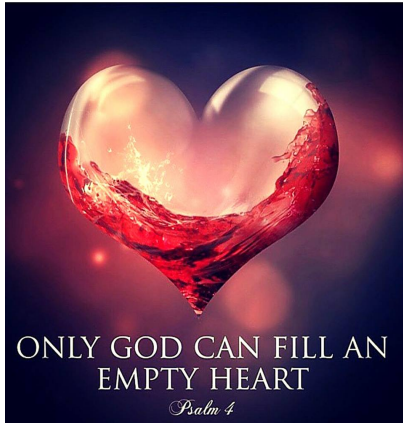


Clarksburg Community Church

Chimes

P.O. Box 36
Clarksburg, CA 95612

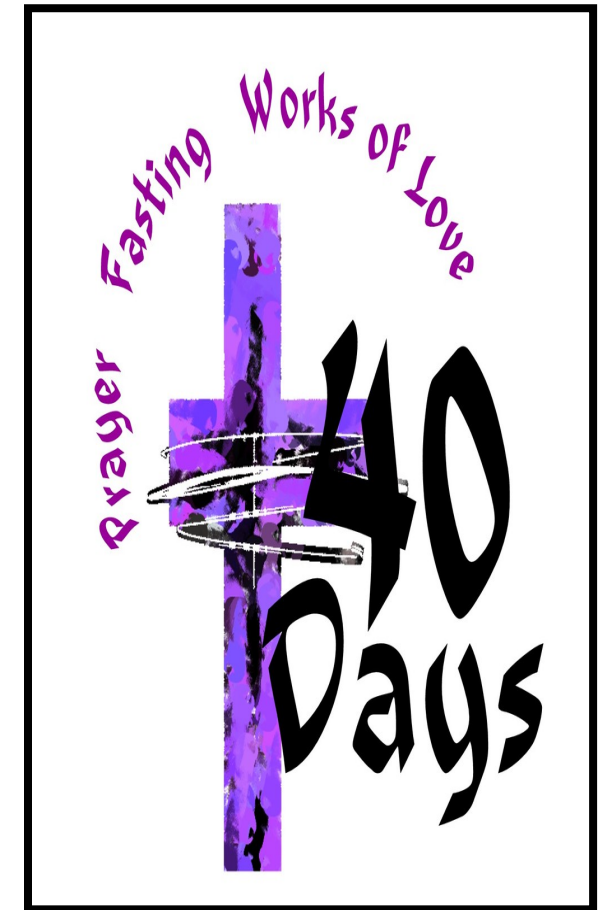


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95612
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Third Class

What is Lent - A Time Set Aside

Just as we set aside time to spiritually prepare for Christmas Day, it makes sense to set aside time to prepare for the two most important days of the Christian year. Lent is a time that offers us an opportunity to come to terms with the human condition we may spend the rest of the year running from and it brings our need for a Savior to the forefront. Like Advent, Lent is a time to open the doors of our hearts a little wider and understand our Lord a little deeper, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter comes, it is not just another day at church but an opportunity to receive the overflowing of graces God has to offer. But unlike the childlike joy associated with the season of Advent, with it's eager anticipation of the precious baby Jesus, Lent is an intensely penitential time as we examine our sinful natures and return to the God we have, through our own rebelliousness, hurt time and again. Lent is also an opportunity to contemplate what our Lord really did for us on the Cross - and it wasn't pretty. But ultimately, the

purpose of Lent does not stop at sadness and despair - it points us to the hope of the Resurrection and the day when every tear will be dried (Rev. 21:3).



FROM THE PASTOR

The topic of prejudice has been in the headlines and news extensively this year. That should not be surprising, for we are all deeply prejudiced. We learn from an early age to make both positive and negative distinctions between people and kinds of people, and whether or not our judgment or what we are taught is accurate, patterns develop and affect our thinking, attitudes and actions. In fact, we develop many prejudices: racial and cultural, male and female, age and religion, class and occupation, and any ways we perceive others to be different. None of that excuses our sins of prejudice. Rather it should be a call to examine them and confront them, both in ourselves and in others.

The church is called to be on the forefront of confronting and resolving prejudice. The Apostle Paul was confronting prejudice when he wrote to the first century churches, “Here there is no Jew or Greek, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all and in all” (Colossians 3.11) and “There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ.”(Galatians 3.28) Since we carry our prejudices with us wherever we go, we also bring them to church. That has caused all kinds of problems in churches for two millennia. Maybe, instead, we can begin to confront and overcome our prejudices in church with the help of the church.

It begins with us examining ourselves, deeply, honestly, genuinely and probably with tears, and practicing the tried and true disciplines of confession and forgiveness. Twenty years ago, at a pastor’s conference in Atlanta, I paired up with a couple of black pastors, and confronted my sins of prejudice by confessing things done and said over a lifetime and, in tears, embracing and hearing their words of forgiveness. I did not change overnight, but God began a work in me gradually confronting and changing my heart and attitude. Rather than letting our prejudices control our lives, we should be finding ways when we gather to confront them and find the help from one another that we need to confess and repent and change.

