

Then he said to his disciples,  
‘The harvest is plentiful,  
but the labourers are few;  
therefore ask the Lord of  
the harvest to send out  
labourers into his harvest.’

Matthew 9: 37-38

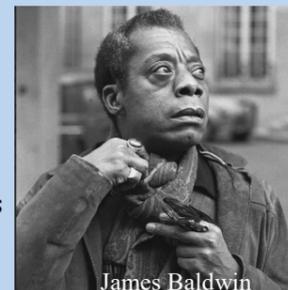
Canola Field —North Dakota— July 18,2022  
Photo by Nancy Bray

### August Love

*“Love does not begin and end the way we seem to think it does.  
Love is a battle, love is a war; love is a growing up.”*  
-James Baldwin

I love August. I love that my love for August demands that I write my previous sentence with the simplest of subject-verb-object constructions. This is turning into a love letter. I love the fact that the word august can actually be used as an adjective and means “inspired reverence, admiration or marked by majestic dignity.” Etymologically, it is derived from the Latin word, “augustus” meaning “consecrated or venerable.” I even love the audacity of how a month, first named Sextilus in the Gregorian calendar, was changed to honor one person, the emperor Caesar Augustus who was the ruler when Jesus would have been born in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. Mostly, I love the eighth month of August because on its second day, some 47 years ago on the hottest day of the year in New England, the Good Lord by way of my Good Mother found it fit to let me enter into this world. Bringing naught but my nakedness and screams as fresh oxygen activated my virginal lungs, it was go-time for me, the August child of Leo’s Pride. That day, overlaid with the swelter of 103 degrees, I was but a simple umbilical cord snip away from entering humanity’s maze, the twisting path which would become my life’s course.

Of many things, I love that I share a birthday with James Baldwin, the eminent thinker and brilliant author of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. I have a picture of him over my desk at home where I do most of my writing. On my best days, with imagination’s twinkle in my eye, I fancy myself to be a bohemian intellectual who waxes “cool” like Blue Note jazz moods, and can write in ways with much more complexity than the first sentence I wrote in this reflection. Baldwin reminds me that Love’s guidance through life’s labyrinth is not always orderly, but if we are open to both its soft whispers and insistent yells, its gentle nudges and forceful grabs, we can truly embrace our life-long task of “growing up.”



James Baldwin



Ok, back to my love letter. I love that August is in the heart of the summer. It sashays through its 31 days as if accompanied by a smooth Roy Ayers song. “Sunshine, everybody loves the sunshine!” I love that August is the time of outdoor concerts, festivals and



parades. This is the month that the West Indian celebration and the Puerto Rican Day parade usually occur in Hartford. Under the summer sun, the streets fill themselves with the movement and color of floats, marching bands, and dance troops. The air becomes saturated with the rhythmic sounds of the Caribbean, and shares its invisible space with the scintillating smells of jerk chicken, curry, beef patties, tostadas and empanadas.



There is joy in the being captured in the creative cornucopia of the controlled chaos of the day. However, there is peace when the day begins to recede to night, and one is able to find pockets of quiet in the creep of summer’s nocturnal silences; the sweetness of which is only matched by slowly sipping lemonade while lounging under the new flicker of stars.



I love August. And yet, with all my memories of home, it may be prudent to invite the wisdom of Baldwin once again who said, “Perhaps home is not a place but simply an irrevocable condition.” This makes me think that in the same way I carry with me an “irrevocable” sense of home wherever I go, I can also bring my August love through the houses of its 11 monthly siblings.

Though it is time to bring this love letter to a close, I rewrite it every time I bask in the sunshine, listen to music by Roy Ayers, walk in the beauty of twilight, or attempt to use “august” as an adjective. In the meantime, I thank God for the month of August, and for “growing up” another year by way of Love’s patient hand.

