



ALONG THE WAY

The Newsletter of Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church • July 2018

Deacons and Ruling Elders: You Are Ordained for Life!

The Book of Order (G-2.0404) reads, “Ruling elders and deacons not in active service on a session or board of deacons continue to bear the responsibility of the ministry to which they are called.” Another way to write that is when you are ordained as an officer in the Presbyterian Church (USA) as deacon or ruling elder, *you are ordained for life!* It does not make any difference where you were ordained—Wisconsin or Sunnyvale, nor when you were ordained—in 1960 or this past January or will be ordained in 2019.

In September the congregation will be electing deacons and elders for three-year terms. In January 2019 some of those elected will be



ordained as they have not yet served in that office before. All newly-elected officers will be installed for their term.

During the ordination and installation in January all previously ordained deacons and ruling elders and teaching elders will be invited to come forward for the laying on of hands. When **Rev. Hardy Kim** was installed as our Head of Staff in November 2017, there was a call for all ordained to

come forward for the laying on of hands. That call was for all who are ordained, not just those currently serving as deacons, ruling elders, and pastors. When all ordained hear the call to come forward for the laying on of hands, that call is for you to come forward. Newly ordained and installed officers often comment on how supported they feel by all the hands laid upon them.

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One of the ways you may always serve once you are ordained is by serving communion. Did you know that it takes 27 deacons and elders to serve communion on the first Sunday of the month? The Worship ministry team invites you to serve communion at any of our services. Please contact Worship elder **Lisa McManis** at lisa@mcmanis.com for more information.

Mary McManis is one example of serving when not actively on session or the board of deacons.

When Mary was in town in February visiting her parents, she served communion. Mary was ordained in January 2013 and served on our session her senior year in high school.

Serve in ways that speak to your heart, and remember, you are ordained forever. 

Kay Narva Reflects on Serving as a Deacon

It is a pleasure serving as a Parish Deacon. Being part of a team that welcomes new members and helps them connect with our church community brings back fond memories of those who welcomed my husband and me many years ago.

Over the many seasons of life here at SVPC I have felt God's nudging to serve, through the encouragement of others. Being aware of my time and talents, I find the team of deacons a wonderful fit for me.

I'm blessed that I have an avenue at SVPC through which I can experience community and use my time and energy to connect with others while serving as a deacon.

Barry Vickrey Reflects on Serving as an Elder

Because I served as an elder in a previous Presbyterian church, I was familiar with the requirements of the position when the Nominating Committee contacted me. God's will for my life has often been revealed to me by other people, so I saw this as a call from God. While I thought that retirement was supposed to be about grandchildren, golf, and reading, God apparently has some other ideas.

The bulk of my work relates to a specific ministry area, Discipleship. This includes adult learning, All-Church Camp, Presbyterian Women, men's and women's retreats, the library, young adults, and small groups. It's a lot of work, but I consider it a privilege to be involved in this ministry area. I have been fortunate to follow **Bill Prior's** outstanding leadership of Discipleship, and we are blessed with many, very talented people who teach classes and lead the other programs.

One of the most important activities at the monthly session meetings is the prayer time at the end of each meeting. I thank God for the opportunity to pray for those with special needs each month.

The View From Here

by Rev. Karin Hejmanowski

Dear Friends,

Many of us are familiar with the path of grief. The waves and emotions of grief come repeatedly and unexpectedly. The hollow ache in one's chest can feel like it will never go away.

Over the past months, I am deeply aware that our church community has experienced a great deal of loss. Some of you are keenly aware of it and are processing the grief and loss of multiple friends and family members. Others have experienced pieces of that loss. Others of you have not had reason to be aware of these losses beyond their mention in our Sunday prayers.

As your pastors, **Hardy** and I have the honor, along with the support of the Pastoral Care Team, Stephen Ministers, deacons, and other staff members, to walk alongside many of you in your times of grief. And we know that such times are sacred ground in your lives.



“As deep and wide as our grief may run, the love of Christ is deeper and wider still. Let’s continue to express the love of Christ to one another as life brings us times of challenge as well as times of joy.”

Thank you for allowing me and us into your lives at such tender moments.

