

Gratitude

Shelter

Life

Healing

FAMILY

Kindness

Hope

FAITH

Love

Friends

JOY

Purpose

Creativity

G

O

HOLY

D

JESUS

SPIRIT

Beauty of

Nature

Forgiveness

Church

Community



Message from Pastor Mahsea

“If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.”
President-Elect Barack Obama

On Nov. 4th, 2008, when Senator Obama was elected president, I was swimming in a feeling that to this day is hard for me to fully articulate. It was not about whether I completely agreed with him on all his policy positions. Nor was it about what “team” he ideologically represented and who won the proverbial “horse race.” I felt, as I saw him ascend the stage before the throngs in Grant Park in downtown Chicago, that I, along with the world, was witnessing a quintessential American moment. It was a moment that transcended the normal back and forth politics of the day. Indeed, not everyone voted for Obama. In fact, not everyone even liked him; I believe all these things, and the debates they stir, are not only normal but healthy for the vitality of the democratic process. However, there was a palpable sense of *new possibility* that permeated the moment as I realized that such an improbable outcome was actualized in America despite our nation’s fraught history with race. This, along with Senator John McCain’s graceful concession speech, made me believe that this country was a place of *new possibilities* for all people....



That feeling was amplified in that moment as I held my infant daughter in my arms. Coincidentally, Niara turned one years old on the same day of the election. As the race was called, I look down at my daughter through tear-filled eyes and whispered in her ear that she was entering a world of *new possibilities*.

Obama’s proclamation that “America is a place where all things are possible” reminded me of a story that we recently explored as a community in the Gospel of Mark. Jesus, in the aftermath of his encounter with the rich young ruler, said that it would be easier for a camel to enter through the eye of a needle, than for someone attached to their riches to enter into the kingdom of God or live into his teachings. Later he says to an amazed audience, that with humans many things are impossible, but with God, “all things are possible.”

This month, my precious Niara will “officially” become a teenager exactly one day after the final votes will be cast. For a myriad of complex reasons, including the degradation of our political engagement and the grind of living under the pandemic, the world is in a much different place than it was 12 years ago; a time in which I was prompted to whisper to Niara while she lay swaddled in my arms. Succinctly, this does not feel like a time of new possibilities or hope. As a country, we are not only deeply divided, but it is hard not to despair when anxiety and fear loom like low hanging clouds, heavy with the weight of the storm’s churning.



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However, despite the menace of this metaphorical autumnal tempest, there is something within me that lets me know that no matter what happens, no matter the outcome of the election, and no matter how long it takes for us be liberated from the malicious grip of this malevolent malaise, God is still God and remains a God of *new possibilities*. These new possibilities point to the truth that there is something greater and beyond the drama du jour and the pettiness of our political polarizations. In God there is an open invitation to all to struggle towards the realization of the kingdom of God because in the end, Love wins. In God, there is greatness and its majestic expressions are not blunted by the limitations of humanity's imagination or the fallibility of our socio-political systems. No indeed!

Further, remembering this insight connects me to the wisdom in the saying that "...there is no spot where God is not." This poetic idiom allows me to root myself in the knowing that, as long as this country remains a "spot" where God is, then I can affirm that this country remains a place of infinite and *new possibilities*. I know this; I must. And in those sometimes-moments when my "knowing" falters, my hope is strengthened by my faith.

Today, it can be difficult to attend to faith-building acts that connect us to the divine and the *new possibilities* that surround. That is why I have been grateful for the arts. Last week, I sat with my daughter and watched the pilot episode of the show, Star Trek Discovery. There, we both were initiated into Gene Roddenberry's vision of going into "Space, the final frontier," and were both whisked away into a present-day story that lives into the tradition of going "where no man has gone before..." We watched the riveting performance of Sonequa Martin-Green as she portrayed the main protagonist, First Officer Michael Burnham. The character is the first black woman to lead a Star Trek television series; offering inspiration to young girls and their fathers alike.



