

The Parishscope

Published by **Arlington Community Church**

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www.acc-ucc.org

Volume 105, September 26, 2006

Pat McLaughlin, Editor

FELICITATIONS



The last month has brought one new excitement after another: consider the success of the Solano Stroll and the Peace Child, to say nothing of the gorgeous new carpet.

Michael and Steve are making suggestions for worship and new programs that are generating much interest. Everywhere we look around, there is a sense of energy and new life, and even our variations on worship (with the Family and Interactive Sundays) seem to be well received. So we begin the school year with a sense of possibility and hopefulness.

It wasn't very long ago that we were hesitant and uncertain about the outcome of the programs that we had decided to embark on. Now, after the giddiness of our initial success, we need to remember that this is just the beginning of a long haul of renewal, and that it will take months or years of sustained effort before we can know for sure that our efforts have been worth it. But something has changed; it's in the air and we can all sense it. What is it?

One clue, it seems to me, is the fact that so many people in the church are involved in so many ways. Elsewhere in this issue of the Parishscope, Russ Weeks has listed the folks who came to help during the last clean-up effort. The Solano Stroll brought out a large band of wonderful volunteers, and the Peace Child camp brought out over a dozen people who helped with sewing, food preparation, painting, directing, and general gophering. If something needed to be done, we just looked around and voila – someone was there to help do it. A quick skim through the directory suggests that nearly everybody in the church has been involved in one way or another in the efforts of the last couple of months. And now the choir and the Boards are meeting as usual, helping out with worship and our various mission projects. People aren't sitting back and waiting for someone else to do what's needed; they're stepping forward and "doing church."

And so I have to wonder if the biggest change between October 2006 and October 2005 is that we have faith – faith in ourselves and faith in the future. We're not sure what the future holds, but we have been enlivened and invigorated by our efforts to date. It reminds me of Helen Keller's lovely explanation of the faith and how it functions:

By faith I mean a vision of good one cherishes and the enthusiasm that pushes one to seek its fulfillment regardless of obstacles. Faith is a dynamic power that breaks the chain of routine and gives a new, fine turn to old commonplaces. Faith invigorates the will, enriches the affections and awakens a sense of creativeness. (Helen Keller, The Light of a Brighter Day)

Isn't that what renewal is all about? Success is not about numbers or dollars; it's about service and ministry. And whenever enthusiasm pushes us to think and act in new ways (as it is doing), then we know we're on the right path.



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

We have finally reached the \$500 mark from coins collected during our Sunday morning collection! The Board of Missions and Social Justice will be the happy recipient and will determine at the next

meeting how best this money can be used. So now it is time for Church Council to select another church board or committee to receive these coins. Stay tuned...and keep those coins coming!

Changes for your Address Book

Del Snyder new address:

12689 Orella Ct.; Saratoga, CA 95070

Steve Foss Cell Phone: (510) 229-2489

Ken Barnes E-Mail: khbarnes2@comcast.net

Moderator's Musings: Jim Cottle



- Sanctuary Renovation: Enthusiasm for the sanctuary's beautiful new red carpet has been over-whelming. Comments have pointed to an enhanced sense of warmth, cohesiveness and intimacy. Oscar and others even seem to notice an improvement in sound reverberation that was unexpected. Thanks to all of you who contributed to the capital campaign. We owe a great deal of thanks to Jill, Elena, Susan, the Endowment Trustees, Trustees and all of those who were involved in the sanctuary renovation effort. We are now ordering the new pews, thanks to the willingness of several anonymous individuals to provide short-term loans that will speed completion of the project. Those who wish to contribute further or to give for the first time to the capital campaign are encouraged to fill out the pledge form that is included in this Parishscope. Checks can also be sent to ACC and directed to "New Pews" or "Sanctuary Renovation".
- Pastoral Review: Several months ago Felicity requested a pastoral review. Ruth Robinson prepared a questionnaire after consulting with the Conference and receiving input from Felicity. Thirty members responded. Jill, representing Felicity's Pastoral Parish Review Committee, and Jim, as Moderator, met with Felicity to present and discuss briefly survey results tabulated by Jill. Highest marks were received for leading of worship, celebration of the Sacraments, preaching capability and having a positive approach. Areas needing further attention include dealing with conflict and working with staff. Responses indicated that the congregation could improve its relationship with the pastor by improving communication, support and participation.
- September Council Meeting: First focus was on "Peace Child" and all the work and love that have been showered upon this inaugural effort of Michael Mansfield and the youth arts ministry program. Thanks to Michael, Shanti, Steve, Linda & Jim Young, Jill of course, Helen, Joe, both Allan's, Sigi, and all the others who are guiding this program.
- Scheduling was discussed for Michael and Steve who are both now fully on-board. Michael will be preparing his fall schedule of activities. A teaching

parish committee for Steve will be formed with Jim as initial liaison with PSR.