But most often the day-to-day support, the ongoing care and compassion are expressed by friends in the congregation. Such friends may be folks you recently met or friends you have known for decades. And this expression of love is who we are called to be and what we are called to do...to love one another, to pray for one another, to cry with one

another, and to extend the love of Christ.

As deep and wide as our grief may run, the love of Christ is deeper and wider still. Let's continue to express the love of Christ to one another as life brings us times of challenge as well as times of joy.

Peace,

Karin

July Calendar

A quick look at what's happening at SVPC this month...

July

- 1 Food drive for those in our community served by Sunnyvale Community Services
Summer Church School
CARAVAN returns
- 4 Church office closed for Independence Day
- 8 Summer Church School
- 9 Deadline for August newsletter articles
- 11 FLASH Bible Talks begin, contact youth@svpc.us for info
- 12 Spice Dinner, 6 PM, Marie Callender's in Sunnyvale
- 15 CARAVAN Sunday
Life's Garden Ice Cream Social, 2–4 PM, 450 Old San Francisco Road, Sunnyvale
Summer Community Dinner #1, 6 PM, Trinity Court, dinner provided
- 22 Summer Church School
Summer Community Dinner #2, 6 PM, Trinity Court, dinner provided
- 25 FLASH Pool Party, 6–8 PM, contact youth@svpc.us for info
- 29 Summer Church School
Summer Community Dinner #3, 6 PM, Trinity Court, dinner provided

August

- 5 Hymn Sing, 9:50 AM
Family Worship
Summer Community Potluck #1, 6 PM, Trinity Court, bring a dish to share
- 12 Hymn Sing, 9:50 AM
Family Worship
Summer Community Potluck Dinner #2, 6 PM, Trinity Court, bring a dish to share

E-mail—info@svpc.us

Facebook—facebook.com/SunnyvalePres 

19 Hymn Sing, 9:50 AM
Family Worship
Summer Community Potluck Dinner #3, 6 PM,
Trinity Court, bring a dish to share

26 Hymn Sing, 9:50 AM
Family Worship
Summer Community Potluck Dinner #4, 6 PM,
Trinity Court, bring a dish to share

Looking Ahead

August 31–September 3—All-Church Camp
September 17—Next Community Conversation
September 30—New Member Class
October 14—All-Church Picnic 

Where is that?

Coleman Room
(Bldg 700)
Fellowship Hall
(Bldg 300)
Fireside Room
(Bldg 200)
Gym, Phoenix Center
(Bldg 700)
Sanctuary (Bldg 100)
Soulé Hall (Room 501,
Bldg 500)
Youth Room, Phoenix
Center (Bldg 700)

What are Your Favorite Hymns?

Valerie Sterk, SVPC organist

During August, we'll precede our 10 AM worship services with a hymn sing beginning at 9:50 AM. Which hymns will we sing? We'd like to feature the favorite hymns of our congregation—our "top 10" or "top 20" for summer 2018.

On each Sunday in July look for a hymn-ballot box in Trinity Court after the 10 AM worship services. Write down your all-time favorite hymn, and place your hymn-vote in the ballot box (one hymn-vote per ballot, please). **Valerie** will tally the votes and give our list of top hymn favorites to the pastors, who will lead the August hymn sings. We'll also try to weave your favorite hymns into 10 AM worship services throughout the year.

Arrive 10 minutes early on Sundays in August for an opportunity to warm up your souls and singing voices with our favorite hymns. Vote often and sing joyfully!



Rooted in Christ...

Sunnyvale Presbyterian offers everyone an opportunity to connect with the church community.

Adventures with Flat Jesus!

This summer as we enter the travel season, we want you to take Jesus with you...Flat Jesus! This is our take on the popular *Flat Stanley* books. Pick up a copy of Flat Jesus at Church School any summer Sunday, or download the Flat Jesus pdf from <https://firstpresbyterian.org/sites/default/files/Flat-Jesus-2017.pdf>.

Flat Jesus is a great way to be reminded that Jesus is with you wherever you go. Snap lots of photos with Flat Jesus while on your summer travels or just around town when you go out to dinner, to the park, or meet friends. Then share them with us. On Facebook use **@SVPCKids** to get to SVPC's Children's Ministry page and use the hashtag **#FlatJesus** to post pictures, or email pictures to tadros@svpc.us and we'll post them for you.

