



CROSS CURRENTS

May, 2022

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

Vol. 33 No. 5



May Day is a May 1st celebration with a long and varied history, dating back millennia. Throughout the years, there have been many different events and festivities worldwide, most with the express purpose of welcoming in a change of season. In the 19th century, May Day took on a new meaning, as an International Workers' Day grew out of the 19th-century labor movement for worker's rights and an eight-hour workday in the United States. May Day 2022 will be celebrated on Saturday, May 1, 2022.

Origins of May Day: Beltane

The Celts of the British Isles believed May 1 to be the most important day of the year, when the festival of Beltane was held. This May Day festival was thought to divide the year

in half, between the light and the dark. Symbolic fire was one of the main rituals of the festival, helping to celebrate the return of life and fertility to the world. When the Romans took over the British Isles, they brought with them their five-day celebration known as Floralia, devoted to the worship of the goddess of flowers, Flora. Taking place between April 20 and May 2, the rituals of this celebration were eventually combined with Beltane.

Maypole Dance

Another popular tradition of May Day involves the maypole. While the exact origins of the maypole remain unknown, the annual traditions surrounding it can be traced back to medieval times, and some are still celebrated today. Villagers would enter the woods to find a maypole that was set up for the day in small towns (or sometimes permanently in larger cities). The day's festivities involved merriment, as people would dance around the pole clad with colorful streamers and ribbons. Historians believe the first maypole dance originated as part of a fertility ritual, where the pole symbolized male fertility and baskets and wreaths symbolized female fertility. The maypole never really took root in America, where May Day celebrations were discouraged by the Puritans. But other forms of celebrations did find their way to the New World. During the 19th and 20th centuries, May Basket Day was celebrated across the country, where baskets were created with flowers, candies and other treats and hung on the doors of friends, neighbors and loved ones on May 1.

- Excerpts from the History Channel

Mother's Day



Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family or individual, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on different days in many parts of the world, most commonly in the months of March or May. It complements similar celebrations, largely pushed by commercial interests, honoring family members, such as Father's Day, Siblings Day, and Grandparents' Day.

While some countries have a multi-century history of a day to celebrate mothers, the modern American version of the holiday began in the United States in

the early 20th century at the initiative of Anna Jarvis, who organized the first Mother's Day service of worship and celebration at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia, which serves as the International Mother's Day Shrine today. It is not directly related to the many traditional celebrations of mothers and motherhood that have existed throughout the world over thousands of years, such as the Greek cult to Cybele, the mother deity Rhea, the Roman festival of Hilaria, or the other Christian ecclesiastical Mothering Sunday celebration.

The American version of Mother's Day has been criticized for having become too commercialized. Jarvis herself, who began the celebration as a liturgical observance, regretted this commercialism and expressed that this was never her intention. In response, Constance Adelaide Smith successfully advocated for Mothering Sunday as a commemoration of a broader definition of motherhood in many other parts of the English-speaking world.

- Excerpts from Wikipedia

Women's Guild News



.A "BIG THANK YOU" to all the bakers and buyers who made our Palm Sunday bake sale a "BIG" success. There was a wide variety of goodies to pick from-- lamb decorated cupcakes, rice krispies bunnies, true Scottish shortbread, fudge and many other delicious breads, cakes and cookies. This made a total of \$401 to go toward our mission projects.

The speaker for our April monthly meeting was Geriatric Nurse **Julie Dye** from Grossmont Hospital. She gave a

very informative talk on the needs of geriatric patients and services available for them. This is the second time she has spoken to the Guild and she always has a wealth of information to pass on helpful to many of us in the so called "*golden years*" of aches and pains.

Our May speaker will be Sharp Hospice Chaplain John Tastad. Many of you know him from hearing him deliver Sunday sermons at our church. His subject will be the importance of everyone to have an Advanced Health Care Directive. This is to follow your wishes during a time of a critical illness and the extent of care you desire. Your physician should have a copy on file with your records. Hopefully many women and men will take advantage of hearing this talk.

- Donna Boyer, President

Colman Contemplations



I am writing this the week before Holy Week. Palm Sunday is this upcoming Sunday, then we walk with Jesus to the Cross. This is the holiest time in Christendom. I sent a letter out to all of you announcing my resignation and my move back to Washington. I did not pick the time, it is how it went as I interviewed for my new position. It can seem like another crisis along with Holy Week. But I am reminded of the Chinese symbol for Crisis. It is made up of two symbols, the top being danger and the bottom being opportunity. In every crisis there is danger and opportunity.

As we enter Holy week and the Easter season let us remember how Jesus dealt with crisis, he created an opportunity walk in the love of God. He was so filled with the love that he was transformed to let go of all earthly glory to the point that he gave his life in love so even the Romans, Judas, and the religious leaders could have that second chance. To have the opportunity to turn their lives over to Christ.