- Plans for participating in the upcoming Solano Stroll were reviewed including marching with the ACC banner and staffing a table to provide informational material to the community.
- Procedures for greeting visitors and a format for follow-up calls where desired were discussed as was the need for tighter publicity coordination.
- Up-coming movie-night for Inconvenient Truth was discussed.
- Pat and Randy are testing a centralized information system for the church.
- Ventilation remains an issue in the sanctuary.
- The Parishscope publication schedule was further discussed and input from Pat needed.
- Additional items discussed included: Felicity's, Steve's and Michael's fall preaching schedules; the report of the Housing Committee; the National's response to our "Still Speaking" letter, the fall stewardship campaign; and our financial position which remains in balance.

ACC Women's Fellowship A Quilting Bee



October 12, 2006 – 6:30pm Potluck

We will show a DVD of *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*, currently being exhibited at the de Young Museum, to be followed by an informal exhibit of personal quilts. All are encouraged to bring quilts – those you have made, or inherited or any quilt you would like to show.

The Quilts of Gee's Bend celebrates the artistic legacy of four generations of African-American women from a small, historically all-black community in rural southern Alabama. This exhibition of over sixty extraordinary quilts that were made between 1930 and 2000 showcases a body of work that is bold, spirited, and moving.

Happy Birthday, Kay Price



On Sunday, October 8, Kay Price will be visiting from Oregon to celebrate her 90th birthday. Judy Kennedy, her daughter, is going to bring a birthday cake to the social hour after church and would love for Kay's friends to be able to be there to celebrate her birthday.



Meet our new M.I.T. – Steve Foss

Greetings ACC Folk! For those of you who haven't met me yet, I am Steve Foss and I'm very pleased to be serving as your Minister-in-Training for the next school year! You may have seen me around the church over the last couple months in worship or working with the Peace Child efforts, but I thought it would be important to share a little more about myself, so here goes.

I am currently a 3rd year Masters of Divinity student at Pacific School of Religion and am pursuing ordination within the UCC. Originally from Connecticut, I got my BA in Public Relations from Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY. While at Mount Saint Mary, I was active in student government, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, Residence Life, and I played four years of varsity tennis. Since Mount Saint Mary only offered Catholic Mass each week, volunteering really became important to me to replenish the spirit. I think volunteering is an

amazing way to remind ourselves that we are part of something larger and that each of us are called to be there for each other.

I am also heavily involved as a volunteer in Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY)'s programs for high school sophomores across the country. Currently, I serve as President of the HOBY Northern California Corporate Board, though I have been involved since I went through the Connecticut HOBY program when I was a sophomore in high school. Combined with my experience working with children in Sunday School and young adults in youth groups, I have learned that children and young adults are key to helping our communities and world be more peaceful and loving places.

I am so thankful for the opportunity to work with and for the ACC community. I see amazing things happening already, and with the energy, passion and vision that are alive and present in this church I really do believe that the sky is the limit. If I haven't met you yet, be sure to pull me aside next time you see me and say hi!



**Arlington Community Church
SANCTUARY RENEWAL PLEDGE FORM**

NAME: _____

I (we) agree to donate \$ _____ payable to Arlington Community Church for the purpose of Sanctuary Renewal to be paid in up to 3 installments as indicated below..

TOTAL PLEDGE AMOUNT: _____

FIRST PAYMENT: _____ Date: _____

SECOND PAYMENT: _____ Date: _____

FINAL PAYMENT: _____ Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Ideas:

Buy one or more chairs for \$100 each! How about one for each family member?
Buy one or more sq. yds. of carpet for \$60/yd!



A New Music Opportunity! The Arlington Musicians!

Amateur musicians, all levels, – come to a demonstration meeting on Tuesday, October 24th at 7:30pm where Carolyn Margrete will begin to form an adult music

group playing music together for our own enjoyment, perhaps ultimately to perform. It will be based on keyboards, with the hope that guitar, flute, or other instrumentalists will join in the fun. This meeting will be free, a small fee may be suggested later. Please call Carolyn if you are interested:

(510) 236-0376

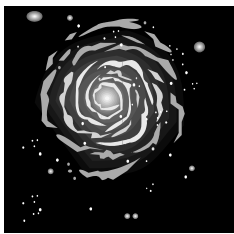


Book Orders for Christmas Gift Giving 2006

Helen Winters (510) 237-9705, or helenkwinters@yahoo.com

Books for the Advent Season Book Table will be ordered in

early November; they should arrive soon after Thanksgiving. If you have any titles that you would like ordered just for you (books make great Christmas presents!), please give your list to Helen Winters by November 1, 2006. Include the title & author, whether you want paperback or hardbound, and the number of copies of each. If our distributor carries the title, we will discount 20% off list price and we will pay the sales tax, so that's almost a 30% discount! Helen should know by Dec. 1 if a book was not available through our distributor; that should give you plenty of time to find your books through another source in time for Christmas.



