

The Messenger

**Eureka First
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
April 2017**



First United Methodist Church
520 Del Norte
Eureka, CA 95501

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From Pastor Kathryn...

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you... In God's hand is the life of every living thing..." Job 12:7,8, 10



Dear Ones,

It is my fifth Trillium season in your midst! Once again the first person to share with me a first seasonal sighting of a Trillium was Lori Green. This year that sighting was on March 10 in Arcata Forest. Because I was out of the area on vacation, I didn't get to see my first Trillium of 2017 blooming in Sequoia Park until my return on March 16, and once again I delighted at that first sighting! I love these beautiful white flowers with 3 petals standing up above 3 beautiful green leaves in our Redwood forests. I invite you to get out and see them for yourselves and see if you agree with me that they seem to be more plentiful this year.

I wonder, are there really more Trilliums this year, or does it just seem like more because until they pop up and bloom I'm never quite sure if they're coming back again. I suppose all the rain this year may have contributed to their abundance, or maybe it's related to how they are spread. I was surprised to read in a recent Times Standard caption that ants disperse the seeds of the Trilliums. ANTS! I do not think ants are among the creatures many of us think about when we declare the wonder of God's creation like the Psalmist: "O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the

earth is full of your creatures." (Psalm 104:24) Can thinking about the role of ants with the Trilliums cause us to pause before we bring negative judgment on other creatures? Including other human beings? Oh, we do live in a complex world, universe, God's creation!

The words from the book of Job that precede this letter remind me of a poem I once embroidered that said something like this, "What need we teach our child with our books and rules... let the child walk amongst the trees and flowers... let the child gaze upon the moon and stars and the child will have its wisdom." I invite you to get outside between or in the midst of the rain showers to "gaze upon" God's marvelous creation and contemplate the wonder, complexity, and surprises of it all!

In Love,
Pastor Kathryn

BISHOP CARCAÑO'S RECEPTION IN MAY

On May 20, 2017 we will host a reception for our new Bishop, Minerva Carcaño. A reception will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon. We look forward to meeting and hearing from our new Bishop.



Invitation to a Passover Meal

On Thursday, April 13, Steve Payton and Pastor Kathryn Dunning will lead persons in the participation of a Seder meal based on the traditional Jewish celebration of Passover, the oldest and most important of Jewish religious festivals, commemorating God's deliverance of the



Hebrews from slavery in Egypt. Though the Seder meal is a sacred time of worship, it is not formal, but is celebrated as a family meal, and folks of all ages are invited to attend this celebration. In celebrating this Passover

Meal together we are reminded that Jesus was a Jew. Please plan to join others from the Eureka First UMC family on Thursday, April 13, in the church fellowship hall. If you would like to help in the preparations of the meal please let the church office or Steve know. All participants will be invited to bring a pot-luck dish to share if possible. Please sign-up on the sign up sheets in worship on Sunday, or make your reservation by calling the church office.

Roll Down, Justice! Lenten Study

Pastor Kathryn continues to lead a Lenten Study, *Roll Down, Justice!* The study takes place on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM or Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM. *Roll Down, Justice!*, written by Faye Wilson, is presented by the United Methodist Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR). It features music and reflections by Mark Miller of Drew University School of Theology and poses the following questions: What are you prepared to give up in order to have a closer walk with God? and What can you give in order to begin anew the work of justice? No materials need to be purchased for this study, and all are invited to attend On April 4 or 5 and April 11 or 12.

Eureka First UMC Walkers

Pastor Kathryn invites all interested people to join her on another Saturday morning walk on April 15. We will meet at 8:00 AM to carpool, this time to Arcata Forest, to walk amongst the Redwood trees. It is best to let Pastor Kathryn or the church office know if you are planning to walk with us on Saturday, April 15 at 8:00 AM so you won't be left in the church parking lot.

PAL (Prayers and Letters) Partner

The Western Jurisdiction of the UMC elected Karen Oliveto, a lesbian woman, as Bishop in July 2016. She was



assigned to the Mountain Sky Area (Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences) in September. Bishop Oliveto has been warmly received by most of the churches and pastors of her

region, but her election has also been met with a complaint filed by another region of the UMC and some resistance to her leadership in her assigned region. The Judicial Council (the UMC's equivalent to the US Supreme Court) will meet in April to rule whether Karen Oliveto can be a bishop in the UMC.

