



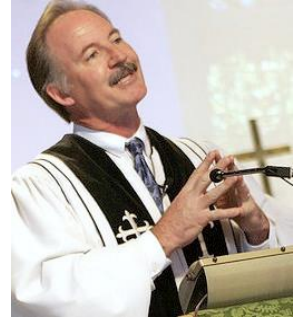
*Union Church of Cupertino*

*Serving Cupertino since 1884*

# The Communicator

APRIL 2016

The NBA playoffs have begun. The Golden State Warriors are vying for their second NBA Championship in a row. And when I think of basketball I think of..... Church! How about you?



REV. MARK J. BRADY

When I entered in to "Probationary Ministry" for the United Methodist Church in 1990, I was ordained in the gym under the basket at Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts. Springfield College is the birthplace of basketball. As Bishop Skeete prayed for the power of The Holy Spirit to work in us and through us, I'm sure that the spirit of James Naismith was praying right along with the Bishop. Naismith, who was an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church, was convinced that he could better exemplify the Christian life through sports than in the pulpit, he moved to Springfield, Mass., to serve as a physical-education instructor at the Young Men's Christian Association's International Training School for Christian Workers (now Springfield College). Naismith's vision? "To win men for the Master through the gym."

James Naismith believed that with good coaching basketball could produce the following results: "initiative, agility, accuracy, alertness, co-operation, skill, reflex judgment, speed, self-confidence, self-sacrifice, self-control, and sportsmanship." He saw self-sacrifice as "a willingness to place the good of the team above one's personal ambitions," saying, "There is no place in basketball for the egotist." Sportsmanship was described by Naismith as "playing the game vigorously, observing the rules definitely, accepting defeat gracefully, and winning courteously." In short, basketball meant playing by the Golden Rule and loving your neighbor.

Today that Spirit of bringing "Others to the Master through the Gym" (OMG) is being carried forward by The Golden State Warriors and NBA League MVP- Stephen Curry. In a recent interview Curry reflected on his faith saying, "Looking back, my childhood was filled with the Lord's presence. My parents raised us to believe in God, and we were at church every Sunday for services... God's given me talents to play basketball for a living, but I still have to work hard to improve every day. I know that in the grand scheme of things, this is just a game that can be taken from me at any moment. But I love that basketball gives me the opportunities to do good things for people and to point them towards the Man who died for our sins on the cross. I know I have a place in heaven waiting for me because of Him, and that's something no earthly prize or trophy could ever top."

In spite of all the attention, Curry retains a sense of humility and balance rooted in one of his favorite Bible verses, Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." In an article he wrote that was posted on *Breaking Christian News* he says, "... I am just trying to use this stage to share how God has been a blessing to my life and how He can be the same in everyone else's... There's more to me than just this jersey I wear, and that's Christ living inside of me." He summed up his life in basketball and his life of faith this way, "I love to play the game, and I love when good things happen," he said. "But when I get home, it's about my family and just enjoying the blessings in my life without letting [basketball] define my personality or my character." The time with my wife is huge so we can continue to grow and not be complacent with where we are in our walk with Christ. Obviously, we can all be better at that."

Go Warriors! I'll see you in Church. - *Mark*

April 2016



4/03 Odin Spalinger	4/11 Addison Liu	4/18 Arthi Abhyanker
4/07 Bill Titlow	4/13 Ryan True	4/20 Shirley Bittencourt
4/08 Madelyn Homitz	4/13 Yvonne Kennedy	4/21 Robert DeSmet
4/08 Addison Homitz	4/14 Brenden Lum	4/21 Rio Ozawa
4/09 Indigo Spalinger	4/14 Wendy Shepard	4/22 Juan Hu
4/10 Indira Abhyanker	4/15 Marion Gaevert	4/22 Nancy Walter
4/10 Alexander Zhang	4/17 Melissa Baeta	4/28 Kimberly Walter

