



Wherever you are
on your
faith journey, you
are welcome here!

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A Newsletter for the Community
Church of the Monterey Peninsula.

How to Contact Us

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Dates to Remember

**Manse Garden
Party
Sat. Aug. 8**

**Sledge Grits
Band
Sun Aug. 9**



August 2009

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula

Welcome

Our Mission

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Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula. We are a nondenominational Christian church, governed by the members. Openness, independent thinking and inclusivity are critical for our journey together. We encourage individual spiritual exploration and do not require adherence to a creed or a single view of what it means to be a Christian or to follow Christ. We journey by heart and our goal is to love God and all that God loves.

In our worship and activities beyond Sunday, we invite you to experience the transforming power of God and walk daily with Jesus as you live out your spiritual journey. Welcome to the journey!

The Mission of The Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula is to welcome independent-minded people of all ages, build a diverse Christian community, and nurture one another to love God, neighbor and self.

Our mission is grounded on ten core values:

- God loves all people.
- We welcome all people, wherever they are on their faith journey.
- Worship is the life breath of our community.
- We are the heart and hands of Christ serving others.
- We grow spiritually in Christ.
- We provide creative, open, lifelong Christian education.
- We are stewards sustaining all of God's creation.
- We promote understanding and cooperation among people of all faiths.
- We are independent, nondenominational and democratic.
- We joyfully support our mission with time, talent and treasure.

Please Keep In Your Prayers

Joanne Anderson

Prayer is a powerful tool during times of special need and joy. You are invited to pray for the following people.

- Elaine Coon
- Laurie Jackson
- Margarete Knacke
- Margaret Lenck
- Kimmie Jo Winslow

Next Newsletter Deadline: August 23

Challenger Scholarship Letter

[Received July 12]

Dear Members of the Scholarship Committee:

Thank you very much for the Scholarship I received from you in 2008. It was very helpful in aiding with my tuition and book costs at Pepperdine University.

I just finished my freshman year and had a positive and wonderful experience at school. I have declared Biology as my major, and have enjoyed every class I have taken so far. The transition from Carmel to Pepperdine was a smooth one for me.

I was involved in Pepperdine Women's Club Water Polo, the International Justice Mission group, and tutored homeless children every week in Los Angeles Skid Row through School on Wheels. I was also initiated into the Phi Eta Sigma Honors Society this year, an accomplishment I am very proud of. I am planning on studying abroad next summer, but I am not sure where. Pepperdine's International Programs have great locations to choose from, so I am thinking possibly Italy, East Africa, Honduras, or even the Galapagos Islands.

I am definitely looking forward to going back to school in the Fall, but am also very glad to be home in Carmel for the summer. This summer I am working as a swim instructor and lifeguard in Pasadera Country Club and taking two classes in MPC.

Thank you again for the Scholarship; it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Cailee Gonzales

Garden Party at Manse



Join the "Garden Party" at the Manse
on Saturday, August 8,
from Noon until 1:00 p.m.
Bring a brown bag lunch!



Church Women United

Church Women United is on summer vacation and will meet again in September, Kathy Warthan is our CWU representative and current president of the organization.

Wednesday Circle

Ada Morton

Wednesday Circle ladies will resume their discussion of the Christian symbols of our church on Wednesday, September 9th, in the home of Jean Mackres, 143 Hacienda Carmel, at 12:15 p.m. Nellie Mirani is co-hostess. All women of the church are invited. Bring a sandwich. Dessert, coffee, and tea will be provided. If you would like to car pool, meet at the church at Noon. Call Ada Morton [624-7420].



12th Clarice Pruitt
 15th Jaswina Tulua
 23 Erik Cushman
 24th Lloyd Wells
 30th Elaine Coon

August Birthdays

Property Steward

Bill Daniel

I take great pleasure in expressing my appreciation to those that I can depend on for help in maintaining our facility. They are Russel, Karen and Russ Wolter. It would be nice to have others who would make a serious commitment. Everyone has been informed that the Janitorial Service has been cut in half and the gardeners have been cut about two thirds. This means that we must take up the slack. The few I have helping me cannot do it alone. It is time for everyone to make a contribution.

A big thanks to Carole for finding parts for our equipment that breaks down. The break downs are happening more often as a majority of the equipment is getting along in years. The Women's Association has provided funds for the parts and gas for our tractors. They also deserve a big thanks!!!

