebrews 12)....

“We pray for healing among those who are grieving, amendment of life among those who have done violence, and judgment upon our human hearts when our spoken words have contributed to violence (Matthew 12). We commit ourselves to the transformation of systems and laws that reflect the life that Jesus promises (John 10). The good news is the very peace of Christ that breaks down the dividing walls of hostility (Ephesians 2), and the promise that disciples of Jesus who are peacemakers will receive the blessing of God (Matthew 5). In this way, we will bless all the families of the earth (Genesis 12)."

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with us.

Be the Hope.

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

SEPTMBER 1  TABLE GRACE
LUKE 14:1, 7-14
Holy Communion
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lori
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship – Pastor Lori

SERIES: WHAT FAITH CAN DO

SEPTMBER 8  RECONCILE US
PHILEMON 1:1-21
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Rev. Jim Current
11:00 a.m. – Rev. Betty Pagett
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

SEPTMBER 15  RESTORE US TO COMMUNITY
LUKE 15:1-10
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Rev. Jim Current
11:00 a.m. – Bob Brazie
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

SEPTMBER 22  GIVE VALUE TO OUR LIVES
LUKE 16:1-13
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Emily Pickens-Jones
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

SEPTMBER 29  GROUNDING US WHERE WE ARE
JEREMIAH 29:1, 4-7
8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. – Pastor Lori
11:00 a.m. – Pastor Lori
12:00 p.m. – Fijian Worship

WORSHIP SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 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

SEPTEMBER 1

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WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Potluck Breakfast begins in Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Joint Worship Service in Montgomery Sanctuary

All four Sunday worship services will combine at
10:30 to share our traditions and music.

Come for a Potluck Breakfast at 9:00 before
worship. Bring your favorite breakfast food to share –
muffins, quiche, fruit – and enjoy fellowship with
members of all our worshipping congregations.

WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
What a summer our youth have had! Vacation Bible School was well attended by our youth helpers, leaders, and support staff! We sang, learned “Pharaoh, Pharaoh,” and the “Wade in the Water Shuffle” — and who our neighbors are and how to be of service to them.

In July, we sent four youth with a leader to the Sierra Service Project at Smith River. Everyone returned excited about the service in which they participated; two of our group hope to return next year as counselors! Please check out the video from worship on July 21, “Compassion for Others.”

Two children and seven youth attended our UM Camp Lodestar in July. Judging by the pictures, dirty laundry, and smiling faces, all had a great time. Pictures are on the bulletin boards at Stony Point and Montgomery, and a slide show is forthcoming!!

On August 18, we had a Youth Kick-Off Pool Party, including several youth from Christ Church UMC. These Christ Church youth will be participating with us as we develop our Santa Rosa MYF!

The Youth of FUMC are ready for Fall! Youth in 6th grade through high school seniors are welcome! We hope you will join us!

Look for further information on the fumcsantarosa.org website or email to youth@fumcsantarosa.org.

**THANK YOU!**

My thanks to all of you who sent cards and good wishes to me following my knee replacement. I’m still recovering and so much better. Having a loving church family makes everything so much easier. Tom is also healing nicely from his fall.

*Linda Morrissey*
WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Children’s Sunday School is offered at the 11:00 a.m. Stony Point service for ages Preschool to 5th grade. Following a brief Children’s Moment with the entire congregation, children are escorted by their teachers to class in the Giffen House where they are engaged in scripture through Bible study, music, crafts, and service projects. After a summer break, we will resume classes beginning on Sunday, September 1. See Elizabeth Walton with any questions.

**FUMC CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

While sports or other social commitments can seem like a higher priority, have you considered the benefits of regularly going to church and attending Sunday School for your child? Below are 10 reasons to make participating as a member of the church family a priority for your family:

1. **Send the right message:** Making church and Sunday School a priority shows your kids that you value your faith and want to share it with them.

2. **Age appropriateness:** Bible-based instruction focuses toward developmental abilities and comprehension levels.

3. **Praying teachers:** Sunday School teachers pray for your child’s faith to grow.

