



# Union Church of Pupertino

Serving Pupertino since 1884

## The Communicator

Rev. Mark J. Brady

March 2014

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with an invitation to remember who we are...  
“From the dust you came and to the dust you shall return” and whose we are...  
“Repent and Believe in the Gospel.”

Lent (from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten* meaning spring) is a forty day season of preparation for the celebration of Christ’s resurrection at Easter. As early as the second century the forty days of Lent had become integrated into the yearly rhythm of the Christian community as they prepared, primarily through the spiritual disciplines of fasting, prayer, personal reflection and acts of compassion for the celebration of Jesus being raised up from death to life.



REV MARK J. BRADY

Lent is a forty day journey... It is lived in weeks, It is lived in days, It is lived in Grace.

Some people live the weeks of Lent by embracing a week by week intentional reflection on the aspects of our lives that stand in the way of walking in God’s Spirit while finding new ways each week to move forward in love. Each week, a classic spiritual discipline provides the entry point for self-examination, God reflection, and godly action.

**Confession:** Less Guilt/More Grace **Solitude:** Less Noise/More Listening

**Fasting:** Less Consumption/More Compassion **Simplicity:** Less Stuff/More Freedom

**Frugality:** Less Spending/More Peace **Intercession:** Less Me/More Others

**Reflective Reading of Holy Week Story:** Less Fear/More Love

Others embrace a daily discipline which leads us toward a deeper understanding and appreciation of ourselves, our neighbors and our God.

**Monday:** Practice Stillness- Read Psalm 23, Psalm 46, Job 30, Mark 4:35-41

**Tuesday:** Practice Self Awareness- Read Psalm 51, Psalm 139, I Cor. 3, John 15:1-17

**Wednesday:** Practice Other Awareness- Read Psalm 133, Micah 6, Matthew 25

**Thursday:** Practice God Awareness- Read Genesis 1, Exodus 3, Isaiah 53, John 1, I John 1

**Friday:** Practice Hope- Read Psalm 121, Psalm 131, Isaiah 40, Romans 8, I Cor. 15

**Saturday:** Practice Rest-

**Sunday:** Practice Praise- Worship! Read Psalm 8, Psalm 150, Acts 2, Revelation 5

*Listen to your life, Frederick Buechner writes; see it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.... (God's) message is not written out in starlight... rather it is written out for each of us in the humdrum, helter-skelter events of each day ... Who knows what God will say to me today...*

*Not knowing is what makes today a holy mystery as every day is a holy mystery.*

Each day throughout Lent we are given an opportunity to grow in our understanding of what it means to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Each day we are given the opportunity to put into practice the Love at the heart of our faith in the knowledge that faith... takes practice.

*Grace and Peace,*

*Mark*



03/01 Anita Singh  
03/04 Doris Rausch  
**03/05 Jason Rodrigues**  
**03/05 Justin Rodrigues**  
03/07 Richard Aria  
**03/10 Kendra Varney**  
03/12 Donna Smith

**03/13 Amanda Perry**  
03/15 Richard Kurkowski  
03/21 Ardis Garfield  
03/23 Carol Holt  
03/28 Diana Brady  
03/28 Robert Lane  
03/31 Betty Mendoza

March 2nd  
*Stephen & Sarah Nelson*

March 14th  
*Richard & Carol Aria*

## *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

**Beez Jones**  
**Bess**, Dale Adkison's mother, undergoing chemotherapy  
**Bonnie Martin**  
**Carol McEwen**  
**Cynies**, Nicolle's aunt  
**Dorothy Gross**  
**Dorothy Shirk**  
**Doug & Jeff**, friends of Phil Z, have serious illnesses  
**Eric**, MaryLou Lyon's grandson  
**Ethel Roten**  
**Fred Leonelli**, Lorraine's brother  
**Gayle Pinkston**, Karen V's brother-in-law  
**Ian Murray**, Barbara Murray's father  
**Jean Prisock**  
**Joan Greene**  
**Joseph V.**, prayers for recovery  
**Joyce Hitchens**, Carol McEwen's mother  
**Kathy Bradrick**, Lorraine Leonelli's friend, Foot injury  
**Kendra**

**Leon Smith**  
**Lorraine Leonelli**  
**Lynne Carlton**  
**Marion Gaever**  
**Martha Foster**  
**MaryLou Lyon**  
**Mike Lyon**, grandson of MaryLou Lyon  
**Paul**, Sue Burchell's father  
**Penny**, Barbara Murray's sister-in-law  
**Ruth Wesley**  
**Sarah Magana & family**  
**Theora Carey**  
**Ulrike**, friend of Renate Trittelvitz  
**Vicki Bliven**  
**Wally Evans**  
**Wes Ireland**, prayers for his recovery from surgery

*Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of Jim McConnell, Son-in-law of Mac & Mabel; he passed away peacefully on the morning of Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>. The family would like to thank the congregation for their prayers and concerns.*

