

**MAY 2019** 

### Enjoy a Meal at CPK and Raise Money for



On Wed., May 15, eat in or take out from California Pizza Kitchen (CPK) at Stanford Shopping Center and benefit the programs of our church. You must present the ad on page 5 to the server (either as a hard copy or as a digital copy on your phone) for your purchase to count.

#### 20% of all purchases come directly to the church.

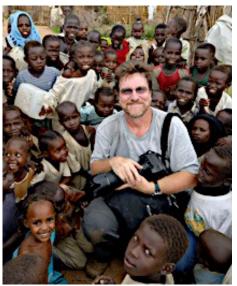
Spread the word! Flyers of the ad also will be available on Sunday mornings at church. Share flyers with your friends and neighbors. Even better, bring your friends and neighbors with you!

California Pizza Kitchen serves more than pizza! Salads, soups, pasta, and more are on the menu.

The fundraiser applies to the **Stanford Shopping Center** CPK location only. We look forward to seeing you there!

# **Rev. Paul Jeffrey** Will Retire in July

The Rev. Paul Jeffrey, a United Methodist missionary and photojournalist, will speak at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, 4111 Alma St. in Palo Alto on Wed., May 22. A potluck will be held at 5:00 p.m. The program begins at 6:30. First Palo Alto UMC has supported Paul's work for more than 20 years. Paul will be retiring



in July, so this will be a wonderful opportunity to hear about his career and to show him our appreciation for his many years of service.

Paul Jeffrey travels the world covering disasters, poverty and war. He has filed stories from more than 75 countries, writing and capturing images about everything from hurricanes to health care, from massacres to indigenous rights, from refugees to ecumenism. In the course of his work, Paul has been trapped in combat, tear-gassed and shot at, taken prisoner by soldiers, beaten by police, and sickened from what he calls "every intestinal disorder known to modern science." He's also had what he terms the "privilege of witnessing the poor become subjects of their own history rather than the objects of someone else's history."

Paul's work has taken him to Iraq where families were displaced by ISIS, to Nepal to document work on the church after a massive earthquake and to Bolivia and Argentina documenting issues around climate change. Recently Paul has been in the Philippines and the Nuba Mountain region of Sudan and the refugee camp at Yida between South Sudan and Sudan.

Paul is a senior correspondent for Response, the magazine of United Methodist Women. His most recent article is about Korean women who worked as prostitutes at the U.S. military bases in the 1950's and

continued on page 4

625 Hamilton Avenue Palo Alto, CA 94301-2016 650-323-6167 Fax: 650-323-3923 www.FirstPaloAlto.com



### A Day for All Who Mother

#### Mother's Day is a day to celebrate all women who mother

by Julie Taylor with Tara Barnes

Growing up I remember thinking of Mother's Day as a time to make something special for my mother. It was a pleasant day for being with and

celebrating my own mother. I later expanded my understanding to include my grandmothers and aunts. After I moved away from home, I marked the day with long distance phone calls and other ways to honor the occasion. Commercials on television touted their wares for "remembering moms on Mother's Day." Many of those pulled (and still pull) at the heartstrings and sought to create an obligatory need to purchase items.

As a young adult, something about this holiday changed for me. Perhaps it was because I was making my way in this world as a single woman. Perhaps it was because I was working to be recognized as a legitimate adult despite not being married. Perhaps it was because the nuclear family I grew up with was far away, and no one in my community saw me in relation to them. I grew keenly aware of my singleness and my childlessness. I accepted, even celebrated, who I was, called by God to do the work I was doing. But casual comments by others created some conflicting feelings.

I arrived at my church one Mother's Day when I was in my 30's and was greeted at the door by a smiling older woman with a carnation on her lapel.

"Happy Mother's Day!" she said. Then, "Oh, I'm sorry. That doesn't apply to you." I was stunned.

"But I have a mother," I replied. She just smiled and pushed me into the sanctuary for seating.

I sat mulling over her response feeling inadequate and disturbed. I thought this holiday was for celebrating your mother, not about being a mother. Her statement bothered me for weeks, as she targeted me not for who I was but for who she apparently thought I was not.

The next year, I hesitated about going to church on Mother's Day but then decided the previous year's comment was an isolated incident. As I entered the church foyer I approached a different woman with a carnation on her lapel and smiling at the door. She extended her hand to welcome me.

"Happy Mother's Day!" she said. Then, "Oh, I'm sorry. That doesn't apply to you." Not again!

I did not mumble this year but stated evenly, "I still have a mother," before releasing her hand and walking into the sanctuary. I don't remember anything about the service, just how I felt—in pain.

I did not attend church on Mother's Day after that until 10 or more years later. And to this day I still hesitate.

I wouldn't say these women's comments caused irreparable damage. I attribute it to ignorance and insensitivity and speak to it when I can. Not everyone can "get over it," though. For women who have lost children, for women with fertility issues, for women who have chosen not to have children and so many more categories, these kinds of statements have done real damage.

Mothers are to be honored. But women's worth should not be measured by whether or not they have children. Be aware of the weight of such statements as "God favored" someone with a child. Does this mean a woman unable to have children is proof of God's disfavor? In John 9, the disciples ask Jesus whose sin caused a man's blindness—the man's sin or his parents' sin? Jesus replies, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him." (John 9:3).