Mahsea Evans

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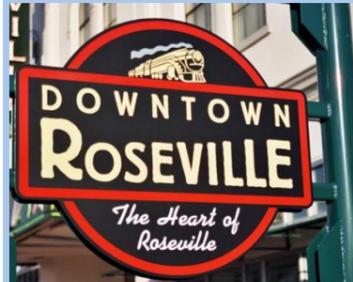


## Exploring With Niara

Niara always says to me, "You need to leave your office and explore. Let's walk around downtown Roseville." Last Wednesday, after her music lesson at the Strum Shop concluded, instead of getting into the car and driving off, we decided to...well, explore. The first place we went to was a wonderful shop called Bartlett Flowers and Gifts. There we fell into an hour-long conversation with the young married owners about plants, life, and following our dreams. We then sauntered into the Fig Tree Coffee, Art, and Music Lounge next door and admired the subtle Star Wars nods amongst its eclectic stylings.

We lastly took note of the subtle things on the street like the design of the bench on the corner of Vernon and Lincoln Street. We noticed how from that position, one can see the beautiful rose themed mural on the side of Lucy's Salon and Spa. As we prepared to cross the street, I captured a picture of Niara waiting for the light to change carrying her plant and guitar. As I smiled at my "growing up way too fast" daughter, I could not help but be grateful for First Church's wonderful neighbors, and the wisdom of a child who knows how to invite her dad to explore.

Mahsea Evans



Dear Church Family,

This is a photo of Nianna. She is a twelve year old Ukrainian refugee whom Kevin and I met at at the Ukrainian Church picnic a couple months ago.

Nianna is here with her grandmother, mother and two younger brothers. Her father is not with them. He is defending his country from Russian invaders.

As the only person in her family who speaks English (she learned in school), she acted as interpreter during their long journey to the United States. This young girl's courage is commendable, to say the least. She is truly a fine example of the power of human spirit. Now, her family is safely residing with her mother's sister's family.

We asked Nianna when they left Ukraine and she said, "As soon as the bombs started dropping". She told us that she was "happy" to be here, but "as soon as the war is over", she is going back. She misses her home. Please pray for Nianna, her family, her father, and all the people of Ukraine, that their homeland will be restored to them soon.

In the meantime, we continue to help as we can with grocery donations every Monday, to the ten families in the Roseville area that are supporting sixty refugees. Please remain diligent in your commitment to this worthy mission project. Please be sure to make checks payable to the UMW of Roseville and/or bring grocery items to our church on Sunday and Monday mornings.

Thank you all for your compassion and generosity. All glory to God.  
Kathleen Mirtoni

## Ordination Celebration Party

It Takes a Village to Throw a Great Party –And First Church is a GREAT village!  
On Saturday, July 9th, some 60-plus friends and family gathered in Backman Fellowship Hall to celebrate our beloved pastor's major accomplishments of both a doctorate degree in Ministry when he first joined us in late 2019 and being ordained in June this year as United Methodist clergy in full connection with the United Methodist Church of the California-Nevada Annual Conference. In other words, we are blessed that Rev.

Dr. Mahsea Peter Andrew Evans is "riding the donkey" with us aka being in ministry with us!  
It was a very Methodist celebration complete with an abundant potluck meal, non-alcoholic toast with Martinelli's, and great "talent show" entertainment!

### SOME HIGHLIGHTS

- Video/slide presentation from Kawami Evans which included some life time pictures of our pastor as a child, very young adult and touching congratulatory videos from family and friends unable to join us that day.
- Line dancing by Ruth Ann Baker, Elba Aulich and Rebecca Mendoza
- Beautiful singing by Don Harris and Nancy Balenzano – they even led us in "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" during our toast!
- Love offering presentation by "not yet ready for prime time" cast [Dennis Bull, Paul Woicicki, Dave Sechrist] complete with light sabers.

They say joy, laughter and love are sure signs of God's presence and it was in abundance that day. Thank you to all, named and unnamed, who helped bring this together and especially to those who attended to celebrate the blessing of our pastor. Most of all, thank you pastor Mahsea Evans for saying "YES!" to God's call which blesses us all.

Jan Sechrist



Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing and comfort.