We must also continually renew our commitment to become people who live like Jesus loved, without making distinctions but breaking down barriers that divide and oppress and marginalize and devalue. Every time we gather for worship or study or fellowship or prayer, there are opportunities to extend love to someone rather than box them in or cut them off with prejudice. In the church it should be the regular practice to put aside differences and embrace. Mission offers opportunities to set aside differences for the sake of the other, such as serving homeless people at Union Gospel Mission, or being part of the church in Nicaragua for a week, or making friends with the Mexican families who live in Clarksburg, or serving others through mission in other ways.

Pastor Dennis Montzingo

LENTEN SERVICES

Everyone is invited to set aside a half hour every Friday evening during Lent, Beginning February 16th and continuing to Good Friday March 30th and going from 6:30-7:00, for a service of prayer and meditation and communion in the church sanctuary. The theme this year will be Jesus and His **I Am Statements** In the Gospel of John. Join us as we seek to make this a season of seeking Jesus In our lives.



Worship in February Sunday School all ages 9:30 am Worship Service Begins at 11:00 am		
Feb 4	Holy Spirit: Gifts	Communion Bell Choir
Feb 11	Holy Spirit: Spiritual Growth Process	
Feb 16 Friday 6:30 PM	Lenten Service	
Feb 18	Holy Spirit: Control	Lent
Feb 23 Friday 6:30 PM	Lenten Service	
Feb 25	"Hear!" Deuteronomy 6. 4-9	Lent Children's Choirs
Mar 2 Friday 6:30 PM	Lenten Service	

**** UPCOMING EVENTS ****

MEN'S GROUP – FEBRUARY 3rd

All men are invited to our Men's group. We meet on the first Saturday of the month at 6:30 AM at the church.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP FEBRUARY 3rd

The High school youth group will meet at Clarksburg Community Church from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

SENDING LOVE TO OUR COLLEGE KIDS!! DUE FEBRUARY 4th

Our church will be mailing envelopes of love to our college students on Monday, **February 5th**. If you would like to write a note or purchase a gift card (Target, Starbucks, or something else) please have them to the church no later than Sunday, February 4. (No food products please as we are mailing an envelope and not a box). The plan is to fill 1 large envelope for each college student. These large envelopes will be filled with cards, messages, and expressions of love. Papers with names of the 18 college students are available at the back of the sanctuary on the table.

Questions? Contact Margie Montzingo
margiemontzingo@gmail.com
916 838-6009.

SURVEY RESULTS – FEBRUARY 11th 12:15 PM

The Transition Planning Team would like to invite the congregation and all who are interested, immediately after worship on Sunday, February 11th to view a slide presentation of the results from the survey we participated in last fall. The presentation will be followed by a Q & A session. We had great participation in the survey and now it is time to share in the results. Come one, come all, and bring your families and friends.

SENIOR LUNCH – FEBRUARY 20TH

The next lunch is **February 20th** at noon, meeting at the Clarksburg Community Church. Join us for a gathering of friendship, fellowship and great food prepared by willing cooks!

BOY SCOUTS BLUE & GOLD DINNER FEBRUARY 25TH

Troup 83 annual dinner will be held at Clarksburg Community Church on February 25th from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.

**** ON GOING EVENTS ****

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

9:30 to 11:00 AM

We have chosen a Max Lucado book entitled "Grace: More Than We Deserve - Greater Than We Imagine" Please contact Charlyn Connor to see if you are interested.

UNION GOSPEL MISSION DONATIONS OPPORTUNITY

For the month of February, please consider donating new or gently used Adult sweatshirts as well as warm hats, gloves and socks. Please bring your donations to the blue barrel in the garden room of the church. These donations are collected each week by Michelle Spain and delivered to the Union Gospel Mission coat closet. Thank you!

DIAPERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Fiscal year 2018 is well underway, but we have not heard from some of you who normally submit pledges at our annual church dinner in November. We still want to hear from you, but let's keep it simple. Just contact me by telephone, e-mail, in person or old-fashioned snail mail, and tell me what you are pledging to the general fund, the building maintenance fund or both. Thanks for helping us have assurance that the church's bills will be met this year.

Tom Wallace Tel: 744-1125
37331 Jefferson Blvd,
Clarksburg, CA 95612
e-mail: tswhm@calbroadband.net

