



*This is the day that the Lord  
has made, let us rejoice  
and be glad in it.*

**“The Mission of First United Methodist Church of Roseville is to lovingly invite, nurture, teach and send out disciples of Jesus “Christ.”**

*Bay Area Bliss*

We piled in the car and headed westward toward the Pacific Ocean. One week after our 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Kawami and I decided to celebrate by taking our daughter Niara out of town for some well needed recreational family time. Indeed, it took some effort to find the safest place to spend the night, but it was all worth it as soon as we turned into the state park just south of San Francisco, and saw before us the boundless expanse of watery blue that disappeared into the horizon. We took some silly pictures and enjoyed each other’s company while bracing against the slightly buffeting sea breezes. For me, it was a time to appreciate God’s beauty; standing awash in a sense of awe in witness to the marine magnificence set endlessly before me.

Kawami reflected on the building sense of excitement as we drove westward. Even before we got to the ocean, she mentioned how it felt like her “whole body began to exhale.” Thinking back on the experience she said, “It was a beautiful time to really lean into relaxation, and tap into rejuvenation, peace and stillness. After months of being diligent about physical distancing, face masks, and the sort, this trip, with all of its simplicity, was exactly what I needed to reset and be recharged in order to be ready to continue navigating the complexities of this time.”

Niara, who was born in Santa Cruz, echoed her mother’s sentiment by saying, “Being at the ocean was such an amazing experience. The ocean is so large and vast and beautiful to look at. It was very windy by the Bay, especially near the water. Though it felt very crisp, it was very relaxing.”

Part of the reason for journeying westward to the Pacific, was not only the allure of the ocean, or the need to escape the heat of the Sacramento area, but to give ourselves a reminder that life does not need to cease just because Covid-19 has forced us to change *how* we live in this moment. Admittedly, not everyone is going to have the privilege of traveling to the coast. However, I encourage you to discover the blessings of life around you.

A pandemic is no more able to stop God’s expressive beauty than a beach-born boulder attempts to deter the constancy of waves that roll in from the Deep with the intent to spend itself upon the shore. Consider the advice of the great Sufi poet Rumi who said, “*Sell your cleverness and buy bewilderment.*”

Whether you get to see the Pacific Ocean anytime soon, my hope is that you will experience the peculiar joy and renewal that is generated when one allows themselves to be “bewildered” by the ubiquity of God’s beauty.

Blessings,  
Pastor Mahsea





## JOHN LEWIS

2/21/1940—7/17/2020

*“We are one people with one family. We all live in the same house... and through books, through information, we must find a way to say to people that we must lay down the burden of hate. For hate is too heavy a burden to bear.”*  
John Lewis

As John Lewis laid down for his final rest, one thing I knew for sure was that he did not have to lay aside the burden of hate. Of all the things he carried on his slight 5’6” frame, hate was not one of them. What John Lewis did carry with him throughout his life was a deep faith that was cultivated within him ever since he was a young boy. He even had early aspirations of being a minister; famously preaching to chickens while doing his farm chores.



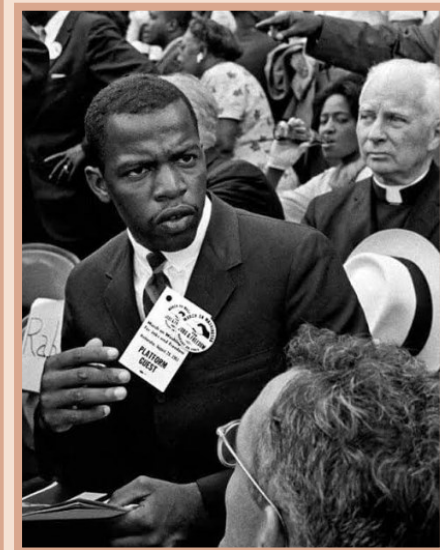
It was his faith that began to blossom in 1955, when at the age of 15, he heard of Dr. King and Rosa Parks and said, “They inspired me to get in trouble.” Lewis talks about how in 1957, he wrote a letter to Dr. King about whether he should enroll in a whites-only college near his house. Soon after, King replied to the young man and asked him to meet him in Montgomery, about 50 miles from his hometown.

