

The Messenger

Eureka First UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 2018



First United Methodist Church
520 Del Norte
Eureka, CA 95501

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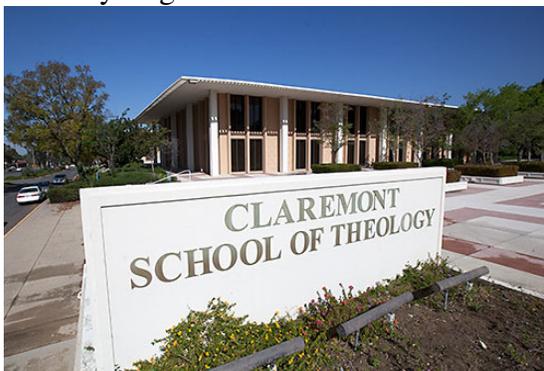
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From Pastor Kathryn...

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams."
Acts 2:17

Dear Ones,

On the day of Pentecost following the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus as recorded in Acts 2 the Holy Spirit was experienced in such a powerful way that the Apostle Peter quoted the Hebrew Prophet Joel, reminding the people that God had promised to pour out God's Spirit on all the people causing young and old to experience visions and dreams. I feel like one of the "elders" in this prophecy embarking on the dream of a Doctor of Ministry Degree. When I completed my Master of Divinity Degree at Claremont School of Theology in



2004 I thought I might return one day for a Doctoral degree, but as the years have passed that idea faded and so

I was surprised in June, 2017 when my attention was captured by the announcement of an Online/Hybrid Doctor of Ministry (DMin) in *Spiritual Renewal, Contemplative Practice, and Strategic Leadership* at my alma mater, Claremont School of Theology (CST) under the direction of one of my favorite seminary professors, Andrew Dreitcer. At first I dismissed any notion of embarking on such an academic pursuit, but the *dream* wouldn't fade and I considered applying for entry into this program a response to a movement of the Holy Spirit calling me to pursue further formal theological studies.

Most of the work for this degree will be accomplished online with two courses each year, for a total of six courses plus the completion of a research project done in the context of my ministry with you. There is one week of residence at CST in southern California required each January – a week I have just completed. All of the course work is completely applicable to the work of ministry in the local church, and I am already using new skills learned in the course I took in the fall of 2017: "Theology and Spiritual Practice for Persons Living with Depression." The course I am currently enrolled in is "Compassionate Responses to Conflict," a very timely topic in our current climate of

increased polarization in the United States. There are a number of Learning Outcomes expected as a result of this DMin Program, but I especially feel the importance of two: 1) Lead individuals, groups, and organizations in discerning their vision and direction in life and service and 2) Cultivate wise, practical compassion in and for yourself, others, and the world. I consider you all my companions and fellow learners on this quest for discernment skills and the nurturing of compassion in all.

As I write this letter February is about to begin, the month when the first Trillium blossoms will be seen



on the North Coast. During pauses in my work and studies I will continue to walk

and look for these special, beautiful white flowers with three petals most often seen amongst our Redwood Trees. I invite you to do the same, and please let me know of your first sightings.

In Love,
Pastor Kathryn

LENT



Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 14th this year) and ending on the day before Easter (Easter is April 1st in 2018). *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word, *lencten*, which means "spring." The season of

Lent is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, it began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Some Christians choose to give up something during Lent as a way of fasting and allowing for more time or resources for contemplation or service. All Christians are invited to a Holy Lent of intentional prayer, study and worship. Plan now to observe a Holy Lent in 2018, intentionally deepening your understanding of and relationship with Jesus the Christ.

Practicing Our Faith during Lent

During the six weeks of Lent prior to Easter Pastor Kathryn will lead a study on *Practicing Our Faith*. The weekly study, "Practicing our Faith," will include six different Christian spiritual practices that can be done as individuals or with a group to contribute to growth in the Christian life. There will be two choices of times for these study sessions. One will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday evenings beginning February 20 and one will be at 10:00 AM on Wednesday mornings beginning February 21. There is no book for this course, but it would be helpful to know who is planning to attend so enough materials can be prepared. Please let the office know via email, phone, or Sunday attendance slip if you plan to attend. If you have questions about *Practicing our Faith* please contact Pastor Kathryn.

Ash Wednesday at Eureka First

Eureka First UMC will observe Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent with a worship service on Wednesday, February 14th at 7:00 PM. The service will include the "imposition" of ashes as a way of reminding us of our mortality.

Third Saturday Supper

Church Supper



On Saturday, February 17 at 5:30 PM you are all invited to *Third Saturday Supper* at Eureka First UMC. A prepared meal will be served at 5:30. Dinner will include some time of devotion and sharing followed by dessert. The meal will

conclude by 6:30 and be followed by clean-up by volunteers present and board games or other fellowship activities for those who wish to stay until 8 or 8:30. This will be a good time of food, faith and fun for all!

Women's Healthy Living



Some women of the church have requested a support group for helping to live healthy lives that include good nutrition, exercise and other healthy practices. There is no intention to prescribe one diet or exercise program. This time together is

envisioned as an opportunity to share with and support one another. All interested women are invited to meet to plan for this small group experience on Wednesday, February 21 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Library (Room 16 in Christie Hall). Please contact Pastor Kathryn with any questions or to indicate your interest.

