



Concord United Methodist Church

1645 West Street, Concord, California, 94521

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Web-site: www.concordumc.org

September, 2018

The Concord Connection

Seeking God, Serving the Community, Supporting Each Other

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Worship
in the Sanctuary

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.
Nursery Care
Available

9:00 a.m. Adult
Bible Study

9:00a.m. New Life
Celebration
Oglesby-Close Hall

10:30 a.m. Children
and Youth Sunday
Schools

10:30 a.m. Worship
in the Sanctuary

11:30 a.m.
Fellowship &
refreshments in
Oglesby-Close Hall

Wednesday Hour of Prayer

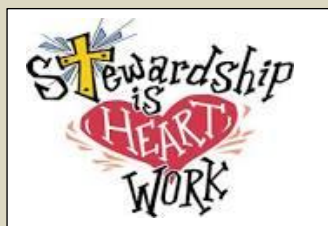
6:30-8 p.m.
Chapel

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*



SEPTEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH

Stewardship Sunday is September 23!

**Please fill out your pledge card
(included in this Connection)
and return it to the church.**



UMW General Meeting

Wednesday September 19, 2018

**Business Meeting:
10:00 am in Sherrill Hall**

Program begins at 11 am.

**Speaker: Pastor Sungho Lee
Topic: Biblical Stewardship**

Guests are welcome!

You do not need to be UMW members.

GOOD TIMERS

**Tuesday, October 9, 2018
12 noon, Sherrill Hall**

Program: Landy Doub

Topic: His trip to Australia!

Co-Hosted by Dean and Pam Hall
And Gisela Schneider

Bring a friend.
Bring a sandwich,
drinks and dessert provided.

Please call Pam Hall: 777-9868 so
she will know how many will be
attending!



My Stewardship Giving: Automatic Payment from My Checking Account Pastor Lee

Why doesn't our pastor put an offering into the plate during the Sunday collection?

Some people may have observed me during the offering and may have noticed that I used to put checks in the offering plate all the time. I wanted to set an example for all the people who come to our church. My life belongs to God. I am God's. I not only give my time, talent, and testimony, but also my treasure.

Then I was introduced to the idea of on-line giving. This is a great help for me because I am getting older. Sometimes I miss the deadlines for my bill payments and giving opportunities. After a couple of missed bill payments followed by late fees, I decided to make all of my payments automatic using the bill pay option through my bank.

If you open our church Web Page (Concordumc.org), you will see the option, "Give Online." People who do not come to our church can also donate money to our church using that option, if they want to support our church ministries. I now use that option for my offering to our church.

This is how I give to our church.

During this Stewardship Month (September) I heard testimonies from a number of our church members. So, I wanted to share with you how I give to CUMC and other places.

1. I give one tenth of my cash salary to our church.

I give one tenth of my cash salary to our church. I divide it into 52 weeks and give \$120 every week to our church through the online giving option. Whether I come to church or not, every Tuesday I receive an email from our church, saying, "Thank you for your donation of \$120". In that way, I give \$ 6,240 as a regular offering or pledge to our church.

2. I give special offerings to our church in addition to my tithe.

On Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter, and my Birthday I give special offerings. I do not include this in my regular giving. It will amount to about \$1,000 annually.

3. In addition to my donations to CUMC, I give money to the missions of the UMC.

I support domestic and international missions, and give them about \$3,000 a year. Whenever we have natural disasters, we raise funds to help the victims through UMCOR. We also have six special Sundays:

[Human Relations Day](#) (Sunday before the national observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday) strengthens United Methodist outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk youth.

[UMCOR Sunday](#) (fourth Sunday in Lent) Previously known as One Great Hour Of Sharing, this Sunday enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief to reach out through worldwide ministries of food, shelter, health and peace.

[Native American Ministries Sunday](#) (third Sunday of Easter) nurtures mission with Native Americans and provides scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians.

[Peace With Justice Sunday](#) (first Sunday after Pentecost) enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs.

[World Communion Sunday](#) (first Sunday of October) provides scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels.

[United Methodist Student Day](#) (last Sunday of November) furnishes scholarships and loans for students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities.

I usually give \$50 to \$100 for each special Sunday, which amounts to about \$500 a year.

(Continued on page 3)

I am sharing this information with you in order to give thanks to God because He is the one who allows me to share my blessings.

I am conscious of those who cannot give money. That is why I give online.

Even though I am able to give money to the church, I am also conscious of those who cannot give money. I used to put my checks in the offering plate in order to be a good role model and an example; but I realized that for some people offering time is the most uncomfortable time in the worship service. So, I decided to give online, and I no longer put money in the offering plates most of the time. On special Sundays, I do write checks; but on regular Sundays I sit quietly with others who cannot put money into the offering plates. I also make sure to include those people who cannot give money in my dedication prayer.

May God bless all of us to give abundantly!

My giving has grown during my career as a minister because I have received more and more over the years. I realize that I can give only what I have received from God. As John Wesley said, I try to earn as much as I can. I save as much as I can to give as much as I can. May God bless all of us to be able to give abundantly!

