



Concord United Methodist Church

1645 West Street, Concord, California, 94521
Phone: (925) 685-5260, E-mail: concordumc@sbcglobal.net,
Web-site: www.concordumc.org

April 28, 2015

The Concord Connection

Seeking God, Serving the Community, Supporting Each Other

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Worship
in the Sanctuary
8:45 – 11:45 a.m.
Nursery Care
Available
9:00 a.m. Adult
Bible Study
9:00a.m. New Life
Celebration
Oglesby-Close Hall
10:30 a.m. Children
and Youth Sunday
Schools
10:30 a.m. Worship
in the Sanctuary
11:30 a.m.
Fellowship &
refreshments in
Oglesby-Close Hall

Saturday Worship

6:00 p.m.
Vesper Service
in the Sanctuary

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for articles
is on the 3rd
Monday at 4 pm of
each month. No
exceptions. Please
email articles when
possible.
Thank you,

*Marilyn Robrecht –
Editor*

CUMC RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday, Friday & Saturday
May 14 & 15 – 9am to 5pm
May 16 – 9am to 1pm



CHURCH-WIDE, MULTI-FAMILY RUMMAGE SALE & DRAWING* TO BENEFIT CUMC'S GENERAL FUND

*Tell your neighbors, share it on
Facebook, get the word out!*

Games●Puzzles●Toys●Bookcases●Pictures●Jewelry
Vases●Curtains●Small Furniture●Dishes Frames●Collectibles Movies
&CDs●Books●Pots & Pans●Cooking Utensils Linens●Glassware●Wine
Glasses

NEW ITEMS ADDED EACH DAY
(NO Shoes)

❖**DRAWING*** \$1 ticket OR 6/\$5❖
*Gift Baskets, Specialty Food Baskets, Restaurant Gift Certificates,
Valuable Services and MORE*
**Need not be present to win!*

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925-685-5260 **concordumc.org**



Online Giving

Pastor Sungho Lee

Our church Finance committee made a decision to introduce an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year.

Convenient for you!

And, when travel, if illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. An online giving program offers convenience for you.

Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at www.concordumc.org,
- 2) Click on the Give Now button,
- 3) Click on the Create Profile button, then
- 4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions

If you are a younger generation, you may prefer to use mobile donation! We thought about you also.

We also offer a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to www.concordumc.org and locate the online giving page.



If you are a really young generation, now you can text your offerings!

In the church website at www.concordumc.org locate the link to our online giving page and create a profile if you haven't already—less time than it takes to write a check, you can now make your contribution to our church with a quick text message.

To get started, visit www.concordumc.org and make sure to opt in to send text donations. You will receive a confirmation text and email with instructions on how to text donations.

Non-church members are also welcome!

Even though you are not a church member, if you want to support our church ministry, you can participate in those mission and ministries like Homeless Shelter meal, Heifer International, Habitat for Humanity, Elderly Memory Care Service, and Domestic and Foreign Mission (Guatemala, Thailand, Japan, Myanmar, Mongolia, Africa, etc.)

When you read our church website, if your heart is moved and want to be a part of it, simply click the donation button. We will do the work with your money and you will be a part of those great causes and ministries. Your life will be remembered as a part of God's mission in the world.

SPRING SING

An Afternoon of Music at CUMC



SUNDAY, JUNE 7

3 PM

Featuring:

Chancel Choir,
Chamber Choir,
Community Orchestra,
Doug McKeehan &
HouseBlend

Light refreshments will follow this free concert.
Infant Care provided during the concert at no charge.

SOUND SYSTEM TRAINEES NEEDED!! (2ND TIME AROUND)

**Are you a regular attender of the 10:30 service?
Would you like to worship from on high?**

We are looking for a few folks who would be willing to learn and monitor the Sanctuary sound system one Sunday a month. Or if you are interested in the video system, we would also like to add to our team of PowerPoint presenters.

Please contact **Sandy Blazer (e-mail: Wyrmlady@aol.com or cell: 925-323-1800)** if you are interested in helping CUMC be a part of the "electronic age". (Youth are welcome, no age limit)

Welcome new members

During the month of April, 2015 CUMC welcomed seven new members into our family.

George Kuntz, joined thru confirmation at the Vesper Service.

Ann Tiscareno has joined Esther Circle and helped with Winter Nights. **Sue Ann Shurtliff** helped with Winter Nights. **Debbie Beye** has been involved with our youth, which daughter Hannah is part of. She also helps with mid-week, VBS, and is a member of Esther Circle.

Kristen DeLong, Nicole DeLong and Hannah Beye were our Confirmation class of 2015 and have been very active here at CUMC.

Special dates

- National Day of Prayer, *May 7, 2015*
- Mother's Day, *May 10, 2015*
- Ascension of the Lord, *May 14, 2015*
- Armed Forces Day, *May 16, 2015*
- Victoria Day (Canada), *May 18, 2015*
- Pentecost, *May 24, 2015*
- Memorial Day, *May 25, 2015*
- Trinity Sunday, *May 31, 2015*



There's a new word floating around to describe all those women we love and admire: They are our "She-roes" and on Mother's Day this year we want to bless and honor them. To celebrate the women who have made a difference in your lives, bring a picture to place on the altar and we will bless them at each of the services along with all of the women in the congregation.

