
PASTOR'S CORNER

Continued from Page 1

The Hill of Crosses is located a few miles north of a small industrial city of Siauliai (pronounced shoo-lay). It is the Lithuanian national pilgrimage center. Standing upon a small hill are hundreds of thousands of crosses that represent Christian devotion and a memorial to Lithuanian national identity.

The city of Siauliai was founded in 1236 and occupied by Teutonic Knights during the 14th century. The tradition of placing crosses dates from this period and probably first arose as a symbol of Lithuanian defiance of foreign invaders. Since the medieval period, the Hill of Crosses has represented the peaceful resistance of Lithuanian Catholicism to oppression. Many crosses were erected upon the hill after the peasant uprising of 1831-63. By 1895, there were at least 150 large crosses, in 1914 200, and by 1940 there were 400 large crosses surrounded by thousands of smaller ones.

Captured by Germany in World War II, the city suffered heavy damage when Soviet Russia retook it at the war's end. During the Soviet era, the pilgrimage to the Hill of Crosses served as a vital expression of Lithuanian nationalism. *The Soviets* repeatedly removed Christian crosses placed on the hill by Lithuanians.

Three times, during 1961, 1973 and 1975, the hill was leveled, the crosses were burned or turned into scrap metal, and the area was covered with waste and sewage. Following each of these desecrations local inhabitants and pilgrims from all over Lithuania rapidly replaced crosses upon the sacred hill. In 1985, the Hill of Crosses was finally left in peace. The reputation of the sacred hill has since spread all over the world and every year it is visited by many thousands of pilgrims. Pope John Paul II visited the Hill of Crosses in September of 1993. On windy days breezes blowing through the forest of crosses and hanging rosaries produces a uniquely beautiful music.



Christmas and New Years are our times of connectivity. Times of finishing and starting. We all live in God's time, and from that we carve a few moments of our own time.

Time is the only wealth that we are given.

When we play it too safe,

we take the biggest risk of our lives.

For the New Year, may you have "the time of your life."

Enough moments to do something good, and noble, and lasting.

Enough days to appreciate the beauty of the world as well as the challenges,

Enough crosses to make you human,

and enough of the sweet breezes of life, to remember that you are also a spirit

with both memories and hope.

John Cushman

FELLOWSHIP

Presbyterian Women



Because our usual meeting day falls on Inauguration Day, PW will meet

Tuesday, January 27

Bible study at 11:00 a.m. led by Alice Crouch.

Luncheon at noon, with featured speaker:



The Rev. Carmen Mason Browne

Pastor of Imani Christian Fellowship
Presbyterian Church, Vallejo, CA

Rev. Carmen Browne is a speaker with a fascinating story to tell about the multi-cultural church she "raised" to become the newest church in the Presbytery of the Redwoods. She has been honored as "a community health specialist and pastor known for her efforts to promote culturally specific health education and spiritual awareness."

Carmen is the daughter-in-law of our own Carol and Dave Browne. In 2008, Church of the Roses' Church and World Committee granted \$1000 to Imani Fellowship to help them in their quest to become chartered as a Presbyterian Church.



Sewing Group will be in stitches again on January 13, from 10 to 2. Bring a sack lunch and join the fun!

In 2008 Church of the Roses Church and World Committee provided a grant of \$1000 to Imani Fellowship to help them in their quest to become chartered as a Presbyterian Church.

Voyagers

Active Adults

Calling all Voyagers!

The first **Voyager's** meeting is after church in the Rose Room on Sunday, January 11, 2009. Bring your ideas for monthly activities, community service activities, fund raisers, etc. Please plan to attend the meeting. We need you and your ideas.

We are happy to report that we made our annual contribution to the Redwood Food Bank. However, we were unable to fund any other requests this year.

Dominos Group (formerly Simply Friends)

meets **each Thursday** in the Adult Ed Room at noon

to play **Mexican Train** Dominos.

Please bring a brown bag lunch. January's dates: 8, 15, 22 & 29.

All are welcome!

Dominos Group



WHAT'S NEW



Roses Signature Concert Series presents
The Redwood Chordsmen
Santa Rosa's Barbershop Harmony Chorus
Sunday, January 18, 2009 pm Concert .
Reception in Bowen Hall immediately following



Chartered in 1965, Santa Rosa's **Redwood Chordsmen** now has a roster of 35 members. They are one of over 800 chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society. **Redwood Chordsmen** perform throughout the year presenting an "annual" show production along with seasonal dinner cabaret performances as well as performing for various civic groups, clubs, conventions, private functions or simply a visit to a local convalescent home. Chorus is continually working to

expand exposure of the enjoyment and experience of barbershop harmony. The society has developed a "Youth Outreach" program to promote music and education to our schools to which the chapter dedicates much time and energy. Taking it one step further, the chorus is sponsoring local youth quartets at the high school and college levels, enabling them to travel and compete in the different levels of quartet competitions all the way up to the International Contest.

