

Put every tree of the forest in the choir-
Psalm 96: 12

**HOLY GOD,
NO ONE
IS EXCLUDED
FROM
YOUR
LOVE**

**LGBTQ PRIDE
CELEBRATION MONTH**

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First United Methodist Church of
Roseville California

THE CHIMES

Volume 20 Issue 5

**“When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in the service of my vision—
then it becomes less and less important whether I am
afraid,”**

The above quote, which I still feature in the signature line of my personal email, was delivered by the great Audre Lorde. This New York born writer explored the intersections of identity and described herself as “black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet.” The cogent power of her arguments, the courage of her convictions, and her natural charisma beautifully conspired to form in her, a force of nature that fiercely pushed back against the injustices of racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, homophobia.



Audre Lorde



Rev. Kristin Stoneking

The vibrant spirit of Lorde, one who dared to be powerful, is evident in Rev. Kristin Stoneking. She is an elder in the California -Nevada Annual Conference and is presently serving Epworth United Methodist Church in Berkeley. Before that appointment, Stoneking was the executive director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the nation’s oldest interfaith peace and justice organization.

I met Kristin when she served as the executive director and pastor of the ecumenical campus ministry at UC Davis, the Cal Aggie Christian Association. I did my seminary field internship at that campus ministry’s Multifaith Living Community, which is an intentional living community for students of diverse backgrounds. This innovative model of housing and ministry was founded by Kristin in the wake of the tragedy of 9/11.

I am proud to say that Kristin is a mentor, a colleague, and a friend. She is also one of the main reasons that I decided to become a Methodist minister. I saw in Kristin the “Lorde-ian” fearlessness that allowed her to marshal her strength in service of a transformative vision. I also witnessed how she was able to make an impact on the campus and beyond despite the pushback she got for being a gay woman. Kristin exemplifies a commitment to justice and has been involved in the struggle for full inclusion within our own denomination.

June is the month in which we celebrate LGBTQ Pride. Last year, First UMC Roseville participated in Pride events in concert with other regional Methodist churches in the greater Sacramento area. This month we recall the Pulse massacre in Florida, which reminds us of the threat that many in the LGBTQ community still face. It is also the month in which we remember the Stonewall Uprising, which reminds us of the spirit of resistance which instigated a movement of change against discrimination and harm.

The full inclusion of the LGBTQ community is significant because it points to the Kingdom of God that Jesus preached; the realization of the gospel of liberation and love that out-pictures as a community of justice and grace for all people regardless of race, class, sexual orientation, or gender identity or performance.

In this month of Pride, I celebrate my friend Rev Kristin Stoneking, and others within the LGBTQ community, who have shined as exemplars of God’s beauty and strength. Further, with all the forces of division seeking to separate us in these trying times, it is good to once again remember the words of Audre Lorde:

“In our work and in our living, we must recognize that difference is a reason for celebration and growth, rather than a reason for destruction,”

This month, let us not only continue to grow in our commitment to create a world that is fully inclusive, but let us also remember that our diversity is always a “reason for celebration.”

Blessings, Pastor Mahsea

How has the church been meaningful to me?

As a young teenager, I attended an active youth group in a local church which nourished my spiritual life, as well as developing longtime Christian friends.

I attended day camps and overnight church camps throughout high school and early college, and also serving as a camp counselor.

At age 16 I participated in a weeklong mission trip to Berea, KY, where we were helping the local churchgoers to do repairs on the church.

I do know that all of these events shaped me to be a lifelong Christian.

Introduced to the United Methodist Church in my 40s, I discovered that my values, my spirituality, and my soul perfectly aligned with the United Methodist Church beliefs. I had come home to stay.

How can the church be more relevant today?

Pentecost is known as the birth of the church, when the Holy Spirit came down and filled the apostles with a spirit unknown to them. Now, along with a terrifying global pandemic, our country is in the midst of ongoing racism, discrimination, poverty, hunger, economic upheaval, injustice, and political unrest. We are faced with a new normal that we've never known before. Could this be a time for a rebirth of the church?

We now have the opportunity to look at church differently. Do we want go back to the way it was? Or do we, creatively, bring our church into this new era where our gifts, time, and talents work toward the glory of God both inside and outside the walls of the church? Is this the time for churches to be stronger advocates for those facing injustice? We have been forced to "do church" outside the walls, and yet our ministry continues. We know that our church is not only the building. Our church is a community of those who love God, love each other, and have a strong desire to minister to others. This, now, is the time for our rebirth.

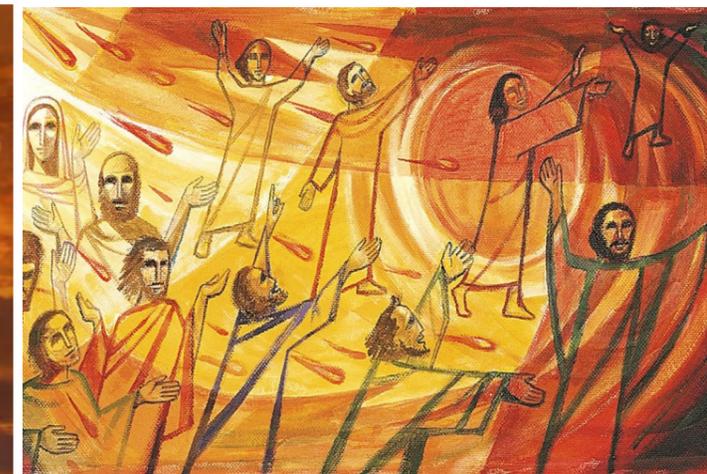
Barbara Schwatz



Pentecost

When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.

