

Campbell



CONNECTIONS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AUGUST, 2013

A MESSAGE FROM SIERRA LEONE, WEST AFRICA " SAY THANKS AND BE GRATEFUL "



Sunday Worship Service August 11, 2013, at 10:00 am

The Reverend Sylvanus Chapman was born in the Southern City of Bo, Sierra Leone. He holds a Higher Certificate in Pastoral Studies (HCPS) and Diploma in Theology (Dip. Theo) from the Sierra Leone Theological College, a Bachelor in Divinity (B.Div.) from the African University, Zimbabwe and a Masters in Education (M.Ed.) from Fouray Bay College, University of Sierra Leone.

From college and ordination, Chapman served as pastor at Leader Memorial United Methodist Church (UMC), Bo, Sierra Leone; Bishop Baughman UMC, Bright street; King Memorial UMC, Regent Road; Charles Davies UMC, Lumley; and Milton Margia UMC, Goderich, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

He also served as circuit leader, Baughman Circuit and District Superintendent of Western District, Freetown, Sierra Leone. He is presently

the Director of Evangelism or Conference Evangelist, a member of the Board of the Ordained Ministry and the Bishop's Cabinet, Sierra Leone Annual Conference.

Besides his experience as pastor in the Sierra Leone Annual Conference he also served as Administrative Assistance for the Kitwe Foundation in Zambia. He served as student warden, African University, Zimbabwe and actively participated in a seminar at the HAGGAI Institute in Singapore. He was a young adults delegate from the Sierra Leone to the Liberia annual conference in 1983 and a delegate from Sierra Leone to the UMC General Conference in Tampa Bay Florida. He is married with two children.

Come and receive God's message from West Africa .

LUNCHEON hosted by Musu Bennett in the FELLOWSHIP HALL following the SERVICE

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Campbell Connections

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the newsletter will be mailed on the 4th
Wednesday & the deadline for articles will
be on the 3rd Wednesday.

If you have any questions regarding
the mailing, please call the office at
408-378-3472

❖
**CAMPBELL UMC is a RECONCILING
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❖
Summer Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
African Ministry: 10:30 a.m.

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

New Creation UMC Worship: 12:30 p.m.
Quiet Communion: 6:00 p.m. Tuesday

Bright Days Preschool

Mary Smith, Director: 408-378-8422
www.brightdayspreschool.com



Pastor's Pen

Pastor's Thoughts

Congregational Care Continues...with Claudia and Donna's Help

In line with my vision of congregational care (see last month's newsletter), Claudia Slayman is working as the volunteer care-giving coordinator for our senior members. In addition, Donna Marencia who serves on the Board of the Heart of the Valley (HOV) is planning to staff a table during coffee hour, with information about senior services provided by the HOV, such as escorted transportation, shopping and errands, small home repairs, and filling out forms. Visit her table during coffee hour and speak with Donna to receive help or referrals or visit their website <http://www.servicesforseniors.org/our-service.html> to find out more. There are also opportunities for volunteer services with the Heart of the Valley. Our church will be working closely with HOV to develop a pilot program that will benefit our church and community members as well as empower HOV to reach its mission to serve the senior populations of Santa Clara County, including Campbell and surrounding towns.

I have started my program to visit all of our senior members during the next few months. Claudia will be giving a hospitality call to stay in touch with our senior members, set up appointments for pastoral visits and provide help or referrals as needed – working with local agencies like senior centers and the Heart of the Valley.

Some of the needs already lifted up by our seniors: receiving copies of weekly bulletins and sermons; rides to worship on Sundays; being assigned a caregiver, being placed on the prayer list; and, receiving Communion. Claudia will work closely with our dedicated circle of caregivers and will provide support so they can be effective in their ministry of care. One major project under review is to connect all seniors through a phone tree, with member A making a simple hospitality call to member B who calls member C, etc., – just to say "Good morning" and "Have a wonderful day!"