Also, if you didn't get a chance to wear your Easter Bonnet, here is another opportunity. We would love to have a sea of hats waving in the pews on Mother's Day morning.

"Anna" New Sunday UMW Circle

Our United Methodist Women at CUMC has started a new circle which will have its first official meeting as **Anna Circle on Sunday May 3, at 12 noon in Room 7.**

You can become part of an organization whose main purpose is to advocate for the needs of women and children all over the world and to work to improve their lives. We offer friendship – an opportunity to get to know the wonderful and interesting women in our church community. We offer support – we're always there when you need a shoulder to cry on or want to share a joy in your life. We offer spiritual growth and educational opportunities – our monthly programs help us grow in our relationships with God and inform us.

If you are interested, call Ann Kung (510)-693-1523 or Elaine deProse (925) 827-0199.

Church & Society

Winter Nights.

Volunteers from CUMC, our co-host Good Shepherd Lutheran, St. Bonaventure, St Luke Lutheran, First Lutheran, Contra Costa United Methodist, and International Seventh Day Adventist churches all joined hands and hearts to make our 2015 Winter Nights a success. CUMC had over 70 volunteers. There were also two Boy Scout troops, a teenage baseball team, our Vespers group as well as our Men's group, our youth group, Abigail and Esther circles all doing their best to make our church a safe and comfortable place for our families. Our CUMC Men's group got us started by unloading the moving truck on the first day and setting up Oglesby-Close Hall. They ended the two weeks by loading up the moving truck and putting Oglesby - Close Hall back as it was before. Boy Scout Troop 465 got the first night off to a great start with a delicious dinner, homework help and playtime with the little ones. Some volunteers were here almost every evening, some sleeping over several times.

We started with 9 families and ended with 7. Two more families moved in at Winter Nights' next stop. We won't know how many found homes, all we hope, until May when Winter Nights closes. CUMC members and friends, your contributions of money, time, talents, and prayers make our two weeks of Winter Nights happen each year. Thank you so very much for allowing CUMC to be a part of this outstanding program in our community. The families send their thanks and gratitude too.

Coming Events

Immigration Justice Forum, Sunday, May 3, 3 pm - 5 pm, Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek. Hear from families and children newly arrived in our community, why they came, what they need, and how congregations can support them. Other speakers include Jean Yamasaki, attorney at East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Nati Flores from Monument Impact, Ramon Cardona, Director of Centro Cuscatlan Latino. This event is sponsored by Multi faith Immigration Coalition, Social Justice Alliance, Mt. Diablo League of Women Voters, and Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church Immigration Taskforce.

ELECTION DAY, Tuesday, May 19---BE SURE TO VOTE!

GRADUATION AND PROMOTION SUNDAY



On **Sunday, May 31**, we will be honoring those who are graduating from **High School and above** (including special programs as well as advanced degrees).

We are on the lookout for all graduates related to our congregation. We will also recognize those **Sunday school children being promoted to the next level.**

If you have a graduate or a child being promoted, please e-mail the office or Sandy Blazer Wyrmlady@aol.com as soon as possible, so we can send out invitations to our graduates.

Thank You!

There are many words I could use to express my appreciation...but "Thank You" still says it best!

Thank you very much for the great service and memorial for our mother Helen. It was nice to see her friends come to pay their respects to her.

Tom & Linda Tousignant



In Our Prayers

Russ Kladko and family following the death of his mother. **Darlene Emigh** and family following the death of her mother.

Continued prayers for: Eileen Hager, Barbara Robbins, Cathe Dods, Doug McLeod, Robert Blazer, Marilyn Robrecht, Ron & Chris Wilson, Sally Siler, Jane Crandall, Jeff Simmons, Marge Boyer, Chris Gregory.



UMW General Meeting and Program

Wednesday, May 20, Sherrill Hall

10 am – Business Meeting

11am---Special program with:

Marty Brounstein author of *Two Among the Righteous Few*, a true story of a Christian couple in the Netherlands who saved over two dozen Jews during the Holocaust and World War II.

Books will be available (\$13) and Marty will be happy to sign them.

12 noon ---Potluck lunch

All are welcome to attend.

SHARE SUNDAY

IS DESIGNATED AS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH—BUT YOU CAN BRING YOUR ITEMS IN ON ANY SUNDAY AND PLACE IT IN THE SHARE CONTAINER.

Suggested items are; macaroni and cheese, canned fruits and vegetables and peanut butter.

Good Timers

Tuesday May 12, 2015

12 noon, Sherrill Hall

Bring a friend. Bring a sandwich, drinks and dessert provided.

For more information please call Pam or Dean Hall: 777-9868



ENDOWMENT CORNER

YOU ARE THE KEY!