Check out our Facebook Album, "Adventures with Jesus, Summer 2018" to see where Flat Jesus has traveled recently. We can't wait to see what adventures you and Jesus have this summer!



Vacation Bible School

We Were Digging and Discovering Jesus!



If you were on campus during the week of June 18 you witnessed a sea of children laughing, singing, and discovering more about Jesus and how Jesus loves each and every one of us, especially the littlest ones. Please pray for the children who attended VBS that God would continue to be a part of their lives as they grow and mature in their faith.

Worship Focus

Catch some calm in the middle of your week with the weekly **Worship Focus** email. This email includes a greeting from the preaching pastor, the sermon scripture and some questions for reflection. Begin to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's worship. *Opt-in* by sending an e-mail to info@svpc.us with your request. 

Fiscal Year-End through May 31

We are two months into our fiscal year which began April 1, and the results are as follows:

\$ 348K	Income
-\$ 250K	Expenses
<hr/>	
\$ 98K	Surplus

Giving is very healthy—in fact it's ahead of where we were this time last year—and ahead of budget. We need to keep up this strong rate of giving in order to offset the deficit budget.

We continue to be grateful for your stewardship to this church community. Thank you!

**GOD'S MISSION
OUR GIFTS**



All-Church Camp

Labor Day Weekend, August 31–September 3

We're excited that All-Church Camp is only two months away! Our yearly trip to Redwood Glen Camp near La Honda occurs on Labor Day weekend. Spend the holiday relaxing, playing, and fellowshipping with new and old friends. Nestled in the redwoods, camp is sure to be rejuvenating and memorable. As always, we welcome first-time campers with special activities.

A reminder to all that registration is online this year at www.svpc.us/camp. For anyone wanting to offer their skills and talents to help make a wonderful weekend, please contact **Sarah** and **Fjord Hawthorne** at SVPCcamp2018@gmail.com.



Reaching Out In Love.

Christ commands us to love one another as He loves us. Here's how.

Summer Community Dinners

Sundays, July 15–29

You're invited to join us for dinner this summer after our 5 PM worship service Sundays beginning July 15. It's one of the ways we build community and practice hospitality. We eat outside at tables in Trinity Court. The meals may range from food trucks to BBQ to home-cooked specialties, and we work hard to include gluten-free and vegan options. There's always a donation basket set out to help cover costs, but never let that stop you from joining us.

Your support of these dinners is appreciated! Make plans to join us when you're in town these summer Sundays, and consider offering to help set up and/or clean up. Contact **Carol Heath** at carol@svpc.us.



Summer Potluck Community Dinners

Sundays, August 5–26

We'll continue to have dinners together on Sundays beginning August 5 after our 5 PM worship service, but we're going to do so with good old-fashioned potlucks. Arrive a few minutes before the worship service with a dish to share and there will be signs indicating where to store your hot or cold dish during the church service, or come at 6 PM with your dish. We'll provide the plates, utensils and drinks! 

Ice Cream Social

**July 15, 2–4 PM, Life's Garden
450 Old San Francisco Road, Sunnyvale**

Everyone in the congregation is invited to the Ice Cream Social at Life's Garden affordable senior community. Entertainment will be provided by the Firebird Youth Chinese Orchestra. The event is hosted by SVPC Friends for Life. Bring the family, enjoy a delicious treat, listen to music, and meet your neighbors in the community! Volunteers are requested to help with the event. 你会说中文吗? Contact **Rhonda Murray** at FriendsForLifeSV@gmail.com.



Library News

Explore opportunities to serve our church by ministering to others who use the library books and A/V materials. Youth and adult library volunteers greet and serve patrons or help with shelving, processing/cataloging resources, and assisting with special projects. Does this sound appealing to you? Contact library@svpc.us.



New Member Class

**September 30, 11:30 AM,
Coleman Room**

Save the date! If you've been attending worship and have been wondering what the next step in connecting is, come and explore membership with us at our new member class. Look for details online at svpc.us/member.

Spice Dinner

**Thursday, July 12,
6 PM, Marie Callender's,
Sunnyvale**

SVPC's 50s+ Singles Group, Spice, will enjoy a no-host dinner. Join us for a pleasant meal with the group. This is a wonderful way to make new friends and enjoy an evening out. For more information please contact **Melanie Prolo** at 408-394-9311 or melanieprolo@gmail.com.