4. **Friends:** Your child builds positive relationships with peers and learns to work together.

5. **It’s fun:** Teachers work hard to share scriptures that are not only relevant but fun!

6. **Spiritual mentors:** Dedicated teachers can be Christian role models to support you and help inspire your child’s faith.

7. **Systematic Bible learning:** Curriculum is designed to give a broad foundation of scripture learning; lessons often build on each other.

8. **Thinking beyond themselves:** Meaningful service projects challenge your child to consider other realities than their own; service to others is a vital aspect of life.

9. **Setting an important example:** Sometimes kids are noisy or messy; sometimes we are too as we live out our own faith. Recognize the laughter, smiles, and beauty that shine through the mess.

10. **Following Jesus’s word:** Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me…” Bringing your child to Sunday School brings them to Him. No faith community is complete without the littlest members.

**ANGELS’ ATTIC “SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIEDERSEHEN, GOOD NIGHT”**

Having closed our physical store, we’d like to thank the wonderful volunteers who kept things happening at Angels’ Attic in 2019:

**In-store volunteers:**

We couldn’t have done the pickups and moving without the help of Gordon Boultbee and Paul O’Rear, or the accounting work of Andrea and David Turner and Mary Grandgeorge. Kudos to Cathy Wieschendorff and Jacqui Zwick for their monthly work on the store display window, and to Susan Russel for redecorating “Angela” and the baskets - our visual welcome to the store. Thanks to Elizabeth Walton for her help in publicity and to our devoted advisory board members: Bill Ward, Barbara Wilford, Diane Test, Susan Russel, Jeannette Dow, and Tamara Boultbee. A big thanks to Sam Cox for arranging the pickup of our unsold stock. One final shout-out to those incredibly hard-working folks who helped box, clear out, and clean up the store after closing.

**Thank you to all!!**

And last but not least, we thank you, our church family, for providing the support and resources for this outreach to continue for 15 years.

Now, as a gentle reminder, we will be offering some special items for sale on eBay and craigslist - so look for us there.

Tamara Boultbee
FROM THE CHURCH OPERATIONS MANAGER

As you may already know, we have a new janitorial service. Currently, they clean at the Montgomery campus on Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday evenings, and at the Stony Point campus on Monday evenings. Their responsibility is to maintain the cleanliness of the facility by spot cleaning fingerprints from the windows, emptying garbage, vacuuming, wiping down surfaces in the bathrooms and kitchen, restocking all supplies, etc.

This is a big job, and the key to this relationship working is communication. Please, if you have issues or concerns, let me know. If you have a meeting or event, I am more than happy to ask them to stock extra supplies or make an extra effort to ensure that the facility is clean. They want our business and have been very responsive when items have been brought to their attention, making the extra effort to come back out and re-do the work.

I also understand that there are many jobs left undone, resulting in extra work for our members and volunteers. I hope to add some additional deep cleaning jobs to my list of facility needs to be done on a half-year or yearly basis.

Janis Brewster
Church Operations Manager

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Emma Rea is our new Worship Band Leader for the 11:00 a.m. Stony Point Worship Service, beginning August 15. In addition to serving for six years, she served as Worship Band Director at Ukiah United Methodist Church, Emma brings vocal instruction and musical theater experience.

Laura Blum has been hired as our Bookkeeper. She brings extensive experience in working with nonprofit organizations, including churches.

We welcome Laura and Emma!

The United Methodist Foundation of Santa Rosa

IMPACT

“I want to work to fix the causes which oppress people.”

Danielle Cole is an amazing young lady with a very clear perspective of the world around her. She was the recipient of a Scholarship from the United Methodist Foundation of Santa Rosa for four years as a student at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Because FUMC members with vision who love our church have invested in the Foundation Scholarship Fund, Danielle was able to pursue her education—a wonderful investment!

People have played a very important role in Danielle’s life. Her grandmother, FUMC member Sharon Peterson, along with other FUMC members, friends, and neighbors, influenced Danielle to attend church early in her life. It was through her years in the Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) that Danielle developed life-long relationships that she continues to cherish today. The youth group was a common bond that deepened with years of study and fun under the leadership of Youth Director Cassandra.

