



## Community United Church of Christ *of San Carlos*

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

### Pastor's Page

The windows in the office look out on the old building (Sanctuary side). Little change is visible. I feel like I am just watching it age. Only the termites are busy with the demolition.

On the other side, where new construction will happen, the ground is being leveled and prepared for something new. I had never realized how much of our property was actually the concrete lid of the creek channel. Right now it is laid bare for all to see. And why did the old foundation (for Cherrington Hall or was it the first church building) get buried rather than removed long ago? Those foundations are gone now. All sorts of preparation go on even before the new foundations can be dug out and filled in. Old realities have to be uncovered and dealt with before new ones can take shape.

At home we are trying to bring order to our piles of paper and books and music, which has required moving other papers and boxes out of storage places and spread around to be sorted and catalogued and put away. The recycling bin has been filled to overflowing, and still the chaos continues.

Making things new really messes things up. Change is troubling. God, who makes all things new, surely knows that. Look at the history of Israel, or the life of Jesus of Nazareth, or the renewals of the Christian Church and you can see some terrible and complex situations.

God's promise is simple. "I will be with you." In the midst of chaos, that seems unlikely. Afterwards, it may be quite clear. Something new and wonderful has appeared. But like a new baby in the family it may change life pretty completely.

God is with us. With all the challenge of change, I know that much is true. God is with us. I pray you can share that reality. Amen

~ Rolf Hansen ~



### Something Old and Something New

Our two-story building commonly known as Mahany Hall was erected in 1957 to provide additional classrooms and a large fellowship hall for meetings and other activities of the Church groups as well as **many civic organizations of San Carlos**. Since then and to this day, the fellowship hall, aka Mahany Hall and kitchen support the needs of many civic groups including San Mateo County Dept. of Elections, San Mateo County Mental Health, Cub Scouts Pack 65, Boy Scouts Troop 321, San Carlos Lions Club, San Carlos Eaton Hills 4H, Junior Matrons, AA/Alanon 12-Step groups, Home and Hope Interfaith & Community Support for Homeless Families.

In April 2011 Cub Scouts Pack 65 and Boy Scouts Troop 321 jointly held a Paper Shredding and Baked Goods Sales fundraiser for the benefit of UCCSC. They heard that our coffers could use some replenishment. At that time UCCSC was also in conversation with American Red Cross about the possible use of Mahany Hall as a place for some of their activities. They were kind enough to support us by stationing a staffed American Red Cross table at that fundraiser. Unfortunately conditions were not right at the time to pursue their possible use of Mahany Hall.

Now with the church Redevelopment Project and the inclusion of some upgrades to Mahany Hall, our spacious hall could be very suitable for American Red Cross in time of a local disaster. At the August 21, 2016 regular monthly meeting, Council approved the creation of a **Disaster Shelter using Mahany Hall and kitchen** during hours not needed for ourselves. Council also approved pursuing a **partnership agreement with American Red Cross**. Such an agreement was signed by UCCSC Trustees and ARC Disaster Program Manager August 23, 2016 following an ARC Shelter Survey. It is a non-binding agreement in that we have entered into it in good faith. When a disaster occurs, ARC will contact us to determine if they may open a center here. We can refuse for any reason. Once the center is opened, we may not discriminate as to who may enter. ARC will be the Operator and Manager of the shelter when it is activated. We provide the specified space and they provide everything else. ARC will coordinate with the City to provide security and safety. We can provide additional equipment use, supplies, food and staffing as may be feasible.

While ARC can provide everything that will be needed based on the disaster situation, there may be a delay of several days before their supplies arrive. Therefore, it would be

appropriate for UCCSC to have some basic shelter items on-site. We have just submitted a **grant application to the City of San Carlos** for some seed money to purchase these items. We will know the outcome of this application in late September. The use of our Mahany Hall as a disaster shelter would be an asset to the City of San Carlos.



**Once this endeavor is more finalized, we would like to engage others in the larger community to join with us** as volunteers for outreach, maintaining and servicing the center. Please be on the lookout for future announcements.

