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

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
8:45 – 11:45 a.m. Nursery Care Available
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:00 a.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

Saturday Worship

7:00 p.m. Vesper Service in the Sanctuary

Summer Calendar-MARCH

Winter Nights at CUMC February 29 thru 8am, March 14.
March 6: 3 Services; 8, 9 & 10:30, Communion
4th Sunday in Lent
“Healing the Soul”
Girl Scout Sunday
9 O’clock service in Sherrill Hall
March 13: 2 Services; 8, & 10:00
5th Sunday in Lent. "Healing the Spirit"
March 20: Palm Sunday
3 Services; 8, 9 & 10:30
Children’s Processional Youth Service
March 24: Maundy Thursday
6–7:30pm Oglesby-Close Hall. Supper, Communion & Program
March 25: Good Friday
Special service with Choir. 7:30pm – Sanctuary
March 27: Easter Sunday
2 services 8:30am, Sunrise Service in the Rose Garden. 10am service in the Sanctuary.
Easter Breakfast: 7 – 9:30am In Oglesby-Close Hall.
Easter Egg Hunt: following the 10am service.

Good Timers
Tuesday March 8, 2016

Program:
Micheal Pope, CUMC Lay Leader
Bring a friend.
Bring a sandwich, drinks and dessert provided.
12 noon, Sherrill Hall
For more information please call Pam or Dean Hall: 777-9868

Spring Calendar-MARCH

Winter Nights at CUMC February 29 thru 8am, March 14.
March 6: 3 Services; 8, 9 & 10:30, Communion
4th Sunday in Lent
“Healing the Soul”
Girl Scout Sunday
9 O’clock service in Sherrill Hall
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Spring Forward Daylight-Saving Time begins, March 13, 2016
Don’t forget to set your clocks ahead one hour!
Lent is a time for healing!  

Pastor Lee

This year our Creative Council picked a theme of Healing for our Lent. Considering all those ill and weak members of our church family, we pray that healing comes upon everybody.

However, we understand that healing is not only for our body. We need to be healed for our heart, mind, body, spirit, and soul. On the first Sunday, we talked about the healing of our heart. When we are healed, we have biblical value system. We do not seek the glory and wealth of the world but the Kingdom of God and its righteousness.

Second week, we talk about the healing of our mind. When we are healed we will have biblical viewpoint on life, death, disease, history, life, relationship, family, money, and etc. We will be free from anxiety and worries. We will have peace in our mind.

Third week, we will talk about healing of our bodies. Among our church members we have doctors and nurses. We will have some conversation about our health. We will also have healing prayer for those who are sick. Miracles do happen during that time. Please come with great expectation. Last Sunday, one person testified that her cancer disappear right before the surgery. The surgeon said, "I am embarrassed to admit that I cannot find any tumor in your body. You have to go home."

Fourth week, we will talk about the healing of our soul. When our soul is healed, we will have biblical vision for our life. We will find the purpose of our life in God. We will find partners in mission. We can make plan for our life to glorify God’s name (3 P).

Before the Holy Week, we will talk about the healing of our spirit. When our spirit is healed we will live Simple, Sharing, and Serving life (3 S).

To achieve these healing of heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit, our church provided Lenten Meditation booklet. There are biblical passages for you to read and meditate on. Please write faith journal every day and pray for others.

If you are able and willing to do it, upload your meditation on our church Facebook for everybody to share it. If you do not know how to do it, send it to our church webmaster, Sue Falkowski, and she will do it for you. (Her email address is in our church directory)

Let us experience God’s healing during this Lent. Make this a time of healing and expect revival of our life here on earth and in heaven!

Pastor Lee, your pastor

Mary Lea Sherrill, surviving spouse of Rev. Shirley Sherrill, died on Monday December 21, 2015. A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church in Santa Barbara.

Condolences may be sent to Shirley Ann Hurley, 3162 Calle Fresno, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

Rev. Sherrill and Mary Lea were here at CUMC from 1971 - 1982.

Memorial gifts may be made in Mary Lea's name to Bowdon First UMC, PO Box 187, Bowdon, GA 30108.

In Our Prayers

Shirley & Bill Shannon; Shirley is on Hospice and Bill is recovering from surgery on his hand.

Carol Rossi who broke both her wrists from a fall. She is recovering from surgery on her left wrist.

Peggy Lamanna who had surgery on her hip to repair a detached muscle. She is recovering at home.