“My friends are important to me. We challenge each other.” Danielle believes that our identities and behaviors are rooted in the church.

Highlights of Danielle’s growth were her experiences as a Conference representative to the United Methodist Church Women’s Conference at Duke University, during both her freshman and sophomore high school years. She appreciated the interaction with representatives of all ages, from youth to adults. Discussions centered on the understanding of charity, resulting in her realization that “…charity is not just talk and study, but action. You pray with your feet.” Conference attendees had the opportunity to work with people to develop sustainable change. When asked to name her passion, Danielle replied with determined feeling, “I want to work to fix the causes which oppress people.”
COMMUNITIES OF KINDNESS WORKSHOP

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AND 29

Weaving compassion into the fabric of our society

Gather with a group of people you may not know and move beyond first impressions. This two-day experiential journey, presented by the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP), goes where things are learned that can’t be taught.

Amarosa Academy, 3261 Dutton Ave. Santa Rosa
Saturday 8/28 - Breakfast together at 8:30 a.m.; Workshop 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 8/29 - Breakfast together at 8:30 a.m.; Workshop 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Please plan to attend all sessions.

Sliding scale cost is $45-150 --- no one will be turned away for lack of funds.
Scholarships are available.
Breakfast, lunch, and all materials are included.
All facilitators are volunteers.

To register, call or email John Creager at (707) 576-0511, avp-nb@sonic.net.

THANKS FROM THE LIVING ROOM

Dear First United Methodist Church members,

Thank you for the school backpacks and supplies you collected for the children at The Living Room! We gave out over 100, delivered 7 to three newly-housed families, and have plenty for late comers.

It was a fun day with BBQ, music, face painting, a balloon man, and books for kids to choose.

I will send some photos and thank you notes from the women and families. We appreciate your help each year in making this project a success.

Sincerely,

Marcy Clausen
Head, The Living Room Backpack Project

STONY POINT COMMUNITY GARDEN

You probably haven’t noticed that the Community Garden has a brand new master water valve 18 inches below ground. But you probably have noticed that there are no more muddy spots, ponds, or swampy areas that were caused by the rusted out previous master valve, originally installed in 2010. The upgraded equipment was Installed in July by Sean Hensley Plumbing. Sean, with the help of one of his employees, donated 7 to 8 hours of professional plumbing, saving the church hundreds of dollars. Thanks Sean!

Sean grew up in the church and is the son of former usher Dick Hensley and wife Sandy who retired to Reno a few years ago!

If you need a good plumber, Sean Hensley Plumbing can be reached at (707) 525-9594. Give Sean a call – and don’t forget to say thank you!

Paul O’Rear
REVIVAL OF STEPHEN MINISTRY?

We are considering reviving Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained to offer high-quality, confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour. Twice a month, Stephen Ministers gather with Stephen Leaders for supervision and continuing education.

Care receivers are people—congregation members and others in the community—who receive care from a Stephen Minister. These are people struggling through a difficult time in life—experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or some other life crisis.

Since 1994, 51 Stephen Ministers have served over 200 care receivers at FUMC. If you might be interested in reviving this activity as a Stephen Minister, being trained as a Stephen Minister, or for more information, contact Pastor Lori.

ALL CHURCH FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

Sunday, August 25th
3:00 p.m
Montgomery Fellowship Hall

Never seen the movie that Pastor Lori is preaching on next week?

Come join your church family for an afternoon at the movies!

Bring your camp chairs and an appetizer/snack to share. Popcorn and lemonade provided.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE ANNUAL OFFERING – SEPTEMBER 15

Your giving is vital for the UMC to continue its global ministries of reconciliation. Because of the Peace with Justice Sunday offering, the people of The United Methodist Church are able to make a difference together by sowing seeds—and yielding the fruits—of peace! When you give on Peace with Justice Sunday, your gift makes possible our critical kingdom work in the world.