Last "Beyond Sunday" I asked for Clorox for our bird bath. I did not receive one bottle. I can still use several bottles.

I still plan to work on our facility each Wednesday a.m. and every Saturday. If you are available to help, call me the night before so that I can plan a project for you. So far this year the only person who has called me is Russel.



The next I-Help Dinner for homeless men will be held on Wednesday, August 12, at 6:00 p.m. If you can help by bringing a part of the meal and/or joining us for dinner, please sign up in Woodhull Hall. The second Wednesday of each month we provide dinner and sleeping quarters for about 20 men. Your help is much appreciated.

I-Help

Rummage Sale

Joanne Anderson



Many thanks to all of the dedicated workers who made the Rummage Sale of 2009 such a great success. I couldn't have done it without you! We made over \$3,200. Thanks again to all who worked so hard!!



Diana Butler Bass On The Church

Susan Adams

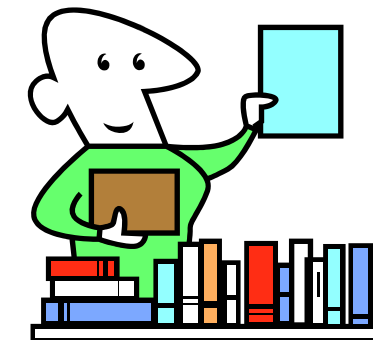
Diana Butler Bass has written several books about the dynamics of church life. She describes in her book, *Strength for the Journey*, the time-honored way that churches passed down religion from one generation to another. Sunday Schools were nurseries full of future churchmen and churchwomen. Billy Graham and Norman Vincent Pelee were on the airwaves and "The Ten Commandments" and "Ben Hur" at the movies. Bible reading was in the schools. What happened?

In the 60's, churches became more transient and needed to attract new people to the congregations in order to survive. Churches struggled with the end of segregation and other social issues. There were conflicts between the more liberal views of members or the pastor.

According to Diana Butler Bass, a healthy church most needs the dedication and idealism of committed churchgoers along with an energetic and creative clergy person.

Library Guild

Ada Morton



In lieu of a book report – two interesting views on the Bible:

John Adams (1767-1848) our sixth President had this to say, *In what light so ever we regard the Bible, whether with reference to revelation, to history, or to mortality, it is an invaluable and inexhaustible mine of knowledge and virtue.*

I speak as a man of the world to men of the world; and say to you, "Search the Scriptures!" The Bible is the book of all others, to be read at all ages, and in all conditions of human life; not to be read once or twice or thrice through, and then laid aside, but to be read in small portions of one or two chapters every day, and never to be intermitted, unless by some overruling necessity.

John Snide- THE UNIVERSAL BOOK

The Bible is not only many books. It is a literature. History, poetry, prophecy, philosophy, theology, oratory, humor, sarcasm, irony, music, drama, tragedy, strategy, love tales, war tales, travelogues, laws, jurisprudence, songs, sermons, warnings, prayers, all are here.

Was there ever such a literature? The Bible begins with a garden and ends with a city. It starts with a morning followed by a night and ends with a day that shall know no night. It breaks the silence with "in the beginning" and it hushes the universe to sleep with "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all."

On Friday, August 21, at 6:30 p.m. The Peace and Justice Center will present the documentary film "Occupation 101" in Outcalt Chapel. The film focuses on the root causes of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict by presenting Jewish, Christian, and Muslim voices that are seldom heard through mainstream media outlets, and it presents the historical background of the conflict, beginning with the first wave of European Jewish immigration to Palestine in the 1880's. Discussion follows. This showing is free and open to the public; donations are welcome.

From Our Pastor Pro Tem

Dr. Wayne Martin

August 2009

Dear Community Church Family:

First, let me thank you all for sharing your thoughts and feelings with me at our July 19th "Talk-It-Over-Time" after church. There were wonderful ideas shared, and more importantly, I could palpably feel the healing as some of you shared disappointments and sadnesses from the past decade.

The early stages of recovery are about expressing these disappointments and giving them up as the "trespasses" we ask to be forgiven.

I will seek now to hold a few small group gatherings for those who need such times for further expression.

Thank you, as well, for your support and suggestions for our on-going pastoral search committee efforts. We found them very useful.

