The Concord Connection
Seeking God, Serving the Community, Supporting Each Other

October is SHARE month!

Please put your coins (and dollars) in the bottle in the Narthex.
All the money donated goes to buy food for those in need. SHARE is not a hand-out...but a hand-up. Your help is greatly appreciated. If you prefer, place your food donations in the SHARE box in the Narthex.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Donations</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Canned or Dried Beans, Refried, Pinto, Black, Kidney, Pork &amp; Beans, Tuna, Spaghetti</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Sugar, Flour (preferably 4 or 5 pound bags), Tuna, Spaghetti</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Anything from the above list</td>
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Cans with pop top are especially appreciated for the homeless. Fresh fruits and/or vegetables are also welcome.

Please welcome the newest member to our CUMC staff!

Choir Director,
Terry Lezama-Jensen

Terry Lezama-Jensen began his Pastoral Music Ministry in 1971 as Chapel Choir Director at his alma mater, Berry College in Mt. Berry, GA. Since then he has found himself in United Church of Christ, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Interdenominational, and Catholic communities where he has been called on to sing, play the organ and piano, direct, preach, and teach.

Terry is a native of the Bay Area, born and raised in Petaluma. In 1979 he moved down to San Francisco and spent three decades living, working and ministering there. In 2009 he moved across the bay to take his chances with the Hayward Fault. Terry and his Nicaraguan husband Mauricio live in Vallejo, with their three dogs and one cat. When not working at his real job as a Business Systems Analyst, or doing music for us, Terry enjoys barbecuing and lazing around the pool, exploring local street fairs, checking out historic sites, dining at restaurants (both the interesting and the mundane), watching telenovelas to improve his rudimentary Spanish, and taking in first-run movies at the local multiplex.

Newsletter Deadline
The deadline for articles is on the 1ST TUESDAY, 10 AM of each month. No exceptions. Please email articles when possible.
Thank you,
Marilyn Robrecht – Editor
During this month of October, I want to give thanks to God who allows us to have good harvests!

1. **Personal Harvests**
   In my garden, I had zucchini, water melon, oriental melon, green onions, cabbages, and many other vegetables. My chickens lay eggs: Hope, Joy, Love, Peace had eggs like an Advent Eggs.

2. **Church Ministry**
   God allows us many small groups for our church:

   ![Small Groups](image)

   **Moving Forward**
   - Karen Morones—685-3917
   - Linda Jinks—510-299-9342
   - Tuesdays, 1:30-3:30pm
   - Sherrill Hall

   **United Methodist Women**
   - Esther Circle
     - Elaine Collins—672-1211
     - 1st Wednesday, 10:00am
     - Sherrill Hall
   - Abigail Circle
     - Betsy McLeod—825-6799
     - 2nd Wednesday, 10:00am
     - Sherrill Hall
   - Anna Circle
     - Ann Kung—672-9729
     - 2nd Sunday, 12:00pm - Susannah Wesley Room

   **Caregivers Support**
   - Micheal Pope—510-367-9802
   - 4th Wednesday, 10:00am
   - Sherrill Hall

   **Wed. Bible Study**
   - Jim McGuire—997-2257
   - Wednesdays, 7:00pm
   - Sherrill Hall

   **Cancer Support**
   - Steve Pierce—518-4447
   - 2nd & 3rd Thursdays, 6-7pm
   - Susannah Wesley Room

   **Qui Gung/Tai Chi**
   - Irving Lee—687-2494
   - Fridays, 9—10:00am
   - Sherrill Hall

   **Men’s Group**
   - Jim McGuire—997-2257
   - 1st & 3rd Fridays, 10:15am
   - Fireside Room

   Continued on page 3
Those small groups are the entry points for the new members and the nurturing place for the current church members.

We invite people to these small groups. We nurture them here. Finally we send them out to our communities to serve God and God’s people.

May God continually bless our church with many fruits of our mission and ministry!

Take time to think about the fruits that you have harvested through God’s Grace:

1. What have God allowed me to harvest this year?
2. What is still growing in my life and during my faith journey?
Church & Society

Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County Annual Meeting, Sunday, November 11, 6:00 pm, at Temple Isaiah, 945 Risa Road in Lafayette.

A potluck begins at 6:00 (please bring a vegetarian dish to share) with meeting to follow promptly at 7:00. Reverend Charles Tinsley, who is retiring after 25 years of service at Juvenile Hall will be honored. Over 100 congregations make up the Interfaith Council, so come, make some new friends and learn about the mission and activities of the Interfaith Council. All are welcome.

ANKA Behavioral Health Services will hold its fourteenth annual memorial service at CUMC on Friday, November 9, at 10:00 am to honor and remember the homeless who have died during the past year. A light lunch provided by ANKA will follow the service. This service is always very moving and all are welcome to attend.