An Inconvenient Truth

The Board of Missions and Social Justice will be hosting a free public showing of the film, *An Inconvenient Truth*, at 7:00 pm on Friday, October 6.

A moderated discussion will follow the screening. Over 300 congregations in California will be viewing the film during the month of October courtesy of CA Interfaith Power & Light whose mission is to be faithful stewards of Creation by responding to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy. More information can be found at their website: <http://www.interfaithpower.org>



A Community

From an Ecumenical Retreat

Offered by Linda Jones

The community is Christian-centered, striving to live out and nurture in others Christ's presence in the world.

Based on our understanding of Christ's teachings, this involves belief in the full equality of all people, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, and physical ability, with the knowledge that our own freedom is dependent on the freedom of others. We manifest our faith through a spirit of ecumenism, simple living, the use of inclusive language, care for all creation, involvement in justice concerns, and a commitment to nonviolence.

Life together is challenging, rewarding, and essential to the retreat ministry. It calls forth our gifts and strengths, and it magnifies personal agendas and dependencies. Life in community depends on each person's ability to be fully present, engaged and aware of their own and others' personal needs and limitations. At ARC we have learned that community is not something one expects to receive, but rather a process in which one actively takes part. Community grows and develops from the combined involvement and the shared gifts of each person within it.



New Parishscope Publishing Schedule

A very sizeable majority voted to go to a once monthly schedule, so staff and board chairmen must plan on getting their entire month's of news ready for the previous month's publishing date. The usual date will be the third Wednesday of the month, and I usually stretch that to Friday. In months with five Wednesdays, we will use the fourth Wednesday. The Parishscope is then mailed on the Tuesday following the deadline.

The deadlines for the remainder of the year are: October 18, November 27, and December 20.

Note that all information for Christmas activities must be included in the November deadline.

... and a Season for Peace!
Art, Dance, Music, Song, and Dance at
Arlington Community Church
Fall 2006

ACC announces the further enrichment of our arts tradition to our community education and celebration season. We opened with *Peace Child* in mid-September. We are now preparing to build our second production, *Aesop's Fables of Peace*. To do so, we are adding dance and acting classes and training, for young people, on top of the existing singing and bell-choir classes. And we've added adult classes in the arts.

Bring a friend. Begin something new this fall. Return to something you once loved ... one evening a week (or two, or three). Participating in arts classes actually is proven to give us more energy and peace.

"Introductory Weeks" are intended for people to come try out classes. We invite you to become a triple/quadruple entertainer and peacemaker this fall: actor, dancer, singer, and musician. After the introductory weeks, regular attendance in classes is expected for the remaining weeks of the 5-11 week sessions. Programs are offered as a community resource to foster healthful, playful, soulful, and community-full opportunities for balance in our busy lives. Young people are welcome to come check out as many kinds of classes as they wish. To foster intergenerational programming (and ease coordinating rides), grown-ups are invited to stay and participate in these classes (though it is not expected or required). Adults are invited to come to as many of the evening classes as they wish to see which art forms beckon you out midweek. Join us for our season of peace through the arts.

THE FALL SEASON

Friday Evening Mini-Concerts for Peace
Fridays at 8:00 PM

Concerts Celebrating Musical Diversity

- September 29 Broceliande:
Celtic, Medieval, and Renaissance Music
- October 20 Macina Sol:
Latin Jazz Quartet with Javier Navaretti
- November 3 Oak, Ash, & Thorn:
Traditional Acapella Music with British Isle Flavor
- December 8 Bella Musica: Choral Music
Conducted by Arlene Sagen

Aesop's Fables of Peace
Sunday Nov 19 3:00 PM

A Collection of Peacetime Favorites
Culminating and celebrating the acting and dancing classes by the youth, "peaceful shorts" to celebrate All Saints, The 50th Anniversary of the UCC, and Thanksgiving. Encore performance on Saturday, December 2, 1:00 PM.

A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known
Sunday Dec 24 3:00 PM

A Christmas Piece About Peace
A culmination of and celebration of the acting and dancing classes by the youth and adults. An all-singing, all-dancing pageant telling the ancient story anew.