## *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

**Lothar Bandermann**

**Debbie Barr**

**Vicki Bliven**

**Sue Burchell & her Parents**

**Lynne Carlton**

**Taffy Connors** | prayers for healing

**Cynies** | Nicolle's aunt

**Anita DeSmet**

**Nancy Dunagan** | friend of Richard

Kurkowski, undergoing treatments for cancer

**Wally Evans**

**Diane Ferrell** | health concerns

**Joan Greene**

**Robert Herman** | brother of Diane Ferrell,  
has Parkinson's

**Joyce Hitchens** | Carol McEwen's mother

**Doreen Huston**

**Ruth Hutson**

**Jack Jaynes** | Joan Jaynes' 16-year-old  
grandson, recovery from ruptured appendix  
and surgery

**Beez Jones**

**Louise Levy**

**Eric Lyon** | MaryLou Lyon's grandson

**Mary Lou Lyon** | recovering at home

**Mike Lyon** | grandson of Mary Lou Lyon

**Jenny Maddox** | Mary Jean Proud's  
daughter-in-law, health concerns

**Bonnie Martin**

**Noah McElroy** | great-grandson of Joye  
Thomas, recovering from surgeries

**Annette Olsen** | at Los Altos Sub-Acute &  
Rehab Center, 809 Fremont Ave, Los Altos  
94024

**Gayle Pinkston** | Karen V's brother-in-law

**Jean Prisock**

**Ethel Roten**

**Dorothy Shirk**

**Jacqueline Smith** | Leon Smith's daughter

**Kimberly Smith** | Leon Smith's daughter

**Joseph V** | prayers for recovery

**Karen Vanderpan** | recovering from 2<sup>nd</sup>  
knee surgery

**Nancy Walter's brother, David**

**Ruth Wesley**

# Union Church | April/May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>10 (APRIL)</b> 10am: Worship Service 10:15am: Sunday School 11:15am: Coffee Fellowship	<b>11</b> 10am: Missions Meeting	<b>12</b> 10am: Bible Study	<b>13</b> 7:30pm: Worship Practice 7:30pm: Trustees Mtg	<b>14</b> 6pm: Evening Bible Study	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10am: Worship Service 10:15am: Sunday School 11:15am: Coffee Fellowship	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10am: Bible Study	<b>20</b> 7:30pm: Worship Practice	<b>21</b> 6pm: Evening Bible Study	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10am: Worship Service 10:15am: Sunday School 11:15am: Coffee Fellowship	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 10am: Bible Study 7:30pm: Official Board Meeting	<b>27</b> 7:30pm: Worship Practice	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>1 (MAY) Communion</b> 10am: Worship Service 10:15am: Sunday School 11:15am: Coffee Fellowship 11:30am: Deacons Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10am: Bible Study	<b>4</b> 7:30pm: Worship Practice	<b>5</b> 1pm: Women's Fellowship Mtg	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Mother's Day</b> 10am: Worship Service 10:15am: Sunday School 11:15am: Coffee Fellowship 11:30am: Mother's Day Brunch	<b>9</b> 10am: Missions Meeting	<b>10</b> 10am: Bible Study	<b>11</b> 7:30pm: Worship Practice 7:30pm: Trustees Mtg	<b>12</b> 6pm: Evening Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 10am: Worship Service 10:15am: Sunday School 11:15am: Coffee Fellowship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10am: Bible Study	<b>18</b> 7:30pm: Worship Practice	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>

## Come Join Us...

Sunday Worship Service  
10:00 am

Sunday Coffee Fellowship  
11:15 am

Tuesday Bible Study  
10:00 am (Sept-Jun)

Thursday Bible Study  
6:00 pm (Sept-Jun)

## Union Church of Cupertino



"Share with us in the joy of the journey"

Rev. Mark J. Brady

Inter-denominational Church

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8am -1pm  
 20900 Stevens Creek Blvd  
 Cupertino, CA 95014  
 Telephone: (408) 252-4478

Email:  
[admin@unionchurch.org](mailto:admin@unionchurch.org)

Website:  
[www.unionchurch.org](http://www.unionchurch.org)

## Thank You! Thank You!

Thank you once again to everyone that worked hard and helped make our journey through Holy Week and especially Easter Sunday morning such a wonderful experience for our church and community!

### Meghan Doty

We wish to express our sympathy to Tim Doty, Beverly Raynes and their daughter Erin on the death of Meghan Doty. Meghan passed away April 4th after a brief illness. Her father Tim Doty served for several years as Pastor of Union Church in the 1990s and the family was very active in church activities. Meghan will be remembered as a bright, vivacious, smiling, young adult. Please keep the family in your prayers.