Roses Signature Concert Series continues
2 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
Refreshments following concert in Bowen Hall.



February 22
Favorite Songs of our Faith
Church of the Roses Chancel Choir

March 22
Thomas Pandolfi
Concert Pianist

April 26
Santa Rosa Chamber Ensemble
(formerly Baroque Symphonia)

May 17
Sinfonia 4
Quartet from
The American Symphony

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Adult Education



Roses Inaugural Café

Tuesday, January 20, 8 a.m. to noon

Please join us in the Rose Room on to share in a prayer service along with television coverage of the presidential inauguration of Barak Obama. We'll have fellowship, refreshments, and a conversation about 2009 and beyond.

*Schedule of events at Church of the Roses:
(all times PST)*

- ◆ 8:00 a.m. Prayer service with Pastor Cushman
- ◆ 9:00 a.m. Swearing-in ceremony and inaugural address
- ◆ 11:30 a.m. Inaugural Parade on Pennsylvania Avenue

Fellowship



The Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, January 25, 2008 Time TBA

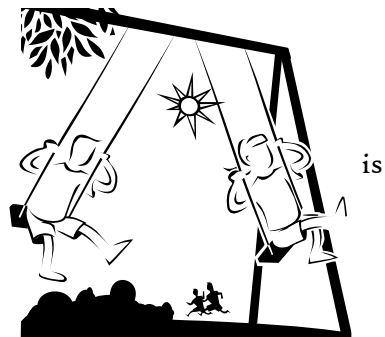
Reservation forms will be available in the Sunday bulletin in January or you may call the office at 542-0892 for information and reservations.

Church and World

Regional Park progresses

The City of Santa Rosa Recreation Department has informed us that the Church of the Roses block of bricks and star for *A Place To Play* approved and (shortly!) in production.

This spring, our personalized bricks will be laid in concrete. The congregation is invited to a dedication service with festivities to follow. More details in the next issue of *Rose Clippings*.



Roses folks are great shoppers!

Many thanks. This year through the *Alternative Christmas Celebration*, you helped the following causes

Church World Service	\$135
Doctors Without Borders.....	920
Heifer Project	\$350
Sonoma County Habitat for Humanity	\$195
Redwood Empire Food Bank.....	\$265

Total.....\$1,865.00

AROUND AND ABOUT

Community Thanksgiving Service with Beth Ami including Israeli Dancing



Dancing With the Stars!

After our Thanksgiving service, Rabbi George Schlesinger invited us to join in Israeli Dancing. Christians, Jews—and those in between—learned how to "strut our stuff" together.



Another of the many musical events in December



The Montgomery High School Chamber Singers, under the direction of Dana Alexander, sang Christmas favorites for the Presbyterian Women's Holiday Tea on December 16.



January 2009 Children & Youth Calendar

Friends are always welcome!

Saturday, January 3, 10:15 p.m. **BROOMBALL at Snoopy's Home Ice!!**



Invite friends, and be sure to get the waiver and permission forms from Kate (they can be e-mailed). You will need to bring \$10, your completed forms (3 forms with parent signatures for those under 18) and arrive by 10:00 p.m. at the ice rink (1667 W, Steele Lane). We will play from 10:15-11:45, and you can be picked up at 11:45 p.m. **RSVP as soon as you know your plans.** Kate's cell is 291-5897

Friday, January 16, 6:00 p.m.

Make-your-own Pizza

and Harry Potter Marathon Overnight



Arrive for dinner and begin first of three or four Harry Potter movies, depending on our stamina. Plan to bring a sleeping bag, pillow and maybe a friend or two. Let Kate know so we can buy enough pizza ingredients! We will have breakfast at the church and finish by mid-morning.

.....
LOOKING AHEAD:

- ◆ LOGOS begins on Sunday, February 8th at 4:30!
- ◆ Service Project at Redwood Empire Food Bank, Saturday, February 28, 8 a.m. to 12 noon



.....
THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED with *The Christmas County Spelling Bee!*

It is always so exciting to see these amazing productions, to watch the kids grow and mature, and once again Barbara McElroy has worked her magic. Thanks to the cast, the crew and the parents and helpers who contribute so much to this annual event.

CONFIRMATION CLASS is being planned for February. If you or someone you know might be interested in this training, we would love to include more students. We are expecting to meet on alternate Sundays during the lunch hour, for about an hour and a half each week. Call Kate with any questions, 291-5897.

