

Welcoming a New Season By Elizabeth Shuster

Sunday, June 21st, marks the Summer Solstice: the longest day of the year and the first day of Summer. This day has been celebrated throughout human history, honoring astronomical observances and a season of burgeoning crops.

The summer sun in Redding tends to push its residents in many different directions. Some escape to cooler climates; others sip cool drinks on mist-lined patios, run off to Whiskeytown or Shasta Lake with every bit of free time, or seek refuge in air-conditioned rooms for as much time as they can afford. Few, however, take the time to be mindful about the season and sunlight which they are attempting to dodge.

Historically, the Summer Solstice brings with it rest and relaxation between the time of sowing, planting, and harvesting. It is traditionally a time of holidays, outdoor gatherings, and festivals—not to mention weddings. Though the summer sun is already upon us, with temperatures over 100° in Redding and surrounding areas, there are plenty of reasons to stay positive this Summer and join with the historical celebrations of the Summer Solstice. Additionally, we are currently in the season after Pentecost, represented by the color green, symbolizing a time of growth in the church. This correlates with the growth we see in our plants we sowed in Spring, and the growth of new life seen in ceremonies such as weddings.

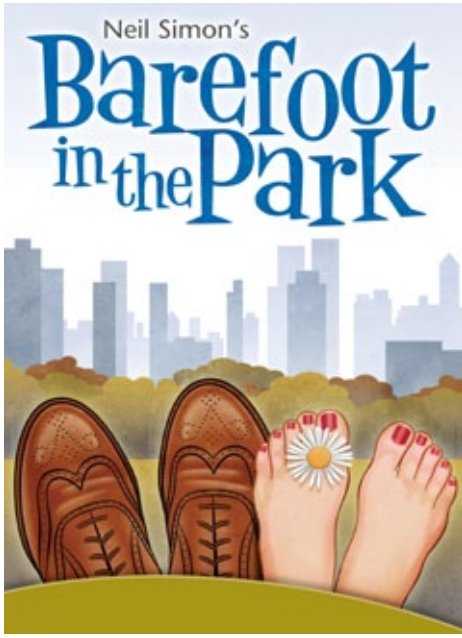
And so, let us spend this time tending to our gardens, our community, and ourselves, celebrating the beautiful sun that gives life and rejuvenation to the Earth. It may be a difficult time to be in the Redding sun, with rising temperatures and the drought-stricken state of our region, but we need to allow ourselves time for rest, growth, and an abundance of Vitamin-D with which this season blesses us. Be mindful of all that you have, and be blessed in your daily growth.



Barefoot in the Park

Good news! Back on May 17th, we connected with Redding's own Riverfront Playhouse for a fundraiser event. We had a buy-out for the matinee performance of Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park. We were able to net \$1400 from pre-sales and tickets sold at the door.

A big thanks to Glenn Hoxie for selling fifteen tickets to the public at the door the afternoon of the performance.



Bucket Brigade

Our faithful volunteers in the Bucket Brigade are keeping our new vegetation happy along Slaughterhouse Creek and the surrounding area. This is about a 2 hour project every 10 days and we need some more folks to sign up for some specific time periods in August, September, October and November. Each Brigade pair waters the plants on their designated day, then "passes the bucket" to the next set of volunteers. Please see Michelle Martin Streeby or John Crowe if you can lend a hand. If you volunteer even just one time, it makes a difference and will keep the new plants alive through the hot season. The creek area is lovely – take some time after church to enjoy it!



Call for Artwork

Pilgrim is looking to dress up the walls of our hallway and Fellowship Hall! We're calling on the talented artists in our congregation to add some beauty to our walls. If you enjoy creating art (painting, photography, drawing, sculpting, mixed-media, poetry, etc...), or if you have a piece of art without a home, we'd love to welcome it into our church. Contact the church office at (530)243-3121 or pilgrim@shasta.com for more information.

Who's New in the Pews?

By Heather Hennessey



Dan (36) and Laura (35) Ostmann, along with their son, Dylan (2.5), and daughter, Eleanor (1 year), made their way to Pilgrim Congregational Church last November. They were looking for an open and accepting church for themselves and their children, and they believe they found it at Pilgrim.

Dan has a Bachelor of Arts in English from UC Berkeley and a Masters of Fine Arts, with an emphasis in poetry, from the University of Montana. After his UCB graduation, he spent the summer in wildland fire

management at Crater Lake, OR. He enjoyed it so much that this became his eventual career. For the past fifteen years, Dan has worked in prescribed burns, fuels management, and firefighting.

Laura graduated from the University of Puget Sound with a degree in history. Shortly thereafter, she completed culinary school in Portland, OR, then went to work in several Seattle restaurants. In 2007, Laura moved to Mineral, CA where she worked for the Park Service at Lassen. It was in Mineral that she met Dan. That first summer they were just friends, but things got serious the next year and they were married in October of 2010.

Laura is now the Budget Officer for the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. With two full time jobs, Laura and Dan are very busy young parents. Dan's mother Sharon has come to Redding for the last two summers, and is here part-time this summer, to help with the children. Both Laura and Dan are deeply grateful for her assistance. In their limited free time, Laura and Dan love to be in the great outdoors. They enjoy local lakes, farmer's markets, and their new garden.

Please welcome Dan, Laura, Dylan and Eleanor into our midst, and also Sharon when she comes to visit. We are blessed to have them.