Comfortably sitting in my living room, watching a tv show, is a long way from watching the revelry in a Chicago park on election night in 2008, but the truth of the nature of God's presence remains clear. As we experience this time of tumult, may we also know that God is still a God of *new possibilities*. This truth, preached by Jesus long ago, is still present in our country no matter how wild things may be in the moment. But even in an environment rife with fear, may we also be heartened by the words of the Starfleet Officer, Michael Burnham, who said, "The only way to defeat fear is to tell it: No!" In doing so, with God's grace, may we also say *YES* to *new possibilities*.

Be encouraged, Pastor Mahsea

A PRAYER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial injustice,
Shake us from our slumber and open our eyes, O Lord.
When out of fear we are frozen into inaction,
Give us a spirit of bravery, O Lord.
When we try our best but say the wrong things,
Give us a spirit of humility, O Lord.
When the chaos of this dies down,
Give us a lasting spirit of solidarity, O Lord.
When it becomes easier to point fingers outward,
Help us to examine our own hearts, O Lord.

God of truth, in your wisdom, Enlighten Us.
God of love, in your mercy, Forgive Us.
God of hope in your kindness, Heal Us.
Creator of All People, in your generosity, Guide Us.
Racism breaks your heart,
break our hearts for what breaks yours, O Lord.

(Quoted by MLK Jr. Author unknown)

Submitted by Cathie Wierbick



Talking About Racism

Study Group

Our group of 7-10 has been meeting weekly to read and discuss 2 books: *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo and *America's Original Sin*, by Jim Wallis. Look for our stories entitled "I am a Privileged White Woman!" in this and coming Chimes!

Cathie Wierbick

My name is Barbara, and I am a Privileged White Woman. I never knew I was a privileged white woman. After all, I grew up white, my neighbors were white, my friends were white, my classmates were white, my church was white. It wasn't until I went to a nearby suburban Philadelphia high school that I encountered Blacks for the first time in my entire life. Fortunately for me during the next three years, my locker was directly next to that of Robert Lawrence McNiel. We formed a friendship that endured throughout our high school years. Bob was all-star everything - sports, student council, band, guidance council, and Athletic Association President. We enjoyed the perfect locker-site banter. However, in a senior class of 400, the number of Black students numbered in the single digits, none of whom I ever met other than Bob. Off to college in Pennsylvania's Lancaster County, I experienced four more years of whiteness, and then four more year of whiteness teaching grade school in the Lehigh Valley. I was privileged - what didn't I know?

I didn't know about the 400 years of oppression still facing Blacks in America. I didn't know Blacks were once considered to be 3/5 of a white person. I didn't know that many remained enslaved, even after the enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation. I didn't know that Blacks worked ten times as hard for the privileges that were handed to me on a silver platter. I didn't know mostly everything, but now I am learning.

Our "Talking Racism" group has been delving into these issues every Friday morning on Zoom, reading and discussing the books *America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* by Jim Wallace, and *White Fragility: Why it's so Hard for White People to talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo.

Barbara Schwartz

GRATITUDE

"Thank you' is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot.
Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding."

Alice Walker

Fall is a season of gratitude. This unprecedented year marked with a global pandemic, social unrest, and a highly anticipated presidential election, has elevated what's truly important in life. Taking care of ourselves, family, and loved ones has become a top priority. Distance learning and telecommuting has not always been easy, but it has shifted from being a challenge to a beautiful opportunity to spend time together. We are spending countless hours working and schooling, but we are also cooking, laughing, talking, and playing games more than ever before. Despite all the uncertainty during this time, we are inundated with new opportunities to prayerfully say, "thank you." And we are grateful for all the things that we get to do...together.

Dr. Kawami Evans



Alice Walker



Dear family,

I know that it has not been easy during this time of social distancing and taking other mitigating measures against a pandemic. Even as we have begun a variety of different ministries to stay in community, I know that it does not replace gathering in person in the sanctuary that we love. Candidly, it will take some more time, and I appreciate your patience. Please know that the leadership teams within the church are presently working to devise reopening plans in consult with the relevant authorities. Though reopening will not be a full return to how things were before the building's closure, we are committed to taking the gradual steps to open the building again in some form as early as January. Of course, plans are necessarily fluid as safety will always take precedence. Still, please take heart. Know that you are not alone, and in time, and by God's grace, we shall see each other again and worship in spirit and truth.