As it neared time for Lewis to meet his hero, it was his faith that he carried with him as he exited the Greyhound bus station and drove to the First Baptist Church.

Lewis explained what happened after he was ushered into the pastor’s office: “I saw Dr. King and Reverend Abernathy standing behind a desk and was so scared that I didn’t know what to do. Dr. King said, “Are you the boy from Troy? Are you John Lewis?” And I said, “I am John Robert Lewis”—I gave my whole name. And he still called me “the boy from Troy!”

The faith of John Lewis enabled him to complete his studies at American Baptist Theological Seminary and Fisk University. Under the tutelage of the great Methodist minister Rev James Lawson, Lewis, along with other young leaders like Bernard Lafayette and Diane Nash, learned the tenants of nonviolence resistance, and he became a leader in protest actions in Nashville and in the Freedom Riders movement.

His faith accompanied him on protest lines and comforted him within jail cells. His forged faith was refined in the fires of his mission and infused him with the steeled courage to march over that bridge in Selma on that day which is now remembered as Bloody Sunday.



I realize that it is impossible to fully summarize the totality of John Lewis’ impact. But I can say that he exemplifies what it means to live as God’s good and faithful servant. His life is a testimony of a faith that was born on an Alabama farm, a faith that strengthened his voice from the steps of the Lincoln memorial in 1963, and a faith that sustained his tireless work within the corridors of Congress and beyond.

John Lewis’ faith was made complete as he rested for the last time; making his final journey to that Home in the Beyond. However, this modern-day prophet bequeathed to us, we who remain living on this side of veil, the noble task of continuing-on in the struggle. For his life, I am ever so grateful, and I pray that his memory will be a blessing. And in those “sometimes moments” when things get difficult, may we who believe in freedom and democracy, always be able to hear his wisdom when he said:

**“Do not get lost in a sea of despair.**

**Be hopeful, be optimistic.**

**Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year  
it is the struggle of a lifetime.**

**Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and  
get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”**



*Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, ‘Why could we not cast it out?’ He said to them, ‘Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, “Move from here to there”, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.’ Matthew 17: 19-20 NRSV*

## Faith

God has given us everything  
God is our strength. He is our Hope.  
God is the true physician. He is the cure.  
Life with God is the only safe life;  
His Comfort, His Love, His Wisdom.  
His way is my incentive  
Stimulating me,  
Urging me on to live with respect for  
my brothers and sisters.  
God’s Love belongs to all.  
We are His children.  
We only need to accept His Way.  
Thy will not mine, be done.

God is Love. He is with us.  
He is our guidance. He is our strength.  
His way is freedom, understanding and  
acceptance.  
God has called home his angels.  
His mercy gives allowability.  
We live in His Grace. His love is for all.  
Acceptance is our freedom.

God is Love. Love is the key to Life.  
God is the Alfa and the Omega,  
the beginning and the end.  
His Love is life even when we doubt.  
His key is free for whoever seeks.  
We are never alone.  
His Love is everywhere.  
Believe and be free.  
God’s Love is our freedom.

Everyone needs God.  
God is All and All is God.  
God is Love and Understanding,  
Comfort and Peace.  
God has given me trust and understanding.  
God has given me freedom —freedom to  
respect others with love;  
Freedom to accept His will.  
His will is Life, Love and Acceptance.  
God is “Love your neighbor as yourself”.  
Written by Ray Davis May 18, 2020

Dear First Church,  
I’ve been thinking about how blessed I am that Heavenly Father has graced me with the ability to continue our Monday meal ministry during the shutdown. There’s not too many activities I enjoy more than cooking and feeding others. Our guests are very grateful for the food we give them. As a church you should know that we have the reputation of serving the best food in town. As I was taught, “If it’s worth doing, it’s worth doing right.” Another reason I feel blessed is I get to share God’s love with people every week! In person!! Masks, gloves, and at least six feet apart, outside, of course.