Despite the overwhelming support for her within her conferences, some churches have lost members who cannot accept leadership from a lesbian bishop and have taken a subsequent financial hit from this. The churches of the Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone Conferences are seeing this as a critical time of witness to the meaning of the Church as the body of Christ loving and redeeming the world. As these churches carry on and hang in, they would appreciate the prayers of others and to know they are not alone. Bishop Karen Oliveto and the Western Jurisdictional Leadership Team are asking churches throughout the jurisdiction to be a PAL (Prayers and Letters) partner with at least one United Methodist Church in her leadership area for at least the next 3 months.

Eureka First United Methodist's PAL partner is Burlington UMC in Burlington, Colorado. Pastor Kathryn has spoken with Burry Bessee, the pastor of Burlington UMC, and learned some things about the church and community. The church has about 200 members, with weekly attendance below 60, down from 80-85 a year and a half ago. Burlington is a community of under 5,000, situated on the plains of Colorado and has experienced economic hardship following the closure of a prison in the area. Bishop Oliveto visited their church, as she has been visiting all the churches in her region, and met with about 15 persons. The pastor and others have been very impressed by their new Bishop.

We are all invited to be in prayer for the folks of Burlington UMC. In addition letters of encouragement from members of our congregation to members of their congregation would be appreciated. If you would like to send a letter (could be addressed 'To a member of Burlington UMC'), please contact the church office, Sharon Warren or Pastor Kathryn for the address.

Spring Cursillo

Thursday Evening through Sunday

April 27th - 30th

Christie Hall Needs a New Roof!

The current roof covering on the flat roof of Christie Hall, our education building, has been in place for at least 28 years – more than its expected life span. Over the years it has needed several repairs including one this past fall, but now it is time to fully replace it. The Board of Trustees have worked diligently obtaining engineering advice, securing bids from several contractors, and exploring financing possibilities.

Some folks in the church have wondered if rather than replacing the flat roof, a better long-term solution might be putting trusses on the building so that a conventional sloped roof might be installed. Advantages to this type of roof would be aesthetics, less chance of leaking, and less cost for roof replacement in the future. To explore this possibility engineer Steve Peacock volunteered his services to assess that Christie Hall could indeed support a trussed roof. Steve drew up some preliminary plans so that approximate costs could be ascertained for this major change. Based on costs of materials and labor, it appears such a major change to Christie Hall would cost approximately \$150,000.

The Board of Trustees and our Church Council are recommending a bid for a new flat roof that includes removal of the old roofing material and replacement with a PVC product that is guaranteed for 20 years (10 year workmanship guarantee). The bid for this project is \$47,238. The bid does not include any costs for repairs that may be needed when the old roof is removed. Because of this unknown the actual cost of roof repairs could be much higher (up to 20% more), and so the Finance Committee has explored how to finance up to \$60,000 for a new flat roof on Christie Hall.

Finance Chair Ralph Davis has researched and compared loan possibilities and he, along with the Church Council are recommending a loan be secured through the United Methodist Development Fund.

These recommendations by the Board of Trustees, the Finance Committee and the Church Council must be considered and voted on at a Charge Conference where all members of the church have the opportunity for input and vote. District Superintendent, Dave Samelson, has approved a special Charge Conference to be held on Sunday, April 23, following a 9:30 AM Worship Service for the purpose of moving forward with roof repairs and the financing of those repairs. All interested persons are invited to this special meeting.

Two 9:30 a.m. Services in April! April 23rd & April 30th

We are having two 9:30 a.m. single services this month to accommodate the Special Charge Conference on April 23rd and our normal fifth Sunday service on the 30th. Please mark your calendars!!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Bud Tillinghast	17 Isaac Cameron
5 Paula Amato	17 Charles E. Smith
6 Mary Scott	17 Sarah Quintrell
6 Tim Lindow	19 Brenning Davies-Hughes
7 Justin Cataldo	20 Dean Boyd
8 Chery Jefcoat	21 Lucas Brisichella
9 Paul Samelson	21 Chloe Lindow
9 Rick French	24 Holly Furen
10 Mitzi Beck	24 Kaia Caldwell
11 Carol Miller	25 Paul Gosselin
11 Reagan Weyer	25 Don Dearing
11 George Thode	28 Carolyn Winston-Doble
14 John Lundstrom	28 Randee Pittman
14 David Suchar	29 Pat Reimonenq

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

6 Paul and Fabiola Drumm
13 Michael and Natalie Bresnahan
19 Chad and Marlaine Rechelluul
25 Tim and Kerra Lindow

Congratulations! -- If we missed your special day or have the incorrect date, please call the church office so we can get it right next year.