Donna also leads the Prayer Shawl Ministry which makes prayer shawls, blankets, afghans and other knitted and crocheted items – given to home-bound members, to those undergoing medical treatments or celebrating a joy in their life (new baby). This too is congregational care that knits our church family together in love. See the article in this issue about the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

But most of our congregational caring happens without notice, recognition or organization. Members bring soup and bread to members who fall or are recently released from hospital. People give rides to doctor's office, Safeway or even to visit a childhood home. Others receive the weekly prayer chain e-mail and pray for each name on that list, one by one. Others "baby-sit" a member's child to give the weary parents some respite – on a regular basis. Some use the list in the prayer request list in the weekly bulletin to give hospitality calls, drop a card in the mail or to drop by to say "Hi."

All on their own, reaching out in love and caring -- even before the pastor makes the hospital visit or hospitality call, others have already been there or have been in touch. These acts of love strengthen the networks of support, prayer and caring -- so that together we can love God, grow stronger and serve our neighbors and our world-- making a difference in ways unimaginable and filling our world with divine presence. Thanks to all of you for living out your faith.

It is my sincere hope and promise that certain kinds of words will never be heard in our community: "I was sick and the church/the pastor never visited me." "I was in the hospital but no one in my circle called me or sent me a card." "My family was going through a tough time but I couldn't find anyone to talk to." The church staff and our merry band of volunteer servant leaders are here to serve you – all in faith, with confidentiality, and in prayer. So that we together can "Love God, Grow Strong and Serve Others."

Pastor Paul ❖



Your Ideas And Opinions On Our Courtyard

The Trustees want your ideas! We are looking for fresh ideas on what to do with the space left vacant in our courtyard since the removal of our beloved tree. Any and all ideas are welcome! Trustees will be gathering responses through July and August. In September, we will gather all the ideas and select the one that best fits the campus and our wishes. Please submit suggestions in writing to John Finzel, Trustees Chair at: jfinzel@att.net, or drop off/mail to the church office. ❖

50+ BBQ

On August 6, at 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. on the church patio the 50+ will be celebrating with a BBQ Social. All are welcome, so come join us.

Bring your own meat and a side dish. Al Friebel will be chef; drinks and dessert will be provided. Sign up sheets will be available Sunday, July 21 and 28. Please sign up and let us know, so we can have a count. Call the Friebels at 408-356-8983, or the Meehans at 408-253-8109 with any questions. ❖

Summer Clean-Up Day

We need your help! The Trustees are sponsoring an All Church Work Day on **August 10, 8 am - noon**



to clean the Education Building. No need to stay the whole time, come for as long as you are able. Yummy refreshments will be served. Join us for fellowship and service to our campus. ❖

Estate Planning Issues

Estate planning is essential to the health of a family. Organizing and

preparing for changes in our lives minimize the conflicts and confusion. Now is a good time to think about what you want to happen and how it will happen. Estate planning is a process of discussing various topics with your attorney and family. Four areas to consider are:

- * Discuss with your attorney the best way for you to handle your estate: with a will or living trust.

- * During the process of setting up your estate plan be sure to include a durable power of attorney for business matters and one for health matters.

- * One of the essential things in this planning is making sure you state clearly how you feel about life-prolonging measures.

- * Make sure you include a long-term care in your planning.

Anyone can give an endowment gift. Any size gift may be made to the Endowment Fund. Consider doing this as part of your estate planning.

Endowment Committee ❖

50+ San Francisco Walk

50+ will be doing another walking tour in San Francisco with the City Guides. Tastes & Tales of North Beach. They tell us that in North Beach, one gust of wind can carry the sound of sea lions, the salty mist of fog and the smells of this village's basic food groups - coffee, chocolate, wine and foccacia. Meet their local purveyors on this charming walk and find out why the American Association of City Planners rates San Francisco's Little Italy one of the ten best neighborhoods in the country.

We will meet at the church to car pool on Friday, September 6, 2013 at 9:15 a.m. Any questions, call Jack or Joyce Hocker at (408) 268-4646. ❖

SCRIP IS HERE for YOU!

It is time for back-to-school

shopping. Make it count by using scrip. Every scrip purchase gives money back to the church.