We have a small, reliable, efficient team. Cathie and Leo Wierbick arrive every Monday morning with produce, yogurt, eggs, bread, and cookies from St.Vincent DePaul’s. They usually stay for an hour or more to make salad or clean fruit. Leo’s really good at packaging cookies. Kevin Hubert, who is also our custodian, does the heavy lifting and organizes our packaging and delivery system. He is also excellent at butchering whole chickens! And he leads our daily prayer. He has surely taken a load off my back. Our friend Hilary, from Temple of Rishon, and her 12 year old son, Drew come most Mondays. One Monday, Drew noticed a woman without shoes. Now he uses his allowance money to purchase flip-flops, which he has Kevin put out so that those in need can take a pair. Hilary needs no instruction from me anymore. She knows the routine, what needs doing when, and she knows where everything belongs. Craig Foret, one of our newer church attendees, packages, serves and most importantly, sees that Rudy is taken out for a pit stop or two. Jim Wecker comes and is a big help in the kitchen. He also adds his wry sense of humor to keep us all in good spirits when the kitchen gets too hot. Once in awhile, Ellen Lopez comes. When she’s there she’s in charge of keeping count of the number of meals we serve. Before the pandemic when we served and ate in Backman Hall, Ellen was our “go to girl” for signing people in. No one does that job better than Ellen. I look forward to the days when she will be doing that job again.

I know I’ve made it sound like tons of fun, because it is. At this time, I can’t invite you to come in on Mondays, but if you would like to be part of it, you can bake cookies and package individual-sized servings. Those can be dropped off in the mornings during the week when Kevin is at the church. Too hot to bake? We can always use to-go containers, forks, knives, napkins and paper towels and cases of water. Lots of bottled water. You can purchase all those items at Smart & Final.

We served 300 meals in June. The count has been remaining steady at sixty meals each week. Just think about that. That’s sixty people that would not have eaten without our ministry. All Glory to God.

I had a terrific experience on Sunday, the 19th. Kevin called me because St. Vincent’s was closed which meant there would be no food for the

—Continued on page 4 column 1—



Homeless folks. I was already at church having just taken the chicken out of the pot for Monday. We had sixty hot dogs in the freezer and mustard packets in the pantry. We even had the paper hot dog holders. I picked up buns at Grocery Outlet. We cooked the hotdogs in the hot chicken stock and carefully wedged the pot in the trunk of the car and the rest of the items in the backseat. Off we went around town, fully masked and gloved, to the parks mainly, and outside The Gathering Inn. We served all those hotdogs to some very hungry people.

The Lord provides for us in so many ways. We just have to notice.

I so enjoyed writing to all of you. I hope you enjoyed reading my letter. As I wrote I realized that I probably don't miss our church as much as many of you, because you haven't been inside the walls for a very long time. I am there several times a week. Okay, "Sorry, not sorry". But I am sorry that you don't get to sit in our sanctuary, Heritage Chapel, the sewing room, or Backman Hall. They are very comforting places.

Surely, you all have a comforting place in your home, where you take your Bible and devotionals and spend time with the Lord. I wonder what that spot is like. My best comforting place, when the weather allows, is in my backyard in the morning. It's beautiful and quiet. The chair I use is a lime green Adirondack with a big red cushion.

When I have to be inside, I sit in my mother's reupholstered wing-back chair. It's in my living room in front of a window. Here's a thought: How about writing a short description of your "home comfort place" and emailing it to [chimes@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:chimes@firstumcroseville.org) or you can mail it to the church office at 109 Washington Blvd., Roseville, CA 95678

I would love to hear from all of you. We can put them together in an article for all to share in the September Chimes.

