



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

**"Wherever you go, there are three icons that everyone knows:
Jesus Christ, Pele and Coca-Cola."**

The above quote was spoken by Edson Arantes do Nascimento. If you are unfamiliar with that name, you may know him by his famous moniker, Pelé. This celebrated Brazilian is considered by most to be the greatest soccer player of all time. I thought of him as I was explaining to my daughter why the Argentine footballer Lionel Messi, arguably the best soccer player of this era, wears the number 10; a number that is traditionally reserved for the best player on a team in reference to the legacy of Pelé. Beyond his exploits on the "pitch," Pelé was one of the most successful and popular sports figures in the 20th century. Because of this, (and because of his healthy regard of himself), it is easy to see how he could equate his celebrity and ubiquity with the world-wide product of Coca-Cola. It is also telling that he intimates how he is an icon known by everyone in that same way that everyone knows of Jesus Christ. Of course!

To be clear, Pelé, who is a devout Catholic, was not qualitatively comparing himself to Jesus. However, his point remains salient. Everyone seems to have heard of the 1st century Palestinian Jew from Nazareth named Jesus who ended up turning the world upside down.

There are a variety of opinions about Jesus. There are those who think that Jesus was a great moral and ethical teacher, and those who believe he was and is the literal Son of God. There are those who view Jesus devotionally as focal point of personal piety, and those who relate to him as a spiritual revolutionary who inspires transformative political and social change. Jesus is preached about from the pulpit and taught about in classroom. Jesus is prayed to by the faithful and even mused about in popular culture.

The comedian Marc Marion satirically said, *"I think the reason Jesus is so popular, just on a celebrity level, is that he died at the peak of his career."* Contained in that irreverent quip is a colonel of truth. Like a famous celeb, Jesus seems to be everywhere and is known by most! But the question then becomes, echoing Jesus' inquiry to his disciples in the district of Caesarea Philippi, *"Who do people [truly] say I am?"* The second question that Jesus poses is even more relevant and personal, *"Who do you say I am?"*

The question that we will be exploring in the next few months is, *"Who is Jesus?"* This is a matter of Christology which is defined as the branch of Christian theology that relates to the person, nature, and work of Jesus. This will be the subject of many upcoming sermons and a Bible study. I hope that it will be a blessing to our church community especially during this political season.



Nine years before Pelé was born in the bustling city of Sao Paulo, the statue of Christ the Redeemer was completed 270 miles away on a mountain overlooking the city of Rio de Janeiro. It is a work of stunning iconographic architecture framed by the majesty of sweeping ocean vistas. This sky-bound vision is held in tension with the image of a streetwalking Jesus who, as hip-hop artist Jay Electronica states, *"You can find the Christ where the lepers and the lames 'at.'"*

In a time of extreme challenge in our country, my prayer is that Christ will truly be known, and that our exploration on who Jesus is will equip us to be instruments of justice, love, and hope to this world.

Blessings,

Pastor Mahsea



*And when you turn to the
right or when you turn to
the left, your ears shall hear
a word behind you, saying,
"This is the way; walk in it."*

Isaiah 30:21

Dear First Church Family,

I pray this letter finds you all well. "Well" is a relative term these days, isn't it? We may be well physically but feeling a bit shaky emotionally and even mentally. More and more people are becoming depressed due to the quarantine rules, the fires, the political and social turmoil. Yet, we of the faith community, can remain confident in our Lord's love and grace. Staying in love with God is the key to feeling joyful, even in these troubled times.

I have been thinking about the troubles that life brings and how we should be thanking Heavenly Father for them. It has been my experience that it is through my toughest times that I have grown ever closer to Him. It is His grace, mercy and love that has brought me through my greatest struggles and sorrows.

I sometimes wonder how people without a relationship with the Lord make it through their troubles. Heck, I wonder how they make it through an ordinary day! When considering those who don't know Jesus, I become sad for them. How lonely their lives must be. It is up to us, as Christians, to share Jesus with the world. Thomas Merton, the American Trappist monk who was ordained to the priesthood and given the name "Father Louis", wrote: "What we are asked to do at present is not so much to speak of Christ as to let Him live in us so that people may find Him by feeling how He lives in us." Amen to that.

Last month I described our Monday Meal Ministry and, to my shame, I neglected to mention the two other churches that partner with us to provide a meal to those in need. FUMC Loomis has been our partner for many years. Under the leadership of Carol Iwasaki, Loomis supplies, and prepares our meal on each fourth Monday of the month. They make a mean spaghetti! Our clients refer to fourth Mondays as "Spaghetti Monday" and look forward to a delicious Italian meal. These days, Carol delivers the food to us, fully prepared and ready to package in to-go containers. We are very grateful for their enthusiastic participation.