We have Target, Staples, Kohls, JCPenney, Macy's, Crazy 8 (now at Westgate), Bed, Bath & Beyond plus so much more!

Stop by the table after worship and see what we have for you.

Sunrise Seekers - New Time

The Sunrise Seekers group will start back up on **Wednesday, September 18th** after our summer break.

We are moving to a later start time, so that those of you who have said, "Yes, I'd love to come, but it's just too early," will be encouraged to join us. We will now meet at 8 am in the Library every first and third Wednesday.

Coffee is provided. All are welcome. Come and give this group a try.

We will be studying Marcus Borg's "Reading the Bible again for the First Time: Taking the Bible seriously but not literally."

The book is readily available from Amazon or Barnes and Noble. The Amazon review says: *One of the vital challenges facing thoughtful people today is how to read the Bible faithfully without abandoning our sense of truth and history. Reading the Bible Again for the First Time provides a much-needed solution to the problem of how to have a fully authentic yet contemporary understanding of the scriptures.Borg traces his personal spiritual journey, describing for readers how he moved from an unquestioning childhood belief in the Biblical stories to a more powerful and dynamic relationship with the Bible as a sacred text brimming with meaning and guidance. Using his own experience as an example, he reveals how the modern crisis of faith is itself rooted in the misinterpretation of sacred texts as historical record and divine dictation, and opens readers to a truer, more abundant perspective....This unique book invites everyone—whatever one's religious background—to engage the Bible, wrestle with its meaning, explore its mysteries, and understand its relevance. Borg shows*

continued on p.4

On the **CAMPUS**

continued from p.3

us how to encounter the Bible in a fresh way that rejects the limits of simple literalism and opens up rich possibilities for our lives.

For more information contact Sue Edson at (408) 378-6349 or, sueedson@pacbell.net ❖

Book Group

The Book Group's first meeting of our 2013/4 year will be on Monday, September 23 from 4 – 5:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We meet on the fourth Monday of each month, with breaks for Christmas and other major holidays. At our first meeting we will be talking about books we have each been reading. From the books presented, we will select titles for study in upcoming months. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you have a book to present. Our reading is usually secular, but our discussions are informed by our shared faith.

For more information contact Sue Edson at (408) 378-6349 or, sueedson@pacbell.net ❖

About Prayer Shawl Group

On June 13, 2005 Cheryl Olson (former Campbell UMC Christian Education Director), with the help of Claudia Slayman, started a Prayer Shawl group at our Church. A group of us met, exchanged names and a little bit about ourselves, and we started to knit or crochet.

During the past eight years we have continued to meet on the second and fourth Monday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Currently, we meet in the Resource Center lounge in the Education Building. We have shared ourselves with each other while managing to create hundreds of items.

These items have included shawls, neck scarves, hats, lap blankets, afghans, baby blankets, Christmas gifts, and doll clothes. They have been given to members of our Church (through the Care Givers Group), who

are ill or going through some hard times; to new babies; and, to UMCOR. The Prayer Shawl group has done community outreach by giving to Bill Wilson Center; McKee Infusion Center; Stanford Pediatrics ICU; to family; and to friends and friends of friends.

All items are made with care and love; all are blessed and prayed over before being taken to their recipients.

Even though we've had some changes - Cheryl Olson, Florence



Hing and April Cordes having passed away, some having retired or moved away – our Prayer Shawl Group is still going strong. We welcome

anyone who would like to join us. Just drop in and start knitting!

Can't knit or crochet? That's OK, we'll show you how, and you'll learn in no time!

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Marenica (408)-241-1572. ❖



WELCOME
to our new
Church Secretary

Suzanne Dougan

Born at Stanford and raised in San Mateo, I moved to Santa Clara in 1971. I'm involved in several community groups; among them two quilting guilds, Quilts of Valor and a chorus for seniors. As you can guess I'm an avid quilter with more fabric than I can use and sew daily to relax. I also enjoy photography and gardening.

