

**“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
since as members of one body
you were called to peace. And be thankful.”
Colossians 3:15**

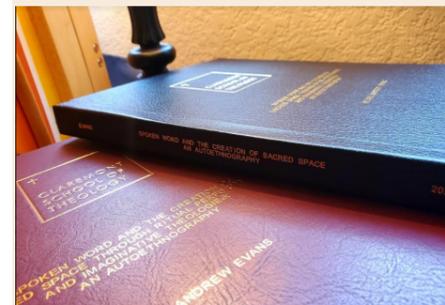


*“The purpose of education, finally, is to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself...
to ask questions of the universe, and then learn to live with those questions...”*



James Baldwin is a literary giant whose legacy of wit and wisdom survives in his numerous books, essays, lectures, and plays. This Harlem born writer resides in the pantheon of the greatest 20th century thinkers and he fearlessly delved deeply into the psyche of this country with powerful percipience. In this month of Pride, I am also acknowledging how he, as an unabashed gay Black man, never allowed anyone to dim his brilliance. Because we share the same birthday, every August 2nd I tip my glass to the sky in salute to a true icon of the intelligentsia. Baldwin has been my personal patron saint that has accompanied me along my educational journey. Many nights I would metaphorically light a candle and beseech the help from my literary muse to guide me through my midnight moments when inspiration eludes in the shadows behind writer’s blocks. Baldwin was always there for me, as was my appreciation for his sense of style and flair. It is more than probable that my proclivity to “complete my look” by stylizing a scarf around my neck, is my subconscious attempt to emulate the “je ne sais quoi” that defined Baldwin.

Inspired by writers like Baldwin, I would sometimes spend hours in the library halls of the Graduate Theological Union. The design of the building allowed for an open space in the center where one could look from the lowest level directly up the five floors to skylights streaming natural light from the rooftop. Rising in the middle of that airy space was a bronze sculpture of an angel. I would often glance up to this work of art with wonder, as if its presence was sacralizing the space. This angel presided over my bouts with the “toils of writing,” as the surrounding rows of venerable books sat in silent witness within their ordained stacks. Writing can be difficult, but being in that library all those years made me feel like I was doing something noble.



Years later, when I completed my dissertation and placed on my desk two leather bound books that bore my name in gold inlay, I thought of my years in the library, the presence of that angel. How far I have come, and how the “toils of writing” remind me of how far I need to go.

In my home office, I have a picture of James Baldwin sitting above my computer. When I turn the sails of my efforts into the winds of inspiration, and find my writing groove, I often imagine myself sipping coffee in a small hotel room in Paris with Baldwin. I

envision myself delivering erudite soliloquies of eloquence while expertly weaving all my big words with skill. Sometimes I picture myself in the same Parisian setting with him, but choosing to employ a strategy of rhetorical sparsity in an attempt to court intrigue. This is a window into my writing process, and I have often communed with Baldwin to discern his thoughts about everything from politics to religion.



Baldwin, whose first book was “Go Tell it on the Mountain,” never held his tongue on any topic including the questions arising in my present profession, the work of the church and efficacy of religion. He once said, and I quote; “If the concept of God has any validity or any use, it can only be to make us larger, freer, and more loving. If God cannot do this, then it is time we got rid of Him.” I agree.

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I love Baldwin because he helps me tap into my love for writing (mostly), and my love for reading (always). As a, sort-of bibliophile, I love the feeling of being surrounded by books. I love unlocking new ideas. I love being surprised, and I love the creative magic of suspension and mental transportation. Because of my love for the literary, it was a high honor to be chosen as the commencement speaker at my alma mater, Pacific School of Religion. Not only was it an affirmation of my educational journey, which Baldwin affirms as valorous, but I was able to share my academic world with my family. They appreciated my speech, but truly resonated with the words of Dean Susan Abraham. She exhorted her listeners to “read, write, speak, and pray.” As I listened while sitting on the dais in full academic regalia, I somehow hoped that James Baldwin would be proud of me, or at least lightly amused.



Either way, even if I am revisited by the “toils of writing,” I am certain that Baldwin will always draw out my inner excellence by reminding me to stay rooted in love.

“Love takes off the masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within. I use the word “love” here not merely in the personal sense but as a state of being, or a state of grace - not in the infantile American sense of being made happy but in the tough and universal sense of quest and daring and growth.”



Blessings
Mahsea Evans



Natacha Bustos is a gifted Afro-Latina artist in the male dominated comic book industry, and has drawn for prestigious titles like Marvel’s X-Men and Spider Man. She grew up in Spain and was the only person of color in her small Spanish town. Bustos’ father is Chilean, and her mother is Afro-Brazilian. Though she was sometimes bullied because she didn’t look like her other classmates, she used it to fuel her passion for drawing, and later, created spaces in the comic book world for people who looked like her.