### Mark Milichevich

We wish to express our sympathy to Joanne Milichevich, her daughter, Nena, and granddaughters, McKenzie and Sarah, with the death of Mark, son, brother, and uncle. Mark died, unexpectedly, March 23rd. Mark and Nena grew up in Union Church. Joanne was treasurer for many years and husband, Nick, served as a Trustee.

## Directory Updates:

Sally Skeels' Email:

SallySkeels1@icloud.com



Wally & Ruth Evans' Address:

3395 Benton Street  
Santa Clara, CA 95051



\*Yuhua Wu's Email:

Yuhua0316@gmail.com

\*Note correction since last newsletter

## New Flag Pole

If you haven't seen it already, please take a moment to check out the new flag pole installed on the side of Calvert Hall next to the parking lot. It will be the new home for the American Flag and the Christian Flag, which can be seen flying high every Sunday.



## Mother's Day Brunch

Join us on Sunday, May 8th for a Mother's Day Brunch in celebration of all the wonderful Mothers and women who influence the lives of others here at Union Church.

If you are a father, brother or son who would like to volunteer to help plan, prep and execute this amazing brunch for the ladies please contact Pastor Mark for more details.

## Highlights from the March 22nd, 2016 Board meeting:

- We were happy to have two non-Board members present. There is an open invitation to attend the meetings, 4th Tuesday of the month.
- Heather is doing a good job updating our website: [www.unionchurch.org](http://www.unionchurch.org) and Facebook.
- Work continues to review/revise our Rules of Government.
- Appreciation was noted for the palms Del & Winkie Hill carted over from their house for Palm Sunday, and to John Rodrigues for getting them into the sanctuary.
- Easter week and Easter Sunday plans were reviewed: Connie & Phil Wilson, adults & kids filled 3000 plastic eggs with chocolates for the Easter Sunday egg hunt; Wednesday, Pastor Mark and Carol McEwen will deliver Easter week flyers (invitations) to the apartments behind Target; Teresa Perasso & Nancy Walter are working with Pastor Mark to prepare for the Maundy Thursday meal in Calvert Hall, 6:30 pm; Good Friday, the sanctuary will be open for personal reflection, noon-3:00 pm; Good Friday, evening service, 7:00 pm; Easter Sunrise Service, Jollyman Park, 6:30 am; Easter egg hunt at the church, 9:30 am; Easter Sunday Worship Service, 10:00 am; Coffee Fellowship, Calvert Hall, 11:15 am.
- The Tree of Life is assembled and ready to begin leafing out; in the narthex.
- Pastor Mark, youths, and adults headed down to St. James Park on Palm Sunday after they made sandwiches following morning worship. They offered sandwiches, chocolate bars, and socks to needy men and women. These gifts were received with much appreciation.
- Next Board meeting: Tuesday, April 26, 7:30 pm, in the conference room, Jollyman Hall.

### Reason to buy a Tree of Life leaf:

- ✓ To honor a friend or family member
- ✓ To memorialize a person who has passed away
- ✓ To celebrate a wedding, anniversary or birthday
- ✓ To recognize an achievement such as graduation
- ✓ A simple donation of financial generosity
- ✓ A gift on behalf of someone
- ✓ To thank God for blessings received
- ✓ To thank God for health or recovery
- ✓ To celebrate children or grandchildren
- ✓ To celebrate a birth