Blessings,
Pastor Mahsea

Being a Christian is Like Being a Pumpkin

Read John 15:16
God picks you from the patch and brings you in.
 Read II Corinthians 5:17
Then washes all the dirt off you.
 Read John 1:9
He opens you up and scoops out all the yucky stuff
He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc.
 Read Proverbs 15:13
Then carves you a new smiling face
 Read Mathew 5:16
And he puts his light inside you to shine
for all the world to see

SAVE THE DATE!

PANDEMIC-STYLE ADVENT KICKOFF

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2020
4:30—7:00 pm

FEATURING :
Drive-Through Takeout Spaghetti Dinner
(by our own Italian chef, Kathleen Mirtoni !)

Please purchase meal tickets or make reservations by 11/30/2020
Email: firstumc@firstumcroseville.org phone: 916-783-3464

Spaghetti Dinner: Adults—\$15.00, Children—\$7.50 Cannoli Dessert: 2 for \$5.00



The Communion Window

is located on the left side of the sanctuary as you face the front and was dedicated March 1982 in memory of Viola Circle, mother of Arthur Circle, Elgie Herwig and daughter-in-law Lela Circle.

Viola married Quince Circle in November 1905 in Louisiana. Quince passed away in 1928, and Viola left to move to Colorado to be near her parents. She came to California in 1948 and settled in the San Francisco area. When retired, she moved to Roseville to be near her family. In 1959 she joined Roseville United Methodist church by transfer from her church in Colorado. She became an active member of the church and also became a good friend of Viola Wendt, a member of the church and Minerva Rebekah Lodge in which they were both very active. They loved to travel around the country to see the sights and visit friends.

Viola loved to cook and many times you would find her in the church kitchen working on dinners with United Methodist Women and other groups. Viola passed away in 1979 and was sadly missed by all who knew her.
 Phoebe Astill, Church Historian



Trustee's Corner
By Don Haris
Trustee President

Two New Floors for First Church Roseville

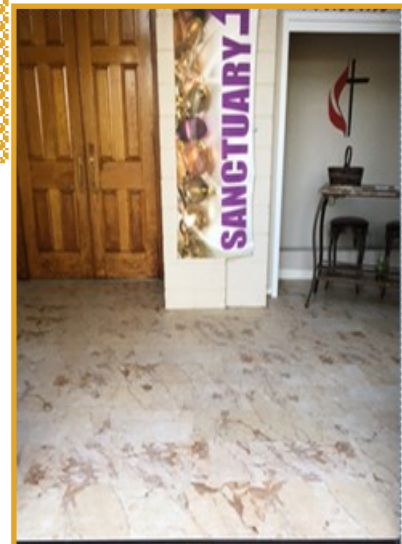
There is a new floor in the Children's Sunday School Room and in the Entry Way or Narthex at First Church.

These projects were funded by special donations. The Children's Center flooring was funded by the Creative Christian Crafters or 3C's along with a special donation from Barbara Hulse.

The Entry Way from the Centennial Garden was funded by the Men's group of the church.

Thank you very much for these beautiful floors. They should last a long time and be easy to maintain.

Thank you
 Don Harris
 Trustee President.



Woodbridge Walk

Join us each Sunday morning at 9 am at Woodbridge School, 515 Niles Avenue, Roseville for a "walk and talk" around the school. Or if you prefer there's a bench to "sit and visit". Of course masks and social distancing are the way we stay safe. Hope to see you Sunday!

Make sure you test positive for Faith
Distance yourself from Doubt
Isolate yourself from Fear.

Always Trust God.
 Submitted by Gail Proving





IN LOVING MEMORY

Bonnie Hunt
September 19, 1931 - October 8, 2020

Those we love remain with us for love itself lives on, and cherished memories never fade because a loved one's gone. Those we love can never be more than a thought apart, for as long as there is memory, they will live on in our heart.

