



CROSS CURRENTS

June, 2022

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

Vol. 33 No. 6

Best Wishes Pastor Ken...

Pastor Ken Colman will be leaving us in June to serve as the Interim Pastor at the First Christian Church (DOC) in Bremerton, Washington. **His last Sunday will be June 12th. A Farewell Brunch will follow in Fuller Hall.** We hope to see everyone on June 12th!



Pastor Ken is a graduate of Andover Newton Theological Seminary in Newton Center, Mass. He went to college at Pacific University and Seattle University. He attended school at the American International School of Kabal and the American School in Vientian Laos (ASV). He has been the Pastor at Alpine Community Church (UCC) since March 1, 2017.

Father's Day



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The campaign to celebrate the nation's fathers did not meet with the same enthusiasm—perhaps because, as one florist explained, *"fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have."*

On July 5, 1908, a West Virginia church sponsored the nation's first event explicitly in honor of fathers, a Sunday sermon in memory of the 362 men who had died in the previous December's explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines in Monongah, but it was a one-time commemoration and not an annual holiday.

The next year, a Spokane, Washington, woman named Sonora Smart Dodd, one of six children raised by a widower, tried to establish an official equivalent to Mother's Day for male parents. She went to local churches, the YMCA, shopkeepers and government officials to drum up support for her idea, and she was successful: Washington State celebrated the nation's first statewide Father's Day on June 19, 1910.

Slowly, the holiday spread. In 1916, President Wilson honored the day by using telegraph signals to unfurl a flag in Spokane when he pressed a button in Washington, D.C. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge urged state governments to observe Father's Day.

Today, the day honoring fathers is celebrated in the United States on the third Sunday of June: Father's Day 2022 occurs on June 19.

- Excerpts from the History Channel

Women's Guild News



The April meeting of the Guild was a learning experience for many who attended. The program presented by speaker, Chaplain John Tastad from Sharp Hospice told of the importance of making your future health care plans. This should be done while you are mentally able to express your wishes as to the extent of care you desire when and if you were to become critically ill. These wishes should be discussed with a designated family member or a close friend who will follow through when needed.

Everyone should have an Advanced Health Care Directive on file with your

doctor and this document should be discussed with the person you have designated. To receive free advanced care planning support from Sharp Health Care you can call 619-517-9798 or email ACP@sharp.com.

The June 11th meeting will be a tour of the new East County Salvation Army facility in El Cajon. This will be followed by lunch at Denney's on Mollison St. We will car pool from our church parking lot.

There are no regular monthly meetings in July and August. However, we will be doing a Team Action Project with Thrivent Financial in July to help fill needs for Military Outreach Missions. Details for this project will given at a later date.

- Donna Boyer, President

Colman's Last Contemplation



Philippians 4:6-7 *"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

We are a culture that worries way to much. This being my last article I want all of us to take this passage from Philippians seriously. If we all do everything by prayer with thanksgiving and let our request be known to God, then the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds, and the church you serve.

These are easy words to say but they are hard words for us to practice. Practice by giving everything you have to God in prayer and supplication. That means to slow down, stop worrying and trust in the God that has called you into this world as a disciple of Jesus. All easier said than done.

As our pastor for the last five years, you are a faithful people and you have it in you to open your hearts in faith and follow God's call on your life. Amos reminds us that there are only three things one needs to do to know and walk with God. Do justice in this world. Be that voice for the voiceless. Love kindness and do kindness wherever you are. And third walk humbly with our God. For me that last one is always the hardest. I must let go so God can be in charge of my life and in those moments, I have never felt closer to God. May our journeys take us to be those faithful disciples wherever we go. May we be the church in all our actions. Amen

- Pastor Ken

To *Pray*
is to let go
and let God take over.

-Philippians 4:6-7

Baptism of Graham Alexander Ionescu



Graham Alexander Ionescu, son of Lesley and Daniel Ionescu, was Baptism by Pastor Ken Colman on Mother's Day, May 8, 2022.