The Church Picnic Moves to a New Season!

**Sunday, October 14, 11 AM–2 PM,
Las Palmas Park in Sunnyvale**

The 2018 SVPC Church Picnic will be at a new time of the year to allow more people of all ages to attend. Summer vacations have prevented many folks from participating in the past and we are hopeful this new date on October 14 will be a positive change. Stay tuned for further announcements about the exciting plans for a most enjoyable time of games, eating, and fun for everyone. 



Youth Ministry

FLASH and CLUE summer calendars are available at www.svpc.us/youth



CLUE—High School Events

CARAVAN Sunday

Join us July 15, at 7:50 AM, 10 AM or 5 PM in the sanctuary as the CARAVAN youth lead worship.

Want the latest information about CLUE?

Text: CLUE to 51400

Follow Instagram:
@cluesvpc #cluesvpc

Parents—Stay current on CLUE events/trips

Monthly email: Send an email to youth@svpc.us

Text: CLUE HSPARENT to 51400

FLASH—Middle School Events

FLASH Pool Party

Wednesday, July 25, 6–8 PM.
For information contact youth@svpc.us.

FLASH Bible Talks

Wednesdays in July, starting July 11. More details will come soon.

Want the latest information about FLASH?

Text: FLASH to 51400

Follow Instagram:
@flashsvpc #flashsvpc

Parents—Stay current on FLASH events/trips

Monthly email: Send an email to youth@svpc.us

Text: FLASH JHPARENT to 51400

Interested in connecting...

with other young adults at SVPC? For news and events, contact **Sarah Hawthorne** at YoungAdultsSVPC@gmail.com.



Newsletter Deadlines

The newsletter deadline is Monday, July 9 for the August edition. Articles may be up to 120 words in length. Send your article to newsletter@svpc.us, and, if possible, include a photo with your article.



Go green!

Consider joining the hundreds of individuals and families that now receive their newsletter electronically. The online edition arrives sooner, contains the same articles plus vivid full-color photos and live links, and can be easily shared with family and friends, all while helping reduce our carbon footprint! *Opt-in* by sending an e-mail to newsletter@svpc.us with your request.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

For Recovery: **Maurice Sharp**

In Hospice: **Mary Elinor Johnson, Gloria Yang**

For Cancer Treatment: **Olivia Lin, Britta Swartz and Michael Yocum**

Continued Prayers: **Mildred Prasad**

Moved: **The Bear Family** (to Pennsylvania); **Bess Crowe** (to Arizona)

For the loss of loved ones: **Dave Beggs's** mother (**Mabel Beggs**); **Al Mendoza's** sister (**Elizabeth Megino**); **Helen and Bob Myers's** daughter (**Marissa Myers**); **Grace Randle's** brother (**Chris Galloway**); **Lois Sanguinetti's** nephew (**James Deem**); **Brenda Yaggi's** mother (**Barbara Ediger**); the family and friends of **Rodger Bauer, Lori Reiner** and **Bob Schlotfeldt**

In Celebration...

We celebrate the wedding of **Elsbeth Tebrake** and **Roger Medsker**.

Farewell, But Not Goodbye...

As many of you know, a few weeks ago the “Three Bears” moved to Pennsylvania. It was a difficult decision, particularly for Anneka, since for many years this congregation was her only family. Many of you carried Anneka during difficult times. A heartfelt thank you goes out from the Bear family for the love and support we have all felt from this generous and loving congregation. Anneka plans to visit a few times a year. You will always hold a special place in our hearts. The office has our new contact info (cell phones not changing).

—**Anneka, Stephen, and Bella Bear**



SUNNYVALE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

728 West Fremont Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Thanks for saving paper and postage by reading this online!

July is a Big Month for Children's Ministry!

During July we hope to fill the *many* teacher and shepherd volunteer positions for morning and evening Church School for the upcoming fall. Some spots have been filled, but *many* more are empty. Would you consider teaching or shepherding during the next Church School year? *Many* are needed, so we hope *many* will come.



Please contact **Carol Heath** at carol@svpc.us for morning volunteering or **Carol Tadros** at tadros@svpc.us for evening volunteering. 