Until quite recently I lived in the Los Angeles area and Turlock working in the administrative/manufacturing field.

I have three grown daughters; Julie, Sherri and Jennie; all who live locally. I have one grandchild, Olivia, who is three years old and the daughter of Sherri. My mother is still living and will turn 90 on July 24th.



Let's Join the Fight to Stop Childhood Hunger

Second Harvest Food Bank can use our help! They have set an ambitious goal to feed 100,000 children from June through August. As noted on their website, "Summer is the season of childhood hunger. That's because the end of the school year means the end of free or reduced-price school meals for one in three students in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Through our STOP Childhood Hunger campaign, Second Harvest intends to make sure they still have healthy, nutritious meals this summer."

We will have three barrels on our campus through August. Let's see how many times we can fill them and provide Second Harvest with some much-needed supplies. Here are some "child-friendly food" suggestions:

- Pop-Top Tuna
- Raisins
- Unsweetened Applesauce
- Fruit Cups
- Pretzels
- Granola Bars (without peanuts)
- 100% Fruit Rolls
- Graham Crackers
- Cheese and Crackers
- Low-sugar Cereal Bowls
- 100% Fruit Juice Boxes

Thanks for helping to feed the children this summer!

Gail Jacobs, Church & Society ❖

Methodist C.o.n.n.e.c.t.i.o.n

Care-A-Vaners

The Care-A-Vaners camp-opening work at Shasta Methodist Camp extended over the first two weeks of June. Major jobs were to replace the back upper deck of Buckner Lodge

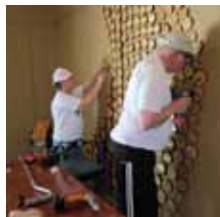


and to disassemble the platform of what had once been a geodesic dome. Campbell UMC was well represented. Marv and Ina Tanner were there the first week and Dave and Susan Sargent, Jim Laflin and Ray Dyer were there the second week. Nearly all the Care-A-Vaners worked on some aspect of the upper deck job. Unfortunately, the new purchased lumber was "green" and running with moisture and sap, which caused the paint to blister by the end of the first day of painting. The upper deck will have to be repainted again next year after the wood has dried. By the end of the first week the upper deck was complete.



In addition to the construction and destruction work, we did the usual work to open the camp. Ina worked on cleaning the grill of both camp ranges. They were caked with grease left by prior campers. Marv and others worked on the 50 new donor wall plaques that were placed in the Pavilion. Marv was able to attach almost all of the plaques to the wall. As usual, there were plumbing and gas problems that were fixed. This year the water in the streams is low.

As a precaution to water shortages this summer, a tie-in was made to the old water tank supply. In preparation for the dome platform removal, all material in storage underneath was sorted and put on new stage racks and bins installed in the pavilion work room.



The main project the second week was deconstruction of the dome structure platform, which involved sawing through hundreds of feet of tongue and groove subflooring; chain sawing three massive support timbers; removing hundreds of screws, nails, and bolts; hauling at least seven truck loads of debris to the transfer station and dump; and cleaning up the site. All pitched in on this huge task.

Additional jobs were also tackled. Bob Buckner continued construction of the back deck "escape ladder" for Buckner Lodge, ably assisted by Ray Dyer. Several workers primed and painted every surface of each board, slat, and railing.



Dave and Jim repaired a damaged water culvert on the entrance road. Margie Shaw, Dave, and Susan cleaned campsites and trails of winter debris and over growth. Susan and Margie installed the camp and Nature Trail signs. They also created a first draft of an update to the Nature Trail brochure. Dave and Susan

repaired or replaced several plank bridges over stream trail crossings.

After we returned home, our "project manager" Doyle Martin wrote, "I am continually amazed at how much the Care-A-Vaners and a few other helpers got accomplished the last two weeks at Shasta Camp!" The Care-A-Vaners will return to Shasta Camp after Labor Day to prepare the camp for winter. New volunteers are welcome. For info, talk to the Tanners, Sargents, Jim, Ray, or Gene and Elaine Hill.