August is an important month as we continue to set the table for welcoming a new pastor. We want August to be a month for prayer, Bible study, worship, music, and community gatherings here on our campus. Every effort to be present for any part of it will increase the energy and effect of these gatherings. When you move the air to be here, we all feel it.

And one of those events in August is the service of marriage for my beloved son Jacob to his fiancée Kim on Saturday, the 29th, at 1:30 p.m.. Please understand that for expense reasons, I cannot throw open the gates to the reception. But do, if you can, be present for the 1:30 p.m. service. That service is open to all, and you are welcome. I will not be officiating. I'll be busy being the Dad.

There has been some talk about a possible Women's Association caravan to the Mt. Hermon Conference Center near Santa Cruz in mid-August. It is not a sure thing yet, but if it is, we will let you know. Stay tuned.

Some words of gratitude. Thanks to Nancy Phillips for her beautiful solo work and for giving such care to our music. Thanks also to husband Dave, to Jenn and to assorted fine guitar players. Thanks to at least 20 women and men who gave so much of their time to help Joanne Anderson guide a very successful rummage sale. Thanks to Victor and his crew for giving us a garden lovely to look at and walk in. Thanks to all who provide food and hospitality after church and concerts. Thanks to all of you for caring enough for our church, our visitors, including homeless men, and our pastor, enough to pray for them and to show love and care.

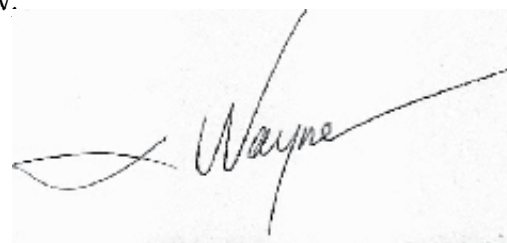
I love this body, this family. I love what it is, and I love what it can be.

Paul the Apostle wrote these beautiful and timely words to a small church just like ours. I leave you with them: "Beloved, let us not grow weary in well-doing. For what we sow now, we will reap in due season, providing we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)

Thanks to Paul for those words.

Thanks be to God.

Let the deepest river flow.



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Pastoral Search Committee

Jane Heider

At the informal congregational meeting on Sunday, July 19, several people recalled their feelings at the time our previous minister was being selected. They felt they did not have sufficient opportunity to get to know the candidate. Some also suggested that we want a minister who is energetic, personable, and an effective preacher.

It is not always easy to identify those qualities. The committee is working hard to find an excellent candidate, and we believe we are worthy of your confidence. It will probably not be feasible to make several candidate's sermons available for the congregation to evaluate, but we will keep an open mind.

Our Church Primer states: "When the Committee has found a probable candidate... the Board of Governors... shall arrange to have the candidate preach... on one Sunday morning, and shall arrange other opportunities for members to meet the candidate and his/her family, and shall schedule a membership meeting shortly thereafter to approve or disapprove the candidate." The candidate will be with us for an entire weekend; anyone with ideas for what kind of events would best enable us to "meet the candidate," may suggest them to us.

On that Sunday, the candidate will lead our worship service. Following that, he/she will exit while we as a congregation have a thorough discussion and a vote. If the vote is positive, we will enjoy the moment and celebrate happily. (If not, we resume the search.)

Pray for us, please.

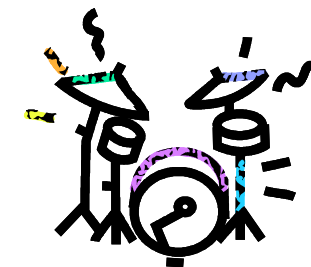
THE SLEDGE FAMILY BAND

(as seen on CBS' Today Show!)

will perform on

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, at 4:00 p.m.

here at Community Church



The Sledge Grits Band has brought back the true meaning of "family band!" They are all talented, young musicians, who all do very well in school and their love as sisters shines through their music.

The Sledge girls started this band a little over a year ago. However, they have been playing individually, and with other bands, for about 3 years. This youthful band has already made a splash in the local and national music scene. Their musicianship is far beyond their years and they have been known to turn skeptics into believers! They have performed from coast to coast wowing audiences both young and old. They may be young, but they sure can get your toes tapping and your hands clapping! They are definitely a, have to see to believe, kind of band...

Their influences include Heart, Aretha Franklin, BB King, Stevie Wonder, Lynyrd Skynyrd, & Eric Clapton and Joss Stone

Mark your calendar and be sure not to miss it!!