Thank You

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls and cards during my recent hip surgery. I am on the mend and hope to be out and about soon. Also, thank you for the cards and prayers during the recent loss of my brother. September is a month I will long remember
Phoebe Astill



Forget Me Nots

PRAYER



Please keep the following people in your prayers:

For Bereavement:

Barbara Schwartz
Colleen Rekers & Bob Gregory
And Family
Kim Milardovich & family
Nancy Rea & Family

For Healing:

Anya Walther
Kelly & Stephen Pudinski
Connie & Jim Wecker
Johnna Stauffer
Lorraine Bosjolie

Please submit prayer requests to: prayers@firstumcroseville.org

Thank You

I want to thank everyone for the beautiful cards and prayers I received after the death of my mother Bonnie Hunt. Thank you for your thoughtful ness.
Nancy Rea



Forget Me Nots



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious Creator God,
We give you thanks and praise for all the gifts you have given us. We thank you for the gift of life, help us to appreciate it and use it to share your love with the world. We thank you for the gift of family and friends, from whom we learn to love you and one another. We thank you for the gift of shelter, clothing, food and your word by which we sustain our lives. We thank you for the gift of Pastor Mahsea who shares his beliefs with us that we might come to know you better and be challenged to help bring racial division to an end. We thank you for the gift of firefighters, health care workers, first responders who protect and care for us even in life threatening moments. We thank you for schools and teachers who help us to learn to be responsible and fully enlightened people. We thank you for the gift of Jesus our Savior who taught us about your bountiful love and how to bring about your kingdom here on earth. Give us courage and strength to continue to move forward to bring peace and justice to all.
Amen.
By Nancy Bray

Request for a Room to Rent

Dominic Iyorlu is searching for a room to rent for the winter months before it turns too cold. If you have a room to rent or know of someone who does please call:
Kathleen Mirtoni
707-290-4430
Mission/Outreach
Chairperson

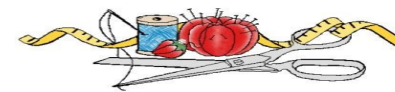


NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1ST DEBBIE THOMPSON
- 2ND JOHNNA STAUFFER
DELANEY WILLIAMS
- 3RD SHELLY NEWTON
- 4TH BURTON FRANCIS
- 5TH DREW BRAY
CORRINE WILLIAMS
- 8TH ERIC LUMLEY
- 9TH ELBA AULICH
- 10TH BRIAN CROOKS
DENISE LUMLEY
DORIS SHEPARD BAKER
- 11TH CONNIE WECKER
- 17TH ROY DEBISE LOOMIS
- 20TH CHLOE TRILLO
NANCY BRAY
- 22ND NICHOLAS WILSON
- 23RD RACHAEL WILSON
- 27TH JOYCE LINDNER
- 29TH MAXINE KAPLAN



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



The 3 C's have no special news to report this month. We are considering making another donation to a church plumbing project in November as the kindergarten new floor has been installed. Blessings to all.
Stay safe and always be grateful.
Barbara Hulse



September Noses, Dollars, and Cents

Basic Monthly Statistics:
Income Sept. 2020: \$9,533.47
Expenses Sept. 2020: \$13,084.35
Net Income Sept. 2020: **\$3,550.88**
Transfer from PPP: \$0.00
New Total **\$3,550.88**

Basic Yearly Statistics 2020
YTD Income: \$104,446.20
YTD Expense: \$122,838.41
Net Income: **\$18,392.41**
Transfer from PPP: \$25,180.00
New Total: \$6,787.79

Thank you for your continued financial support. It is very much appreciated.

September Worship Online Views
Total: 377 Average: 94

The Monday Feeding Program
for the homeless
served 244 meals in September

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 October 9, 2020
\$44.00
Please keep saving your recyclables to bring in on Saturday November 14, 2020 in the parking lot between 9-11am.
Thank you to all those who contribute!
See you then, Don Harris



First Church Roseville Email Addresses

Please make note of these email addresses for First UMC Roseville

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