Time for another Lunch and Learn End of Life Preparations

On **Sunday, October 7**, after the 10:30 service and a light lunch, Church and Society will present a program on end of life preparations, Mr. John Finnessey, an advanced planning specialist from Ouimet Funeral Chapel will discuss the advantages of advanced planning, what should be in the plan, and answer any questions you may have. This should be a very informative program so we hope you will

***Come to Church, Stay for Lunch,
and Learn on October 7!***

Food Pantry Needs



SHARE food pantry is a non-profit organization manned entirely by volunteers from the local community and funded entirely by various types of donations.

SHARE's mission is simple: We are committed to help feed the hungry in central Contra Costa County without prejudice and with dignity.

All nourishing food donations are appreciated, but the list below shows important items that frequently run out. No glass, please.

Food contributions should be placed in the basket in the Narthex. They will be taken to **SHARE** by Ken Carpoif.

September	Canned Meals -- Pasta, Chili, Stew
October	Canned or Dried Beans, Refried, Pinto, Black, Kidney, Pork & Beans, Tuna, Spaghetti
November	Sugar, Flour (preferably 4 or 5 pound bags), Tuna, Spaghetti
December	Anything from the above list

Cans with pop top are especially appreciated for the homeless.

Fresh fruits and/or vegetables are also welcome.

In Our Prayers



The family of Mary Mark following her death on August 31.

Continued Prayers:

Steve Pierce, Eldonna Dayton, Mary Ginochio, Don Johnson, Marge Boyer, Sud & Midge Sundsten, John & Connie La Coste, Bill Shannon, Doug McLeod, Chuck & Diane Rogers, Carole Engler, Lee Woods, Chris Gregory.

**CONTRA COSTA
CROP HUNGER WALK 2018
OCTOBER 14, 2018**

MEET AT CIVIC PARK, WALNUT CREEK

1:00 PM Registration – 1:30 BEGIN WALK

- **Support “Winter Nights” which provides shelter, meals, tutorial help for many locally homeless families!**
- **Help End Hunger LOCALLY and GLOBALLY!**

Sign Up to Walk and obtain Pledge Sheets from:

Kathy Evans-Butler (925) 313-0228

-OR-

**Approach a member of the
CUMC Crop Walker Team**

-OR-

Pledge online at:

www.crophungerwalk.org/walnutcreekca

**Let's all generously support our CUMC
walkers!**

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

**Open Door Bible Study
Sunday 9am – 10am
Susannah Wesley Room**

Join Us!

Pat Brumley led the Open Door Bible Study for many years. Under her knowledgeable and caring leadership, so many people were able to learn, grow and reinforce their Christian beliefs on their spiritual journey.

Pastor Lee would like to see this important Bible Study group continue, and two of the current members, **Sandy Maguire and Sue McGuire**, have agreed to do their best to continue Pat's program.

We all lead busy lives so there's **NO HOMEWORK!** We purchase a book at a reasonable price, and each week in class we read a chapter and then discuss questions in the book on the chapter read.

In recent years, the author and Pastor Max Lucado's best-selling books have been chosen for our Bible study. We'll begin with one of his books.

On Homecoming Sunday, September 9th, we'll be at a table to answer questions. Before that date, one way to see the program in action is to visit the Open Door Bible Study any Sunday 9-10am. Please phone Sandy Maguire [925-256-4272](tel:925-256-4272) or Sue McGuire [925-997-2257](tel:925-997-2257) with any questions.



Just a few of the gift cards we have on hand!!!

Gift cards available to purchase from our inventory of over 30 vendors that we keep on hand.

Visit the Prosperity Table in Oglesby-Close Hall after the 9 and 10:30 services

Gift cards available to purchase from our inventory or to order from over 500 participating vendors!

Summarized Statement of Activities - 8/31/2018

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
INCOME	220,008	216,103	3,905
EXPENSE	214,435	214,559	124
SURPLUS	<u>5,573</u>	<u>1,544</u>	<u>4,029</u>

The results of operation ended in a surplus of approximately \$6K. However, if we drill down to the details of the income, we are behind the budget in Pledges and Open Plate by \$17K. Our deficit of \$17K in the Pledges and Open Plate was compensated by a surplus over the budget in the areas of Bequest, Use of Facilities, Interest Income, and Fund Raisers Program totaling to approximately \$22K. Since the Actual YTD expense is almost at par with YTD Budget, we have a total YTD positive variance of \$4K. Add to that the projected annual surplus of \$2K to arrive at the net surplus of \$6K.

Total Net Assets **490,827**

Report on Gift Cards August 2018

	Month	YTD
SALES	6,745	53,505
INCOME ON DISCOUNTS	263	1,777

Quiet Time of Prayer Wednesdays 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Chapel will be open for a weekly time of prayer.

We invite all who want to pray and are feeling a little depressed because of all the tragedies in the past few months.

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

**Learn Chi Gung/Tai Chi
Fridays at 9am Sherrill Hall
Tai Chi exercises our brain and body.**

No class on Sept. 21.

The gentle exercises helps with your balance to prevent falls. The emphasis is on breathing, and getting oxygen flowing throughout the body. Helps one keep calm and lowers the blood pressure.

The key is to keep the body moving.

Although we gear this towards the senior citizens anyone may attend. If you can't stand you may sit.

Classes led by Irving Lee as a Community Service. There is no charge.

Irving Lee, (925) 708 9252



Concord United
Methodist

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

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Return Service Requested

