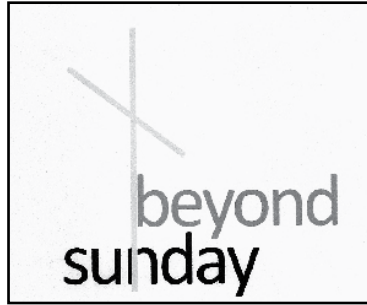


Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula
P.O. Box 222811 Carmel, CA 93922



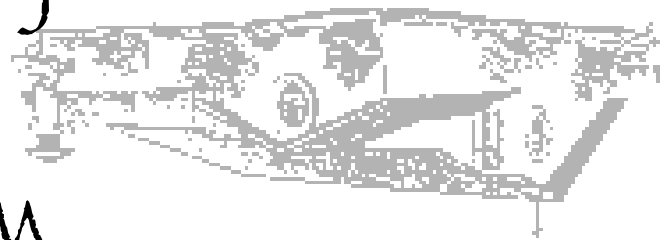
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A Newsletter for the Community
Church of the Monterey Peninsula.

How to Contact Us

Write: P.O. Box 222811
Carmel, CA 93922
Visit: 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.
Call: 831-624-8595
Fax: 831-624-8927
e-mail: ccmp@redshift.com.

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



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Dates to Remember

January 10
4 p.m,
Vespers
Concert

January 20
Noon
WA Installation
Lunch

January 2010

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula

Welcome

Our Mission

Inside

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.

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.

**Bd. of Governors
Pg. 2**

**Calendar
Pg. 3**

**Birthdays
Pg. 4**

**Property Steward
Pg. 5**

**Library
Pg. 7**

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!

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.

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

Next Newsletter Deadline: January 24



When the song of the angels is stilled,
 When the star in the sky is gone,
 When the kings and princes are home,
 When the shepherds are back with their flock,
 The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost,
 To heal the broken,
 To feed the hungry,
 To release the prisoner,
 To rebuild the nations,
 To bring peace among brothers and sisters,
 To make music in the heart.

(Howard Thurman "The Work of Christmas")

January Birthdays

3rd Ruth Elmgren
 8th Patti Long
 11th Honor Knight
 " Kellin Chaffin
 12th Marilyn Hyde
 14th Jody Givetz



24th Janet Coyne
 25th Al Blackstone
 17th Marcella Stull
 30th Ada Morton
 Kathy Warthan



Thanks to Liz Tarozzi for recommending a thermostat expert, her husband Bob Tarozzi, who agreed to work for double the pay I receive. This was such a good deal that I accepted his offer. Thanks to Bob's expertise we now have heat (68 degrees) from 7 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the chapel. If individuals who have no knowledge of how the system works would just not touch the thermostat we would have heat as indicated above. If it is just too hot, open the door on the west and south side, using mother nature's system to cool the chapel. If necessary, use the electric heaters to assist in heating. Thanks, Bob, for your work.

A big thanks to our light bulb changing crew including George Brehmer, Chuck McGowin, Ed Heath and the two Russel Wolters. They did an outstanding job placing and securing the ladder.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the special trips Karen and Russel have made to the church to check out and/or fix various problems. It helps to get problems solved sooner rather than later. A big heartfelt thanks to Russel and Karen.

I must thank Carole French for helping me locate parts on the internet to repair our equipment and keeping me posted on problems she cannot fix/solve. Without the help of individuals listed above, it would be difficult to keep our facility presentable. We can always use more help. As I stated before, getting our hands dirty never hurt anyone!

P. S. Thanks to a gift from Elfe Marbach, I was able to purchase two heaters for the chapel, buy plumbing parts for the chapel, get replacement glass for the sanctuary and gas for the tractor.

WE CELEBRATE OUR OFFICERS FOR 2010

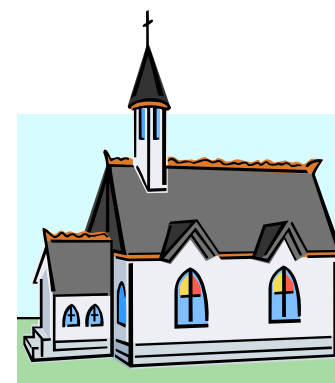
President:	George Brehmer	Member-at-Large:	Clarice Pruitt
Vice President:	Bob Sageman		Lisa Sargisson
Secretary:	Jane Heider	Missions:	Susan Adams
Treasurer:	Chuck McGowin	Prop. Steward	Bill Daniel
Fellowship:	Liz Tarozzi	Public Relations:	Mary Parsons
Membership:	Joanne Anderson	Rel. Educ:	Karen Wolter
		Worship:	JoAnn Holbrook

In Our Pulpit

JANUARY

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 10 Ben Newcomer

17 Brian Bajari
 24 TBA
 31 Barbara Prose



Church Women United

The first meeting for 2010 will be held on the second Friday of January, January 8th, because of New Year's Day on the 1st Friday.

We will meet at Hays CME Chapel, 625 Elm Avenue, Seaside at 9:30 a.m. It will be a general meeting and all women are cordially invited to attend!

If you have questions, call our CWU rep, Kathy Warthan.

From Our Board President

To: All Members and Friends
Re: The Great Leap of Faith!

