

# HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2019

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 2

## SECOND SUNDAY GATHERING – February 10

The Second Sunday Gathering is happening on February 10th. This month we will be considering who are the migrants and refugees in our communities, as well as who are the migrants and refugees in scripture. This is for all ages! Come at 11:15 am, for a light lunch, discussion and activities around this important topic.



### ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

#### SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION CLASS February 17, 24 and March 3

The adult Sunday school class will continue an exploration of what the Bible says about migrants, refugees, sojourners and strangers. Join us as we learn how the ancient wisdom of God's Word applies to our lives today.



#### MONDAY EVENING ADULT CLASS

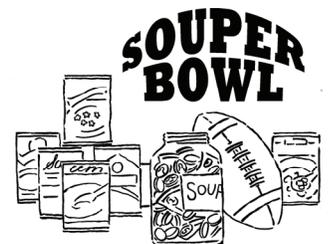
The Monday evening adult class meets at 7:00 pm, and is doing a series on The Invitation of the New Testament. February classes will include discussion of conflict in the early church, Jesus as Messiah, tensions between Jewish and Gentile Christians, Apocalyptic Literature and the meaning of resurrection. Please see Sue Goodnow for further information.

### SOUPER BOWL

**February 3, 2019** is Super Bowl Sunday, and again this year our senior highs will be collecting our congregation's "Souper Bowl" offering. This is a special offering collected after worship in soup pots, which is then given to a ministry of our choice that helps to care for "the least of these." Again this year we will be using the money to provide lunch for the homeless who come to April Showers right here in San Leandro. A group of our own members prepare lunches several times a year and serve them at April Showers.

Each person at worship on February 3<sup>rd</sup> will be asked to contribute \$1 as he/she leaves worship. The young people will be at the doors with soup pots to receive the offering. We hope that you will join in this nationwide effort to care for the less. Last year, 3,773 groups participated in this offering, and over 8 million dollars was raised in cash and food items within the United States!

We were one of those groups!



# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019 at 10:30 AM

The Session has called the Annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, **February 24**, 2019 immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the 2018 Annual Report, to receive the Church Budget for 2019, and to review our pastors' compensation for 2019. All church members are encouraged to stay for this important meeting.



### Elders - Class of 2018

Kathy Pearson  
Michele Johnson  
Val Watts  
Faye Wilson

### Deacons - Class of 2018

Bill Gile  
Keith Johnson  
Bill Nelson  
Julie Reynoso  
Jim Wakeman  
Mollie Wakeman  
Jim Watts

Youth Deacon – Melissa Macones

Following the meeting, we will be recognizing and thanking the outgoing church officers (Deacons and Elders) who completed their terms in December 2018. The Group Life Committee will be hosting a brief reception for them during Coffee Hour. Come and express your appreciation to them for their faithful service!

## SCOUT SUNDAY



Saluting Our Scouts

This year we will be celebrating Scout Sunday on **February 3rd**. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are encouraged to come to worship that morning to receive a special patch! Scout leaders are also encouraged to come in uniform!

## SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

It's not too late – you can still sign up to help with the Sleep in Heavenly Peace workday on Saturday, **February 2**, 9:00 am – 12 noon. Please call the church office for the details if you wish to join us. This is a great outreach to our community, building twin beds and bunk beds for families whose children are sleeping on the floor.



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

A new Confirmation Class begins with a "lock-in" on **February 2-3**, and then continues on Wednesday evenings during PEAK (4:30 – 7:00 pm). All high school students are welcome – see Lauren for details.



## RECYCLING UPDATE

We continue to collect aluminum cans and PLASTIC bottles to take to recycle. It is helpful if you put the cans together in one bag, and the plastic bottles in a separate bag (please no milk cartons or glass bottles, just clear plastic bottles). Also, please remove the caps from the plastic bottles before bringing them to church.

Our thanks to Gary Calame for his support as we strive to be GOOD STEWARDS of God's creation!

## Women's Bible Class Begins a New Series



On Thursday, **February 28**, the Women's Bible Class will begin a six-week series on Jesus' parables. We'll be looking at parables from the perspective of first century Jews, in order to understand the audience to whom Jesus was speaking. There will be a brief video presentation by Amy-Jill Levine, who is Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School. Newcomers are welcome – please see Anne if you want her to order a book for you.