The second Monday of each month, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of Rocklin, under the guidance of Marcia Bartel, provides the meal. They have been cooking in our kitchen, serving up their famous meat loaf, green beans, rice or mashed potatoes. St. Matthew's has been with us for three years now. We are blessed to have them be part of our ministry.

As you all know, by now, our beloved Sean Flaherty, passed through Heaven's gates recently. I know he is at peace with our Lord and is no longer in pain. Sean was devoted to doing the Lord's work through our Monday Ministry and mission trips, as well as being a soldier for The Salvation Army. He worked and studied hard for that uniform and he wore it with pride. His smile was infectious. He will be greatly missed.

Stay in love with God, my sisters and brothers, and know that we will come together again to worship Him and rejoice in our church family. In the meantime, try to stay connected. Attend Tuesday prayer service on zoom, watch Rev. Evans message on Sunday, make phone calls, write notes and pray.

May His joy abide within you.
Kathleen Mirtoni, CLM

PS. Our kitchen is now sparkling white due to the efforts of Kevin and his painting skills. **Thanks Kevin!**



Rudy



Hilary, her son Drew, and Craig



Sean Flaherty
1/30/1966-8/19/2020



*...O Most High, when I am afraid,
I put my trust in you.
In God, whose word I praise,
In God I trust; I am not afraid; ...
Psalm 56: 2-4*

Never a Day Off

God works around the clock, twenty-four-hours a day, seven days a week, and over and over with our entrustment. Even on Sunday, the day of rest, God is full of life, giving explicit direction. No man is above the law. God is the Law. God is Love. His law is to walk with faith; to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Jesus is the true direction. God is the director.

With His love, nothing is impossible. He has enlightened us with His wisdom, from the beginning. God's Grace belongs to all who seek. God's Love is the foundation on which we build a life of understanding; the willingness to live with respect for all. One has to eat humble pie and let grace lead. God's Love is free, we just need to listen.

We humiliate ourselves by believing in a finite self.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. John 3:16

God made us in His image. Our maker has control. When we humble ourselves and thank God, our lives belong to Him. Acceptance means eternity.

I am thankful that God is with us at all times. His persistence is Love. He will not give up on us. He is all inclusive and never exclusive. Life with God and our savior, Jesus Christ, is the love I've been searching for all my life.

Humble yourself and be free.

Written by Ray Davis July 17, 2020

"Be still, and know that I am God..." Psalms 46:10

The last five months have been anything but predictable. It has been a time filled with the disruptions of a pandemic, social unrest, and now the wildfires in California. Trying to make sense of what's happening in our world can incite feelings of overwhelm, confusion, fear, and frustration. Like others, our family has experienced these sentiments, but have sought to make an intentional shift to create a different normal. The beginning of the new academic year was the perfect opportunity for a fresh start. The Evans' family wanted to continue to be aware of what's going on, but not consumed by the worldly happenings on the news and on social media.

Our solution? Morning meditation. As part of our morning routine, right after breakfast, and just before our virtual classes or meetings, we gather in our quaint living room to ground ourselves in reflection, gratitude, meditation, and prayer. This may sound like a minor gesture, but during a time of crisis, this spiritual space to "be still and know God" is a lifeline. It's only been a few days, but it has made a world of difference. We are grateful for this daily moment of pause to commune with God and tap into a source of light during unpredictable times.

Dr. Kawami Evans



You cannot force someone to comprehend a message that they are not ready to receive.

Still, you must never underestimate the power of planting a seed.



Contributed by
Cathe Moody
Idea & words from
theearthtribe



MY HOME COMFORT PLACE during spring, summer, and fall is our patio that looks out on a mound of earth running the length of our backyard. We affectionately named the mound Bull Mountain. I originally assumed that the mound was dirt. When I was

driving stakes into the ground for solar lanterns, I soon discovered otherwise as I chiseled between rocks. This is the reason for the name of the city of Rocklin (Finnish for land of rocks) which is built upon granite. We have built a Chinese garden on Bull Mountain. In it are a small, tiered water fountain, a Japanese lantern acquired while I was in the Army stationed on Okinawa, a pagoda house, and a seated Buddha holding a lotus blossom. House- and goldfinches bathe in a Japanese lady fountain while hummingbirds, swallow tail butterflies, and dragonflies fly through the air space. This is my perfect place to commune with God and read my daily *Upper Room* devotion. Quietly observing the scene, I am reminded of God's presence in nature, which has rotating periods of upheaval and calmness. I try to synchronize my mind and body to the rhythm of nature. Nature has a way of easing one's pain and bringing hope and encouragement. The serenity of Buddha helps me focus on my inner self and a sense of well-being. What a great way to start my day!
Dennis W. Bull (Please send us your home comfort place)

