



## News from First Christian Church of San Jose

80 South Fifth Street, SJ 95112  
November 2017

Rev. Dana Bainbridge, Pastor  
<http://www.fccsj.org>

### From the Pastor

Dear FCC Friends,

Our Advent season will revolve around a focus on "Finding Peace in Turbulent Times."

I will be praying for this for you, for myself, for our cosmos, and for our leaders. With so many things stirred up and agitated in our world, it takes a conscious, dedicated spiritual practice to find solid ground to stand on.

Turbulence isn't all bad. Sometimes it helps to stir things up. Women who are speaking up about sexual harassment and abuse are stirring things up, but this is an act of courage that is the only way to find a more authentic peace among us.

We are busy around here doing many things - meeting to explore and discern the future around our Urban Sanctuary experiment; finishing up the last weeks of the construction to welcome the newly renovated Recovery Cafe San Jose. A lot is going on! It's incredibly challenging and very exciting!

But it is often in the small moments and more simple things we find grace and peace. Moments of appreciating one another, remaining kind in times of stress, pausing at the beginning, middle or end of the day to pray for one another.

Let's share together our collective wisdom about how we find peace in turbulent times. I'm so grateful to have a spiritual community with whom to reflect, share, and sometimes... just be quiet.

*With Gratitude -  
Dana*

### FCC - RCSJ Community Art Project: Reclaimed Wood Wall for New Cafe

**Friday, November 10  
9 A.M. — Noon and 1 — 3 P.M.**

On next Friday morning the Recovery Cafe SJ and FCC communities are invited to join together to reclaim the beauty of some of the wood that was removed from the Social Hall during the demolition. Under the guidance of the staff of Terra Amico, a local reclaimed wood studio, we will work together to sand, stain, and paint the boards that will be installed by their reclaimed artists on our feature wall.

Stations will be set up for sanding, staining and painting and two shifts are offered since we will need to allow the boards to dry before working with them again to create special effects.

We will take a little time to share about how recovery is the process of reclaiming the beauty in one another through the inner work of restoration.

Please RSVP to Pastor Dana at [danabainbridge@gmail.com](mailto:danabainbridge@gmail.com) to sign up. The morning shift is full but we have openings in the afternoon shift (1 — 3PM).

*~ Dana*



*The Reclaimed Wood Wall will be Installed where the Plywood is Seen behind the New Coffee Bar*

*See More Café Renovation Photos on the Back Page!*

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## From the Board

Our board of elders is continuing to work with RCSJ in preparing for the return to their new home in our former social hall. Thanks to Virginia, Linda and Dana who have been meeting to work out the details of how the Café area will be used by FCC and other congregations in our building.

Realignment of parking lot spaces: Coinciding with RCSJ moving back to our church, parking lot spaces will be reassigned. RCSJ will have 10 spots to be used exclusively by them. Those spaces may not be used by FCC members, except on Sundays. FCC will have 7 reserved places for staff and church guests.

Four spaces along the back wall will be reclaimed from private users, and the only other groups using our lot will be Westwood Properties (15 spaces), and Catholic Charities (15 spaces).

A new musician was approved by the board, following a recommendation from the worship team. Neil MacPherson is our new musician. Robert Van Horne will continue to play on selected Sundays.

Board members participated in a discussion of the next steps in our partnership with Silicon Valley Progressive Faith Community. The result was an invitation to Rev. Nicole to attend the November 12 FCC board meeting for further discussion.

Special day offerings for Disciples members include Week of Compassion, Easter, Pentecost, Reconciliation, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each of these offerings has a special mission attached to it. As a congregation, we emphasize Week of Compassion, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Along with this, the board voted to send \$300 to Disciples Mission Fund as an additional offering. Our Thanksgiving offering will be collected on two Sundays, November 19 and 26. Thanksgiving offerings go to higher education institutions affiliated with our denomination.

The Christmas special day offering (Dec. 10, 17) is very important, as it is used to support the ministries of our CCNC-N regional office in San Ramon, where Rev. LaTaunya Bynum is our regional minister and Rev. Kyung-Min Daniel Lee, associate regional minister.