Blanket Sunday is October 21.

That’s the day CUMC will start collecting blankets, sleeping bags, coats, sweaters, jackets, sweat shirts, socks, caps, gloves, anything that will help keep someone in need warm during the winter. Both adult and children’s clothes will be accepted but Items must be clean and in good repair (zippers working, buttons on). Containers will be in the narthex and Oglesby-Close Hall for your donations.

Thanks for Caring and Sharing!

Youth Happenings for October/November

Sundays – Youth Sunday School at 10:30 AM
Fridays – Youth Group from 6:30 PM to 9 PM
Sun., Oct. 14th: CROP Walk in Walnut Creek at 1 PM
Mon., Oct. 15th: Monday Night Dinner at Skipolini’s Pizza in Todos Santos at 7 PM
Sat., Oct. 27th: Trunk or Treat at 5 PM
Sun., Oct. 28th: Youth Sunday at the 9 AM and 10:30 AM Services

November Dates for Monday Night Dinner: 5th and 19th.

Want more info? Email James youth@concordumc.org

UMW General Meeting
Wednesday November 28, 2018

Business Meeting:
10:00 am in Sherrill Hall
Program begins at 11 am.
Speaker: Pat Everette, Veterans History Project
Topic: WWII Veteran History
Guests are welcome!
You do not need to be UMW members.
TRUNK OR TREAT

A free event for children of all ages! Come in costume and be ready for games, frights, a bouncy house, and plenty of candy!

Saturday, October 27th, 2018 5 PM to 7 PM

Concord United Methodist Church, 1645 West Street, Concord

Questions? Email youth@concordumc.org

Share this flyer with a friend or neighbor!
Free After-School Program

The Mid-Week After School program offers a free and safe place for all children. We offer nutritious snacks, homework help, and various enriching, creative, and sometimes messy, activities. This is not a religious program, but rather a community program our church offers to our neighbors all around! If your child is in grades K-8, they are welcome to join. Just stop by on a Wednesday and you will receive the necessary paperwork and information.

Wednesdays 1 PM to 6 PM

Concord United Methodist Church, 1645 West Street, Concord

www.concordumc.org/mid-week.html

midweek@concordumc.org
Summarized Statement of Activities 9/30/2018

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<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget</th>
<th>Variance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td>246,026</td>
<td>240,627</td>
<td>5,399</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPENSE</td>
<td>234,015</td>
<td>239,394</td>
<td>5,379</td>
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<tr>
<td>SURPLUS</td>
<td>12,011</td>
<td>1,233</td>
<td>10,778</td>
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The results of operation ended in an YTD surplus of approximately $12K. For the month of Sept, total Pledges and Open Plate received exceeded the budget by $1K. Prior months from May to Aug, the monthly collections were consistently below the monthly budget. The positive results for Sept were primarily attributed to yearly pledgers starting to complete their pledges for the year and for the reason that Sept has 5 Sundays. YTD Pledges and Open Plate is still behind YTD budget by $16K. YTD Bequest and Use of Facilities actual Income exceeds YTD budget by approximately $20K. The combination of Total YTD Actual Income exceeding the Budget by approximately $6K, and YTD Total Expenses being lower than Budget by 5K, plus the forecasted surplus of $1K resulted in the YTD surplus of $12K.

Total Net Assets 498,389

Report on Gift Cards-September 2018

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>YTD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SALES</td>
<td>5,180</td>
<td>58,685</td>
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<tr>
<td>INCOME ON DISCOUNTS</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>2,049</td>
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The Chapel will be open for a weekly time of prayer.
We invite all who want to pray.
We feel that a quiet time of prayer will help those who are feeling down and don’t know how to get feeling better. Prayer is a very powerful way to get us through times that are difficult, so please come and join us. You need not be a member of our church community, just someone who needs a little extra prayer. God Bless Concord United Methodist Church
And Alzheimer’s Services of the East Bay
Invite Individuals living with memory loss and their caregivers to a specially designed worship service. Sing, worship and fellowship with families that are coping with Alzheimer’s and other forms of memory loss.
Every 4th Saturday from 2pm – 2:30pm, In the Chapel
Thank you for helping make this program possible!!!

Buy a Chair Campaign!
Oglesby-Close Hall is getting new chairs and we need help paying for them. Help us by buying a chair (or more!)
1 Chair - $28  4 Chairs - $100
Checks can be made out to the church with "Buy a Chair" in the memo line.
Ask a Trustee for more information!

It’s that time of year! We are beginning to gather cups needed for Snowman Soup!
Please bring your Christmas mugs to the church office during the week or to church on Sunday.
Don’t forget, the more Snowman Soup we make and sell; the more toys we can purchase for the Toys for Tots program!