In this time of change there is only one place for all of us to turn. We are to turn our lives over to Christ, over to the love that can change the world. We will all be a witness to birth of a new day when we do that. May this Easter fill us with wonder and faith giving us courage to be the witnesses we have been called to be in Christ. There we will find glory and joy. Amen

Pastor Ken



Easter at ACC



Easter at the Alpine Community Church (UCC) includes the decoration of a cross with new flowers. The cross is decorated by church members on Easter Sunday morning.

I received over ten pictures of the decorated cross and I had to pick one. So, I picked this photo from Pam Price. Thanks to all of you who sent me photo's, but I felt that one was enough for this edition of Cross Currents.

Congregational Meeting

There was a Congregational Meeting held following the worship service on Sunday, April 24, 2022, to approve the Operating Budget to the end of 2022 which was passed as presented. A Church Cabinet Meeting followed the Congregational Meeting. At that meeting an Interim Committee was named (based on our Congregational Bylaws). Those named to the committee include: Tom Myers, Ray Sopfe, Sandy Lusink, Debbie Gibson or an appointee, Doreen Caldwell, Judy Myers, and Brenda Clark or Peggy Barnum. Our church will be contacting the Southern Association Church & Ministry Committee of the Southern California-Nevada Conference of the UCC to conduct a Situational Support Consultation. A Situational Support Consultation is intended to provide ongoing nurture and support of the authorized ministry of the church as we move forward in search of a Pastor. The church Cabinet and Interim Committee will keep everyone posted on their progress.

How Great Thou Art



“How great thou Art,” is a beautiful hymn that we sang at Dad’s service. It was always very special to him. I remember when he talked about how they performed it at my great-grandmother’s service. It always brought tears to his eyes even when we sang it in church and I remember specifically when it became special to me.

While on vacation in Hawaii, we took a tour on Kauai and stopped at what they call the Grand Canyon of the Pacific. I had never seen anything so beautiful! The mountainous hills were tall and green. The rivers sparkled with life. As I stood with dad, in awe of the magnificent grandeur, I knew that I was taking in one of God’s finest creations. I watched as a helicopter circled the canyon and thought about what the passengers on board must be experiencing. So overwhelmed was I by the magnificence of the scene, that I began to hum *“How Great Thou Art.”* Have any of you ever experienced that? It is one thing to sing the hymn in church, but it is another to witness a site so powerful and truly understand so that you can actually feel the words. Furthermore, I believe that if God can create such a wonderful planet, He knows how to save it. Therefore, it may be unnecessary to be as frightened for the future as we have been. Of course, we still worry about the state of the country and the world, yet, God gave us this beautiful planet as a way of making His presence known here on earth.

Someday we will all be with Dad again and witness a great beauty far beyond comprehension. But, until that day, God has created little pockets of beauty to remind us of His strength, power, and His unwillingness forsake us!

Jordan O Neal





Good News & Great Joy!

One Child at a Time: Each shoebox gift lovingly packed by members of our church and sent to Operation Christmas Child is a gospel opportunity that can be used by Almighty God to change a child's life for eternity and change the course of many other lives as well!

*“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another,
as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*

1 Peter 4:10

Your gift is one of 10,505,155 shoeboxes that were given to the needy children of the world in 2021; 18,985 boxes were packed right here in our San Diego area!

Shoeboxes full of necessities, toys, and love were sent to 81,000 outreach events held in over 100 countries! Now that is a lot of sisters and brothers in Christ working together worldwide for His glory!

Each child that receives a shoebox gift is given the opportunity to participate in The Greatest Journey program. The children can discover who Jesus is and how to begin their journey of faith. Over the years 15,000,000 children, family members, and friends have made the decision to follow Christ through Operation Christmas Child!

Thanks once again for shopping, packing, and shipping your gifts of love to the suffering children of the world. And thank you for also sending the love, hope, and joy of Jesus Christ to the masses...one child at a time.

By Cheryl Worland, Coordinator

Message from the Moderator....



Transitions. Perhaps God gave us the four seasons to help us understand transitions. Pastor Ken announced recently that he has accepted a call to serve a church in Washington and he will be leaving us in June. We will miss Ken and the enthusiasm he has brought to the pulpit and his creativity in worship services during the days of the pandemic. We wish him all the best in his new calling. At times like this, the seasons remind me that change is a given event in our lives. How we deal with change is often more important than the change itself. So I want to outline some of the events, and uncertainties, that lie ahead of us. The Trustees, with input from the Church Cabinet, are developing a budget proposal for June thru December and will present this for congregational approval on Sunday, April 24.