Pilgrim Sewing Bee



We are the hands of Christ! In this spirit, we would like to invite you to an evening celebrating our creative powers and the tradition (and the future!) of handwork. On July 9, from 6:30-8:30, we will be gathering to work together on textile-based projects, share skills and

knowledge with each other, and generally socialize! Event sponsors will bring sewing machines and tools, as well as wet felting tools. We invite you to attend and bring your curiosity, your expertise, and your supplies and materials (and tools if you have them!) and join us in celebrating community and creativity. If you'd like to attend but don't have a project to bring, we will have a couple of small projects, plus materials to do them, and can help you get started.

If you have questions about the event, please feel free to call Astrid Rainsford (530-241-5122) or Elizabeth Betancourt (415-378-6709).

Bathroom Remodel Project

A committee established by the Council has been looking into remodeling the cramped and outdated upstairs bathrooms with an emphasis particularly on having more stalls and space in the women's restroom.

The committee has already received a commitment in pledges of \$20,000 from a limited number of church members to kick-start a project which preliminary estimates suggest could run as much as \$60,000 to \$80,000 for a full remodel.

That shows there is interest and support for the project, but we will need substantially more in pledges to reach the full amount needed. We encourage the whole congregation to get behind the bathroom project and pledge your financial support so we can move forward. We encourage the congregation to give this matter thoughtful consideration. Letters will be sent soon with pledge forms enclosed.

Thank you,
Bathroom Remodel Committee

Bill Justice, John Crowe, Lu Trullinger, Bob Cross, Larry Solberg

French Country Market

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015
Pilgrim Church

Bonjour, mes amis!

We are well underway with plans and creating for the 5th annual French Country Market! This is the one event that we ask everyone to participate in some way – from donating

items, to baking and inviting their friends to join us! There is something for everyone to do. Every little bit adds up to a big celebration! Proceeds benefit our community services.



In June and July, we need:

Garden Stall – we need clean 4” and 6” pots (plastic and clay) for plants. We have several gardeners who will separate their big plants into smaller pots to sell. Also, Brad Henderson is seeking unusual things that can hold a plant, such as metal toy trucks or pots that just need a hole drilled into them.

Vintage Collectibles – We still need wonderful vintage items, such as crystal, linens and other vintage things. Collectibles are great sellers, so bring them in. You may leave them in the FCM room downstairs or on (or under) the FCM table in the fellowship hall. Cindy Asher is in charge of this stall and can pick up items at your home.

Silent Auction and Raffle Items – Our queen of FCM, Val Scarisbrick, has a lovely selection of silent auction and raffle baskets from around the world. We need some specific items to make these baskets complete and ready to sell. Please see the list of items on the FCM table in the fellowship hall. Our main items



are French wines or Champagne, German Beer, Italian Chianti, Rum, Tequila and Skoll Vodka (for the Swedish basket). We need the items for these baskets by the end of July. (continued...)

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Hand Crafts – We have several craft kits for interested crafters and several wonderful things for our sewists. The kits are on the FCM table in the fellowship hall.

Bistro – We’ve made our FCM “Soup in a Jar” and we’re still gathering dried beans for the actual FCM soup we make on event day. Please bring bags of any kind of dried beans, barley or cans of chicken broth – we use it all! Leave it on the FCM table.



More activities and tasks are coming, so watch the newsletter and weekly bulletin. Micki Forrell will need bakers and we’ll be asking for volunteers to help set up, serve and take down. Not to worry – we have something for everyone!

Merci beaucoup!

Birthdays

June

Cynthia Turbin	6
Mary Forbes	18
June Mackey	19
Claudine Cupples	22
Donna Nelson	30

July

Linda Lack	1
Leon Nelson	4
Mary Costello	5
Karina Lapp	5
Peggie Linville	6
Nancy Ragsdale	6
Ethel Schmidt	10
Evan Brahms	11
Kelly Nickel	15
Velma Cooper	16
Connie Hegge	21
Cassie Nickel	21
Tyler Shuster	21
Bob Cross	23
Alexiah Rogge	29
Susan Whitaker	29
Ceil Harvey	31



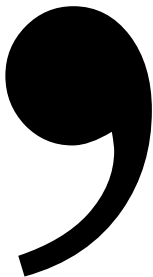
UCC General Synod

Every two years, General Synod brings together thousands of faithful members of the United Church of Christ for formal church witness, inspirational worship, and fellowship with friends (new and old).

Beginning June 26 2015, thousands from across the country (and abroad) will gather for General Synod 30 in Cleveland, Ohio — the birthplace of the United Church of Christ. Together, we will discern resolutions of witness, church structure, and function. We will stand up for issues that demand a faithful witness. And we will join together in worship each day to lift up the Still-speaking God.

At General Synod 30, we will explore some of the “Unexpected Places” where we hear God’s voice, encounter the Spirit, and find the United Church of Christ lifting up its witness in the world.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Save the Date

**Barbara Lapp
Memorial Service
June 20, 11am**

Faith Forum

The group is taking a break for a few weeks, and it will meet again on July 6

**Performing Arts Society
July 10, 7:30pm**

7 well known area poets will be reading original works celebrating the power, versatility and “music” of the English language.

**Den Corrin
Celebration of Life
August 1, 11am**

Directory Photos *will be taken following worship services on June 21 and June 28. If you are not able to be join us those days, there will be another opportunity later in the year.*



A full calendar of events for June can be found at the church and online at:

pilgrimchurchredding.org

July’s calendar will be made available on the last Sunday in June. If you would like a mailed copy of July’s calendar, please contact the church:

(530) 243-3121

or

pilgrim@shasta.com