# Union Church ~ March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Children sing in Sunday school  Deacons meeting after Worship	3	4 10 am Bible Study  2pm Calendar meeting	5 7pm Ash Wednesday Service	6 1 pm Women's Fellowship  7pm Bible Study	7	8
9 First Sunday of Lent	10 10 am Missions	11 10 am Bible Study  7:30pm Trustees Meeting	12 7:30pm Choir practice	13 7pm Bible Study	14	15
16	17	18 10 am Bible Study	19 7:30pm Choir practice	20 8 am Men's breakfast  7pm Bible Study	21	22
23	24	25 10am Bible Study  7:30 pm Official Board Meeting	26 7:30pm Choir practice	27 8 am Chateau breakfast  7pm Bible Study	28	29
30 Celebrate Healing	31					

## Union Church of Cupertino



“Share with us in the joy of the journey”  
Rev. Mark J. Brady

Inter-denominational Church

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9am -2pm  
20900 Stevens Creek Blvd  
Cupertino, CA 95014  
Telephone: (408) 252-4478

Email:  
unionchurch4471@sbcglobal.net

Website:  
www.unionchurch.org

## Come Join Us...

Sunday Adult Bible study: 9am  
Sunday Worship Service: 10am  
Sunday Coffee Fellowship: 11:15am  
Tuesday Bible Study: 10am  
Thursday Bible Study: 7:30pm



## CHARLIE'S CORNER

We all experience heart wrenching experiences in our lives. Everything had gone so well at work on this particular day, and the traffic was no problem driving up the East shore highway to my home in Berkeley and Surprise, Surprise, Surprise, my sister, Violet was there to greet me as I entered the house...but she was crying, and she said, "Laurel's dead."

That was my first experience of the death of a loved one, and I just couldn't believe it had happened, but it kept getting worse, because the grief was compounded like a worsening fire as each family member heard the news, and we could feel each other's grief. But my grief was stretched to the limit the next day when I walked up the aisle in the mortuary with Dad to view Laurel. Dad's nickname for her was *Willow*. I can still hear Dad crying and saying "Oh Willow, Willow, Willow." I had never heard him cry before. To lose a daughter, or a son, nothing could be more terrible.

I have a problem, a paying attention problem, which stems from lingering over one set of ideas when the topic under discussion changes. A couple weeks back in Tuesday Bible Study, while I was doing a bit of wool gathering, Mark said, "What are your thoughts about that, Charles?" I rather sheepishly replied that I didn't really have any thoughts on the subject. As we were driving to lunch, I detected an uncharacteristic coolness in Kathleen, my mate these past almost seventy one years. She then informed me that the subject about which I didn't have any thoughts was: ARE MARRIAGES MADE IN HEAVEN? Sleeping in the garage really isn't too bad now that I'm allowed a couple of blankets.

We really enjoy the Easter Sunrise Service Mark puts on each year. A couple years back, my legs got a bit wobbly, and, as we were breaking up, Kathleen and Mary Jean Proud each took one of my hands to steady me as we walked to the car.

We don't realize it, perhaps, but we all subconsciously make little grooming movements all the time. One of the things men do is periodically hitch their pants up. No matter how tight the belt is fastened, the combination of body movements and gravity will ensure disaster after a certain threshold is passed. Well, I was way past hitch time, and regaining control of my hands was impossible. My britches suddenly plummeted to my ankles. I think that I did pretty well in the dignity management department as the ladies hoisted my pants up, and I'm not aware of any crude remarks of the "Nice shorts, Charlie" or "Oh, so you wear briefs" sort.

One time, when I was Chairman of the Board, it fell my lot to make a presentation to our beloved Carol Ames. I had prepared a little set of remarks which ended something like: The Wizard of Oz told the Scarecrow that the measure of a great heart is not in how much you love, but in how much you are loved in return. Based on that criterion, Carol has the greatest of hearts, because everybody loves her. I was envisioning a light airy affair but, given the genuine love we all felt for Carol, the proceedings reached an emotional depth that resulted in lumps in the throats all over the place. I felt that enough had been said and managed a few words as I presented her with the gift we had gotten. Nobody listens to what the presenter has to say on such occasions, and if I had said more I would have bawled like a baby. Nobody likes to see a grown man cry. Further, it could have triggered a serious flood in the Sanctuary.

– *Charles Calhan*



## **World Support** We Care and Love

World Support is a California nonprofit organization, Founded by Yuko Shima, where the goal is working for the fulfillment of the public needs.

On October 5<sup>th</sup> 2013, World Support and Yuko Shima held a Japan Charity Event at Union Church. The event was a success with the participation of various corners of the world offering time and skills for charity. With the money raised, the organization was able to donate it to Japan, below is a letter thanking everyone for the donation and how they used the money to bring relief to their community.

Ms. Toyoda,

Brief summary of our usage of the loving donation we received from you.