Sound and Video opportunity



Are you interested in learning something new? Do you want to have our own reserved seat in church? Do you want to give Brad a break from time to time? Consider becoming a part of the sound and video team. Advance training,

tutoring and on-the-job training all cheerfully provided. If you are interested in seeing what this is all about, please leave a message with the church office.

Financial Summary

December 2017

General Fund Revenue: \$27,017.40
General Fund Expense: \$16,429.33

2017

2017 General Fund Revenue: \$191,624.21
2017 General Fund Expense: \$194,357.73
(\$2,733.52)

Thank you for your generous giving to God through the church.

JANUARY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

JAN 7 TH	TOTAL - 71	JAN 21 ST	TOTAL - 63
JAN 14 TH	TOTAL - 72	JAN 28 TH	TOTAL - 75

Congratulations! Good Work! Wow!!!

Yes, we spent \$2,733.52 more than we took in for the general fund in 2017, but that deficit number does not tell the whole story. In August of 2017 our expenses exceeded income by almost \$17,000 – we were on a trajectory to have an exceedingly large deficit at the end of the year, but as Marge Custis, our former Finance Chair, used to say, "God is faithful, and we'll make it in the end." Thank you for taking seriously the call to support this church's ongoing work with your presence, your prayers, your GIFTS, your service and your witness. Keep up the good work! With the regular giving of your dollars to the ongoing work of Eureka First United Methodist Church we will see a balanced budget in 2018!

February Birthdays

2 Gerhard Drumm	14 Valerie Samelson
3 Janice La Flesh	14 Anisha Mae Rechelluul
6 Sally Moulton	15 Claire Olmstead
6 Casey Taylor	18 Wayne Palmrose
6 Katie Peacock	19 Gary Quintrell
8 Cheryl Sanford	21 Charlie McClung
11 Chad Rechelluul	24 Tori Reynolds
13 Nia Davies-Hughes	24 Henry Hale

and anniversaries....

12 Lisa & Brett McAllister
29 Bob & Lori Green

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.

Sunday February 11th

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

In Fellowship Hall

Everyone's welcome!

Free will offering (\$4 suggested donation) to cover expenses

Hey—it's Valentine's week this year! No better way to start off than a romantic breakfast at the church!

Women's Book Club –



The Sisters of Charlotte Literary & Teatime Society will meet Tuesday, February 20 at 3:30 p.m. in the Library. The book is *Dean's Watch* by Elizabeth Doudge, and the hostess is Louise Fredrickson.

this happen, but we could use financial help from the congregation. Please consider an additional gift for this purpose. Make sure to mark your check “handchimes” or “handbells.” And thank you so much for your ongoing support!

Wouldn't you like to ring these marvelous devices? The Bella Norte Bells 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



WELCOME BACK THE DRUMMS

On Sunday, February 18, The Drumm family will be joining us for worship at Eureka United Methodist after two and a half years serving in southeast Asia. There have been some new, exciting opportunities to be peacemakers and bridge builders in their community and neighborhood. Just last weekend, they hosted a group of twenty-five people at their home for an intensive four day workshop. Since their house is quite small, this was logistical challenge. The group was forced to work closely together, both literally and figuratively. Together they worked to create meaningful peacemaking curriculum to encourage dialogue and understanding among groups that have been taught to fear and distrust each other.

Come out on February 18 to give them a warm welcome. We are inviting members of the congregation who wish to give them gift cards for food, gas or other travel necessities.

These will be a godsend during their furlough as they travel throughout California speaking with congregations and reconnecting with supporters. A basket for cards will be available.

During the past month we have had a weekly Drumm trivia challenge during announcements. See how much you remember or know below. Answers are provided on the next page.

DRUMM TRIVIA

- How old will Nikolas be when he arrives in Eureka?
 - 6 years
 - 7 years
 - 8 years
 - 9 years
- Paul Drumm is named after...
 - His father
 - A beloved hymn writer
 - Apostle Paul
 - His grandfather

- When Tobias grows up he wants to be..
 - A professional dishwasher
 - An explorer
 - A policeman
 - A doctor
- What was Fabiola's time in her last 10K race?
 - 48 minutes
 - 52 minutes
 - 56 minutes
 - 60 minutes
- When Fabiola was a child she had a pet..
 - snake
 - parrot
 - guinea pig
 - monkey

ANSWERS TO DRUMM TRIVIA CHALLENGE: 1. B 2. A&B 3. C 4. B 5. D

DRUMM STICK SUNDAY 2/18

As their home church we continue to raise funds for the Drumm Family who are serving Christ in South Asia. One Sunday a month we sell DRUMM STICKS (ice cream cones) -- \$2 each. So, treat yourself to ice cream occasionally and support this exciting project!



Mexico!



This year our Mexico Mission Team to build a house with AMOR ministries will join with the UMC Church of the Joyful Healer

in McKinleyville the week of April 16-21 to form one united North Coast Team. Please let the church office know if you want more information about this wonderful opportunity to serve.

Hold the date: March 18 Fiesta Taco Lunch to raise funds for Mexico Mission Trip



Food Donations for January: 118 pounds!

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.

Food Donations will be weighed on Sunday February 4.

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 dldionne@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!