Because you give:

- Methodists spearhead a peace ministry uniting Arizona border communities;
- United Methodists in Liberia are being equipped to implement the denomination’s Social Principles to address social-justice issues;
- Pennsylvania students are educating their community about sex-trafficking at home and abroad.

These initiatives, and hundreds of other ones, are possible because you give. Please give generously on September 15.

RECONCILING COMMUNITY OF FAITH GATHERING

Happy Labor Day! No gathering this month.
See you October 7!

PFLAG

Monday, September 9
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.
On a Saturday in June, a group of hearty volunteers worked on the landscaping at the Montgomery Campus; areas along California Avenue, the church front, Suzanna Wesley House, and behind the sanctuary were pruned and cleaned up for the summer.

Please take note of the work that was done to keep our property beautiful and thank our volunteers when you see them: Charlie Amezcua, Chris Bowen, Jennifer Dornbush, Louis Hunt, George Kemmerer, Finau Rogoimuri, and Timoci Waqanibau.

George Kemmerer

**Women’s Retreat**

**First United Methodist Church**

**A Day of Renewal for Self and Christian Community**

**Saturday, October 5th**

9:00am-4:00pm

2150 Giffen Ave.

Stony Point Campus

**Cost:**

7 hours of your precious time

Provided:

Nourishment during the day

Dress comfortably

and bring a water bottle

**RSVP by Sept. 22nd:**

elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org

Free Childcare

if requested prior to Sept. 22nd

**Refresh • Evaluate • Nurture • Energize**

Women Together in Faith

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Our year-to-date revenue is still in excess of expenses although we are in the midst of our traditional finance “summer/early fall doldrums.”

As we turn the corner toward busy fall activities, it is a good time to consider our individual pledges and/or giving calculations for the rest of the year.

Thank you for helping us stay “in the black” for 2019!

Sam Cox

Chair, Finance Committee
Church Council endorsed the “United in Kindness Statement” sponsored by the Interfaith Council, declaring that we believe “freedom from hateful speech, bullying, discrimination, and violence is a human right...all of us benefit from living in a diverse community...”

Dedicated volunteers updated our Preschool bylaws - a very necessary, though exacting, task.

We are launching the exploration of our new FUMC Vision - an exciting project centering around three foundation questions: “Who are we?”; “What is God calling us to be and do?”; and “Who is my neighbor?” Two task forces are forming: Congregational Life (discipleship, congregational care, and outreach) and Stewardship of Property. The Vision Team will give an update at the September Church Council meeting. Please see facilitators Norm Bryan and Bill Stephens if you would like to serve on either task force.

The Fijian community has been very active at the local and district levels. Please join your prayers with those of our Fijian brothers and sisters who are especially concerned about the ICE raids.

John Creager and Jennie Hartman were recognized for their long-term involvement with and commitment to the Homeless Ministry and Safe-Parking programs.

Annual Church Conference will be on October 27, 3:00 p.m. Please plan to participate!

Next Church Council Meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2019, 9:00 a.m. and will be lead by Vice President Paul O’Rear.

Heather Young
Chair, Church Council
### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

707-545-3863

Lori Sawdon, Lead Pastor: lori.sawdon@fumcsantarosa.org; ext 202  
Lindsey Bell-Kerr, Associate Pastor: lindsey.bell-kerr@fumcsantarosa.org; ext 207  
Jan Lappin, Director of Music: jan.lappin@fumcsantarosa.org  
Elizabeth Walton, Children’s Ministries: elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org; ext 206  
Diane Wikse, FUMC Preschool Director: preschool@fumcsantarosa.org; 546-7012  
Janis Brewster, Church Operations Manager: janis.brewster@fumcsantarosa.org, ext. 204  
Emma Rea, Stony Point Worship Band Director: emma.rea@fumcsantarosa.org  
Laura Blum, Bookkeeper: laura.blum@fumcsantarosa.org

### OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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<tr>
<th>MONTGOMERY CAMPUS</th>
<th>STONY POINT CAMPUS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Morning Worship</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Fijian Language Ministry</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Adult Classes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Nursery</strong></td>
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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.