## HARBOR HOUSE WORKDAY

On Saturday, **March 2**, we will be going to Harbor House (1811 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Oakland) to volunteer for their work day. The work begins at 9:00 am, and concludes at 12 noon. Harbor House is a ministry with immigrant and refugee families in Oakland that our church supports with mission money, as well as volunteering with them from time to time. If you would like to be a part of our volunteer team on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, please sign up with Scott Crosbie. Thanks!

## STAFF UPDATE

We are happy to welcome Elizabeth Castaing, our new Church Administrative Manager. Elizabeth began working with us on **January 15**. If you haven't gotten a chance to meet her yet, feel free to stop by and introduce yourself. Her office hours are 9 am - 4 pm, Tuesday through Friday.

A big word of thanks to Helen Fortner, who has done a wonderful job as our Interim Administrator! Helen will be working with Elizabeth for a few weeks to train her for the job. We really appreciate all that you do, Helen!

## ADOPT AN ITEM FOR OUR COLLEGE OR MILITARY CARE PACKAGES

Every year the church sends care packages to our college students and military members. We send the packages in February so students have the "goodies" before their spring break. Included in the packages are home made cookies and various other things including school supplies (post it notes, hi-liters, paper clips, pens, pencils, etc.) and such.

If you would like to help by providing some of the items, there will be 3x5 cards with items written on them posted on a bulletin board that you can agree to supply. The cards will be posted on **February 3 and 10**. The items need to be at the church no later than **February 24**.



Thanks for helping with the care packages. Our young adults appreciate hearing from us and getting "goodies". If you have questions, please see Elder Laura Gile, who is in charge of this project.

## YOUNG AT HEART – CHAMBER MUSIC TRIO

The Young at Heart group will be having its monthly luncheon on Thursday, **February 21<sup>st</sup>** at 11:30 am. Following our luncheon, we will enjoy music from Jane Kraut's Chamber Music Trio. The trio will be performing works by J. S. Bach, Antonio Vivaldi, and Rick Sowash. Be sure to sign up in the Fellowship Hall so we know how many to expect for lunch.



# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Campership Sunday 10:30 AM Coffee 11:15 AM Adult Education Class	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM Adult Education Class	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	<b>31</b> 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>1</b> 1:00 PM Widow/Widowers Grief Recovery	<b>2</b> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Women's Fellowship 9:00 AM Build Day - Sleep in Heavenly Peace
<b>3</b> 9:30 AM Worship/Scout Sunday 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 11:15 AM Adult Education Class 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>4</b>  7:00 PM Adult Education Class	<b>5</b> 7:30 PM Worship, Building & Grounds, Stewardship, Evangelism & Pastoral Care Committees	<b>6</b> 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	<b>7</b> 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>8</b> 1:00 PM Widow/Widowers Grief Recovery	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Bake Sale for Compassion Child 11:15 AM Second Sunday Gathering 	<b>11</b> 7:00 PM Adult Education Class	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	<b>14</b>  1:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>15</b> 1:00 PM Widow/Widowers Grief Recovery	<b>16</b> Feb. 15-17 Men's Retreat at Westminster Woods 
<b>17</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 11:15 AM Adult Education Class	<b>18</b> 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Craft Day  7:00 PM Adult Education Class	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM Session	<b>20</b> 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	<b>21</b> 11:30 AM Young at Heart Luncheon 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 1:00 PM Widow/Widowers Grief Recovery	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Annual Congregational Meeting 10:40 AM Coffee 11:15 AM Adult Education Class 4:00 PM Inspired Book Discussion	<b>25</b> NO Adult Education Class	<b>26</b>  7:00 PM Deacons Meeting	<b>27</b> 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	<b>28</b> 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	<b>1</b> 1:00 PM Widow/Widowers Grief Recovery	<b>2</b> 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Women's Fellowship 9:00 AM Harbor House Workday

# NEW DATE FOR SUMMER DAYCAMP

Daycamp will be happening a bit earlier in the summer! It will take place Monday through Friday, **June 24-28** (this will give the children a break before they head off for a week at Westminster Woods). We will have our worship rehearsal and family picnic at Cull Canyon on Saturday, June 29th, and we will share our songs and stories with the congregation on Sunday, June 30th. We are in for a great time! Watch for the summer daycamp brochure, which will be available next month.



