



ALONG THE WAY

The Newsletter of Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church • June 2011

Sharing Our Stories

By Lesley Wynne

As we close the grade books on the school year and begin summer vacation, I find myself reflecting on how quickly my children have developed from giggling babies to wide-eyed preschoolers to young people with their own interests, opinions, and concerns.

When they were very young, my husband and I made choices for our kids that we felt were “in their best interest” and would help them grow to be well-adjusted contributing members of society. We guided them towards academic and artistic activities to develop their minds, physical activities to build their bodies, and spiritual activities to deepen their faith. We pictured a perfectly balanced triangle.

As preschoolers, our

children were nourished in all of these ways at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. They attended PELC, The Music School, Hot Shots, Vacation Bible School, and Church School. From their earliest memories, church has been a comfortable, happy place where they study, play, and feel God’s love.


During elementary school our children developed their own ideas about what is important and worthwhile. Our role as parents has become more about encouraging them to pursue their passions with energy and integrity and less about enforcing our view of “well-balanced.”

What shape is our triangle today? Do we have a strong, even base or do the many



hours we invest in cheering from the bleachers make one angle too wide and another too narrow? Do the times that we miss church for a game or a recital teach our kids that time they devote to their special interests is somehow more important than time they devote to God?

Recently, my daughter was training hard for a swim meet. Looking to support her efforts, I asked, “If your homework is done, do you want to go to swim practice today?”

She responded, “It’s Wednesday. I want to go to FLASH!” 

The View From Here

by Rev. Karin Hejmanowski

Dear Friends,

In recent weeks we've had a Family Movie Night, a ParenTeen Seminar, had our children participate in leading worship by reading scripture, praying, and singing in the choirs. We also started registration for both Vacation Bible School this summer and for our

parenting that are making an immediate difference in the lives of these families. We are—and want to be—a community that fosters healthy children and healthy families.

To that end, we will continue to offer and augment our many strong programs for children, youth, parents and families.

for the parents of younger children as well.

The good news about these and other programs we offer is that we think they're so important and valuable we open them not just to our church, but to our larger community also. If you have a friend, neighbor, coworker, or acquaintance that you think would be encouraged by our programs, invite them to come. What better way to let people know we care and to share the love of Jesus in a very practical way! 🌱

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midweek LOGOS program which begins in the fall. Our preschool and music school continue to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of children. And for the past few weeks I've been offering *Love and Logic Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun!*TM for 32 parents or teachers of children birth to six years old. It's a class that gives very practical tips on

This fall we'll offer *Becoming a Love and Logic Parent*[®] for the parents of children who are seven to twelve years old and will again offer the class

Glad to be on this journey with you,

Karin



June Calendar

A quick look at what's happening at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church this month...

May

- 30 Church office closed
- 31 High school senior graduation dinner

June

- 1 Eighth grade graduation dinner
- 4 All Church Camp Redwood Glen volunteer workday
- 5 Church School volunteer appreciation celebration
Choir of Bells joint concert with Bells Angels at St.
Andrews Episcopal Church
CARAVAN Meeting #2
Palestinian Economy: Highlights and Possibilities
- 9 Graduation announcements due
- 12 Rainbow Choir (K-2nd) and Glory Choir (3rd – 6th)
sings
Summer Church School begins
All Church Picnic at Ortega Park
- 14 Newsletter deadline for July edition
- 15 FLASH & CLUE summer kick off
- 19 Senior high laser tag
Life's Garden Ice Cream Social
- 20-24 Vacation Bible School
- 26 Vacation Bible School children sing in worship
J. Bruce Coleman Room dedication ceremony

Summer

- CARAVAN 2011
July 31–August 7
- All Church Camp
September 2–5



Newsletter

Deadlines

The newsletter deadline is Monday, June 14 for the July edition. Articles must be 120 words or less. Send your article to newsletter@svpc.us.

Go green!

Consider joining the 240+ individuals and families that now receive their newsletter electronically. The online edition arrives sooner, contains the same articles plus vivid full-color photos, and inline 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. 🌱

Rooted in Christ...

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

All Church Picnic

Sunday, June 12 from 11 AM – 3:30 PM

Ortega Park in Sunnyvale

Come and enjoy food, fun and friendship at the 2011 All Church Picnic, and by all means bring a friend or neighbor. There will be popcorn, lemonade, cotton candy, and snow-cones. We'll also be able to enjoy all of our favorite entertainments including Pat-in-the-Hat (clown/balloon artist), a bounce house for the kids, games, and prizes. Hot coals will be ready, so bring your own entree for grilling. Please bring a dish to share. Last name A-L bring an appetizer or salad, M-Z bring a dessert.