**For Healing & Comfort**  
Cathie, Connie, Marie, Hazel,  
Jerry, Sheraya, Barbara, Sara,  
Sarah, Henretta, Francis, Danny,  
Brandon, Melissa, Brian, Joan,  
Shelly



**For Bereavement**  
Rolly Loomis  
Roy went to be with the Lord  
on 7-29-2022

Please submit request for prayers to [prayers@firstumcroseville.org](mailto:prayers@firstumcroseville.org)

# Woodbridge Elementary School

## Back to School School Supply Lists

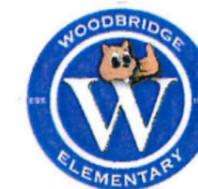


First UMC's Mission/Outreach Team will be holding its annual school supplies drive for Woodbridge Elementary School from July 31 through August 14. There will be a container at the church where you can leave your donations. Complete supply list is on the back. Thanks for contributing.



# BACK TO SCHOOL

## Woodbridge Elementary School Supply List 2021/22



### TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

- 2 pkgs. of 8 large crayons (Crayola preferred)
- 1 pkg. Ticonderoga Tri-Write pencils with eraser
- 1 pkg. Expo Dry Erase Markers (black)
- 10 Glue sticks
- 1 set or tray of watercolors
- 1 box tissues
- 1 box baby wipes for cleaning hands
- 1 box plastic bags quart or sandwich size
- 1 small bottle of hand sanitizer

### KINDERGARTEN

- 2 pkgs. of 8 large crayons (Crayola preferred)
- 1 pkg. Ticonderoga Tri-Write pencils with eraser
- 1 pkg. Expo Dry Erase Markers (black)
- 4 fine point, black dry erase markers (skinny)
- 2 Pink Erasers
- 10 Glue sticks
- 1 set or tray of watercolors
- 1 box tissues
- 1 box baby wipes for cleaning hands
- 1 box plastic bags quart or sandwich size
- 1 small bottle hand sanitizer

### FIRST GRADE

- Wide rule composition book, 9 3/4 x 7 1/2"
- 1 pkg. #2 pencils (Ticonderoga preferred)
- 1 box of 24 Crayons (Crayola preferred)
- 1 box of 24 colored pencils (Crayola preferred)
- 1 box of 10 Crayola washable markers (classic)
- 2 Pink Erasers
- 1 Spiral notebooks wide ruled
- 10 Glue sticks
- 1 pkg. Expo Dry Erase Markers (black)
- 1 box tissues
- 1 box baby wipes for cleaning hands
- 1 box plastic bags quart or sandwich size
- 1 small bottle hand sanitizer

### SECOND GRADE

- Wide rule composition book, 9 3/4 x 7 1/2"
- 1 pkg. #2 pencils (Ticonderoga preferred)
- 1 box of 24 Crayons (Crayola preferred)
- 1 box of 24 colored pencils (Crayola preferred)
- 1 box of 10 Crayola washable markers (classic)
- 2 Pink Erasers
- 1 Spiral notebooks wide ruled
- 10 Glue sticks
- 1 pkg. Expo Dry Erase Markers (black)
- 1 box tissues
- 1 box baby wipes for cleaning hands
- 1 box plastic bags quart or sandwich size
- 1 small bottle hand sanitizer

### THIRD - FIFTH GRADE

- 1 1 1/2 Inch ring binder
- 1 Set of dividers (5 tabs)
- 3 Ring pencil pouch (for inside binder)
- 1 Pencil box (for desk)
- Red, blue and black pens (3 of each)
- 2 Black Sharpies (fine point)
- 1 pkg. #2 pencils (Ticonderoga preferred)
- 1 box of 24 Crayons (Crayola preferred)
- 1 box of 24 colored pencils (Crayola preferred)
- 1 box of 10 Crayola washable markers (classic)
- 2 Highlighters
- Pencil sharpener with cover
- 2 Pink Erasers
- 10 Glue sticks
- Post-it Notes
- Index cards
- 1 pkg. wide ruled binder paper
- Wide rule composition book, 9 3/4 x 7 1/2"
- 2 Spiral notebooks wide ruled
- 1 box tissues
- 1 box plastic bags quart or sandwich size
- 1 small bottle hand sanitizer

# August Moon by Emma Lazarus

(an excerpt)