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## **CROP HUNGER WALK**

We often hear of disasters that strike here in our own country and around the world. We hear of families struggling to meet every day needs. We hear of people who spend their whole day walking just to get clean water. We hear of millions of people living on the edge of subsistence, struggling to escape the crushing grip of poverty and powerlessness. People are hungry, thirsty, and they need more than a handout. They need a way out. Do you sometimes wonder how you might be more personally involved with helping people find the help they need?

Here is a great way to help. This year is the 4th year that Church World Service will sponsor a CROP Hunger Walk here on the Peninsula. First a review: What is Church World Service? In a nutshell, it is an international relief, development, and refugee resettlement agency. There are 36 member denominations in Church World Service, and both UCC and Disciples are members. CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. CROP Hunger Walks are community fund-raising events and are held every year in 1000 communities across our nation. In the last 20 years, CROP Hunger Walks have raised more than \$294 million to provide food, medical care, disaster relief, and self-help development for needy people around the world, and around the corner. 25% of what we raise will stay right here in our own community.

Our Walk, the San Francisco and Peninsula CROP Hunger Walk, will be held on Sunday, October 2, at 2:00 pm, in Menlo Park. The idea is that we sign up to be walkers in our CROP Hunger Walk, and we solicit donations from our friends, relatives, acquaintances. And if you can't walk, you can be a Spirit Walker and just solicit donations. We walk together with others from our communities and churches in a spirit of cooperation to raise money and awareness, as we work to End Hunger One Step at a Time.

Sign up online to be a Walker, Donor, or both for the **CROP Hunger Walk**. Here's how. Go to [www.crophungerwalk.org/menloparkca](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/menloparkca). Click on **Register**. Click on **Yes, I want to join a team**. You will see **Chalice/CUCC, San Carlos**. Click on **Donate Now** or **Join**. Follow directions for setting up an account. Or sign up with Ann Willard and secure a donation envelope, not online.

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## TACO PARTY

**Everyone is invited!** Chalice Annual Fundraiser, the **Taco Party**, Saturday, September 10, 5:30 p.m. at the home of Ann and Bruce Willard. The money raised will go to support the new construction project with new signage for our new sanctuary and facility. No need to bring anything to the party except your checkbook! Come enjoy sangria and tacos! Please RSVP to Ann by September 6. Get her address, phone number and email from the church directory in the back section under Chalice Christian Church. Directions to Ann's home available upon request.

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We are saddened to report the deaths of two of our members: **John Burgess** and **George Sigler**. John Burgess, husband of Faith Burgess, passed away on Friday July 15, 2016. His memorial service was held at Congregational Church of Belmont on July 24, 2016. **George Sigler passed away** August 15, 2016. He was being cared for in an Assisted Living facility. There was no plans for a local service.

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**Church Administrator** Gwen Jeong will be **out of the office from September 14 – 28, 2016**. All requests for space usage should already have been submitted, approved and calendared. In the event that work on the Redevelopment Project must be scheduled and which would affect the reservations, Project Co-Manager Matt Schulze will notify those users.

Our church website is [www.uccsc.org](http://www.uccsc.org).  
Our Facebook page is facebook.com/uccsc94070

Reminder: UCCSC Council meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month after our 12 o'clock worship service and coffee time that follow. During the Redevelopment Project, meetings are held in Room 211 above Mahany Hall.  
Official meeting minutes and monthly financial reports are available for perusing to Congregation members in the Administration Office, Room 213.

*The Redevelopment Project is being constructed by 1336 Arroyo Way, LLC. under the direction of Bob Stafford (Stafford Realty) and Matt Schulze (UCC Project Manager), with oversight by Siv Nickerson (Moderator). There is regular reporting to Trustees and Council. Construction is expected to take about 16-18 months.*

*If you have any questions about construction aspects, please contact Matt Schulze at 415-235-3343. If you have any questions about the past, present and future of our church, please contact Siv Nickerson, Moderator or Pastor Rolf Hansen. We hope you will be as excited about our vision as we are and join us in our journey forward.*