On a related note, Rod and Gloria Castor received the Bishop's Award at Annual Conference, honoring their 20 year leadership of Care-A-Vaners.

Marvin and Ina Tanner, Dave and Susan Sargent ❖

United Methodist Women

WHAT HAS 48 LEGS AND WALKED 24 HOURS?

The Cheerful Ultra Mighty Winners (CUMW), the team that was sponsored by the Campbell United Methodist Women. Team members took turns cheerfully walking around and around the Campbell Community Center track for the full 24 hours of the Relay for Life on July 13 and 14. The team raised \$3,150.59 (and counting) for the American Cancer Society.

Big Thanks go to

- Jane LaPierre for providing food for both the Fund and Games event, and Saturday lunch at the Relay
 - Lou Woodburycatcott for organizing Fund and Games, and for creating the biggest and best banner ever
 - the 24 registered walkers
 - the friends and family members who walked with us and
 - ALL OF OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS
- The Relay motto is Celebrate • Remember • Fight Back WE DID.

Susan Sargent, Team Captain

Help create a world
with less cancer
and more birthdays

Participate in Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3)

If you've ever known someone with cancer, you know that birthdays are a very significant milestone.

There are nearly 13.7 million people in America who have survived cancer and countless more who have avoided it - who will be celebrating birthdays this year. You can join the movement for more birthdays and fight back against cancer by enrolling in a new research study called the Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3).

The American Cancer Society's Epidemiology Research Program is inviting men and women between the ages of 30 and 65 years who have no personal history of cancer to join this historic research study. The ultimate goal is to enroll at least 300,000 adults from various racial and ethnic backgrounds from across the US. CPS-3 is a grassroots effort where local communities from across the country can support cancer research not just through fundraising efforts, but also by participating actively in this historic research study.

Research study enrollment opportunities will take place at various venues in select communities across the United States and Puerto Rico. For more information about CPS-3 and the selected enrollment locations, please email CPS3@cancer.org or call toll-free 1-888-604-5888.



Three generations on the CUMW Team



Team with banner ready for opening Team Lap



Cheerful Ultra Mighty Winners booth at 4:00 a.m.



Cancer Survivors Lap



Luminaries on the bleachers spelled "Life" "Hope" and "Cure"

Circuit Writer



Forgiveness - Again?

Rev. Larry LaPierre

Those of you with good memories may recall that I wrote two articles on forgiveness last year. I made the case that forgiveness is to be granted as often as someone asks us to forgive. I also noted that our willingness to forgive is directly connected with our need to be forgiven (as in, "Forgive us ... as we forgive those ..." Matthew 6:12). The other point was that forgiveness requires us to turn around and change direction. There is no other way to face either the pain we've caused in others or to turn back towards God.

But, there can be serious obstacles to forgiveness, and I encountered one of them repeatedly as a chaplain when I worked with veterans at the VA hospital in Vermont. It was always some variation of "I can't forgive myself." Sometimes the vet, especially a combat veteran, would add, "I know that God forgives me, but I can't forgive myself."

We need to recognize that a person who says this is suffering. It also helps to consider what they are implying about God. They think of God as big enough to forgive any sin. However, that's only in their minds—not in their spirits. Forgiveness becomes a spiritual issue whenever our appreciation of God's love is smaller than our view of our sin.

I grew up in a Yankee culture in New England where if you made a mistake you got to live with it—otherwise expressed by my grandmother to my mother as, "You made your bed. Now lie in it!" The rest of me, the French Catholic side, learned in church that I had to suffer for my sins after I died even if they were all forgiven. In that culture, forgiveness didn't come easily. I can accept that up to a point. However, when we decide that we can't forgive ourselves, we are setting ourselves up in place of God!

Yes, some of us do terrible things

and not only in war. Many result from chronic abuse. Others happen in a moment of what my psychiatrist friends used to call "poor impulse control." Whatever the other consequences might be, it doesn't help to spend the rest of our lives condemning ourselves as unforgivable sinners. Pastors with some training in counseling, spiritual direction or just good pastoral listening skills can help.