Please and Thank You!

Love, Kathleen Mirtoni

### Historical Gleannings

July 26, 1929 Press Tribune

**PASTOR'S CAR STOLEN**

Probably while the Methodist pastor, Rev. H. E. Wells was holding a business meeting of the church Wednesday night, some unscrupulous person drove his car away and it was not missed until the next morning. It was a Ford sedan of an old model, but was in good condition. The pastor says, "While my car was of little value to anyone else, it was a respectable and faithful member of the church and was all I had to get around in" The theft was immediately reported to the authorities, but thus far no trace of it has been found. This is the same car from which some person stole the tires two year ago in Dunsmuir.

Phoebe Astill Historical Chair



1925 Model T Ford Sedan



Dear Lord,  
Help me - every single morning - to find faith in the midst of the chaos. Give me the desire and ability to see You, hear You, talk to You, and give thanks to You. And as I do, I pray that I will draw nearer and nearer to You, and that my faith will multiply exponentially as I understand in new, deeper ways that You are everything I ever hoped You would be. And so much more.

Amen. ~  
Kelly O'Dell Stanley

- DARE TO ...**
- Ask for what you want.
  - Believe in yourself.
  - Change your mind.
  - Do what you love.
  - Enjoy each and every day.
  - Follow your heart's desire.
  - Give more than you receive.
  - Have a sense of humor.
  - Insist on being yourself.
  - Join in more.
  - Kiss and make up.
  - Love and be loved.
  - Make new friends.
  - Nurture your Spirit.
  - Overcome adversity.
  - Pray more.
  - Question conformity.
  - Reach for the stars.
  - Speak your truth.
  - Take personal responsibility.
  - Understand more; Judge less.

Volunteer your time.  
Walk through fear.  
Xperience the moment.  
Yearn for grace.  
Be Zany.  
Found in Healdsburg Senior Citizen Center 2011  
Contributed by Leona Doherty



### Agape Men's Group Ministry

Who looked suave for his senior prom in his new suit? Who played on a basketball team that won the Indiana Boys' State High School championship? Who with wavy long locks spent the summers of 1967 and 1968 in San Francisco? Who has a Sunday School perfect attendance pin with 15 chevrons? You would know the answers to these burning questions if you could have been the proverbial fly on the wall at the Agape Men's Group on Thursday, July 23, 2020. The participants viewed photos of one another and heard stories of yore from the first three decades of their lives.

What is the Agape Men's Group? The Agape Group had its origins from a discussion after the Tuesday evening prayer service on May 19, 2020. There was an awareness that our church was not reaching out to members of our church family who do not have access to computers to participate in the Sunday morning service via YouTube or the Tuesday evening prayer service via Zoom. During the discussion Don Harris, Cliff Williams, Dave Sechrist, Thom King, and Dennis Bull volunteered to form a team (referred to as the Agape Team) to address outreach to male church members who have for the most part been socially isolated during the Covid-19 pandemic and lack access to computers. Dennis agreed to be the leader. The initial Agape Group gathering was on Thursday, June 11, in Weber Park under the canopy of several large shade trees. Twelve potential participants were invited, and six attended. The Agape Team brought lawn chairs for seating that were placed in a staggered circle in order to maintain the recommended social distancing standard of > 6 feet. Facial coverings are worn, and masks are provided for those who do not have one of their own. These protocols are observed at all of our gatherings.

So, what happens during our one-hour gatherings? We can see one another sitting in a circle and share knowledge, thoughts, concerns, and stories (only as can be told by men.) Earl Lasworth has played selections on his harmonica with a repertoire ranging from *Take Me Out to the Ballgame* and *Rock of Ages*. We have had devotions and have shared what we have experienced with the church building being closed during the pandemic. The common theme was the love of our church which is considered to be family.