Questions? Contact **Becky Mallinson**,
beckymarkmallinson@sbcglobal.net.



Volunteers needed!

Run a game, help with food, supervise a craft... the service possibilities are endless as our church family gathers to enjoy each other's company. We hope you'll sign up for a fun-filled yet brief volunteer job at the picnic. Sign up at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/2011587. We hope to see you there as it's sure to be a great time!



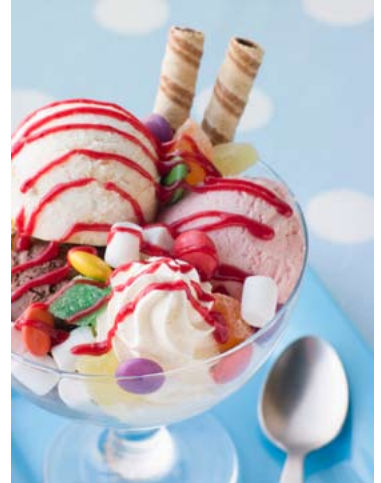
Life's Garden Annual Ice Cream Social

Sunday, June 19 from 2:30 – 4:30 PM

Life's Garden in Sunnyvale

You're invited to Life's Garden & Friends for Life annual Ice Cream Social. It is also an Open House for residents and families, volunteers (present and future), and folks interested in knowing what a wonderful life is offered there. The theme is "Circus Circus" with our very own Sparky the Clown to help us party.

Refreshments include ice cream and toppings, brownies, cookies, and kettle corn. Come and see; we hope you'll join us! Life's Garden is located at [450 Old San Francisco Road](#) in Sunnyvale.



Choir of Bells

Concert

Sunday, June 5 at 5 PM

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church at [13601 Saratoga Avenue](#) in Saratoga

The Choir of Bells will perform in a joint concert with Bells Angels of [St. Andrew's Episcopal Church](#).

This exciting collaboration will be directed by **Larry Sue** and **Diane Tiller**. A free will offering will be taken. Please support our bell choir as we join in fellowship with our neighbors.

All Church Camp

September 2 – 5, 2011



Would you like to make new friends, experience spiritual growth, and have fun among majestic redwoods? Church Camp is all this and more! We are thrilled to introduce **Rev. Peter Whitelock** as our speaker. Peter is the Senior Pastor at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church and has chosen as this year's theme, "Living Above Life's Circumstance."

All activities are run by volunteers. After selecting a volunteer job, you may select your accommodations. For more information about available volunteer jobs and accommodations please see the All Church Camp web page at <http://www.svpc.us/calendar/camp.php>.

Most volunteer positions in the children's program will require Safe Church training. For more information regarding Safe Church visit the church website, www.svpc.us > Making a Difference > Safe Church.

For more information, contact Camp Directors **Richard Collins** and **Maria Benevento-Collins**, maria_benevento@sbcglobal.net or 408-739-4332.

For more information about available volunteer jobs and accommodations please see the All Church Camp web page at <http://www.svpc.us/calendar/camp.php>.



Redwood Glen Volunteer Workday

Saturday, June 4 from 7 AM – 5 PM

Join us as we make improvements at the All Church Camp location. This year we're renovating the gazebo on the ball field. We leave the church at 7 AM and return around 5 PM. Breakfast and lunch are included. Whatever time you can give is deeply appreciated. CARAVAN students receive service credit for this event.



Summer Church School Begins June 12

The last Sunday for our regular Church School programs (Blast, Stars, iBlast, iStars, and Choir) will be June 5, 2011. On June 12, the Rainbow Choir (K-2nd) and Glory Choir (3rd - 6th) will sing and we will begin our summer Church School programs. Current 3- and 4-year-old children and entering kindergartners will meet together in Room 802 for their summer program. Children entering 1st through entering 5th grade (Fall 2011) will meet in Fellowship Hall (Bldg 300). The summer programs allow for greater flexibility and smaller numbers as many families go on vacation throughout the summer months. It is



during these months that the older children participate in a shortened version of a worship service. The students practice the doxology, share prayers, sing hymns, read scripture, hear a very short sermon, and sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth." There is also time for crafts, games, Bible skill sheets, books, music, and free choice, emphasizing some aspect of our theme. This year the

theme will be "Women of the Bible."

We will need some parents to stay and assist us when possible. Please consider helping this summer. There is no preparation involved for volunteers for our summer Church School programs. If everyone volunteers at least once, we will be covered.