If more in-depth treatment is needed, we can look for people who are credentialed in pastoral counseling. We can join a group led by a trained spiritual director so that we learn about how forgiveness fits into our spiritual journey. Along with counseling or spiritual direction we can also pray. Anytime that we feel that we cannot be forgiven we can say this: "Gracious God, give me grace to believe that your love is bigger than my sin. Thank you for that grace. Amen."

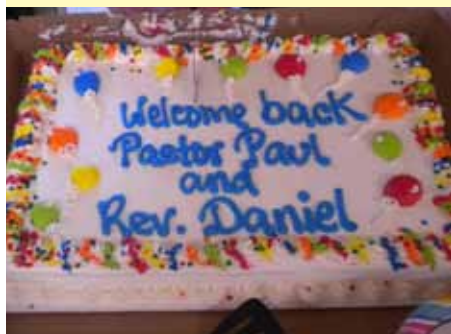
Of course the healing process may take time. We may resist believing that whatever we've done wrong can be forgiven. Yes, some actions have consequences that go on for a lifetime. What's vital is to realize that God's grace lasts even longer! It's not only combat veterans who feel that they can't forgive themselves. I've been there as well. Spiritually, our healthiest choice is to turn to God and allow God's love to heal us.

Rev. Larry LaPierre ♦

CARTOON CORNER



Welcoming back Pastor Paul, Christie; and Pastor Daniel during Fellowship Time on July 7th



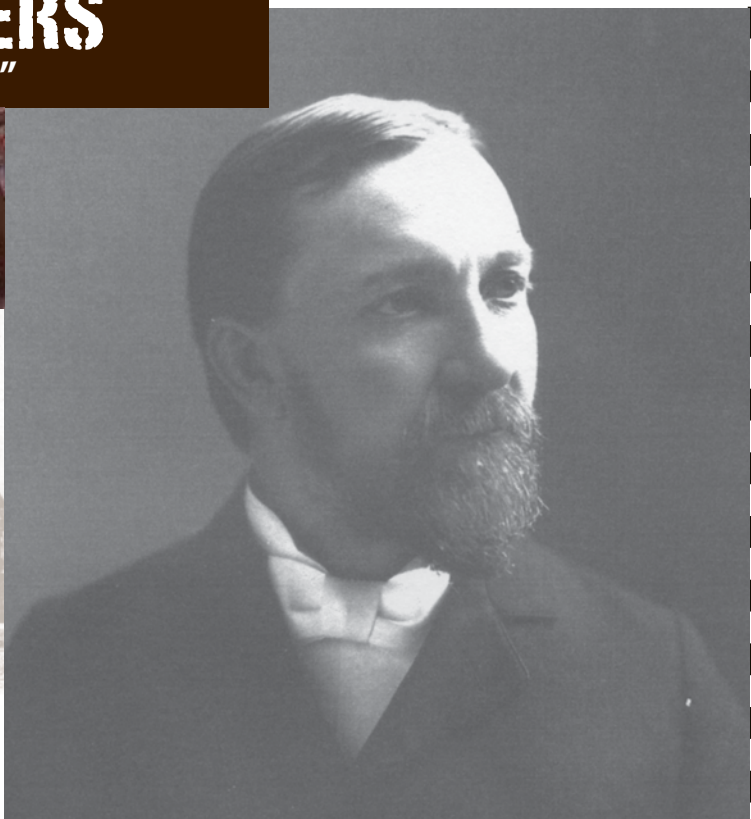
HISTORY HELPERS

"snippets from our past"



Goal for Our Quasiquicentennial (QQC) Year

To compile the Campbell United Methodist Church history for the past 25 years (there is already one for the first 100 years) - written and pictorial. Contact Susan Sargent if you are interested at: hrhiker@aol.com



Challenge for August...

Can you date the photo?

Who is the handsome gentleman?

Send information to: Susan Sargent, Church Historian at: hrhiker@aol.com



The parsonage acquired during the pastorate of William H. Lloyd between 1914-18. It was once the home of Benjamin Campbell.