## Special offering from Ralph Hietala

Our good friend Ralph Hietala left a special offering to FCC before his passing on September 10. The board is exploring a plan for using this gift to establish a Long-Term Maintenance/Capital improvement fund. The money has been set-aside in a fund invested with the Christian Church Foundation, an investment arm of the Disciples of Christ in Indianapolis, IN. Our hope is that with future budgets starting in 2018, a percentage of building use and parking lot income can be added to this fund, and that future memorial gifts might also be added to this fund.

## From our Regional Church

Perhaps you remember the Annual Fund of our region, and remember receiving a phone call in the phone-a-thon every fall. The fund has a new name, the "Regional Ministry Fund".

### In her latest e-newsletter, Rev. Toni wrote:

I believe being part of the church of Jesus Christ in these days is a revolutionary and counter-cultural act. To declare, as Disciples of Christ do, that we "are a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world," and then to act in ways that bring wholeness, compassion, justice, and good news to the world in the name of God who has given those things to us goes against the grain of our coarse and uncaring world. Yet it is the ministry we are called to; it is the work that feeds our souls.

Please join us in contributing to the Regional Ministry Fund. Doing so helps us to be in relationship with each other, develop leaders, and continue to be a justice seeking anti-racist/pro-reconciling church.

Please go to OUR DONATION PAGE ([www.ccncn.org](http://www.ccncn.org)) to make your contribution. If you prefer to send a check, please make it payable to CCNCN Regional Ministry Fund. Send to: 9260 Alcosta Blvd, Suite C-22, San Ramon, California 94583-4143

*With thanksgiving for your prayerful support,*

*Rev. Dr. LaTaunya M. Bynum,  
Regional Minister, CCNC-N*

## News from First Christian Church of San Jose

From First Christian Church, Concord: Rev. Russ Peterman, who has been serving the church he grew up in for the past 12 years, will be honored in the worship service on November 12. We are invited to attend this service in his honor before he moves to his new church in Texas.

### FCC Community

Fruitridge Christian Church in Sacramento is thrilled to have received the rod iron fence that was removed from our parking lot. This church operates in an area very similar to FCC and carries on ministry to help those on the streets.

Here's how our parking lot looked, then and now, with the new handicapped spot.



We were happy to have John Lindley visiting with us over the Labor Day holiday. He left Houston in time to avoid the worst of Hurricane Harvey, and was fortunate to return to an intact apartment.

As part of the recent Arts and Spirituality Series, PJ Hirabayashi and Pear Urushima gave a presentation on The Power of Taiko. [Click this link for a short video of Charlie singing along.](#)



A number of us went to a mural tour and workshop at Precita Eyes in San Francisco.



*At the Mural Workshop*



*The mural we Created in the Workshop*

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Virginia, Sara, Dana and Walter had a nice day creating a panel at the Chalk Art Festival in San Jose. Virginia had the idea of inviting passers-by to contribute to the project.



*The Chalk Art Project at the End of the Day*

For a presentation on *Dia De Los Muertos*, the altar was decorated with art and items typical of the Mexican traditions.



The following week we made an altar of remembrance for our loved ones.



## Birthday Celebrations

*by Lorraine Glick*

We don't often get to see our long-time member, Gerry Tyndall, but we were happy she was able to make a birthday celebration for Gertrude Wright, a former FCC member. Gertrude and Gerry have been church friends for 60 years.

Charlie Craig and Lorraine had lunch with Gerry and Gertrude in Scott's Valley on October 17. Gertrude was celebrating her 97th birthday.



*Lorraine, Charlie, Gertrude and Gerry*

## Other fall birthdays:

Roger Chow – Sept. 24

John Lindley – Sept. 25

Sandy Hietala – October 4

Roger Thomas – October 29

Nam Pham – November 2

Marianne Gallagher – November 20

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Enjoy These Pictures of Recovery Café Renovations as they Near Completion