Beginning in June, we anticipate a period of time when guest ministers are preaching on Sundays while we form a committee to find a new pastor. Finding a new settled pastor is likely to take a long time, so we will also explore the best way to provide pastoral services during the interim period. While we keep you all apprised of the steps all along the way, there is much to consider. Will we find a part-time pastor, share a pastor with another congregation, or perhaps “yoke” with another church as we did with Good Shepherd of the Hills? How long will this go on? It is hard to say.

The historian and former member of ACC, Bea La Force, offers some insight with two lessons from Alpine’s history. *“In the beginning, before there was any organization or a public building in the village where they could meet, people held church in the homes with lay preachers presiding, except on the rare occasions when a professional minister was available. Percy Foss remembered a host of itinerant preachers passing through, some were self-anointed free-lancers, some were evangelists preaching fire and brimstone sermons under the big oak trees for a week at a time.”* In the 26 years from 1894 to 1920 the ACC, La Force describes, had seven different pastors serving the church. Then, the 1920’s brought hard times. *“Due to a period of severe drought, many families moved away; church membership dropped to seven and the pulpit was occupied only by supply preachers for short periods. In 1929, Rev. William Fuller became pastor and the church began a slow but steady growth.”*

Perhaps it is time now for history to repeat itself. We may have a new period of “hard times” ahead of us and it may take a long time for us to find a settled pastor for the ACC. Whatever it takes, we will keep the congregation informed at every step along the way.

Blessings to you all, and very best wishes to the Colman family!

Tom Myers, Moderator

Care and Prayer List

Alpine Community Church Care & Prayer List

*Please call or send a greeting card to someone on the list, your thoughtfulness will be appreciated.
Names will be removed when it is unknown if the need for prayer still exists. If you have
family or friends in need of prayer,
Please turn in a prayer card today.*

Nancy Bushbaker

Christine Clark & Randy Clark

Mario Cosio

Family of RT Denny

George & Judy Doble

Dorothea Erwin

Bree Fleming

Sarah Harrison

Ruby Hayworth

J. J. Jacoby

Mario & Frances Lopez

Bonnie Moffett

Rachel Swanson

Beth Taylor

Jennifer Tschida

Phyllis Yount

Military & Police Officers, Firefighters,

Peoples of Ukraine & Russia

Birthdays and Anniversaries

MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES:

MAUZY, Stacy	05/02
FREEMAN, Rev. Dr. Richard	05/06
SHAW, Norine	05/16
HAMES, Debbie	05/31
PRICE, Megan	05/31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES:

O'NEAL, DeeAnn & Al	05/10
POINDEXTER, Rob & Darlene	05/16
FENTON, Tatty & Bob	05/17
REUTER, Hans & Anne	05/22
FREEMAN, Rev. Dr. Richard & Vicki	05/23
KRANTZ, Marcella & Homer	05/29
CROTEAU, Norm & Esther	05/30

Church Office Hours

We can be reached at by telephone (619) 445-2110, or by e-mail at acc1894@acc.sdcoxmail.com. Even if we are not here in the office after noon, you can slip envelopes, messages & requests through the mail slot in the office's front door. Many Blessings to you all as we continue to stay safe and well in this *new normal*.

Please send articles and pictures for the Cross Currents to:

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May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00a ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (FH)	2	3 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	4 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	5 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm	6	7 RT DENNY memorial svc & reception 11am 7:00 PM AA Meeting
8 9:00a ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (FH) 10:30a DEACON's	9 LUNCH BUNCH (TBA) 6:30p TRUSTEES	10 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	11 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	12 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm	13	14 GUILD Meeting 9:30am 7:00 PM AA
15 9:00aACC Worship <u>ACSL 11-1 (FH)</u> 10:30AM CABINET	16 ALPINE Chorale 6:30-9:30 (every 3 rd Monday)	17 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	18 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	19 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm ACSL game nite 6:30	20	21 7:00 PM AA
22 9:00aACCWorship ACSL 11-1 (FH)	23	24 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	25 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	26 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm ACSL movie nite 6:30p	27	28 Al O'Neal Memorial service 11:00am 7:00 PM AA
29 9:00 AM ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (FH)	30 MEMORIAL DAY – OFFICE CLOSED	31 Choir 7-8:30				

Mission Statement

Our Mission as the Alpine Community Church is to serve God by creating an environment of fellowship following the teachings of Jesus Christ. We minister to the needs of our congregation and community, motivating ourselves with love, faith and hope.

Join us for Worship

In person in our sanctuary at 9:00 AM Sunday Mornings

(FACE MACK AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED)

Also on **Facebook** and **Youtube** (*links found on alpineucc.org*)

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CROSS CURRENTS

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