Look! the round-cheeked moon floats high,  
 In the glowing August sky,  
 Quenching all her neighbor stars,  
 Save the steady flame of Mars.  
 White as silver shines the sea,  
 Far-off sails like phantoms be,  
 Gliding o'er that lake of light,  
 Vanishing in nether night.  
 Heavy hangs the tasseled corn,  
 Sighing for the cordial morn;  
 But the marshy-meadows bare,  
 Love this spectral-lighted air,  
 Drink the dews and lift their song,  
 Chirp of crickets all night long;  
 Earth and sea enchanted lie  
 'Neath that moon-usurped sky



Emma Lazarus (1849 – 1887)

Emma was a poet, essayist, translator, novelist, and playwright. Born in New York City, she is best known for her sonnet, "The New Colossus," which is engraved on America's Statue of Liberty. Emma's father, a prosperous sugar merchant, paid to have her first collection of poetry published when she was seventeen. Ralph Waldo Emerson happened upon the book, expressed his admiration for her work, and the two became lifelong friends. Emma worked tirelessly to educate and assimilate Jewish immigrants arriving in America and is acknowledged today as much for her activism as for her writing. Article copied from: [https://www.yourdaily-poem.com/listpoem.jsp?poem\\_id=3818](https://www.yourdaily-poem.com/listpoem.jsp?poem_id=3818)



## Agape Men's Group

In June the Agape Group took a hiatus. In reality on the date of our last meeting, we joined Pastor Mahsea's Ordination Celebration. A great party!

Our next gathering will be on Saturday, August 13, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room. Now that we are in the *dog days of summer*, what better way to commemorate them than to have as our burning question of the day: What is one of your favorite vacation destinations? and to share a memorable vacation experience.

Any questions please contact any of the Agape Team members (Don Harris, Cliff Williams, Dave Sechrist, Thom King, and Jim Wecker) or Dennis Bull at 630-781-6110. Happy Dog Days! Stay Cool!!! Dennis Bull

## July 3rd-July 24th Worship Attendance

Total: 247 Average: 64  
**The Monday Feeding Program**

In July 237 meals were served to the homeless in



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2ND ROBERT BRAY  
MAHSEA EVANS
- 3RD LORRI BRADY
- 5TH CATHE MOODY
- 7TH NANCY CLARK  
CODI STAUFFER
- 12TH VERA KUFFOUR
- 13TH ESTHER GASCON  
REBECCA SCOTT
- 14TH YVETTE SIPES
- 16TH JOSETTE HUMPHREYS
- 24TH DAVID PACHECO
- 25TH JIM WECKER
- 27TH ALEXIS PATTERSON
- 29TH ELLEN LOPEZ
- 31ST MIRABEL KUFFOUR

August Birth Flowers are  
 Gladiolus and Poppy



## FIRST CHURCH ROSEVILLE TEAM LEADERS

Pastor—Mahsea Evans  
 Certified Lay Minister—Kathleen Mirtoni  
 Church Council Chair—Liz Harvey  
 Lay Leaders—Kathleen Mirtoni  
 Jan Sechrist  
 Ruth Ann Baker  
 Treasurer—Chris Handley  
 Financial Secretary—Elizabeth Harvey  
 Finance Team Chair—Dave Sechrist  
 Trustees President—Don Harris  
 Staff Parish Chair—Dennis Bull  
 Mission Outreach—Kathleen Mirtoni  
 Memorial—Susan Reining  
 Worship Team Leader—Nancy Bray  
 Congregational Care—Gail Provine  
 Music Director—John Handley  
 Communications—Kristi Kinzel  
 Lay Leadership Training—Kristi Kinzel

## Email Contact Information:

Pastor:

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Certified Lay Minister:

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Administrative Assistant:

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

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)

Office Volunteer:

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



We received \$183.24 in July for recycle cans & bottles.

Much thanks to one outside doner's two year collection of crushed cans worth \$75.24.

Thanks to all who save cans & bottles for this project. Every bit helps us pay our bills.

Don Harris Trustee Chair

**NEXT RECYCLE IS SATURDAY  
 August 13, 2022 9-11:00 AM  
 Church Parking Lot**