**** COMMUNITY INTEREST ****

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP VACANCY

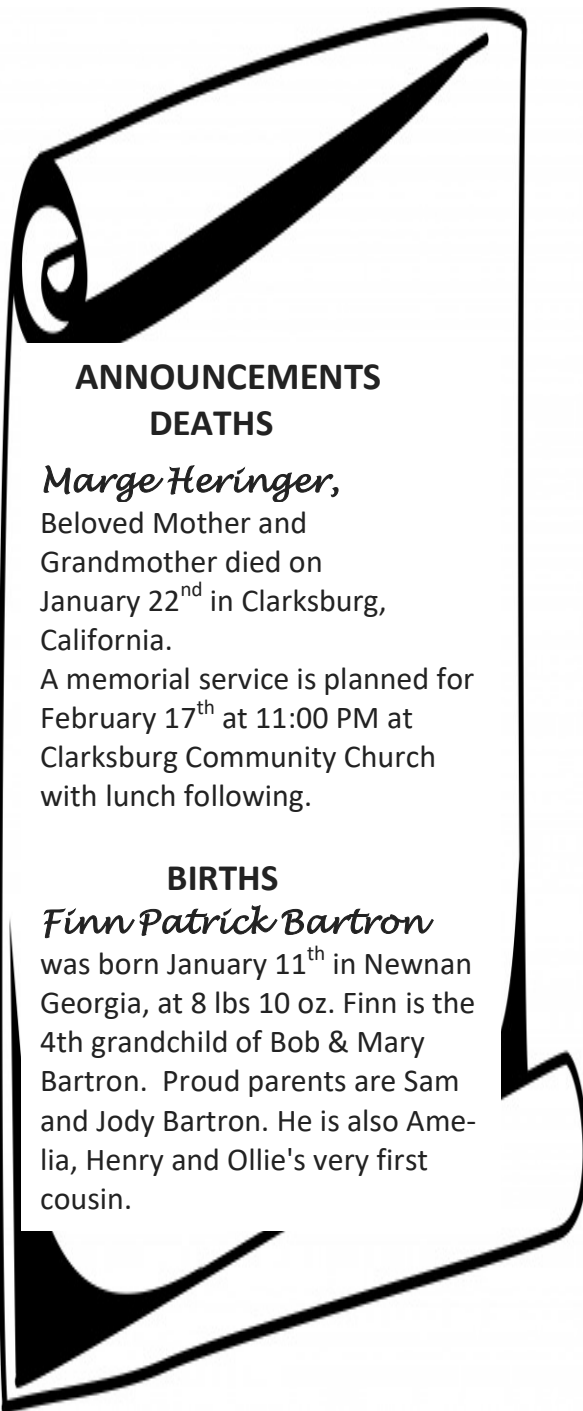
After 7 years of leading VBS, Becky and Lana's passports are being retired. "We've flown the skies, we've swam under the sea, been on safari, gone camping and from the Thailand jungles to the frozen Arctic ...it's been a wonderful ride for our children growing up, and we look forward to seeing other youngsters enjoy it for years to come." We are working on finding a new person to organize and lead and will be available to mentor and support. Please pray for God's leading.

FROM THE NAUGLE FAMILY

Gene Naugle and family thank the church and the community for your prayers, visits, hugs, friendship, and love over the past few years (and of course for the baked goods and casseroles.) We cannot thank you enough for watching over Mary Louise and Gene.

We greatly appreciate that a helping hand or friendly hello are only a phone call or knock on the door away.

We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring community.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

Marge Heringer,

Beloved Mother and Grandmother died on January 22nd in Clarksburg, California.

A memorial service is planned for February 17th at 11:00 PM at Clarksburg Community Church with lunch following.

BIRTHS

Finn Patrick Bartron

was born January 11th in Newnan Georgia, at 8 lbs 10 oz. Finn is the 4th grandchild of Bob & Mary Bartron. Proud parents are Sam and Jody Bartron. He is also Amelia, Henry and Ollie's very first cousin.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Did you miss a Sunday worship? Lost your copy of the Chimes? Don't fret, you can listen to past sermons or read current or past issues of the Chimes online on our website:

www.clarksburgcc.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:30 AM (All Ages)

Worship 11:00 AM

Rev. Dennis Montzingo, Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesday through
Friday 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
(other times by appointment)

Office Phone: 744-1422

Cell: 838-6007

pastordenniscc@gmail.com

For Chimes submissions:

cbccinformation@gmail.com

Serving at the Union Gospel Mission

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35

This scripture in Matthew truly reflects what we do when we serve dinner at the Union Gospel Mission on our third Thursday of every month. We serve homeless men, women and, yes, sometimes children a warm meal and a cool drink, along with a smile, a greeting, a God bless you. Many times, a guest will smile at us, thank us for serving, ask how we are and ask God to bless us. It is truly humbling when the less-fortunate, whom we are there to serve, ask the Lord to bless us and our families.

Perhaps we serve at the UGM because God has placed upon our hearts to love the less-fortunate, the homeless men and women we see on our streets every day. Perhaps God places upon their hearts to smile at us and uplift us with their gratitude and blessings.

We are now entering our 7th year of serving at the Union Gospel Mission. Each month, six volunteers arrive at 7:45 p.m. to serve dinner at 8:30 p.m. We are in our cars and on our way to our warm homes by 9:10 p.m. There is no meal preparation or clean-up required.

If God has placed it upon your heart to serve the less-fortunate, please consider joining us to serve on our third Thursday a month. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall at Clarksburg Community Church.

Reminder/confirmation telephone calls are made on the Wednesday prior to your serving. Each week, we need six people to serve a warm meal: six smiles to greet our guests and six hearts to be touched by the gratitude and blessings from those whom we serve.

For information on the Union Gospel Mission, services provided, mission statement, pictures and stories from the homeless and more, please visit their website at:

www.ugmsac.com

Blessings!