### Tree of Life Latest Additions:

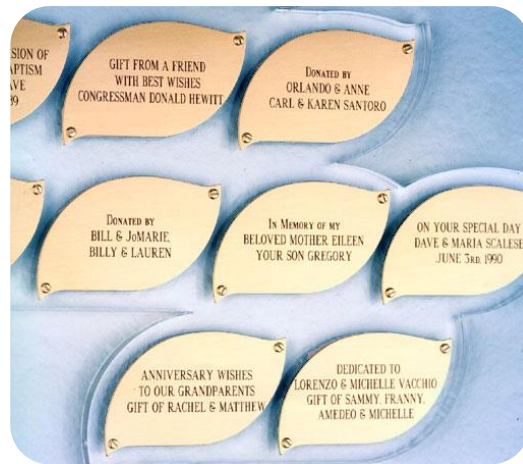
1. From Ross Hoksbergen, in memory of his mother
2. From Richard and Carol Aria, in honor of their mothers
3. From Jian He, in honor of Stevens Creek Elementary Teacher, Kelly Rahn
4. Generous donation received from Marion Gaever for a leaf
5. From Joye Thomas, in honor of her husband Dutch and her daughter Robin Jane
6. From Irvin Franson, in honor of the Franson Family and Fiancee, Susan Shoenfield

Dear friends of Union Church,

“Lord, I love the house where you dwell, the place where your glory resides.” These words from Psalm 26 should echo in our hearts as we worship in our beautiful church, a precious legacy from parishioners who have gone before us. It is our duty to be grateful for what we have received and to celebrate the blessings of God in our time as a sign for future generations. We’d love to have your family’s name on our TREE OF LIFE, as you remember your roots and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Pastor Mark



Buy a Leaf and be a part of Union Church’s Tree of Life.

Here is your chance to have your name, or the name of a friend or family member, etched into a beautiful brass leaf as part of Union Church’s Tree of Life in the entrance hall of our Sanctuary. Our Tree of Life will greet visitors as they enter the church. Personalized leaves make great permanent gifts and are a special way to recognize families, friends and loved-ones.

All money raised through the Tree of Life will go into our Pavisio Endowment Fund and will provide for the life of the church for years to come.

**PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY IN UPPER CASE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** You can choose up to twenty letters or spaces on each line, and up to four lines on each LEAF.

Fill out the form to the left exactly as you want it to be mounted.

**PLEASE PRINT** – leaving spaces wherever necessary.

(Use a new form for each additional LEAF you wish to order.)

MY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, place my LEAF on the TREE OF LIFE, enclosed is my payment of \$200.00 (tax deductible).

If you wish to memorialize a MINI-TREE, FOUNDATION STONE or ACORN, please contact the church office at 408-252-4478 or [admin@unionchurch.org](mailto:admin@unionchurch.org).

Please make checks payable to UNION CHURCH and mail to: Union Church, 20900 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino, CA 95014.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



Dear friends at Union Church,

Rumyana and I would like to thank the entire congregation for their support as we prepare for a baby boy, due April 16! We are so fortunate to have such a loving and supportive congregation and we have felt your support in every way; prayers, advice, gift cards, toys, clothes, and even many offers to baby sit! It is truly a blessing to worship with all of you on a weekly basis and we can't wait to introduce you to the newest member of our family.

Love, Ross, Rummy & Baby H

## Graduation Announcements

Graduation time is just around the corner!

Please remember to notify the church office of any graduation news you would like to share in celebration with the congregation by Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.



Include the following information:

- First & last name of graduate
- School name they are graduating from & date of graduation
- Include any degrees or honors you would like to share
- School name they will be attending in the fall (if known)

Submit info to the church office by email at [admin@unionchurch.org](mailto:admin@unionchurch.org) or by calling 408-252-4478.



## Medicinal Humor – British Style

Ronnie Corbett was a well-known comedian on BBC TV for many years. He recently passed away but left a great legacy of humor – of course, typically British. Here are a few examples of jokes that he would usually deliver as a spoof news-caster:

- A cement mixer collided with a prison van on the Kingston by-pass. Motorists are asked to be on the look-out for 16 hardened criminals.
- We will be talking to an out of work contortionist who says he can no longer make ends meet.
- After a series of crimes in the Glasgow area, Chief Inspector McTavish has announced that he is looking for a man with one eye. If he doesn't find him, he's going to use both eyes.
- We've just heard that in the English Channel, a ship carrying red paint has collided with a ship carrying purple paint. It is believed that both crews have been marooned.