One wall of historical panels and banners hanging in the Sanctuary.

One of eight historical panels hanging in the Sanctuary to celebrate our Quasiquicentennial.



UMYF TALKING “LISTEN UP”



Fun in God's Backyard

It was another great week (June 24-28) at Vacation Bible School (VBS). Even with rain at the beginning of the week and 90° temperatures at the end.

Our awesome youth and some of their friends spent the week teaching the 57 kids attending VBS about serving family, friends, neighbors, community and Jesus. This was done through songs, stories, games and crafts. The biggest lesson in serving though was given through example. The example our youth set by planning and then spending a week of their summer vacation sharing their faith with the

children of our congregation and community. It's always a joy to see the kids engaging in the activities, to hear the laughter and see the rapport develop with the leaders and their groups.

A big thank you to Jane LaPierre and Lou Woodburycattcott for providing snacks. This included working with 8-10 kids each morning making rolls. Also, thanks to Brook Hendershot running the registration table and helping with the snacks.

Melinda Knepp, Youth Coordinator ❖

FAREWELL TO PASTOR KAREN PAULSEN



Celebration of Caregivers



Quilt for Pastor Karen made by Lou and Donna



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People reaching out, with open
minds, souls and hearts -
Nourishing spirituality
Engaging creativity
Building social justice
Providing loving, welcoming
community
- for Christ and the world.

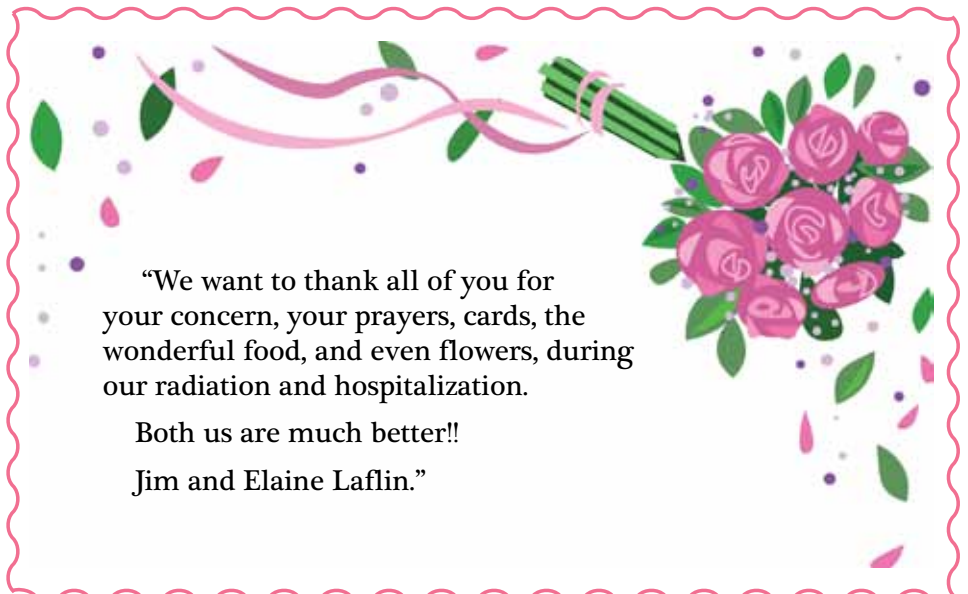


On **SUNDAY, JULY 7**, Campbell United Methodist Church started its summer season. There is one joint worship service at 10:00 am. Sunday school will be held after children's time. There is a hymn sing-along time starting at 9:45 am. Come early and sing your favorite hymns and songs!

Quiet Communion is on Tuesdays at 6 pm.

If you'd like to teach children during the summer, there are a few Sundays available. If you'd like to share a gift of music during summer, please speak with our organist Mary Ann Gee.

We will return to regular worship time at 9 am and 10:45 am on Sunday, September 8th. ❖



"We want to thank all of you for your concern, your prayers, cards, the wonderful food, and even flowers, during our radiation and hospitalization.

Both us are much better!!

Jim and Elaine Laflin."