



CROSS CURRENTS

October, 2022

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

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WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Holy Communion joins us in Christian unity. This sacrament invites us to focus on the holiness of communion with God and one another. On **World Communion Sunday (October 2, 2022)** - the United Church of Christ, in conjunction with other denominations

and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Rev. John A. Dalles, a pastor from the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA), researched the history of this day. The origin of this day is a brainwave that came to Rev. Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr, pastor of Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. He came up with this idea in 1930 when he served as moderator of the General Assembly. Dr. Kerr's younger son, Rev. Dr. Donald Kerr, himself pastor emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore, stated that World Communion Sunday arose from the celebration at the Division of Stewardship at Shadyside. His father had attempted to bring churches together in service of Christian unity, and the idea grew from there.

Initially, this idea did not take hold. Whatever celebrations there were grew only incrementally, and people did not give this day a lot of thought. With the Second World War came an increased understanding of one's own mortality, and the spirit of this day caught hold. This day symbolized the effort of bringing the world together, in a spiritual sense, thought Kerr. This celebration was adopted in the U.S., in the period during World War II, and soon, the organization, now known as the National Council of Churches, started endorsing and promoting the event to churches worldwide, led by their leader, Jesse Moren Bader.

- *Editor's Note: This information came from the website **National Today***

Message from the Interim Designated Senior Pastor



Greetings, it's a pleasure to write in this edition of Cross Currents to you all as the **interim designated senior minister**. I'm very excited about what is in store for us as a community. I remember very well the warmth and fun I had when I visited as a guest clergyman a few months ago. And even though I had to run to another church after the coffee hour, I knew I had just experienced something special. Who knew then, that that moment, that Sunday, would serve as the catalyst of a new relationship.

Moreover, I want to thank you all for welcoming me and my family into the church on our first Sunday. We do not take the hospitality for granted nor do we overlook all the hard work and effort it took to set up for the welcome reception. Our first Sunday was such a great time. My mother, Miss Tammy, still resides in the Bay Area so she won't be here that much, but when she is here, she is

excited to come to Alpine. Alexis, my dear wife, also enjoyed herself, especially the desserts. Which is interesting because she is a very health conscious (that's my nice way of saying she is a food stickler). She eats fish and vegetables throughout the week, but I think we caught her on a Sunday when she's usually a bit more relaxed about her food selection. All in all, my family truly enjoyed the welcome.

As many of you know, I'm a professor of theology and Africana studies at the University of San Diego. I'm teaching three courses on Africana religions and culture, as well as co teaching a course on black feminism and religions in the US with a historian on campus. My semester just started about two weeks ago and I'm just getting into a rhythm. I think after this week I'll know or at least have a better clue of what my schedule will look like. I can say right now, I've already fallen in love with the views and scenery in my drive from La Mesa or Linda Vista to Alpine. Again, I want to thank everyone for their hard work and for their hospitality. And I look forward to using this wonderful venue to communicate more things that related to myself, my thoughts, the church, or news regarding the world around us, in the future editions.

-Meilleures Salutations, Rev. Jamall A. Calloway, Ph.D

Neighbors in Need (NIN)



Behold!

Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you... James 5:4

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

Who participates in Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering?

Anyone can give a donation by contributing to the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering (NIN SMO) either through their congregation's annual collection drive or anytime online at ucc.org/nin.

How is the offering used?

Through this offering we express our deep commitment to reaching out and touching our neighbors with justice and compassion. This allows us to speak prophetically to those in power and to advocate for a society where all people have a voice in decisions that affect their lives. In the spirit of Christ, we will seek to confront evil in the world and to alleviate suffering. We will do this through direct service as well as advocacy.

Who participates in Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering?

Anyone can give a donation by contributing to the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering (NIN-SMO) either through their congregation's annual collection drive or anytime online at ucc.org/nin.

Message from the Moderator....



Where has the summer gone? Upon reflection, summer was a very busy time for the church. Some of the highlights include our participation in the July 4th Community Festival, conducting a survey to learn what the congregation desired for our next minister, searching for a Designated Interim Pastor, and preparing for the arrival of Reverend Jamall Calloway. We also experienced at least 4 weeks of excessive heat when we all wanted to hibernate in a cool spot to wait it out.