1. Did you know there is no limit on the size of the Endowment gift that may be given. The interest will be used to fund a CUMC project each year. The principle of the gift is never spent and continues indefinitely.
2. Anyone can give an endowment gift. Any size may be made as an endowment. You may do this now or as part of your estate plan.
3. Memorial gifts meet two important needs at once. They allow you to express your feelings at the loss of a loved one. In addition, the gift to the CUMC Endowment helps support many ministries. Appropriate cards are sent to the bereaved family indicating the fact that your memorial gift was made. (but not the amount).
4. Good stewardship requires us to think of the future. Have your estate plan prepared now and include a gift to the CUMC Endowment Fund.

Questions? Contact a member of the Endowment Committee – Chuck Rogers, Joyce Atkinson, Milt DeGroot, Russ Kladko.

REMEMBER, YOU ARE THE KEY ONLY YOU CAN MAKE THESE THINGS HAPPEN.

AARP FOUNDATION

April 21, 2015

Dear Mr. Brumley and Pastor Lee,

The AARP Tax-Aide program has completed its sixth very successful season at CUMC. We prepared current federal and state returns of 632 individuals or couples, an additional 23 prior year and amended returns, and assisted 53 other people by answering questions or determining there was no need to file. We experienced an increased demand for our services and all of our appointments were taken two weeks before the end of the season.

As in the past the majority of those we served were low to moderate income. In many cases of low income clients with children we are able to help them get financial assistance through the Earned Income Tax Credit.

All this would not be possible without the facilities and support provided by you and the Church. On behalf of AARP Tax-Aide, I want to thank you and the church for the support you have provided. Particular thanks to Marilyn Robrecht for acting as our liaison. Also we are very grateful to James Hofmeister for providing a necessary internet connection and for his extraordinarily rapid response when an equipment failure occurred. It is the cooperative effort of both the Concord United Methodist Church and Tax-Aide volunteers that allows us all to help so many people in Contra Costa.

We hope that we have again demonstrated the value of our joint efforts to you, your parishioners, and the local community such that we can work together again in 2016.

Jack B. Cooper Jr., Site Coordinator
AARP Tax-Aide Program



CUMC's Project Linus 2015 FINAL COUNT: 178 blankets!

On March 22nd, we draped the blankets over the pews, blessed them and prayed for the people who would be receiving them. After church that Sunday, each of our 26 Winter Night's family members was able to enter the sanctuary and select their choice of blankets. All were appreciative of the opportunity to have a new, colorful, warm blanket of their own.

The remaining blankets will go to Project Linus and will be distributed to children up to 18 years of age to "provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need".

If you still have blankets at home you can either store them for us until next January and we'll add them to the 2016 batch of blankets; or call Mary Spryer (925-876-3520) and arrange for a pick up.

If you helped this year, in any way (by donating, money, fleece or your own hand-made blankets or helping to purchase fleece or cut fleece) I hope you came to the Blanket Blessing Sunday and saw this beautiful thing you've helped us accomplish.

Thanks to all who have made this Mission Project successful, especially to the Mission Committee who always gives money to buy fleece each year.

We hope to expand the program next year to include blankets for our veterans. Our first fleece-buying mission takes place on Thanksgiving weekend (either the Friday or Saturday). Fleece is then cut and ready for our "Blanketeers" to check out fleece to tie near the first of the year. Look for more information to come in the fall

STAFF PARISH 2015 LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS:

Staff members are assigned S.P. Liaisons to keep communication lines open on a regular basis between themselves and CUMC. Should anyone (including staff) have compliments to share regarding a staff member, questions, comments or suggestions, please direct them to their assigned Liaison.

STAFF MEMBER:

Keith Chesterman (Custodian/Security/Setup)
Kathy Evans-Butler (Nursery Alternate)
Marilyn Forrey (Nursery Attendant)
Jessica Howe (Nursery Attendant)
Sungho Lee (Pastor)
Rose Loth (Choir Director)
Doug McKeehan (9/10:30 Pianist/Organist)
Ruby Perez (8:00 Pianist; 9-10:30 Alternate)
Marilyn Robrecht (Office Manager)
James Wakefield (Youth Ministry Director)

2015 S.P. LIAISON:

David Brumley – dbrumley@msn.com
No Liaison Assigned
Debbie Beye – Debbiebeye17@gmail.com
Micheal Pope – micheal@aseb.org
Carolynn Robason – carolynn33@sbcglobal.net
Chuck Rogers – CRogers564@astound.net
Chuck Rogers - "
Erwin Eclarino – eclarinowin@rocketmail.com
Delores Loague – ldjb@astound.net
Mary Spryer – mspryer@comcast.net

*Independent Contractor

IN HIS SERVICE,
Carolynn Robason
Staff Parish Chair

7.8 earthquake hits Nepal



We continue to be in prayer with the people in Nepal and all who are affected by the earthquake including first responders and families of those who have died or are missing. Global Ministries has been in touch with all of our missionaries in the area and confirmed they are safe. UMCOR is preparing a response, working through local and international partners.

Donations to support the response to the earthquake in Nepal and other international disasters can be made through **UMCOR Advance # 982450**. **Checks can be made out to your local UMC and write UMCOR Advance #982450 in the memo and put in the offering plate.**

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Return Service Requested