2011-2012 LOGOS Registration Continues



LOGOS is a ministry for everyone. It is about having fun, making friends, and growing in faith. Students in grades 2-6 enjoy weekly Bible study, worship, family-style dinner, recreation, crafts, mission, and (optional) chimes. Adult volunteers enjoy making a difference in our children's lives. We need many volunteers to run this fantastic

program. LOGOS will meet Wednesdays from 5-7:15 PM from September 28, 2011 through March 21, 2012. Registration is currently underway and will continue until Sunday, September 11 or until classes fill, whichever comes first. Class sizes are limited, so register as soon as possible. Forms are available on the LOGOS web page ([Groups > Children > LOGOS](#)) or in the church school office. For questions, contact **Kris Peterson** or **Nikki Miner** at logos@svpc.us.



Church School Volunteer Appreciation Celebration

**June 5, 11:15 AM in the
Phoenix Center Gym**

Church School volunteers are invited to hang out with the Cool Cats and Chicks at the coolest bash in town! Be prepared to rock around the clock and refuel with food treats. Spouses are invited and childcare will be provided. Invitations have been mailed so please make sure to RSVP to **Carol Heath** at carol@svpc.us with the number attending.

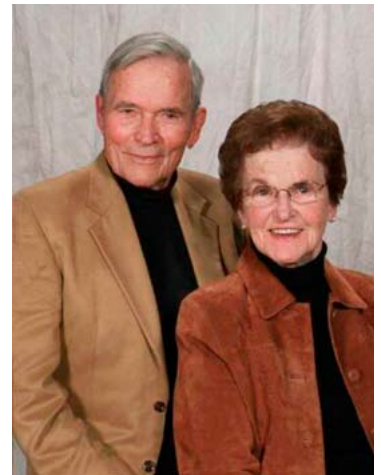




J. Bruce Coleman Room Renaming & Dedication Ceremony

Sunday, June 26 after the 10 AM service

In recognition and appreciation for the years of service our Pastor Emeritus, **J. Bruce Coleman**, gave during his time as pastor of our church, the Session is renaming Room 702 in the Phoenix Center as the J. Bruce Coleman Room. The Coleman Room, as we will call it, is a place where the choir practices and our children are taught; where receptions are held and memorials sometimes conducted; it's a place where adult learning happens and our junior high students meet – it's a room in which the great variety of ministry of our church occurs and is therefore a fitting locale to further express our appreciation for Dr. Coleman's years of service and foundational ministry here at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. Please join us on Sunday, June 26 following the 10 AM service for a reception that will celebrate this change of names and express our appreciation for the ministry that **Bruce and Ann Coleman** have had in our church and our community.



Reaching Out In Love.

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

Palestinian Economy: Highlights and Possibilities

Sunday, June 5 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall (Building 300)

Did you know that eleven Palestinian universities graduate over 40,000 students every year? Or that high tech entrepreneurial sectors are beginning to emerge on the West Bank? These and other developments will be discussed by **Susan Brooksbank**. Learning about possibilities in the Palestinian economy is a way Americans can begin to understand some of the complexities of this region. Susan spent the month of January this year in the West Bank speaking with information technology professionals and academics, and will share what she has learned. There will be time for questions and discussion. The event is sponsored by the Peacemaking and Social Justice Committee. 🌱



Alternative Gift Faire Update

Last December's Alternative Gift Faire at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church raised \$25,000, setting a benchmark for groups across the United States participating in Alternative Gift Faires for 2010-2011. We're already planning this year's faire, so save some time to help contribute and gift for real-time, future hope. 🌱

In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Pat Wolff, whose mother died: **Connie Stanley** and **Hui-Bi Chang**, whose fathers died; **Trina Grube-Liu, Judy Joy, Bob Wood, Chuck Divine, Sue Hayden, Gerry Ducey**, and **Mary Jane Stoeckert**, who continue medical treatment; **Maggie Burklund, Ruth Pettygrove, Don Yeager, Edna Cate, Scott Chapman**, and **Genny TerKeurst**, who had surgery.

In Celebration

Gama Ramirez welcomed the birth of his grandson, **Michael Stephen Castro**, on April 28. Parents are **Cody** and **Roxy Castro**.

Thanks...

The Robb family is deeply touched and grateful to all of you at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church and beyond who made the Celebration of Life service for **Tom Robb** such a beautiful and meaningful one. **Beth** and the family are greatly comforted by the generous outpouring of kindness and support extended, not just on May 7, but throughout these recent weeks. 🌿





Calling All Graduates!

Let us celebrate your graduation in the July newsletter. Send your name, the school from which you are graduating, and your future plans to **Dot Dansey** at dot@svpc.us or call the church office and leave a message. Please inform us by June 9.



SUNNYVALE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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