1. Dainichi Blue Heater ( Since installing gas heater requires installation fee of \$1,000 already, we decided to purchase business-class heater usually used in the school auditoriums and commercial factories.)
2. LED Ceiling Light x5 ( Our building is an old building and we only had light bulbs hanging from the ceiling. The rooms were always dark and often we had to replace the light bulbs. )

The Dainich Blue Heater uses more energy, but compared with the two small gas heaters we had before, it is much warmer and we love it!

The Led Ceiling Lights we have replaced in the entrance, hallway, living room, so all the people have noticed the change and is very bright now.

Thank you very much sincerely.

In Niigata Prefecture we are having less snow this year, so it is good, but in Tokyo and Fukushima area we hear a lot of snow is reported there. We hear that the United States also is experiencing unusual weather. We having experienced being a refugee, hearing the news of disaster saddens our heart. But we realized that the disaster gives light to human relations which were not apparent before.

We would like to request our mutual relationships from now on.

We will send you the documentation and the pictures soon.

FLIP House  
Egawa

# The Season of *Lent*



**March 5th** Ash Wednesday ~ 7 pm Worship Service

**March 9th** First Sunday of Lent

**April 13th** Palm Sunday Worship Service ~ 10 am

**April 17th** Maundy Thursday Communion ~ 7 pm  
\*Bible, Bread and Soup in Calvert Hall  
Come as you are, share a meal and a message



**April 18th** Good Friday Worship Service ~ 7:00 pm  
“A Journey into Darkness”

**April 19th** Holy Saturday

**April 20th** Easter Sunday



- Sunrise Communion at Jollyman Park ~ 6:30 am
- Community Easter Egg Hunt ~ 9:30 am
- Easter Worship Celebration ~ 10:00 am  
Followed by a special coffee hour/ brunch in Calvert Hall

\*Please make sure to sign up for the “Bible, Bread and Soup” event.

Sign-up sheet will be available in Calvert Hall after Worship or contact the Church office.

# The Back Page

## **UNION CHURCH SANCTUARY UPDATE**

If you attended the Annual Meeting earlier in February, you would have heard that our sanctuary is in need of repair. We had hoped to have the outside woodwork repainted and some rotted fascias replaced last year. However, on further investigation we determined that there was more extensive damage in some of the roof beams around the drainage downspouts at the roof level. These repairs are our first priority before we can paint. We expect the cost to be at least \$10,000 according to one quote we received last year. The paint job would be about another \$10,000. Members of your church Board have been working together on how to finance these jobs so that we can get them done this year. Our treasurer has opened up a special account to manage sanctuary repair donations and so far I am happy to report that we have received upwards of \$4000. If you feel that you would like to make a contribution please earmark the envelope 'Sanctuary Fund' and you can be assured that your donation will be applied to that specific cause.

Many thanks to all who have given. We look forward to getting the job done this year.

Richard Aria  
Trustee Chairman

## **MISSIONS COMMITTEE ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN**

The Missions Committee project sends snacks and personal care items to Chaplain Matt Hamrick in Afghanistan. Below is a list of items needed. Thank you for your contributions to this ongoing Missions project.

Shampoo	Q-Tips
Trail Mix	Cash Donations
Soap	Disposable Razors
Granola Bars	Feminine Supplies
Deodorant	Baby Wipes
School Supplies	

*(Cash donations are used for mailing costs)*

Please use the envelopes in the pews for your contributions and please mark the envelope:  
**AAC Project**

**We greatly appreciate  
your support!**

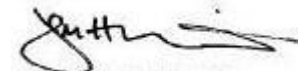
## **A Letter from the Chaplain**

Union Church,

Thank you so much for the care packages you sent to us over here in Afghanistan. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The items made our daily routine a little more enjoyable. It means a great deal to know we are being remembered by great people like you back in the states.

Thank you again for your amazing generosity!

Sincerely,



CH (CPT) Matt Hamrick  
Chaplain, 1-227 ARB, TF ATTACK

# UNION CHURCH OF CUPERTINO THE COMMUNICATOR

MARCH 2014

Share with us in the joy of the journey...

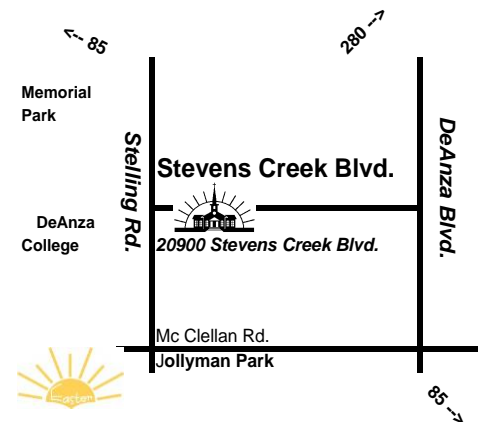


Easter Sunday  
April 20<sup>th</sup>



6:30 am Sunrise Communion at Jollyman Park  
9:30 am Community Easter Egg Hunt  
10:00 am Easter Worship Celebration at UC  
Followed by a special coffee hour/  
brunch in Calvert Hall

**Everyone is Welcome!!!**



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