One of most famous books is “Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur.” It is about the adventures of a young genius level Black girl in the 4th grade and her best friend, a large sentient red dinosaur. It is not only fun, but it is my daughter Chloe’s favorite on-going comic book series. Like Bustos, Chloe has Afro-Latina roots and it is easy for her to see herself in Bustos’ art. Further, Chloe is an incredible artist herself. She once said to me, “Drawing makes me feel happy. It also helps me get all my emotions out.”

As many of you know, I love and still collect comic books. It has been a fascination of mine since I was a boy. It has been a joy to share this love with my daughters, and revel in the talents of artists like Natacha Bustos.

Blessings,
Mahsea Evans



Dad by Karen K. Boyer



He never looks for praises
He’s never one to boast
He just goes on quietly working
For those he loves the most

His dreams are seldom spoken
His wants are very few
And most of the time his worries
Will go unspoken too

He’s there... A firm foundation
Through all our storms of life
A sturdy hand to hold to
In times of stress and strife

A true friend we can turn to
When times are good or bad
One of our greatest blessings,
The man that we call Dad.



At our May 2023 meeting we honored our mothers. Larry Koncewicz shared a greeting card with the inscription “A Mother’s heart is like a rose --- always open, always loving”, and a red rose from his garden. The card and rose graced the coffee table in Heritage Chapel as we shared life-changing moments and humorous events experienced with our mothers. The stories involved sadness, happiness, and lessons learned --- all ingredients for one’s life. The experiences shared reflected the greeting card verse ---our mothers were special people who provided a compass for our lives. The wish that we could engage in one-on-one conversation with our mothers was expressed.

Our next gathering will be on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Heritage Chapel. The burning question of the day will be to share a life-changing event you experienced with your father or a humorous event in which you both shared a good laugh. Any questions please contact any of the Agape Team members (Don Harris, Dave Sechrist, Thom King, and Jim Wecker) or Dennis Bull at 630-781-6110.

Happy Father’s Day!
Dennis Bull



3 C's

3C's will not meet during the summer.
Enjoy your summer vacations!
We'll see you in September!

“DID YOU KNOW...”



While we are looking at a budget for 2023 with a negative balance of over \$50,000, our financial picture is actually not all gloom and doom. Our caring and sharing for each other, our enthusiasm in being a church community together, and our missional engagement with our larger community are immediately apparent. I see it when we are together on Sunday mornings. I see it as we feed the needy on Monday mornings, as we host self-help and community groups throughout the week, and as we invite our neighbors in on 4th Fridays for whatever we can concoct. Our community partners see our enthusiasm as well, and are eager to be a part of our excitement. In fact, we are participating in a grant application with several of our partners and anticipate receiving \$10,000 - \$12,000 as our portion of the grant later this year. Our District Superintendent and the Cal Nevada conference see our enthusiasm and are eager to stoke the fire we have going. They believe we are ready for a full-time pastor to take the next steps toward growth. They are assigning one of their rising stars as our next pastor because they believe our enthusiasm and community engagement is real. To help defray the costs of a full-time pastor, they are providing a grant and anonymous donation of \$10,000 this year, and another \$10,000 grant next year. So yes, \$50,000 is a large budget deficit to overcome, but because of our contagious enthusiasm we have already reduced that deficit to \$30,000!

Dave Sechrist, Finance Chair



Memorial Service for Leona Doherty

Anne Doherty-Stephen, daughter of Leona Doherty, invites you to attend the memorial service for Leona on Friday June 23rd at 9:00 AM Sacramento Valley National Cemetery I 80 Exit 60 5810 Midway Road Dixon, CA

The Memorial Service is to be followed by an ice cream social at Baskin-Robbins in Dixon, I-80 Exit 64, 1440 Ary Lane, Suite F. My Mom loved her ice cream!



Roseville Train Yard circa 1908

HOBOS AVOID RAILROAD COPS

Marguerite Barker arrived in Roseville in 1917 from Sparks Nevada with her husband the late George W. Barker, who she married four years earlier. He was a conductor with the Southern Pacific. This is her story. "Roseville was absolutely a railroad town when I came here. The yard was so busy you wouldn't believe it. Trains were leaving Roseville every 30 minutes; troop trains, freight trains and passenger trains. There were only railroad workers and business people served railroad workers. There were very few cars and everyone knew each other. Railroaders in those days were called to work by callboys. The railroad would wake the callboys up with the roundhouse whistle and the callboys would then go around the neighborhoods knocking on doors to alert the crews when their train would be ready. The trains coming down from the north would stop in front of the library on Lincoln Street and all the hobos would jump off at that point because there were cops in the yard. They would start canvassing the houses for food and the Women's Improvement Club would give them what it had left over from its dinners in the library."