Women's Book Club - The Sisters of Charlotte Literary & Teatime Society



The Sisters of Charlotte Literary & Teatime Society will meet Tuesday, April 11 at 3:30 p.m. in the Library. The book is *Carthage* by Joyce Oates, and the hostess is Pastor Kathryn.

Thank you Work Day Volunteers!

On Saturday, March 18, volunteers worked on a variety of tasks around our church property. They pulled weeds, cleaned gutters, pressure washed, cleaned an area that had leaked, installed mini blinds in the Fireside room, replaced smoke detector batteries, mounted a fire extinguisher, worked on water heater shed and hauled away trash. Thank you! to volunteers: Wayne Palmrose, Patrick Maciel, Sadiki Koo's, Chad Rechelluul, CJ Rechelluul, Bill O'Brien, Barb O'Brien, Tim Lindow, Dominic Edwards.



Church Family News

Welcome to five new members of Eureka First UMC who formally united with our church in March: Al Sierra and Nancy Collins, Mary McLean, Neal and Sharon Sligh. These are all folks who have been with us for awhile, but it is so affirming to whom we are as the body of Christ to have them make public vows of baptismal renewal and commitment to our church!



We rejoice in the birth of Louis James Crane on March 14, 2017, 8 pounds, 4 ounces. Congratulations to his parents Tony Crane and Paige Olmstead and to Grandmother Pam Coen!

We are so grateful to have Herb Pierce, Sharon Warren and Silas Morrison back in worship with us following their recent hospitalizations!

Please hold the following persons in prayer for health concerns:

Louis Amato
Herb Pierce
Charlie Smith at Seaview Rehabilitation Center
Jeremiah Forman
Bob Lorenson
Art Lewis
Rodney Van Der Sluis, at Eureka Rehabilitation and

Wellness Center

Irene Hedgecock
Gerhard Drumm

And all persons awaiting medical diagnoses and facing medical procedures

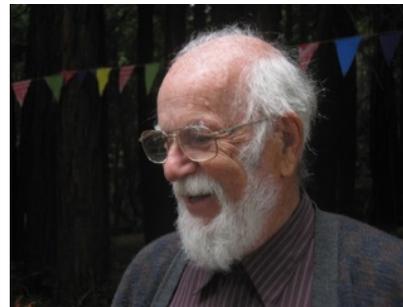
A request for Galeladi and Sadiki

Galeladi and Sadiki are living in a new space and could use a couple of upright dressers. If you have a dresser available and would like it to go to a good home, please call the office at 442-3015.

Did you know Gerhard Drumm wrote a book?

Dear church family,

As many of you may already know, since his retirement my father, Gerhard Drumm, has been writing his life story. This book started out as a written legacy primarily for his children and grandchildren, but his children convinced him to make his book available to others as well because it is an amazing story. It tells of his family's survival and faithfulness during the years leading to and following WWII. In the first installment of his



autobiography, Gerhard Drumm describes his earliest memories of growing up in Northern Yugoslavia. It was a time and place when a two horse power machine was powered

by two horses, cars and radios were novelties and most people were farmers. He goes on to tell of how this community was affected by WWII and its aftermath. During this time, his entire family, along with about 10,000 other ethnic Germans in their town were forced from their homes, rounded up and imprisoned in detention camps. Miraculously, he and 4 of his siblings eventually escaped and arrived in Vienna as refugees. If you want to know more, you'll have to read his book, . You can buy a copy at Eureka Books on 2nd street in Old Town for \$16.00. A limited number of copies are also available at the church office for the same price. Gerhard Drumm plans to donate any profit from the sale of the book to organizations helping to new refugees.

--Angela Cameron

Seussical the Musicca!!