Men, would you like to check out the Agape Group? We currently are meeting biweekly on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in Weber Park (320 Circuit Drive). The next meeting is on August 6, 2020. The burning questions of the day will be, "What is your favorite tool? and Why?" Any questions please contact any of the Agape Team members or Dennis Bull (630-781-6110). Hope you can join us!

Dennis W. Bull



An ounce of love is worth a pound of knowledge.  
John Wesley

### CIRCUIT RIDERS WOMEN'S MINISTRY

#### Circuit Riders Women's Ministry

The Circuit Riders embarked on their home visits in Roseville and Rocklin on Sunday morning, July 5th, Communion Sunday. We began at 10:00, which allowed us to have many of our visits outside on a patio, under a tree, or inside a cool house. We always enjoy chatting with our hosts, and presenting a Gift Bag of "goodies" to each of them. This month's treasures included prayer shawls crafted by Sherel Harris and Debbie Thompson, which were blessed in advance by Pastor Mahsea and our certified lay minister, Kathleen Mirtoni. In addition, we distributed origami churches made by Jan Sechrist, cloth bookmarks lovingly sewn by Barbara Hulse, and cookies donated by Al and Shelly Newton, as well as the latest editions of The Upper Room and the monthly Chimes.



Definitely the highlight of each visit is the mini-Communion Service, using the combination tiny cups and wafers, each of us socially-distanced and honoring the COVID-19 protocols.

We come away with joyful hearts and thanksgiving. The visits are a blessing for all.

We always welcome additions to our gift bags each month - we can arrange to pick up anything you wish to create or bake. If you enjoy writing notes or sending cards, we can give you some names for you to contact. Thank you for your support and prayers for this vital ministry.

Barbara Schwartz,  
Kathleen Mirtoni,  
Jan Sechrist,  
Cathie Wierbick





## Just For Today

Author Unknown

Contributed by Leona Doherty

—Just for today I will try to live through this day only and not set far reaching goals to try to overcome all my problems at once. I know I can do something for 12 hours that would appall me if I felt that I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

—Just for today I will try to be happy. Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." He was right. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. I will chase them out of my mind and replace them with happy thoughts.

—Just for today I will adjust myself to what is. I will face reality. I will try to change those things which I can change, and accept those things I cannot change.

—Just for today I will try to improve my mind. I will not be a mental loafer. I will force myself to read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

—Just for today I will exercise my soul in three ways. I will do a good deed for somebody without letting him know it. (If he or she finds out that I did it, it won't count>) I will do at least two things that I know I should do, but have been putting off. I will not show anyone that my feelings are hurt; they may be hurt, but today I will not show it.

—Just for today I will be agreeable. I will look as well as I can, dress becomingly, talk softly, act courteously, and speak ill of no one.

—Just for today I will not try to improve anybody except myself.

—Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it, thereby saving myself from too pests, hurry and indecision.

—Just for today I will have a quiet half hour to relax alone. During this time I will reflect on my behavior and will try to get a better perspective of my life.

—Just for today I will be unafraid. I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions. I will expect nothing from the world, but I will realize that as I give to the world, the world will give to me.

## EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN

Please send requests for prayers to:  
[prayers@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:prayers@firstumcroseville.org)

Send requests to join the prayer chain or to be removed to the same email.

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Sue Barela, Johnna Stauffer, Connie Witherow, Marie Moody, Joe Hall, Melanie and Chris Tate



## Noses, Dollars, and Cents

### Basic Monthly Statistics: June

Income June 2020: \$9,133.55  
Expenses June 2020: \$12,954.18  
Net Income June 2020: **<\$3,820.63>**  
Transfer from PPP \$18,602.65  
New Total \$14,782.02

### Basic Yearly Statistics 2020

YTD Income: \$75,491.83  
YTD Expense: \$82,740.46  
Net Income: **<\$7,248.63**  
Transfer from PPP \$18,602.65  
New Total \$11,354.02

### June Worship Online Views

Total: 511

Average: 128

Thanks to all of you for responding to the financial needs of your church. We very much appreciate your continued support.