Continued prayers for: Babe Busick, Sandy Blazer, Sud and Midge Sundsten, Anna Loucks, Ron and Chris Wilson, Marge and Bill Boyer, Barbara Robbins, Milton DeGroodt, Jane Crandall, Jeff Simmons, Chris Gregory.
WINTER NIGHTS UPDATE

CUMC will soon be welcoming Winter Nights, the traveling shelter for homeless families, beginning on February 29 and ending on March 14. There are seven families in the program with 14 adults and 17 kids---9 boys ages 1, 2, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 14, and 8 girls ages 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, and 15. That could change as families find homes and leave and other families move in. Eleven families are on the waiting list.

Good Shepherd is co-hosting with us and St. Bonaventure's, Crossroads, and International Seventh Day Adventist churches are providing some meals. This is truly an ecumenical effort to keep these families safe and cared for.

There are still lots of opportunities throughout the two weeks to participate. We especially need homework help during the second week and people to be at the church on weekends. A paid Winter Nights supervisor is present whenever families are here and we must have church people on site as well. Your help is needed and appreciated. You can sign up at church on Sundays or call Delores Loague at 925-672-6870.

Wish list items of clothing, clean and in good condition, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, school supplies, shampoo, deodorant, sanitary-wipes, tissues, snacks for lunches, books for adults, recent magazines, BART or bus tickets, may all be brought to the church on Sundays. Monetary donations for food and supplies should be marked "CUMC-WINTER NIGHTS" and placed in the offering plate. Any money not needed for Winter Nights will be used for meals at the other shelters.

Orientation Meeting, Saturday, February 27, 9 am, Sherrill Hall. This is your chance to learn more about the task you signed up for and get your questions answered. We will also be going over the guidelines and take a tour of the facilities being used.

These homeless families are under great stress and need our love and support. With your help we can do that. THANK YOU!

Happy Chinese New Year – Year of the Monkey

This year is the year of the monkey, the dates change every year, it always falls between January 21 and February 20th. This is determined by the lunar calendar. The holiday is called "Spring Festival" because it is the start of Spring. While wintry weather prevails, 'Start of Spring' marks the end of the coldest part of winter, when the Chinese traditionally could look forward to the beginning of Spring. A very old custom is to name the years by one of the twelve animals in their zodiac cycle. Many Asians still believe in astrology and other superstitions.

People focus on priorities: making amends, reconciling with people, avoiding offence, and re-establishing old ties. They buy and wear new clothes, give gifts, and clean house. It is also China's winter vacation week, like between Christmas and New Year's Day other countries Schools in China get about a month off, and universities even more. China, Hong Kong and Macau, and nine other Asian countries have public holidays. A billion red envelopes with cash are given out from older to younger, from bosses to employees, and from leader to underlings. It's a special New Year's bonus. 200 million Mainland Chinese travel long distances for these holidays, and it is estimated there are 3.5 billion journeys in China. For comparison, less than 100 million people travel more than 50 miles during the Christmas holidays in the U.S according to the American Automobile Association. It has the biggest fireworks usage in the World. They are used to scare evil spirits. The flash and bang of the fireworks are supposed to scare the demons away.

So if you are thinking about traveling, it might not be the best time of the year to visit Mainland China. But you can enjoy the fun by going to San Francisco and participating there, "Xinnian Kuaile" means Happy New Year".

Race and Religion Chair
Betsy McLeod
Thanks to the 63 families who have bought Gift Cards this year our Prosperity Team Gift Card Sales profits have increased!!

Since we re-started the program 11 weeks ago, your efforts have contributed approximately $870 to the General Fund.

Buy $100 in Gift Cards each Sunday (any combination of cards) and help increase our Prosperity Team Gift Card income even more.

The most difficult parts of the Program are to:

#1 Remember to bring your checkbook on Sunday morning.

#2 Remember to pay for your retail items with the Gift Card(s) you have in your wallet.

How CUMC Makes Money with this Program:

Our Church receives a 1% to 20% discount on all gift cards. For example, when you buy a $100 Safeway gift card (4% discount) CUMC gets $4!

How to Buy Gift Cards:

1. Place your order in O-C Hall and write a check or pay cash.
2. Pick up your gift cards in O-C Hall that day (if in inventory). If not in inventory, pick up on the following Sunday.

Green order sheets are for cards in our regular inventory (usually published in the bulletin each Sunday).