ACTING AND DANCE CLASSES
Michael Mansfield, Director of Arts Ed at
Arlington Community Church
jeangarcon123@yahoo.com

ACTING

Young People Ages 9-16 Tuesdays: 6-7:30 PM

Introductory Weeks: Oct 3 and 10 – Join class by Oct 17 to be cast in Aesop's Fables of Peace.

6 Tuesday evenings to give young people a beginning in acting and performance skills, culminating in a production of *Aesop's Fables of Peace*. Young people should come having had supper and wearing loose-fitting clothing, socks, and tennis shoes. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend/participate in the classes. No class on Halloween.

A second series of 5 Tuesday evenings will follow, with more training skills, and culminate in the production of *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

Adults Ages 16 and Up Tuesdays: 7:30-9 PM

Introductory Weeks: Oct 3 and 10.

11 Tuesday evenings to give adults a chance to build acting and performance skills and confidence, culminating in performances of the gospels of the Advent Season on Sundays during December and the production of *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*. (Sunday performances not required as part of the Tuesday night classes.) Wear loose-fitting clothing, socks, and tennis shoes. All levels of experience welcome. No class on Halloween.

DANCE

Young People Ages 8-16 Thursdays: 6-7:30 PM
Introductory Weeks: Oct 5 and 12 – Join class by Oct 17 to be cast in Aesop’s Fables of Peace.

6 Thursday evenings to give youth a chance to dance, culminating in a production of *Aesop’s Fables of Peace*. Types of dance will vary each week. Expect a workout with warm-ups, learning dance moves together, and lots of dancing. Young people should come having had supper and wearing loose-fitting clothing and socks. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend/participate in the classes. No class on Halloween.

A second series of 5 Thursday evenings will follow with specific kinds of dance now being focused upon in preparation for *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

Adults Ages 16 and Up Thursdays: 7:30-9 PM
Introductory Weeks: Oct 5 and 12.

11 Thursday evenings giving adults a chance to move together. Type of dance(s) will vary each week. Expect a workout with warm-ups, learning dance moves together, and lots of dancing. Will draw from jazz, African-Haitian, ballroom, and folk-dance traditions. Wear loose-fitting clothing and socks. Will culminate into production of *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*. (Performance not required as part of Tuesday night classes.) All levels of experience welcome. No class on Halloween.

ART

Knitting Second Sundays: 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
Well teach you how to knit. We create prayer shawls and other items for comfort and celebration. Join us any second Sunday of the month.

MUSIC AND SINGING CLASSES

Shanti Moorjani, Director of Music at Arlington
Community Church
leslieshanti@yahoo.com

MUSIC

Bell Ringers (Children) Wednesdays: 2:30-3:30
Introductory Weeks: Oct 4 and 11.

In addition to weekly rehearsals, there are performances on occasional Sundays from 10-11 AM, and in *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

Bell Choir (Adults) Mondays: 7:45-9 PM

Introductory Weeks: Oct 2 and 9.

In addition to weekly rehearsals, there are performances on occasional Sundays from 10-11 AM, and in *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

SINGING

Peace Singers (Children 7 years and older)

Sundays: 9:30-11 AM

Introductory Weeks: Oct 1 and 8.

Weekly rehearsals and performance in during worship at 10 AM, and in *Aesop’s Fables of Peace* and *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

Arlington Children’s Choir

Level II & III (advanced singers, ages 12-16)

Tuesdays: 4-5:45 PM

Level I (beginning singers ages 7-14)

Wednesdays: 4-5:15 PM

Introductory Weeks: Oct 3/10 and 4/11.

Music is diverse and challenging. Rehearsals emphasize sight-singing, vocal techniques, and music theory. Modest tuition for the year. Call Shanti at 510-843-7745. This choir is supported by and independent of the church. Possible performances in *Aesop’s Fables of Peace* and *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

Choir (Adults) Wednesdays: 7:30-9 PM

Introductory Weeks: Oct 4 and 11.

Singing traditional and contemporary choral classics and spirituals. All are welcome. Warm-ups on Sunday mornings 8:45-9:30 AM and worship at 10 AM. Performance in *A Peace Unlike Any the World Has Known*.

