

St John's
U.C.C.



ALTAR LIGHT
FEBRUARY 2019

A Note From Pastor Dan:

Hi Church Family,

“Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD; and He will give you the desires of your heart.” Psalm 37:3-4

I think a large part of living well and following Jesus is getting in touch with our deepest desires. As C.S. Lewis said, *“It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”*

I think Lewis was on to something. Giving up on what we were created to want is a huge problem. We were each created to desire God; to find joy in living, breathing, giving, and receiving; to live in connection and relationship with those around us and our world; to do good work; to be co-creators with our God in leaving this place and those around us a bit better than we found them. What more could we want?

I’m reading a great book on the power of passion and perseverance right now: *Grit*, by researcher Angela Duckworth. She says, “no matter the domain, the highly successful had a kind of ferocious determination that played out in two ways. First, these exemplars were unusually resilient and hardworking. Second, they knew in a very, very deep way what it was they wanted. They not only had determination, they had direction.”

I am inspired (literally “to be filled with Spirit”) by the lives of people around me taking joy in being who God created them to be. People who know what they find joy in, and whole-heartedly give themselves to who

God has called them to be and the contributions they can make in the world. I hope you will find yourself feeling called, inspired, and delighted by who God is and who God is creating you to be! *Pastor Dan*

FACILITY PROJECTS UPDATE

Future projects we will be working on include:

Replacing the lower roof in the overflow area and back of sanctuary. Replacing one preschool door, 3 doors that open to the play yard from the social hall and 1 sanctuary door south of altar area. Quote: \$7,000

We are looking into additional bids for the doors, painting the outside of the preschool and social hall facing the courtyard, painting the front of the preschool, painting the social hall wall and preschool wall facing the play yard, replacing the original single paned windows in back of the overflow room of the sanctuary, the CCA classroom window near the ramp and two windows in the sound room. Quote \$6,254. The sound room windows may be deferred until later. Work on the above projects will be done as funds are received.

FEBRUARY FRIDAY MOVIE NIGHTS

February 8: “Gifted”-*a child prodigy with phenomenal mathematic skills being raised by her uncle and the drama that ensues when the grandmother discovers the girl’s extraordinary talent.*

February 22: “Hawaii”-*a drama set in 1820’s Hawaii with a domineering minister, intent on converting Hawaiians to Christianity, and his wife who grows increasingly unhappy with her husband’s uncompassionate ways.*

Movies are shown in the **social hall** at **6:30 p.m.** We gather at **6:15** and share snacks, food and desserts.

THE ELDERS JANUARY REPORT

Jeff bought the “tree of life” metal wall hanging that now adorns the narthex west wall. The “tree” will hold our magnetic name tags worn at Sunday services when not in use. It looks really nice. Thank you, Jeff. Safety training on December 29th was well attended. We are going to install a landline in the sound room so that we have a phone that will connect with a 911 operator immediately in case of an emergency. We are going to be locking the back door to the church at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday, for additional security purposes.

The website was down for a week or so, due to some issues, but they have been resolved and Carol Lou has been able to get all the sermons up on the site and Jan Cauble has been able to get back doing a fantastic job keeping the rest of the website current. If you never have been to our website, check it out: Stjohnswoodland.net.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday Bible Study has been moved to **9:30 a.m.** in the **social hall**. This has allowed for more people to attend and it has been wonderful. We have been averaging 15 people at the study groups led by Pastor Dan. Our focus of study has been the book of Luke. We still have our **potluck and Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. also in the social hall**. This study group is currently studying “Lost Christianities.”

LOCAL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:

We continue to collect gloves, blankets, toiletries and towels (gently used too) for 4th & Hope. We also continue to collect unopened pet food, towels (new and used) and laundry detergent for the Yolo County Animal Shelter. Donation boxes are in the back of the church.

PRESCHOOL REPORT

We currently have 56 children enrolled in our preschool which is the number we are licensed for and 7 toddlers in the Toddler Option Program. We have 2 new children starting in January. We continue to receive calls on a daily basis and give tours. For the preschool our waiting list is out to June of 2020. Our Krispy Krème fundraiser is underway. The cost is \$10 a dozen for a box of glazed donuts. If you are interested in purchasing a dozen glazed donuts, please contact Marilyn Mitchell at 908-1676. Orders need to be in by February 8th. The donuts will be delivered on Friday morning, February 22nd to your residence, work place or can be picked up at the preschool starting at 8:00 a.m. that morning

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

On Sunday, February 10th, Pastor Dan and the church elders will lead a new church member orientation. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m., followed by an overview and information about the St. John's Church history, beliefs and its mission. There will be time for questions and answers, so that individuals attending may come away with a broader understanding of the church and can make a decision regarding becoming a member. If you or someone you know are interested in attending, please let Pastor Dan know, or call the church office 662-5921.