R. T. Denny's Funeral Procession at Miramar National Cemetery



Miracles



The world is full of miracles.

They can be big,

Or they can be small.

But they are important

Because they help a wandering soul to realize

That, "Yes, God does love me after all!"

They can happen when a friend gives a much needed embrace.

They can happen when you gaze upon a newborn's face.

Just when you think all hope is lost,

You hear a voice telling you to keep going no matter what the cost.

The world is full of miracles.

They can be big,

Or they can be small.

But no matter their size,

They teach you,

That there is one King

Who will always look upon you with love in His eyes!

- Jordan O Neal

BELIVE
*in Miracles**

65th Anniversary of the UCC

The late Rev. Dr. Louis H. Gunnemann, wrote a compelling story of how the United Church of Christ took shape in the mid-twentieth century in his book, **The Shaping of the UCC**. Dr. Gunnemann was Dean of United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in New Brighton, Minn. During this time, church unions were a prominent feature of the movement toward Christian unity and secular models of organization dominated denominational development. Today the United Church of Christ has grown into a denomination that strives to become a multicultural and multiracial church.

The UCC was formed at the General Synod in 1957 in Cleveland, OH., a merger of four denominations: Congregational, Christian, Evangelical, and Reformed. Alpine Community Church started as a Congregational Church, but became a United Church of Christ. The UCC was the first denomination to ordain a women and an opening gay man and woman. Today, the UCC is indeed a multicultural and multiracial church. It is known as a progressive Christian Church. For some, the name “progressive” means “liberal”. However, most of the members of the UCC are rather traditional.

The UCC believes in the triune God: Creator, resurrected Christ, the sole Head of the church, and the Holy Spirit, who guides and brings about the creative and redemptive work of God in the world. The UCC believes that each person is unique and valuable. It is the will of God that every person belongs to a family of faith where they have a strong sense of being valued and loved.

The UCC believes that each person is on a spiritual journey and that each of us is at a different stage of that journey.

The UCC believes that the persistent search for God produces an authentic relationship with God, engendering love, strengthening faith, dissolving guilt, and giving life purpose and direction. The UCC believes that all of the baptized ‘belong body and soul to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.’ No matter who – no matter what – no matter where we are on life’s journey – notwithstanding race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, class or creed – we all belong to God and to one worldwide community of faith. All persons baptized – past, present and future – are connected to each other and to God through the sacrament of baptism. We baptize during worship when the community is present because baptism includes the community’s promise of ‘love, support and care’ for the baptized – and we promise that we won’t take it back – no matter where your journey leads you.

The UCC believes that all people of faith are invited to join Christ at Christ’s table for the sacrament of Communion. Just as many grains of wheat are gathered to make one loaf of bread and many grapes are gathered to make one cup of wine, we, the many people of God, are made one in the body of Christ, the church. The breaking of bread and the pouring of wine reminds us of the costliness of Christ’s sacrifice and the discipleship to which we are all called. In the breaking of bread, we remember and celebrate Christ’s presence among us along with a ‘cloud of witnesses’ – our ancestors, family and friends who have gone before us. It is a great mystery; we claim it by faith.

Message from the Moderator....



This month we bid a fond farewell and send our very best wishes to Pastor Ken and Tracy Colman as they return to Washington State. Ken's last day preaching is Sunday, June 12, and they depart for Washington shortly thereafter. We will keep them in our prayers for a safe journey and remember them fondly in prayers of thanksgiving for their leadership during their five years in Alpine.

The process for finding a part-time interim pastor is underway, but it will not be swift. In early May, the Interim Search Committee met by Zoom conference with Kris Bergstrom, the acting conference minister for the UCC Southern California Nevada Conference. Kris will be a very helpful resource and guide through the search process. One thing she emphasized is that churches need to have a Mission and Purpose in order to survive. Furthermore, we must embrace and act upon our Mission as individuals and as a Congregation. What is the Mission of the Alpine Community Church? During the first service every month, we recite our mission statement together: *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.*

In order to embrace and act upon our Mission we need to do more than recite it in church. We need to live it, feel it, own it. Following are some examples of how we currently engage in our mission.