IN YOUR WORDS

Letters, We Get Letters!

Kudos! Kudos! Kudos!

*What a great church family we have. All the Giving Tree ornaments were “adopted” meaning over **200 children had presents this Christmas.** In addition to the gifts for children, the sixty families received food boxes and a \$20.00 gift certificate to help make this a better Christmas.*

As another indication of our church’s strong community support: so far this year we have given over 301 bags of groceries to individuals and families referred by social service agencies, compared with 188 last year at this time.

You may bring food for our pantry on the third Sunday of each month.

Once again, we thank all of you for your support.

The Deacons

Dear John,

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to you, Peter, and Kate and involved staff and volunteers for the extra Sunday programs over the past several months.

The faux trips to Mexico and Jerusalem were informative and interesting, the dinners very tasty and the company interesting.

I look forward to next year when school resumes. Thanks again to all. Kindest regards & adios,

Ray Foreaker

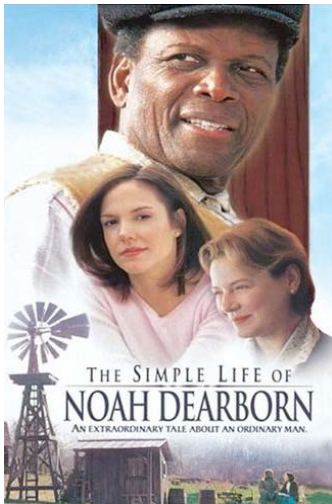
Guess who’s coming to preach!!

In our pulpit on January 18 will be Dr. Wayne Johnson, Associate Pastor of Church of the Roses from 1974 to 1996.

Wayne will tell us the story of the stained glass windows in our sanctuary— the when, where, what and why.

Plan to be with us, learn how our windows are connected to our faith, and give a big “hello” to Wayne and Pat at a reception following the service.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



Thursday January 22, 2:00 p.m.

Rose Room Theater

The Simple Life of

Noah Dearborn

Small-town farmer Noah Dearborn (Sidney Poitier) lives an uncomplicated existence till shady developer Christian Nelson (George Newbern) tries to usurp his family's land. Nelson will do anything to take Noah's property, including hiring a shrink (Mary-Louise Parker) to have him declared insane. What Nelson doesn't anticipate is Noah forming an unbreakable bond with the doctor that proves stronger than anything the land baron can dish out.

CHURCH NEWS

Worship Attendance 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.			
11/16	163	11/30	189
11/23	166	12/7	197

As of November 30, 2008

Finance Report

Fund	Annual Budget	YTD Income	YTD Expenses	YTD Over/Deficit
Operating Fund	\$451,788.00	\$384,939.87	\$398,770.70	(\$13,380.83)
Church & World	\$30,435.00	\$26,207.29	\$26,751.96	(\$544.67)
Subtotal	\$482,223.00	\$411,147.16	\$425,522.66	(\$14,375.50)
Preschool	\$120,613.00	\$116,913.11	\$108,474.03	\$8,439.08
Total	\$602,836.00	\$528,060.27	\$533,996.69	(\$5,936.50)



OUR PRAYER LIST

"Pray for one another and thus fulfill the law of Christ"

Prayers for the homebound:

Joyce Blinn	Helen Hollingshead	Darling Rich
Margaret Brittle	Lenore Jordan	Helen Thornton
Julia Cadwell	Neil Peterson	Otto Walker
Jack Gaffney	Lyman Pinney	Wata Williams

Prayers for others:

Norm Balzer	Kevin Imbimbo	Jean McKay	Ilanthe Brautigan Swensen
Barbara Blinn	Monte Keleher	Everett Morgan	Florence Wallach
Tyler, Randall & Bill Cadwell	Ann Kaufman	Dr. Les & Cynthia Morgan	
Mary Jane Deems	Eleanor Kish	Denise Neely	
Jim Fenner	Freddy Lang	William Papsco	
Lenore "Scotty" Foster	Dennis Langer	Jane Powell	
Tommy Gallagher	Susan Maier	Wendy Ramage	
Jan Hansen	Harry Marks	Bobby Rude	
Sally Henderson	Marie and Ray Matheny	Laurie Thomsen	

Prayers for service people stationed in the war area from our Church Families:


Timothy Cadwell (Julia Cadwell's grandson)
 Anthony Cooper (Tom Peugh's grandson)
 Jason Imbimbo (Sam & Chris Imbimbo's grandson)
 Trevor Robben (Genevieve Grand's nephew)
 PFC Dustin Drewry (Tom & Margaret Allen's grandson)

DEATHS

We mourn the loss of these dear ones and our hearts and prayers are with their families:

Hilda Keehn died November 26, 2008. No memorial services were held.
 Marilyn Sinclair died November 26, 2008. Memorial services were held at church of the Roses on December 6, 2008.
 Virginia Theobald died December 2, 2008. Memorial services were private.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;">January 2009</h1>				1 Office Closed <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2 Office Closed	3 10:00 pm Youth Broomball at Snoopy's Home Ice
4 Communion/2¢ A Meal & PB Sunday 8:30 Informal Worship 8:30 Bible Study Proverbs 10:00 Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 Youth Advisor	5 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:00 Comm. on Ministry 2:00 Fellowship Committee 7:30 Boy Scouts	6 7:15 MHS Breakfast 8:30 B&G Crew 9:00 Sexton Mtg. A 10:00 B & G Comm 1:30 Membership Comm 3:30 Church + World 6:00 Gift & Bequests 6:30 C + Y Committee 7:00 Worship & Arts	7 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting 10:30 Pastor's Class 2:30 Companions 7:00 Brass Quartet	8 7:15 MHS Breakfast 12:00 Domino Group 6:00 Boys/Girls Club Basket Ball 6:00 Bellissimo 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 AA Group	9 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:30 Art Ministry 11:00 Coffee with Cushman 1:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture	10
11 8:30 Informal Worship 8:30 Bible Study Proverbs 10:00 Worship/ Sunday School 11:15 Voyagers Meeting	12 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:15 Prayer Group 12:00 Men's Spirituality Lunch 10:00 Comm on Review 7:30 Boy Scouts	13 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:00 PW Sewing Group 12:00 Prog Adv. 6:00 Finance Committee 7:00 Deacons Meeting 7:30 Nom. Committee	14 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting 10:30 Pastor's Class	15 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:00—1:00 MHS "Day of Inspiration" 12:00 Domino Group 2:00 Movie 6:00 Bellissimo 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 AA Group	16 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:30 Art Ministry 11:00 Coffee with Cushman 1:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture 6:00 Youth Group Pizza and <i>Harry Potter</i> Movie Marathon	17 <i>9:30</i> Handicapables
18 8:30 Informal Worship 8:30 Bible Study on Proverbs 10:00 Worship/ Sunday School 11:30 Stephen Ministries	19 Martin Luther King Day No MHS Breakfast (No School) 10:15 Prayer Group 7:00 PW Bible Study 7:00 Personnel	20 7:15 MHS Breakfast 8:00 Inauguration Event 7:00 Session	21 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting 10:30 Pastor's Class 2:30 Companions 5:00 Habitat for Humanity Board Meeting	22 7:15 MHS Breakfast 12:00 Domino Group Rose Clippings Due by Noon 6:00 Bellissimo 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 AA Group	23 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:30 Art Ministry 11:00 Coffee with Cushman 1:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture	24
25 8:30 Informal Worship <i>Rose</i> 8:30 Bible Study on Proverbs 10:00 Worship/ Sunday School 5:30 Congregational Dinner and 6:30 Annual Meeting	26 7:15 MHS Breakfast Office Closed 12:00 Men's Spirituality Lunch Ad Ed 7:30 Boy Scouts	27 7:15 MHS Breakfast 12:00 Prog Adv. 11:00 am PW Bible Study 12:00 PW Luncheon	28 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting 10:30 Pastor's Class 5:00 Habitat for Humanity Board Meeting	29 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:00 Rose Clipping Crew 12:00 Domino Group 6:00 Bellissimo 7:00 Preschool Board meeting 7:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 AA Group	30 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:30 Art Ministry 11:00 Coffee with Cushman 1:00 Staff Meeting 1:30 Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture	31 12 noon – 11 pm Boy Scout Blue & Gold Banquet

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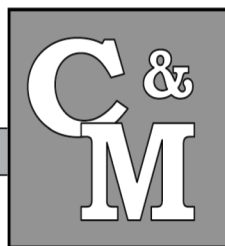


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Office hours: 9:00 to 4:00, Monday - Friday
Office phone: 707-542-4272
Office Fax: 707-542-5109
Email: office@churchroses.org
Web Page: www.churchoftheroses.org

Staff:
Dr. John H. Cushman, Pastor
Rev. Kate Clayton, Associate Pastor
Dr. Peter Maier, Pastor for Calling and Care
Cheryl Cushman, Rosebud Preschool Director
Barbara McElroy, Director of Music
Althea Wright, Accompanist
Karen D'Or, Office Manager
Debra Eynon, Finance Manager



8:30 a.m. Informal Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal and Coffee Time
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Coffee Time and Conversation

Rose Clippings is published monthly by the Presbyterian Church of the Roses and is distributed to all members and friends.



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2500 Patio Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Phone 707-542-4272

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