For more information about these programs:

Arlington Community Church

52 Arlington Avenue

Kensington, CA 94707

510-526-9146

www.acc-ucc.org

ACC Calendar - October 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 AM Adult Study(CE) 8:45 AM Choir Warm-up 10:00 AM Worship	2 7:00 PM Deacon's Meet 7:45 PM Bell Choir Rehearse	3 No Prayer Group (Kelleys) 4:00 PM Children's Choir I 6:00 PM Acting-Young People 7:30 PM Acting-Adult	4 PARISHSCOPE 2:30 PM Bell Ringers 4:00 PM Children's Choir II 5:00 PM *Yoga (SH) 7:30 PM *Folk Dancing 7:30 PM Choir Rehearse	5 9:00 AM Senior Center (SH) 6:00 PM Dance-Young People 7:30 PM Dance-Adult	6 7:00 PM An Inconvenient Truth film	7
8 8:45 AM Adult Study(CE) 8:45 AM Choir Warm-up 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Knitting Ministry 6:00 PM Meditation(FR)	9 Columbus Day 7:45 PM Bell Choir Rehearse 7:00pm Chr. Commitment	10 6:00 AM Prayer Group (Kelleys) 10:30 AM Duplic. Bridge 4:00 PM Children's Choir I 6:00 PM Acting-Young People 7:30 PM Church Council(FR) 7:30 PM Acting-Adult	11 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Bell Ringers 4:00 PM Children's Choir II 5:00 PM *Yoga (SH) 7:30 PM *Folk Dancing 7:30 PM Choir Rehearse	12 9:00 AM Senior Center (SH) 6:00 PM Dance-Young People 6:30 PM Women's Potluck & Program(SH)	13	14
15 8:45 AM Adult Study(CE) 8:45 AM Choir Warm-up 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Meditation(FR)	16 7:45 PM Bell Choir Rehearse	17 SOUPER CENTER 6:00 AM Prayer Group (Kelleys) 4:00 PM Children's Choir I 6:00 PM Acting-Young People 7:30 PM Acting-Adult	18 PARISHSCOPE 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 2:30 PM Bell Ringers 4:00 PM Children's Choir II 5:00 PM *Yoga (SH) 7:30 PM *Folk Dancing 7:30 PM Choir Rehearse	19 9:00 AM Senior Center (SH) 6:00 PM Dance-Young People	20 8:00 PM Mini Concert- Latin Jazz Quartet	21
22 8:45 AM Adult Study(CE) 8:45 AM Choir Warm-up 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Missions 11:30 AM Chr. Ed. Board 6:00 PM Meditation(FR)	23 7:45 PM Bell Choir Rehearse	24 6:00 AM Prayer Group (Kelleys) 4:00 PM Children's Choir I 6:00 PM Acting-Young People 7:00 PM Trustees 7:30 PM Acting-Adult	25 2:30 PM Bell Ringers 4:00 PM Children's Choir II 5:00 PM *Yoga (SH) 7:30 PM *Folk Dancing 7:30 PM Choir Rehearse	26 9:00 AM Senior Center (SH) 6:00 PM Dance-Young People	27 6:00 PM Bridge Potluck & Play(SH)	28
29 8:45 AM Adult Study(CE) 8:45 AM Choir Warm-up 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Meditation(FR)	30 7:45 PM Bell Choir Rehearse	31 Halloween 6:00 AM Prayer Group (Kelleys) 4:00 PM Children's Choir I				

Arlington Community Church

United Church of Christ
52 Arlington Avenue
Kensington, CA 94707

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The Parishscope

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SUNDAY, October 1	SUNDAY, October 8	SUNDAY, October 15	SUNDAY, October 22
8:45am - Adult Study 10:00am - Worship & Sunday School Felicity Wright Preaching Neighbors in Need	8:45am - Adult Study 10:00am – Worship Family Sunday Steve Foss preaching 6:00pm – Meditation & Healing	8:45am - Adult Study 10:00am - Worship & Sunday School Felicity Wright Preaching 6:00pm – Meditation & Healing	8:45am - Adult Study 10:00am – Worship & Sunday School Isaak Egge (Heifer Project) 6:00pm – Meditation & Healing
			SUNDAY, October 29 Taize

THE NEXT DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 18TH FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OCTOBER 24TH ISSUE

[Send *Parishscope* email to: pat@patricia-mclaughlin.net]

SPECIAL EVENTS		
Sunday, October 1	9:30am	Peace Singers begin
Tuesday, October 3	6:00pm&7:30pm	Youth & Adult Acting Classes begin
Thursday, October 5	6:00pm&7:30pm	Youth & Adult Dance Classes begin
Friday, October 6	7:00pm	An Inconvenient Truth film
Thursday, October 12	6:30pm	Women's Fellowship: Quilts of Gees Bend
Tuesday, October 17	10:00am	Souper Center
Friday, October 20	8:00pm	Mini Concert-Latin Jazz
Tuesday, October 24	7:30pm	MusicMakers
Friday, October 27	6:00pm	Bridge potluck and play