Acts 2:1-4 Message Bible





God of faith and science, we turn to you in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, because we trust you. We trust you because you listen to our prayers. We trust you because you act in our lives and our history for our welfare. We trust you because we know you as a God of revelation in faith and science.

God of knowledge and wisdom, we ask that you would dwell with all the scientists who are working daily to develop an effective and safe vaccine to combat this virus. Help them to collate current knowledge and be conduits of new knowledge regarding the secrets of the COVID-19 virus. Grant them the wisdom to unlock the keys that will provide helpful COVID-19 therapies and vaccines.

God of curiosity and wonder, grant the scientists the inquisitiveness of George Washington Carver who combined his love of God and his love of science in his quest to unlock hidden agricultural secrets. As the God of the sweet potato, the peanut and the soybean, you enabled Carver to discover their secrets as he united faith and science, wisdom and knowledge, curiosity and wonder.

God of all creation, in this Eastertide we pray for all coronavirus patients, their doctors and their nurses. We ask that you be a fence around all healthcare workers, first responders, and their families. Expand our faith and buoy our hope as we shelter in place. Lord, teach us how to wait, for you are an on-time God!
Amen

*Bishop Ernest S. Lyght is a retired bishop of The United Methodist Church. Crystal Caviness, the UMC.org contact, can be reached by email or by calling 615-742-5138.

This prayer was published May 13, 2020.



An ounce of love is worth a pound of knowledge.

John Wesley

Wesley Team Ministry

First Church Roseville has developed a new Outreach ministry for those of our congregation who would benefit by a more personal connection with our church, especially during this time of Covid19. We have formed three

Outreach Teams:

- Men's Agape Group** led by Dennis Bull,
- Wesley Women's Ministry** led by Barbara Schwartz,
- Children and Youth Ministry** led by Sandy Williams.

If you are interested in helping with any of these programs, there are many ways to contribute. We are in need of many washable cotton masks, for now, and again once church services begin. For the knitters out there, we would appreciate your gifts of pocket prayer squares of all colors. If you enjoy writing personal notecards, we can provide names and addresses for you. You may think of other items that would brighten someone's day for the men, women, and children: a drawing, an inspirational card, a favorite Bible verse, a phone call, or something else you would like to share.

Thank you.

Please contact any of the leaders below for more information:
Dennis @ 630-781-6110, Barbara @ 916-539-0129, or Sandy @ 916-709-7695

HISTORICAL GLEANINGS

When you pull into the parking lot, have you ever noticed the two cement markers that are there? Well the parking lot was not always as large as the one you see today. In the 1960's we only had parking alongside of the Sanctuary, as there was a house next door. In the 1970's, Dorothy Alexander decided we needed a much larger parking lot as the church was growing. She purchased the two lots next door and had two markers placed, one on each lot. They are in memory of her husband, George Alexander, and her parents, Bessie M. and Roy N. Minard. All of the family, including Dorothy and George's children, Judy and Neil, were active in the church.

Phoebe Astill,
Historical Chair Person



Blessed are those...in the times Of Coronavirus

blessed are the joy finders, the joy sharers, the joy tenders
blessed are the workers, the strikers, the organizers bending toward collective justice, and survival
blessed are the mask makers, the mask wearers
blessed are those foregoing convenience and excess for someone else's survival



blessed are the governors, and mayors, and legislators laboring for public health and collective life over profit, ego, and the deadly demands of gun toting, terror mongering, evil doers.

blessed are the essential workers—yes, yes the health care workers, sanitation workers, grocery store workers, mail carriers, farm workers—and also, blessed are these essential workers—the poet still feeling, dreamers still imaging, teachers still sparking curiosity, students still soaking up and sharing wisdom, care givers still caring, journalists still investigating and reporting.

blessed are the music makers, art makers, word makers, meaning makers

blessed are the imams, the rabbis, the pastors, the chaplains, the spirit seekers ministering and tending and holding

blessed are the baby plants, just in my garden, reaching for the sun on this cold, gray, rainy day



blessed are the letter writers, the card senders

blessed are you, sheltering in place
blessed are you, locked in place
blessed are you, without a safe place

blessed are you in your tears, your prayers, your fears
blessed are you every moment you choose tenderness, softness, gentleness, care

blessed are you still savoring delights when and where they are offered, and found

blessed are you in your grieving, your losing, your mourning

blessed are you in your living, your loving

blessed are you in your fearing, your dying

blessed are you
blessed are you
blessed are we
Rev. Anna Blaedel, enfleshed

Shared by Gail Provine





Church Closed Until End of June

Dear Church Family,
Peace to you.