Marguerite was a long time member of First Church Roseville and served as the historian for many years. She was 95 years old when she gave this article to the Press Tribune. I remember growing up with her and loved to hear her stories about life in general and about activities and goings on within the church. She was greatly missed when she passed
Phoebe Astill Historical Chair.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, June 25 After Worship

Farewell Potluck Lunch for Pastor Mahsea and Family

Help us send Pastor Mahsea and his family, Kawami, Niara and Chloe off with our love and blessings as Pastor Mahsea goes on to serve First UMC in Sacramento. It will be a traditional United Methodist potluck with your choice to sign up for main dish, side dish or dessert. Sign up will be every Sunday starting Sunday, June 4 thru June 18.

If you cannot be there on a Sunday to sign up or forget to do so, please contact Ruth Ann at rbakeo3@yahoo.com [916-727-1774] or Jan at chibi7613@yahoo.com [925-787-0600] or Kathleen at kmirtoni@firstumcroseville.org [916-782-2450]. Thanks!



Please continue to pray for the following people.

For Healing & Comfort

Connie, Marie, Hazel, Brandon, Mikki, Deena, Roy, Juliana, Audrey, Pat & Dave Elba's Family in Columbia, Karen,



For Bereavement

Pugh and Bray Families
Nancy & Son David & Family
Leona Doherty family
Pat Bunce family



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1ST JERRY ANGOVE
GRACE THOMAS
- 5TH DIANA WEMPLE
- 6TH DON HARRIS
- 10TH AUDREY CHITTENDEN
- 11TH LUZ SANTIAGO
- 16TH TRAVIS WALKER
- 17TH MILDRED BATISTE
HAYLEE BRAY
BRAD LYLE
- 19TH KAILI BRAY
- 23RD MAX SCOTT
- 27TH ANDREW RIPLEY
- 30TH ADDY BRAY



Altar Flowers

Do you have flowers in your garden? Celebrating a special occasion: birthday, anniversary? Want to honor a loved one? Please consider placing flowers on the altar as a volunteer or making a donation to the flower fund. See Nancy Bray or Ruth Ann Baker to add your name to the schedule.



United Women in Faith

This month our General Meeting falls on Saturday June 10th, at noon. There will be no Leadership meeting. It has been suggested that after the meeting those wishing to, would go out for a late lunch. Hence have a bite to eat before coming or bring along a snack. We will not be meeting in July or August.

We are very happy to have Karen Kelly as our new secretary! We will continue with our program on Fruit of the Spirit. This month's Fruit is on Joy, lead by Susan Reining and Karen Kelly. Shelly Newton will give a report on The Red Bird Mission, located in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky. United Women in Faith, along with other churches and nonprofits, help support this mission and clinics of The Red Bird Missionary Conference, which is a very comprehensive mission effort of The United Methodist Church.

Please join us as we meet on Saturday June 10th. As well, consider going out for lunch afterwards. Happy summer to all!

A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society.
Billy Graham



On 5/13/2023 we received \$111.00 for recycled cans & bottles. Thanks to all of you that save and bring in your cans & bottles for the church. Every bit counts towards paying our bills.
Don Harris, Trustee President

NEXT RECYCLE IS SATURDAY
June 10, 2023
9-11:00 AM

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—Dennis Bull,
Thom King, and Paul Woicicki
- Memorial—Susan Reining
- Worship Team Leader—Nancy Bray
- Congregational Care—Gail Provine
- Music Director—John Handley
- Communications—Kristi Kinzel
- Lay Leadership Training—Kristi Kinzel

Church Office Hours
Monday— Friday 9:00 AM—12NOON



Email Contact Information:

- Pastor:
mevans@firstumcroseville.org
- Certified Lay Minister:
kmirtoni@firstumcroseville.org
- Administrative Assistant:
cwitherow@firstumcroseville.org
- Church Email:
firstumc@firstumcroseville.org
- Prayer Requests:
prayers@firstumcroseville.org
- Chimes Article Submissions:
chimes@firstumcroseville.org
- Office Volunteer:
nbray@firstumcroseville.org

Worship

Attendance in May was 251, the Average was 63 .

The Monday Feeding Program

In May 352 meals were served to the hungry in our community.