October is about to start, so brace yourself for another active autumn. Rev. Calloway is now in the pulpit and motivating us with inspiring sermons each week. Our church is participating in the Alpine Fall Festival on October 8. Pam Price is planning the festival booth, which includes a game for kids with prizes for all. Visitors can also pick up information about our church and meet our new minister. Booth set-up is in the morning and the event is from 12 noon to 3:00 pm.

Starting October 16, we consider our stewardship of the Alpine Community Church with three weeks of special presentations. Cheryl and Ed have planned an interesting series of stewardship explorations on these Sundays.

The biggest event of the month begins October 22, when we start preparing for East County's largest Rummage Sale. Setting up, sorting, and pricing items takes almost a full week and several hundred volunteer hours of work before the sale on Friday, Oct. 28 and Saturday, Oct. 29. Then we clean-up and get everything ready for church on Sunday!

Now, here's the pitch: we need volunteers for all these activities. These are all worthwhile events for our church and community and your help will be time well spent. If you can help with the festival booth for an hour or more please talk with Pam Price. During the stewardship campaign, you can volunteer your time and talents for activities during the coming year. For the big rummage sale, we need as many volunteers for as many hours as possible to help the set-up, sales and clean-up. Be sure to sign-up on the volunteer poster in Fuller Hall – the sooner you do the more likely you are to be working in your favorite section.

Your volunteer time and energy make it possible to meet our church's mission to *"minister to the needs of our congregation and community"*. Thank you, one and all!

-Tom Myers, Moderator

See the World Through His Eyes



The Bible says to give to those in need. However, sometimes our human thoughts cloud our spiritual ones. It is easy to forget the teachings of Jesus and become suspicious of the motives of others.

I read a devotional about a woman who came across a little boy in the supermarket who was looking at different types of cat food. He turned to her and asked her which kind of food would be the best for some stray kittens he had outside his house. He said he was worried that he didn't have enough money to buy the cat food. Taking a

break from her shopping, she discussed with him the different types of food and then showed him the best kind. She even gave him ten dollars of her own money. He thanked her profusely, and even after she had what she needed, he continued to study the cans.

When she told a friend the story, the friend took the *"human"* view. She thought the boy had only made up the story about the kittens to get the money and most likely spent it on something else. In the end, the writer chose to believe his heart was in the right place. Why shouldn't it have been? He was only a child after all. Furthermore, if he had been waiting for the first *"fool"* who came along to give him money, then why would he be looking at cat food? She ended the devotional by saying that cynicism didn't belong in Jesus's world. It doesn't. Of course there are those who will try to take advantage of us. Yet, if someone can't find it in their heart to see that a young boy is honest, then we have a problem.

In a world so full of cynicism and dishonesty, we need to do our best to help our neighbors and to look at them the way Jesus would. Do we need to be on our guard for those who would not be honest? Of course we do. However, we should always approach a situation with love before suspicion.

What is your opinion of the boy? What would you have done or said?

- Jordan O Neal

Halloween



As October 31st looms, many people around the country will once again be marking Halloween with what have become traditional activities – carved pumpkins, trick-or-treating and fancy dress. Many people herald this as an Americanized festival of ghosts and ghouls – but did you realize that most of the activities associated with this time of year are rooted in European folklore and tradition?

The pumpkin carved into a jack-o-lantern, for example, is firmly an American introduction, but it quite literally has its roots on the other side of the Atlantic – where people have been carving turnips and other root vegetables for centuries, to

ward off evil spirits. This year, English Heritage is calling on people to remember the turnip – and other Halloween traditions – as they mark this haunting time of year.

The modern-day Halloween is largely agreed to have originated from the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, held around November 1st, the date that marked the transition from autumn to winter. It was this time of year where people believed the boundary between the worlds of living and dead became blurred, and was when the souls of the dead were said to revisit their homes.

In the era of Christianity, this tradition became absorbed into the celebration of All Saints Day, held on November 1st, dedicated to honoring all saints and martyrs. November 2nd became All Souls' Day, a day to honor the dead, and here many of the Celtic traditions, such as bonfires, parades and dressing up in costume, blurred with Christian celebrations, to form festivities accepted, and even encouraged, by church authorities.