Eureka High School will be performing *Seussical the Musical*, A play based on Dr. Suess books. **Brooke Hansen, Marina & Sylvie Benson, and Stacia Young** are all involved with this play that be performed at 7:30 PM in the Eureka High School Auditorium March 30, 31, & April 1. Check with High

School for Sunday performances. Cost of tickets is \$8 for students and \$10 for General Admission. The play will also be performed on March 18th @ 7:00 PM at McKinleyville High. Admission is by donation for this performance.

Sunday April 9th
Second Sunday Breakfast
Served from 8:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Everyone is welcome!
Free will offering to cover expenses

MUSIC AT EUREKA FIRST



Praise Band

Would you like to sing or play an instrument with the worship team? Join us for rehearsals on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Special Music

Special music is sought for Sunday services. If you have ever wanted to play an instrument or sing for Sunday services, please talk to the music team.

Handbells

The Bella Norte Bells are Eureka First's handbell choir. We rehearse at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays in the Christie Hall, Room 10. If you have questions or would like to participate, call Linda Dionne, director, at 497-6554. We'd love to see you!

MISSIONS

Mexico House Building Mission

It takes three teams of folks to build a small house to improve the life of a family and its community in Mexico: the team that sends, the team that goes, and the team that receives. Once again Eureka First UMC is sending a team off to Mexico to build a house with AMOR ministries. This year's team that goes consists of 18 persons from or related to Eureka First UMC. Our team ranges in age from 15 to 69, with 5 youth and 2 adults participating for the first time as part of the team that goes.

The team that receives are the folks who work for AMOR ministries who have made all the arrangements in Mexico, will help us cross the border, guard our campground, prepare some of our food, and guide us in our work. Also receiving the team that goes is the family we will build a house for in Tecate, Mexico and the neighbors and community of that family.

The team that sends is all of you who will remain in Eureka, but have provided money to help support the financial requirements of this effort, have and will continue to support us with your prayers, and will send us off with **COOKIES!** This year we estimated that the costs of materials for the house we will build is about \$3000. This is in addition to the money participants are paying for food, transportation, and other expenses. To date \$1,740 of this has been received by the church. Please prayerfully consider whether you can contribute to this "second" mile giving.

Cookies for the Mexico Mission Team



Each year when we leave for Mexico our hearts are filled with your good wishes and prayers and our vehicles are carrying lots of delicious cookies that many of you have contributed to be used for

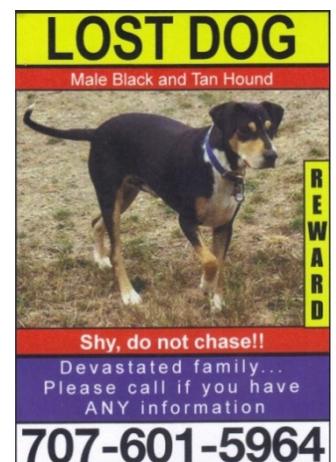
our lunches. **If you would like to donate cookies please bring them to the church office by Easter Sunday, April 16th.**

Housing opportunity!

Are you or someone you know looking for subsidized (low-income) and/or accessible housing? The Housing Authority waiting lists are open and accepting applications. Please call 443-4583 or stop by the office at 735 West Everding (one block south of Winco) for information.

Cheryl L. Churchill

If you would like to be a door to door volunteer, contact Nancy Collins at 707-798-1200 or Marilyn Cottrell at 707-601-5964.



Food Donations: 89 lbs. in March!



FOOD placed in the basket in the narthex is distributed to the Food Bank, the Rescue Mission or kept in the church office for people who fall between the cracks of services available. Food is weighed by our children on the first Sunday of each

month. (2nd Sunday in April because of Easter) Our goal is to collect one hundred pounds of food each month. **Food Donations will be weighed on Sunday, April 13th.**

DRUMM STICK SUNDAY 4/23

The Drumms are back with us for a while, but their mission in Southeast Asia continues! As their home church we continue to raise funds to support their project. One Sunday a month we sell DRUMM STICKS (ice cream cones) -- \$2 each. So, treat yourself to ice cream and support this exciting project.



Submissions to the Messenger



If you have anything you would like included in the Messenger, please send submissions directly to your friendly editor, Dan Dionne, at ddionne@suddenlink.net.

And not just contributions! If you have any suggestions for how we can make the Messenger serve our church better, we want to hear them!