Library Guild

Ada Morton

We have taken a great leap of faith. Membership voted unanimously to call Pastor Paul Wrightman to be our Pastor. It has been done! Pastor Paul's service begins March 1, 2010. Our service will continue with renewed Strength and Dedication. Department Heads with Pastor Paul's input are already hard at work crafting exciting newness for the coming year.

So that our multitalented, Treasurer, Chuck McGowin, can present an accurate final 2010 budget, PLEASE inform him of your best annual gift (pledge) ASAP [(831) 626-3285; cmcgowin1@yahoo.com]. (A gift before January 1, 2010 is tax deductible for 2009). With God's blessing, Pastor Paul's help and our loving community, we will thrive.

Wishing you Happy Holidays filled with Joy and Meaning! George

"I shall light a candle of understanding in thine heart which shall not be put out."
(The Apocrypha - 2 Esdras)

A brief miniscule glimpse of some of the wealth of information found between the pages of Xmas books in our library:

The idea of light shining through the darkness has always been a striking religious symbol. The use of candles symbolic of the birth of Christ, "the Light of the World," is said to be a combination of Hebrew and Roman customs. An early writer, Durandus, is quoted as saying, "The wax represented Christ's body; the wick, His Soul; and the flame, His divine nature - symbolic of Christ, the Light of the World."

All faiths have their deep wells of inspiration. Their religion has been formed by people who were, or are, struggling to believe in something that gives meaning and/or help to their lives, as well as tolerance, understanding and world-wide Peace!

The "Feast of Lights" can be symbolized by (1) candles around an advent wreath, along a mantel or window sill, (2) Hanukkah with its menorah of candles, (3) Kwanzaa with its candle holder of seven candles (mishumas saba) and (4) other nations using a collection of small oil lamps, candles, or light bulbs.

The Christian Yuletide Festivities or holidays do not end on December 25th, but continues into the New Year with the celebration of Twelfth Night or Epiphany on January 6th and Candlemas on February 2nd.

Men, for centuries, have revered the stars as God's work. Christ's coming was foretold in Numbers 24:17: "There shall come a star out of Jacob." Since ancient times, the Wise Men had heard the prophecy that a bright new star would arise to announce the coming of the Messiah and salvation for the world when the star finally appeared in the heavens the Magi set out to find and worship the "One who was to redeem mankind." Their story was told only in the gospel of Matthew 2:9,10.

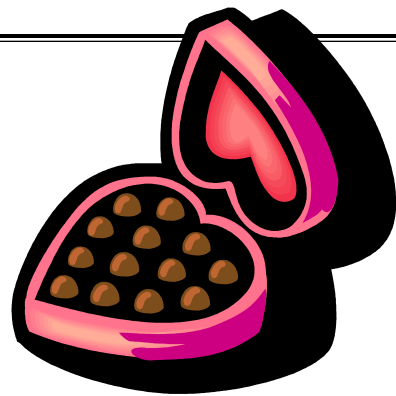
Martin Luther believed that the Wise Men had great faith to follow the prophecy of the Old Testament prophet, Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah. "God promised a ruler from Bethlehem and the Lord would abandon his people to their enemies until the one who was to give birth had her son." (Micah 5:2-5)

The first mention of Epiphany was by Clement in the second century C. E. commemorating the arrival of the Wise Men in Bethlehem. The celebration of January 6th was made official in the fourth century. Some authorities believe the Wise Men came and returned to their respective countries during the forty days between December 25th and February 2nd.

Around 492 C. E., Pope Gelasius established February 2nd as Candlemas Day as the time for blessing all candles in churches to commemorate the "Purification of the Virgin Mary" forty days after the birth of Jesus, and the "Presentation of Jesus," the first-born son, dedicated to the Lord's service according to the Law of Moses. (Exodus 13:2,12,15) Simeon and Anna greeted the Holy Family (Lk. 2:25-38), blessed them and announced to the world of the arrival of the anticipated Messiah. It was then Simeon spoke to Mary saying, "Sorrow, like a sharp sword, will break your heart."

2010 Annual Giving Chuck McGowin

Please consider how you can contribute your individual talents and financial resources toward strengthening our church in 2010 and future years. We are projecting a shortfall between income and expense in 2010. We need to take action now to reduce and eventually eliminate the shortfall. You can indicate your support for the church by filling out an Annual Giving card ASAP. They are available in the church office! Thank you and blessings to all.



CHOCOLATE FEST 2010

For some time, we have talked about doing a Chocolate Fest fundraising event to increase community awareness of our church and also increase income to support our budget. Now, it has become a reality. We are planning the first annual CCMP Chocolate Fest for next May. This is a great opportunity for all to become involved in a fun event.. Stay tuned for further details!

I-Help



The next I-HELP Dinner for homeless men will be held on Wednesday, January 13 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.

We thank all the people who support this fine program. Special thanks to Dolores Joblon, Coordinator, who does so much, the hosts and hostesses, the cooks, and others who participate in so many ways. You are appreciated!!

SIGN UP TODAY!!

Wednesday Circle

Bessie Linvill



Wednesday Circle meets monthly in homes of members or in the church library. Each year we have a theme and programs.

Bring a sandwich and dessert and tea/coffee will be provided.

For our January meeting we will meet in the church library on the second Wednesday, January 13, at 12:15 p.m.

All women are most welcome to attend!!