Historical Gleanings

OUR 200TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION THIS YEAR
THE 200TH BIRTHDAY OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL—

we will celebrate in a special way with the children and adults sharing the morning worship together in the sanctuary. It is our RALLY DAY which will begin our new fall program. Children will receive promotion certificates and children going from 3rd into 4th grade will receive Bibles. Church School leaders will have an opportunity to rededicate themselves, for another year of growth, serving and giving. We would be pleased to have our VCS staff of this year participate in the rededication service as they are an important part of the Education program. The Sunday School has lived through an eventful 200 years, but in this time the essential task has never been altered- and that is to help persons discover the Christian faith. Each Sunday thousands of teachers lead groups of children, youth and adults in the process of learning about and accepting the Christian faith. A grateful thanks at this time to our devoted staff Valerie Wiswell, Dorothy Alexander, Phyllis Wiswell, Jean Schaffer and Don Dennis who teach each Sunday with regularity. We are also grateful to Dorothy Calver and Sue Backman for their assistance in the music program. We will be honoring past church school leaders, hear the KitcherClatter Band.

**PLEASE COME JOIN THE FESTIVITIES
THAT HAVE BEEN PLANNED.**

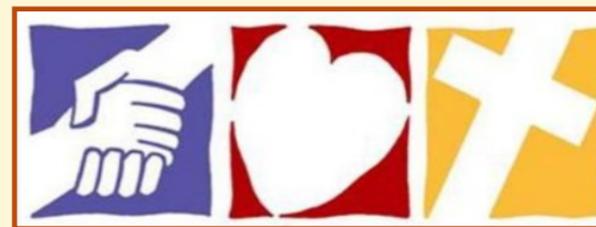
From the Chimes September 1980 Phoebe Astill Historical Chair



Wood Pliers

Dad taught me about tools as I grew and became useful. Sharp tools like chisels and saws taught me to be careful. Dull or blunt tools gave me blisters and calluses in fact but used right—a sledge hammer has great impact. I learned a lesson using my knife. Idea tools—can change your life. I thought others controlled my success. I was a fool. With the right angles I saw the work and made a tool. It helped me grip life itself. It gripped me from within myself. A tool's usefulness is in your skill. Wealth, power or job is in your will. Different cutting methods pointed the way. These pliers may help you know what you say. You must face the fear and speak loud and clear. Use your jaws to make a speech. Tell principles you strive to reach. Overcome the fear that binds you a bit. Use the tool—you can handle it. You know—your's are pliers of your trade. Let the world see and hear of what you are made. You come in many shapes and sizes and change with time. You shape the world with your hands and heart and mind. These pliers have a special quirk. Hold them in your hand and they make your mind work. Fail to practice and you will feel the pinch. Grip what you should and all—will be a cinch. Using other pliers I lost my grip. These—made with love will not slip. The world is in your reach—I have no doubt. Ideas and language control you inside and out. They open you, control your happiness and what you do. You are the pliers, grip what you want, it all hinges on YOU.

By Don Harris
March 18, 1994



AGAPE MEN'S GROUP MINISTRY

When the Agape Men's Group met on Thursday, August 6, 2020, in Weber Park, we learned the answer to the burning questions: What is your favorite tool? and Why? Cliff Williams shared an antique ammunition maker which he had used for making sinkers for fishing. Dave Sechrist related that while working at a golf course during his teenage years, he came to appreciate the spade. Kevin Hubert expressed his gratitude for his hands. Ray Davis read a paper written from the heart expressing the role that Jesus Christ plays in guiding him through his life on a daily basis. Don Harris earmarked pliers, and presented each participant with a small wooden pair of pliers which he had whittled from a single piece of wood. He then read a poem he had written entitled the Wood Pliers. (This inspirational poem is shared with you in **Sharing of the Heart** in this *Chimes*.) Dennis Bull jokingly named the cell phone as his favorite because a life lesson learned was that it sometimes is better to call for assistance rather than do it by oneself. (To this Ellen would respond, "Amen!") So, what is your favorite tool? Hold your answer, and the next time we are able to meet in person, please share with the Agape members.

On Thursday, August 20, 2020, we shared an Upper Room devotion---Detours---how do we trust God in the midst of unexpected changes? Specifically, we explored the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on our daily lives. One member had lost a part-time job. Others expressed the notion that their day-to-day lives had not changed so much, but that they had faced adjustments in no longer having the freedom to go places when desired due to business and service closures or restricted schedules of operation. In our discussion it was emphasized how "we are often disappointed or frustrated when things don't go according to our plans", but how in these times we can learn to trust that God will use them for good. An identified good coming out of our present time is getting to know neighbors, friends, and church family at a deeper level beyond the surface.