White order sheets are for cards NOT in inventory

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**Gift Cards Regularly Kept in Inventory** on Sunday Morning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Merchant Name</th>
<th>Card Value</th>
<th>Usually in Inventory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ace Hardware 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon 3%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCO 1.5%</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCO 1.5%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bed Bath &amp; Bey 7%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Buy 3%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burger King 4%</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevron 1-1.5%</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevron 1-1.5%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinemark 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVS 6-7%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CVS 6-7%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Depot 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Ann Fabrics 6%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Mart 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kohl’s 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macys 10%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael’s 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papa Murphy’s 8%</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peet’s Coffee 8%</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Merchant Name</th>
<th>Card Value</th>
<th>Usually in Inventory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raley’s/Nob Hill 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raley’s/Nob Hill 4%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safeway 4%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safeway 4%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save Mart/Food Max/Lucky’s 2%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save Mart/Food Max/Lucky’s 2%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See’s Candies 9-20%</td>
<td>$19</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell 2%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staples 5%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starbucks 7%</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starbucks 7%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subway 6%</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taco Bell 5%</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2.5%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2.5%</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TJ Maxx/Home Goods 7%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walgreens 6%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walmart/Sam’s 2.5%</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walmart/Sam’s 2.5 %</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*More than 600 Merchants offer gift cards in this program. A list of all merchants is available from the Prosperity Team in O-C Hall each Sunday morning. Special orders from Merchants not on the “Inventory” list can be picked up the next week.*
Monday Night Forum

On Monday night the 15th of February I had the privilege of joining three other Churches to listen to a panel of Muslim speak about their Religion and answer questions. I hope to have the same thing at our church and invite a couple of other churches to come. So many people in the U.S. have these ideas that all Muslims are jihad. The jihad fight against the certain Western nations and Israel. An example is bin Laden's Qaeda, which is also known as "International Islamic Front for Jihad against the Jews and Crusaders".

They first presented a short film on the different things that people think about them and yes most of it was true. I myself have heard people make statements about Muslims. There is a large population of Muslims in the U.S and most of them were born in the U.S. The people that were on the panel varied as far as what they did in life. But we had a scientist and a teacher that teaches the religion, I could go on, but the majority were either Cornell University graduates or Harvard. They may not believe in Christ but they believe in God as we all do. They are peaceful and loving and want everyone to understand that they are not a threat to our country and they don't want to be threatened. So as Christians we need to try and live with all our bother and sisters and love them as Christ would. So hopefully in the future we will be able to host the panel and learn more about something everyone has misconceptions about. God Speed

Race and Religion Chair
Betsy Mcleod

The “Thursday Group” Needs Help!

The “Thursday Group” consists of a small group (read this as two) of dedicated retirees who gather each Thursday to trim roses, and fix what we can (including lightbulbs, fluorescent tubes, minor electrical or plumbing). But, WE ARE GETTING OLDER! 😢

If there are any recent retirees, or those who are otherwise able to help, please contact Dave Atkinson (deatkinson@sbcglobal.net, 925-672-3850, or cell 925-408-9111).

We are currently meeting every Thursday morning at 8:15-8:30. We usually have coffee and someone brings donuts, following that, we fix what needs fixing.

It is not necessary that you come every Thursday, although that is certainly desirable. Accommodations can and will be made 😊

Dave Atkinson

“I’m afraid there is no Book of Loophole.”
The Origin of Black History Month

In the 21st century, many Americans question the need for Black History Month. Some argue that Black History should be celebrated year-round, as it is no different from American history generally. Harvard-educated historian Carter G. Woodson did not spearhead a time of year to recognize the achievements of blacks to exclude others but because the history books of his era largely ignored the contributions people of color made to U.S. Society. Reflecting the origin of Black History Month will help naysayers clear up misconceptions about its founding purpose. Well versed in the achievements of African Americans, Woodson wanted to publicize their contributions to the world. He accomplished this goal by establishing the Association for the Study of Negro life and History (today known as the Association for the study of African American Life and History). The decision to celebrate African American history in February was not an attempt to shortchange blacks but arrived at because that month encompasses the birthdays of both Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln, which fell on the 14th and the 12th, respectively. The African American Douglass distinguished himself as a leading abolitionist, while Lincoln, of course, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. That document allowed enslaved blacks to live as free men and women. Without the activism of abolitionists such as Douglass, Woodson, who was born to slaves, may have never received the opportunity to read or write, let alone earn degrees from academic institutions as prestigious as the University of Chicago and Harvard University.

Black History Month has been celebrated for 101 years and the theme this year is Hallowed Grounds. Here are some names of people who paved the way for blacks. James Farmer a civil rights leader in 1942, he founded the Congress of Racial Equality (core) civil rights organization that was first in the U.S. to use nonviolent tactics to protest racial discrimination. Marian Anderson an African American operatic singer. Maya Angelou, a world famous poet, author, historian and singer. James Booha perhaps the greatest piano player. Willie Lewis Brown Jr, the mayor of S.F. Calif. Before his term as mayor he was the longest serving speaker of the assembly of CA. He is the only African American to hold that post. And of course we know about Martin Luther King, Jr., Billie Holiday, Quincy Jones and a long list of others.