The Cal-Nevada Annual Conference has just released the new protocols that provide guidance for when our church can reopen. The short answer is that all Methodist churches in this conferences will remain closed at least through the end of June.

During that time, the conference, in collaboration with relevant parties, will be discerning the best ways to reopen the churches safely. Further, we will continue to innovate and explore new ways of "doing church" that honor the fact that the church is not the building, but the people. A link to Bishop Minerva Carcano's letter is provided here: <https://www.cnumc.org/newsdetails/bishop-sip-till-june-13997999>

Please know that we will get through this together, and my prayers continue to be with you and your family. May God's grace be upon you.

Blessings,
Pastor Mahsea



Forget Me Not's

Noses, Dollars, and Cents

Basic Monthly Statistics: April
Income April 2020: \$ 10,805.15
Expenses April 2020: \$ 11,993.35
Net Income APRIL 2020: **-\$1,187.20**

Basic Yearly Statistics 2020
YTD Income: \$47,892.88
YTD Expense: \$55,465.02
Net Income: **-\$7,572.14**
April Worship Online Views
Total: 375
Average: 94

During this time of closure please remember to mail your tithes and offerings to
FUMC Roseville
109 Washington Blvd.
Roseville, CA 95678

Or
You are now able to go online to set up your account to make direct contributions using your checking account or a credit card.

Go to:
<https://www.churchtrac.com/donate?ui=9914464F>

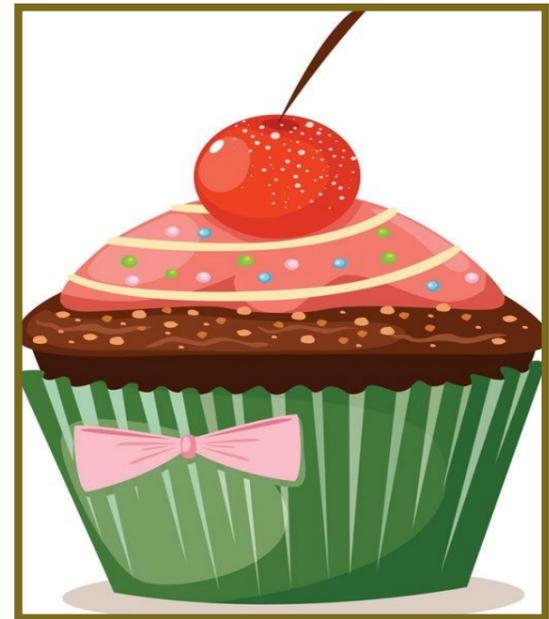
Or
use the QR codes below



Thanks to all of you for responding to the financial needs of your church. We are now in better shape than last month. We very much appreciate your continued support of your church until we can resume services.

The lunch program for the homeless continues, serving 267 meals in April. We are also hosting the Gathering Inn once a month.

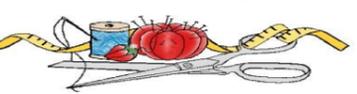
Together, with God's help, we will be able to weather this storm.
Stay well my family!
God Bless!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1ST JERRY ANGOVE
- JUNE WANISH
- 5TH DIANA WEMPLE
- 6TH DON HARRIS
- LINDA KENNEDY
- 10TH LEONA DOHERTY
- 11TH LUZ SANTIAGO
- 16TH TRAVIS WALKER
- ANETA LAUNDIS
- 17TH HAYLEE BRAY
- BRAD LYLE
- 19TH KAILI BRAY
- 23RD MAX SCOTT
- 27TH ANDREW RYAN RIPLEY
- 30TH ADDY BRAY

3 C's Invite You to Join Us!



The 3 C's are looking forward to meeting again. Until then we continue to plan for our next gathering. We had a "Christmas in July" sale on the church calendar, but no one knows if that will happen. We will reschedule, if necessary. With Covid 19 we have had a chance to do some cleaning out of supplies at home. Others continue to make use of some of those supplies to work on projects. Hazel is still sewing at home and so is Barbara Hulse. The 3 C's members may contact Susan Reining, Barbara Hulse or Donna Hall to obtain more information. Stay well and safe everyone.

Blessings,
Barbara Hulse &
Susan Reining



UMW has canceled all meetings until further notice. We pray all of you stay safe and well during this time.
Blessings,
Shelly Newton, Linda Kennedy, & Nancy Bray

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



May recycle was canceled. Please keep saving your recyclables to bring in on the Second Saturday of Every Month 9-11 AM in the parking lot as soon as "shelter-in" has been lifted. Every Little Bit Counts! Thank you to all those who contribute!
Don Harris



Changes Coming Soon to First Church Roseville

First Church Roseville is currently in the process of setting up new systems of communication with all of you which will include a new email address for our church and for our prayer chain. Soon you will receive an email giving you the new church email address. In the meantime keep using the current church and prayer chain email addresses. Our phone number will not change and our website URL will not change. Our new Google Suite for nonprofits will allow for a wide range of improvements to the way we communicate with one another.