For more of this (if you can bear it) go to:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-35935571>



# *Streams of Living Water*

Some time ago, a Christian friend of mine suffered a sudden and temporarily life-threatening stroke. It felled him immediately. If you could choose a place for such a personal catastrophe you would choose, as my friend did, to have it right outside a fire station. Medics were at his side immediately and shipped him off to the hospital. A hard decision then had to be made. Should the trauma staff administer a powerful drug that has a fifty percent chance of clearing the blood clot at the base of his brain or a similar chance that it could cause death or life in a vegetable state? The momentous decision was made with fervent prayer from friends in an email prayer chain and, through God's Grace, he pulled through with no long term ill effects.

During his recovery in the hospital he asked his wife why all that water was pouring on his head. She said that there was no water; he said he could hear and feel it. It was like sitting under a 500' water fall – total inundation. At that moment he knew that he was going to be just fine.

Some years later, I was roaming around an old deserted castle tower in France where I heard the sound of water flowing. I peered over the side of a deep gully and could hear the running water clearly but could not see it – although it was very near. At that moment, my friend's story came back to me as also did the words of that old hymn, The King of Love my Shepherd is, and the words about 'streams of living water that flow.' I sat down on a rock and pondered those words and thought about God's healing power that can flow in us and through us just like water. You may not see it, but you may feel it or hear it pouring over your body in time of need and by God's grace. Some of you may have been there – I certainly have.

Thank you God for restoring us to health through your grace and through our own prayers and through the prayers of those who love us, open up those flood gates and inundate us with those powerful streams of living water that flow through our bodies and souls. Amen

Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.  
~John 7:38

## **The Joann Minnick Memorial Scholarship**

By Bill Minnick

### **Requirements to Apply for a Scholarship:**

A current high school senior in one of the two groups who meets the following requirements:

- GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Has received a letter of acceptance from a school of post-secondary education (two- or four-year program).
- Has overcome a significant life obstacle, either physical, social, economic or cultural
- Has served the community through service projects
- Has an academic interest in English and the liberal arts, or Science or Engineering
- Submits at least one letter of recommendation from a teacher, guidance counselor, employer, church, community activity leader, etc.
- Submits an essay of 200 – 300 words describing the challenge they have overcome
- Is available to interview with the scholarship committee, either in person or by phone

The scholarship winners will be chosen by the agreement of a committee with a minimum of three members, including at least one member of Joann Minnick's family and at least one representative from Union Church of Cupertino appointed by the Church Board. For more info contact the church office.

**Application Deadline:** April 30



# The Joann Minnick Memorial Scholarship

## Application Form

➤ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred means of contact (circle one):      Phone      Email

High school attended: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA to date: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University you plan to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Major (field of study), if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to a Union Church Member/Attendee? \_\_\_\_\_

**or** Member of which Group meeting at Union Church? \_\_\_\_\_

➤ Describe your community involvement (attach additional pages as needed).

➤ In an essay of 200 – 300 words, please discuss a significant life obstacle (either physical, social, economic or cultural) that you have overcome.

➤ In addition to this essay, please attach the following documentation to your application:

- High school transcript
- Letter of acceptance from a post-secondary institution
- At least one letter of recommendation from a teacher, guidance counselor, employer, church, community activity leader, etc.

### **Please send applications to:**

Joann Minnick Memorial Scholarship, c/o Union Church of Cupertino  
20900 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014

# UNION CHURCH OF CUPERTINO THE COMMUNICATOR

APRIL 2016

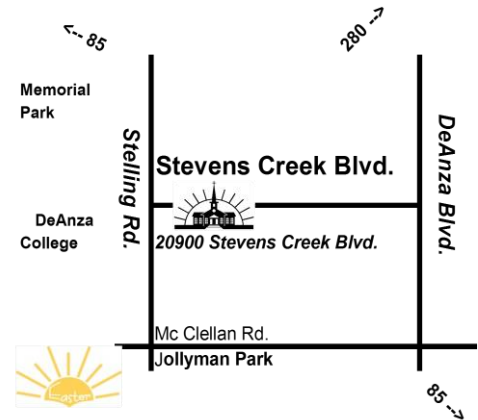
Share with us in the joy of the journey...

Check us out on **Facebook** and see the wonderful things that are happening at Union Church!



Like us at:

[facebook.com/unionchurchofcupertino](https://www.facebook.com/unionchurchofcupertino)



**UNION CHURCH OF CUPERTINO**  
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