The lunch program for the homeless continues.

Kathleen and her team served 300 meals in June.

We are still sheltering the Gathering Inn once a month.

Together, with God's help, we will be able to weather this storm. Stay well my family! God Bless!



## Unused Computers Needed

If you have an old, unused computer that is just collecting dust, please consider donating it to the Agape Men's Group. Computers will be shared with mem-

bers who do not have access to computers in order that they may participate in the Sunday morning service via YouTube or the Tuesday evening prayer service via Zoom. If you have a computer that would like a new home, please contact:  
Thom King (916-316-5922) or  
Dennis Bull (630-781-6110).



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

**2ND MAHSEA EVANS**  
**ROB BRAY**

**3RD LORRI BRADY**

**5TH CATHE MOODY**

**7TH NANCY CLARK**  
**CODI STAUFFER**

**12TH VERA KUFFOUR**

**13TH KAP WATKINS**  
**ESTHER GASCON**  
**REBECCA SCOTT**

**14TH YVETTE SIPES**

**23RD PAT BEERS**  
**GLORIA LOPEZ**

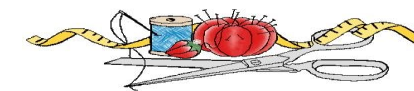
**25TH JIM WECKER**

**27TH ALEXIS PATTERSON**

**29TH ELLEN LOPEZ**

**31ST MIRABEL KUFFOUR**

**3 C's Invite  
You to Join Us!**  
By Barbara Hulse &  
Susan Reining



The 3 C's do miss seeing each other at meetings, but we are still communicating with each other by phone and email and praying a lot.

Most recently the 3C's donated enough bookmarks of various colors and fabrics to put into the monthly Circuit Riders's gift bags. We also donated cookies for the bags. Some little crosses are being made to use for another time.

Dee Huston has moved to assisted living and donated a lot of craft supplies to 3C's. We are very grateful to Dee for her contribution.

Christmas in July had to be canceled due to Covid-19 restrictions. It will be rescheduled for another time. We should have many items to offer whenever that happens.

When we are able to meet again, please consider joining our group of ladies. Talent is not necessary as we can teach you. To get acquainted call Susan Reining at 916-768-8532.

Blessings to all, stay safe everyone, Barbara Hulse



## FIRST CHURCH ROSEVILLE TEAM LEADERS

Pastor—Mahsea Evans  
Lay Leader—Sandy Williams  
Certified Lay Minister & Church Council Chair— Kathleen Mirtoni  
Treasurer—Chris Handley  
Financial Secretary—Donna Hall  
Finance Team Chairperson—  
Dave Sechrist  
Trustees President— Don Harris  
Staff Parish Chair— Dennis Bull  
Mission Outreach—  
Kathleen Mirtoni  
Memorial— Barbara Schwartz  
Worship Team Leader—  
Nancy Bray  
Congregational Care—  
Gail Provine  
Music Director— John Handley  
Communications— Kristi Kinzel  
Lay Leadership Training—  
Kristi Kinzel



Recycle July 11, 2020  
\$84.05

Please keep saving your recyclables to bring in on  
August 8, 2020

in the parking lot between 9-11am.  
Every Little Bit Counts!  
Thank you to all those who  
contribute! Don Harris



## First Church Roseville New Email Addresses

Please make note of these new email addresses for First UMC Roseville

Church Email: [firstumc@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:firstumc@firstumcroseville.org)

Prayer Requests: [prayers@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:prayers@firstumcroseville.org)

Chimes Article Submissions: [chimes@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:chimes@firstumcroseville.org)

Pastor: [mevans@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:mevans@firstumcroseville.org)

Administrative Assistant: [cwitherow@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:cwitherow@firstumcroseville.org)

Office Volunteer: [nbray@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:nbray@firstumcroseville.org)