Men, please join us for our next Agape Group gathering on Thursday, September 3, at 9:00 a.m. in Weber Park (320 Circuit Drive). The burning question of the of the day will be: What is something you made for another fellow being or helped a fellow being to do for themselves? 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

Our August Circuit Riders visitations began early last month as Communion Sunday arrived on August 2nd. Once again, we experienced wonderful visits with our hosts. We have had several members move out of the area; at present, we are keeping in touch with them remotely. And we have others whom we cannot visit inside their care facilities, due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We still are able to drop off a gift bag at the entrance to their building; the gift bags are then delivered promptly to our members' rooms.

Again, the highlights of our visits are the opportunities to be with each of our hosts, reminiscing, praying, discussing our faith, and listening to their wonderful stories.



We offer a short Communion service each month and recently began asking our hosts to close out in prayer, which they beautifully do.

Our "village" of team members who assist in the background, continues to grow. In August we received contributions of homemade cookies from Sherel Harris, needlepoint crosses by Donna Hall and Hazel Nofz, individualized notes sent by Linda Kennedy, cards and pictures from the Kuffour and Witherow families. We also thank Nancy and Connie for preparing the monthly Chimes and Upper Room distributions. We are blessed!

Barbara Schwartz, Cathie Wierbick, Jan Sechrist, Kathleen Mirtoni





3 C's Invite You to Join Us!

By Barbara Hulse &



Susan Reining

Recently, the 3 C's donated a collection of school supplies to Woodbridge School. Kathleen Mirtoni let us know about the need. Barbara Hulse purchased most of the supplies to be reimbursed by 3 C's, which were then picked up by Barbara Schwartz for delivery. Others at church also donated supplies to the school. We all worked together to help make this happen even though we couldn't meet together.

Currently we are looking for Christmas homemade items to sell at Barbara's Boutique where she lives. All funds go to the 3 C's. We are always looking for craft IDEAS as well. If any of you readers have any new craft items to sell please contact Susan Reining. We appreciate all you have given and thank you for your support Blessings, Susan Reining, Barbara Hulse



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3RD PAM WOICICKI

7TH KAYLYN THOMAS

KAYLYN CLARK

8TH KAE'RON WHALO

10TH CACIQUE SANTIAGO

SUE BARELA

11TH CAROLYN HEMIG

13TH BILL LINDNER

17TH BONNIE HUSER

18TH LEO WIERBICK

SARA SPENCE

19TH RAY AITKEN

20TH NORMA MILLER

Inventive Sharing of the Good News

Ruth Ann Baker is helping a friend, who is unable to use a computer, to listen to the sermons each Sunday by holding her phone up to her own computer while the service is broadcasting so her friend can hear the sermon and the music.



SEAN FLAHERTY
1/30/1966-8/19/2020

KYLE SCHAFFER
1/24/54-8/1/2020

IN LOVING MEMORY

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.

PRAYER CHAIN



Submit requests for prayers to: prayers@firstumcroseville.org
Please keep the following people in your prayers:
Sue Barela
Joyce Williams
Sheraya's Cousin Ryan
Donna Hall's son
Sue Angove's sister Diane
Jim Wecker
Lindsay, Jessey, Alisha, her sons
Dominic and Antoneyo friends of Chris Handley
Pam Burt
Cathie Wierbick's Firefighters
All those whose homes are destroyed by the fires
Those whose homes are threatened by the fires including: Cathie Wierbick's daughter & family and Linda Kennedy's son & family

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 members 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).

"No matter the question, the answer is Love."

Saint Claire of Sacramento
Cofounder Wellspring Women's Center
Submitted by Cathe Moody

Noses, Dollars, and Cents

Basic Monthly Statistics: July
Income July 2020: \$9,552.55
Expenses July 2020: \$14,347.20
Net Income July 2020: **\$4,794.65**
Transfer from PPP \$3,288.68
New Total **\$1,505.97**

Basic Yearly Statistics 2020
YTD Income: \$85,044.38
YTD Expense: **\$97,087.66**
Net Income: **\$12,043.28**
Transfer from PPP \$21,891.28
New Total \$9,848.05

July Worship Online Views
Total: 407
Average: 102

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

The lunch program for the homeless served 243 meals in July.

We are still sheltering the Gathering Inn once a month.

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

MY TO-DO LIST FOR TODAY

- count my blessings
- practice kindness
- let go of what i can't control
- listen to my heart
- be productive yet calm
- just breathe

Submitted by Cathe Moody



Recycle August 8, 2020 \$105.00

Please keep saving your recyclables to bring in on September 12, 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
Administrative Assistant: cwithrow@firstumcroseville.org
Office Volunteer: nbray@firstumcroseville.org