FIJI OUTREACH

We sent 4 wardrobe boxes to Fiji this month. We will be sending 3 more boxes in the near future.



JAN CAUBLE

(with granddaughter, Parker)

Like many other St. John's members, I'm a native Woodlander. I was born on January 1, 1957, the first baby born in Yolo County that year. I was the youngest born to Myrt and Lela Flanery, joining my brothers, Max and Mike. My dad was a fire captain with the Woodland Fire Department, and my mom was a homemaker and amazing seamstress.

I went to Woodland schools – Beamer, Lee, Woodland Junior High School, and Woodland High, where I graduated with the Class of 75 along with Diane Agnew Krause, one of my longtime best friends and fellow elder.

I received journalism scholarships that helped me attend San Jose State, a great place to go to school. I later completed my journalism degree, with minors in political science and economics.

After graduating in 1981, I went to work for a paper that was just going daily, the San Ramon Valley Herald in Danville. That's where I met my husband, Bill. Two years later, I was hired at the chain's flagship paper, the Daily Review, in Hayward. (Sadly, like many papers, these no longer exist.) During the newspaper days, I got to meet some interesting people, including Cesar Chavez. He was incredibly warm and friendly.

Folks had interesting ideas about reporters. I recall interviewing one man by phone, and he informed me that all reporters were bearded liberals from Berkeley. I explained to him that I had gone to San Jose State and had never worn a beard in my life.

In the early 1980s, women were not found in large numbers in newsrooms. I was the first woman to join the staff at the Herald, which was really a boys' club at the time. But Bill was different – and that's how we ended up together.

After we got married in 1985, we lived in Hayward for a couple of years. But when our daughter Laura was three years old, we decided to head for – literally – greener pastures - and bought our house in Woodland, where we have lived for nearly 30 years now. Alyssa, our youngest daughter, was born here in Woodland, and both girls went to Woodland schools and graduated from WHS, just as I did – another generation of the orange and white!

Bill continued working at newspapers, and I went to work for four years for Yolo County. But I then decided to change course and got a preschool teaching certificate, then went on to get a multiple-subject teaching credential.

During that time, I was substitute teaching for Esparto schools, where I taught summer school and also taught Migrant Education, which became a special area of interest for me. I loved working with English learners, which led to my job at Grafton Elementary in Knights Landing. (The district closed the school due to low enrollment, and it now is a charter school.)

During the time that I taught Migrant Ed and the

time in Knights Landing, I met a lot of wonderful people. Many of the parents were really appreciative of teachers and some explained to me that they had not had a chance to go to school much – or at all. Many had to work in the fields in Mexico instead.

I later worked at other schools in the valley for the next several years, but in an era of budget cuts leading to unstable work situations, I finally opted for a steady job, and took an office job for the California Department of Education in Sacramento, where I worked for six years. During the last 1½ years, I was posting to the web for my unit until my retirement about a year ago. I use that experience to post to the web page for St. John's now.

My introduction to St. John's Church was some 26 years ago, when I met Pastor Bill at a wedding he officiated. I was taken with the beautiful church and its feeling of history and wonderful tradition. But especially, I liked the fact that the church's theology was inclusive and open-minded in its approach.

My children benefited from all they learned from Carolyn Reiff, whose teaching in choir still helps them today, as they learned how to present themselves. Laura is a sales associate for Land Rover/ Jaguar in Sacramento. Alyssa is the marketing director for the Porifera water solutions agency in San Leandro. Alyssa and her husband, Chris, welcomed a new baby girl, Parker, on October 13.

I have benefited beyond measure, as the church family helped me through deaths in my

family, and especially when my mother went through years of health issues and was so greatly helped by church members who assisted in getting her into St. John's Village, and supporting her – and me – while she was there until her death in 2017. The church family has been incredibly warm and kind throughout the years. As I have said before, thank God for St. John's Church!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 14 Barbara Massa**
- 23 Braeden Bourke**
- 25 Diane Krause**
- 26 Chuck Mitchell**



If you haven't seen your name on our birthday list this past year, it is most likely because we do not have it on file. Please e-mail or phone the church with your birthday/anniversary dates so that we can wish you blessings for your special days.

KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS

Paula Castles, Doug Castles, Sammie Collins,
Sally Reed, Bob La Blanc, Julia Meyer,
Debbie Swetz, Dathion Ruiz, Lois Lawson,
Shirley Schroeder, James Varga
For the caregivers and first responders
in our communities,
Those serving in the military and their families,
Local, national, and international leaders,
All who suffer persecution around the world.