Race and Religion Chair
Betsy McLeod

**S.H.A.R.E.S CARDS**

are available at the Prosperity Team table in Oglesby-Close Hall after service. It is good at Lucky, FoodMaxx, Save Mart and SMART Foods.

**Here’s how it works!**

Each time you shop, just swipe the card before your order is finished being rung up. CUMC will get up to 3% of the total. It’s painless, you don’t have to sign up and it doesn’t cost you a thing. But it is another way to support our church!

**Membership/Baptism Class**

**Begins March 6!**

12 to 1pm in the Sanctuary office The dates for the classes are; Sundays March 6 & 13, April 3 & 13, 2016 at 12 noon.

If you are interested in becoming a member, have questions or would like to be baptized please come to the class.
Needs candy!

Easter is March 27 and we will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt. *We have plenty of plastic eggs*—but no candy to fill them with!

Small wrapped Easter candies are needed to fill the plastic eggs. Please bring the candy to the church office. Your donation is appreciated. Thank you!

International Women's Day Celebration

Tuesday, March 8, 7:30 pm
First Church of Christ, Scientist Danville, 650 Danville Blvd., Danville

A Christian Science Practitioner Danville, and ladies from the Interfaith Peace Project in Antioch, B'nai Shalom in Walnut Creek, Bahai's of Rossmoor, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Christian Science Church in Pleasant Hill and San Ramon Valley Islamic Center will discuss, "How has your faith tradition helped frame your ideas of what it means to be a woman?" A women's chorus will open and close the program and refreshments will be served by the men of the Interfaith Council. More information on the Oglesby-Close Hall bulletin board.

Endowments

Gift Options

An endowment gift may be designated for a specific purpose. Please let the church know if you wish to restrict the use of income from your gift of a specific program or purpose. You may wish to make the endowment gift in your honor, or in memory of another person. We can help you make a gift that creates a legacy of remembrance for you and your loved ones.

For additional information on endowment giving or to review information about endowment plans, please contact us. We look forward to helping you create your legacy!

Committee members: Russ Kladko, Joyce Atkinson, Milt DeGroodt, Chuck Rogers.

SHARE -- This amazing food program feeds our hungry friends and neighbors each month. Please bring a can of fruit or vegetables, or maybe a jar of peanut butter, or macaroni, spaghetti -- any non-perishable food. OR if you have a fruit tree that is being generous, please share that as well. Fresh vegetables are good too.

SHARE is a non-profit organization where 99+% of any monetary donations go to the people it is helping. All work is done by volunteers. We thank you for your help in the past and ask you to continue to remember those who are having difficulty feeding their family. We don't want anyone to be hungry.

Freebie - Learn Chi Gung/Tai Chi

Fridays at 9am Sherrill Hall

Tai Chi exercises our brain and body.

The gentle exercises helps with your balance to prevent falls. The emphasis is on breathing, getting oxygen flowing throughout the body. Helps one keep calm and lowers the blood pressure. Although we gear this towards the senior citizens anyone may attend. If you can't stand you may sit. The key is to keep the body moving. Classes led by Irving and Marian Lee as a Community Service. There is no charge.

Irving Lee
(925) 708 9252
FREE TAX PREPARATION

FREE TAX PREPARATION for the 2014 tax season will again be offered by Tax-Aide’s AARP sponsored program on Tuesdays and Wednesdays here and at other locations on different days. The service, provided by IRS certified tax counselors, is available in rooms 1 & 2 from 9am to 4pm. Tax-Aide does not specify an income limit but the service targets low and moderate income taxpayers of any age with special attention given to seniors 60 plus.

To make an appointment for Tax-Aide please call (925) 405-5234. For general information and other site locations, call: (925) 726-3199.

To complete your tax return, Tax-Aide will need you to bring to the appointment your:

- Copies of all W-2s
- Photo ID
- 1098s and 1099s
- Other income and deductions
- Your 2012 Tax Return

Announcing a chance for you **Bikers to “Peddle for Heifer”**, get healthy exercise and enjoy a bike ride during this beautiful time of year. Join our multiple-church, slightly challenging, two Warm-Ups and a 50 mile or 25 mile ride, to raise money for Heifer International. **Your $150+ in pledges will go directly toward ending hunger and poverty in under developed areas.** The 25 & 35 mile warm-ups are on April 23 & April 30th, with the “GO” date of Saturday, May 7. Full rest stop support with scout and poop-out vehicles available. If you can’t ride, please pledge to support Heifer International. Our church will have Heifer Sunday on May 1 with pledge sheets available.

For further information, please call Jim McGuire, (925) 997-2257, mcguire.james80@gmail.com.