The Blessing Box in front of the church offers free food & sundries to whoever has a need. Members of the church and the Alpine community donate items to the Blessing Box. We started the project before COVID-19 and it is a great success, with uncounted numbers of canned and packaged goods going to people who really need help.

The Harvey Medical Shed offers the free use of medical equipment such as canes, crutches, walkers, toilet seats, and wheelchairs.

At Thanksgiving, the Deacons receive offerings of food and cash, which they use to prepare and distribute Thanksgiving food baskets to neighbors in need.

At Christmas, we provide gifts for the Angel Tree that are distributed by the Deacons to children of families who can not otherwise afford gifts.

Our annual rummage sale is perhaps the largest mission event of the year. Each year our church volunteers spend hundreds of hours receiving, sorting, and organizing all kinds of clothing and items too good to throw away. We sell items to the public at below Thrift Store prices, making it possible for families in need to afford gently used household essentials and clothes for growing children. The Guild raises money throughout the year, which they donate to worthy charities serving people in need throughout greater San Diego.

Some members of our church volunteer at the Alpine Community Center or Meals-on-Wheels, others call or visit with shut-ins.

What role do you play in supporting these missions? Do you volunteer time to organize or work on the projects, donate food or other gifts, or help distribute these items? Every time you lend a hand, you are contributing to our mission by *"ministering to the needs of our congregation and community with love, faith, and hope"*.

- Tom Myers

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.*

Jean Bennett

Bowley & Carter families

Nancy Bushbaker

Mario Cosio

George & Judy Doble

Bree Fleming

Ruby Hayworth

J. J. Jacoby

Ken & Tracy

Mario & Frances Lopez

Jeannie Ludlow

Rachel Swanson

Beth Taylor

Phyllis Yount

Military & Police Officers,

Firefighters,

Peoples of Ukraine & Russia

Birthdays and Anniversaries

JUNE BIRTHDAY WISHES:

McWILLIAMS, Mac	06/09
HARRISON, Sarah	06/26
COSIO, Mario	06/28
O'NEAL, Gage	06/28
BENNETT, Jean	06/30

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:

FULLER, Louise	06/01
BROWN, Charlene & Vinny	06/02
DENNY, Ina & RT	06/14
STACKS, Kelly	06/15
SILVIA, Randy & Brenda	06/16
BOYER, Donna	06/26

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:

Cross Currents Editor:
Email: rdfreeman@outlook.com

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Cell Phone: (619) 701-0517

June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	2 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm	3	4 7:00 PM AA Meeting
5 9:00a ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (FH) 10:30a DEACON's	6 6:30p TRUSTEES	7 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	8 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	9 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm	10 JKM Preschool Graduation Ceremonies (FH)	11 GUILD TRIP & Lunch @ Denny's Meeting 9:30am 7:00 PM AA
12 9:00aACC Worship 10:00am – noon FAREWELL TO KC in Fuller Hall ACSL 11-1 (Sanctuary) 10:30AM CABINET	13	14 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	15 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	16 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm	17	18 7:00 PM AA
19 9:00aACCWorship ACSL 11-1 (FH)	20 ALPINE Chorale 6:30-9:30 (every 3 rd Monday)	21 Bible Study 5:30p CHOIR 7-8:30p	22 Bible Study 9:30am 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	23 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm ACSL game nite 6:30	24	25 7:00 PM AA
26 9:00 AM ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (FH)	27	28 Choir 7-8:30	29	30 KC Book Study – ZOOM @ 1pm ACSL movie nite 6:30p		

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*)

ALPINE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Return Service Requested



CROSS CURRENTS

Published Monthly
Editor Rev. Dr. Richard Freeman
Production Manager Denise Horan

The editor welcomes contributions
But they must be received
by the third Sunday of each month.