## SUMMER CAMP NEWS

Now is the time to make plans to be at Westminster Woods for summer camp! Parents are encouraged to come to WOW on Wednesday, **February 20th** at 6:00 pm for a special presentation on Westminster Woods. We are a "church partner" with the Woods, qualifying us for a \$35 discount for those who register before April 1, 2019! So don't delay!

The dates that we have reserved for our church youth are:

- Adventure Camp (incoming grades 2-4), July 14-17
- Sherwood Forest (incoming grades 4-6), July 14-20
- Elevation (incoming grades 6-8), July 14-20
- Buccaneer (incoming grades 6-8), July 21-27
- High School (incoming grades 9-12), July 21-27



Also offered again this year is Rock and Row, for incoming grades 10-12, the weeks of July 14-20 and July 21-27 (but don't delay on this one – it fills fast!).

The Bridge Program, for juniors and seniors in high school, is planned for the weeks of June 23, June 30 and July 7. This program provides leadership training during the first week, and opportunity to serve as a counselor or program support person another week during the summer.

Be sure to check the Westminster Woods website ([www.westminsterwoods.org](http://www.westminsterwoods.org)) for the most up to date information. We will again have numerous campership fundraisers at the church, to make it possible for everyone to go to camp.

## BAKE SALE FOR COMPASSION CHILD

We will be having a bake sale on Sunday, **February 10th** at 10:30 AM to benefit Nephthalie, the Compassion child whom we sponsor in Haiti. Please come and support the bake sale – all money raised will be donated toward Nephthalie's participation in Compassion's program that provides her with educational support, medical assistance, and Christian fellowship opportunities.



Compassion International has 65,000 sponsored children in Haiti – please keep them in your prayers, as the country struggles with immense poverty and disease.

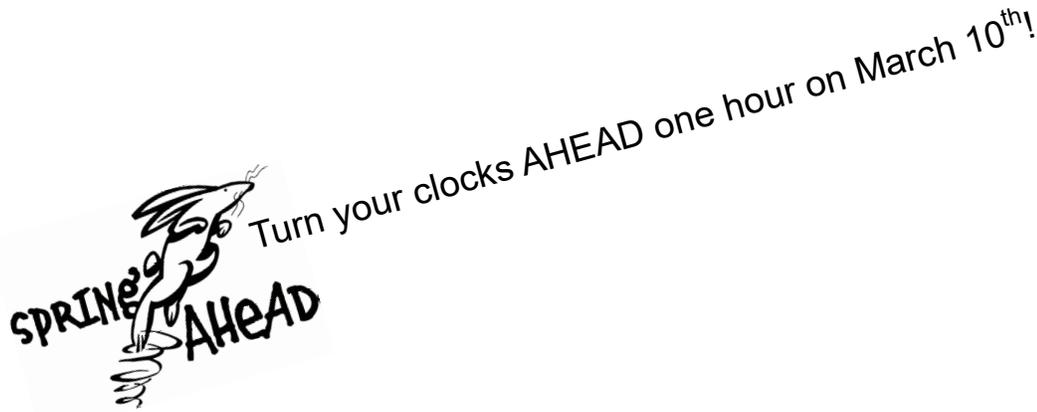


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U P C O M I N G   E V E N T S

## ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 6, 2019

Looking ahead, the season of Lent will begin on Wednesday, **March 6<sup>th</sup>**. We will be having a brief worship service at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary that evening, with the children leading in worship, as well as the Chancel Choir and the Children's Choir singing. Be sure to begin Lent with this meaningful worship, and also you may pick up your Lenten devotional guide that evening.



## LOOKING AHEAD: MEET AND GREET

Our Deacons will be hosting their annual "Meet and Greet" on Sunday, **March 17<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to come to Coffee Fellowship following worship and find your parish table. This is a great time to get acquainted with those who live near to you, as well as meet your parish deacon and enjoy the delicious goodies that they have brought for this special occasion! Save the date!