All Saints Day later became known as All-Hallows and from this the night before came to be referred to as All-Hallows Eve. From this term derived the name 'Halloween', the name for the beginnings of the festival that was celebrated across Europe in the early Middle Ages, and stuck even as the religious celebrations fell out of favor in later centuries.

- Excerpts from The English Heritage website

Women's Guild News



The Guild had its first meeting of the fall season on September 10th with a good attendance and a very good program. Navy Chief Tommy Moore accompanied by his big lovable dog, Moose, told about the work being done by the organization **"Shelter to Soldier"**. This organization adopts dogs from local shelters and trains them to become psychiatric service dogs. After a lengthy period of training the dogs are paired up with a veteran suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or other brain injuries due to traumatic service experience.

Our next meeting on October 8th will be at 9:30 AM in Fuller Hall with a program presented by Physical Therapist Matt Kramer speaking on the value of exercise for seniors. Many know Matt from Alpine Physical Therapy or the Sit & Fit program he has directed for seniors for 21 years at the Community Center.

There will be a Bake Sale the next day Oct 9th following the church worship service. We want those who are contributing baked goods to bring them to the meeting on Saturday so they can be priced.

The meeting on November 12th will feature a speaker from the FBI telling of the problems of "scams" targeted on seniors. This is a problem that plagues many senior citizens and we would like anyone interested in hearing how we should approach this problem to come to the meeting.

- Donna Boyer, President

Rummage Sale

Friday & Saturday

October 28 & 29

Clothing—Toys—Kitchenware—Linens

Books—Jewelry—Crafts—Shoes—CD's—Tools

We cannot accept: Large Furniture—TV'S—
Computers—Printers

DONATIONS NEEDED!

For information or pickups, call the Church Office

(619) 445-2110



ALPINE COMMUNITY CHURCH (UCC)

2225 W. Victoria Drive, Alpine, California

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.

Kimberly Bowley (Butch)

Esther Croteau

George & Judy Doble

Bree Fleming

Vicki Goldstein

Ruby Hayworth

Tamara Hill

J. J. Jacoby

Bruce Dallas

Frances Lopez

Bonnie Moffett

John Martin

Andrew Poindexter

Pam Price

Butch Schlegel

Cora Steffen

Rachel Swanson

Military / Police Officers / Firefighters

Peoples of Ukraine & Russia

Birthdays and Anniversaries

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY WISHES:

BELLAS, Robin	10/05
JONES, Reggie & Vicki	10/12
WATERWORTH, Joan	10/25

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:

O'NEAL, Kalista	10/04
O'NEAL, DeeAnn	10/12
NUNNALLY, Jim	10/21
NELSON, Bruce	10/28

I received word from **Ms. CORA STEFFEN** and she wants to thank everyone.

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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Rev. Dr. Richard D. Freeman
Cell Phone: (619) 701-0517

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:00 PM AA Meeting
2 9:00a ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall)	3 TROOP 105	4 CHOIR 7-8:30p	5 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	6	7	8 GUILD MTG 9AM 7:00 PM AA
9 9:00aACC Worship GUILD BAKE SALE ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall) 10:30a DEACON's	10 TROOP 105 6:30p TRUSTEES	11 CHOIR 7-8:30p	12 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	13	14	15 7:00 PM AA
16 9:00aACCWorship ACSL 11-1 (FH) 10:30AM CABINET	17 ALPINE Chorale 6:30-9:30 (every 3 rd Monday)	18 CHOIR 7-8:30p	19 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	20 ACSL movie nite 6:30p	21	22 7:00 PM AA
23 9:00 AM ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (FH)	24 TROOP 105	25 Choir 7-8:30	26 5:30p – AA Fuller Hall	27	28 RUMMAGE SALE	29 RUMMAGE SALE
30 9:00 AM ACC Worship ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall)	31 TROOP 105					

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

**WEARING FACE MASK AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED
AT ALL WORSHIP SERVICES**

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

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CROSS CURRENTS

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