My mother wanted so much to be a mother, and it brought her great joy. I treasure her. Mothers play an important role in church, society and families. But not all women who mother have children, yet their mothering helps others just as much. Some single women (and men) without children have been surrogate mothers to young people in ways that helped transform them into mature adults. There are men who have

continued on page 6

Sign Up to Provide a Meal for Our Hotel de Zink Guests

by Nancy Glaser

Hotel de Zink returns to First Palo Alto UMC this June. For 30 days, we house a small group of individuals overnight, providing a place to

sleep in Kohlstedt Hall, showers, and home-cooked meals. Families, small groups, individuals, and couples are needed every day in June to bring and serve a hot meal, dessert and drinks to 12–15 people.

Hotel de Zink is administered by LifeMoves and hosted at a different church each month. It is designed to provide stability and safety to homeless adults who would otherwise have to sleep in their cars or on the streets, while experienced staff from LifeMoves help the selected men and women move towards self-sufficiency in employment, housing, and mental health.

Our volunteers will deliver a hot meal each night, breakfasts and take-away lunches for the mornings, clean towels for showers, and kindness and respect to people who are turning their lives around. Our volunteer providers bring their food, at its preferred serving temperature, to the church in the late evening. A host (Weekly Team Captain) will be there to show folks what needs to be done. People bringing food should plan to help set up and serve, chat with the guests, and mingle for about half an hour. The clients and the supervisor from Hotel de Zink are responsible for cleanup.

Volunteer sign-ups begin Sun., May 2 and continue through May until all slots are filled. Please sign up early—and often if you are so moved! Thank you in advance from the Mission and Service Committee. People

who have served meals at Hotel de Zink in years past say: You will enjoy this experience!

During the month of May, you will hear announcements, see sign up sheets, and may be asked to volunteer in one of the roles that makes this program successful. If you have any questions or want more information, please contact me: GlaserNancy@gmail.coms

# Please Bring Items for Welcome Bags Too

The UMW will be preparing Welcome Bags for our Hotel de Zink guests. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. See the list of items needed at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings, on the Education Building bulletin board wall and online at http://www.luckypotluck.com/potluck/2019UMWHoteldeZink Bring items to the narthex on Sunday or the church office during the week.



Paul Jeffrey, from page 1 60's who are now facing loneliness and despair. He also provides coverage of emergencies for the ACT Alliance, a Genevabased global alliance of churches responding to disasters.

Paul's writing has appeared in magazines such as the Christian Century and the National Catholic Reporter. He is the author of a book about the Guatemalan peace process, has written chapters for two different books on Central America, and is coauthor of a study of the effects of Hurricane Mitch on the political culture of Honduras. He is coauthor of Where Mercy Fails, a 2009 book on the Darfur region of Sudan, and also of Rubble Nation, a 2011 book on Haiti. Paul's photos have appeared in many places, including the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal and Time magazine. He has won several awards for his writing and photography.

To learn more, go to Paul Jeffrey's latest newsletter with links to his website & photos: https://mailchi.mp/894cod1804 c8/a-letter-from-paul-jeffrey-1271489

Note: UMW is arranging carpools from our church and Channing House to St. Andrew's UMC on May 22 for this event. Contact Nancy Olson if you need a ride.



## **Update on the Sewing Center in Kenya**

by Brenda Birrell, Program Director, One Dollar For Life I just got back from Kenya and am excited to be able to show you pictures from the sewing center which was funded by a CEF\*

grant last year. The



seamstresses are sewing the washable sanitary kits that are helping thousands of Kenyan girls stay in school.

The seamstresses were eager to learn more advanced sewing techniques. As a result of their recent training, they are being more productive and are thrilled to be able to give back to their community, especially to the most vulnerable members.

In addition to working with the ladies at the sewing center, I attended three distribution sessions. In these, we gave the girls their kits and taught them how to use them. We also provided basic instruction on feminine biology and hygiene. We had planned to do one session, but so many people turned up that they had to hold three! The education sessions were excellent—those ladies really have worked hard to perfect their presentations, and the audiences watched with rapt attention.



I also met a group of ladies who have set up small businesses (with help and training from our NGO) and are starting to fund other women who are just starting.

They are raising chickens, goats, or cows, or are growing maize, so that they can produce enough to

feed their families with some left over to sell at the local market. They were given some of the first washable sanitary kits produced by the sewing center last summer to test the kit quality, comfort, and durability. Every single one of them told me how much they love the kits, how comfortable they are, and how easy it is to take care of them.

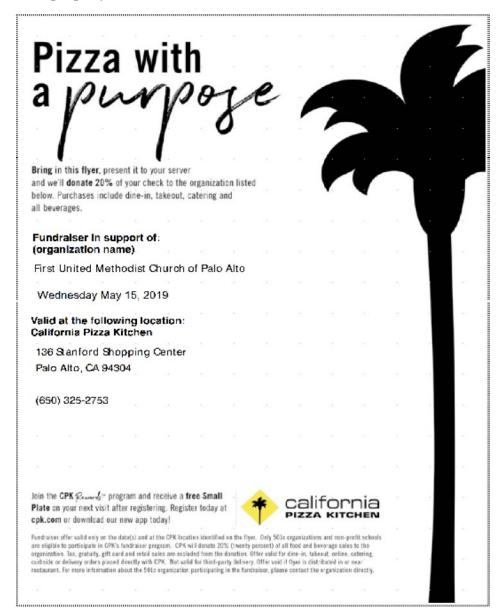
Thank you to our Missions and Service Committee and the \*Centennial Endowment Funds Committee for their foresight in funding this project. And thank you, as well, to our members who have donated funds for kits. They are truly life-changing. Thanks to you, the world is a better place!



by Nancy Olson

**Rebates** Now that we are moving into "outside" weather (fingers crossed), it is good to know about rebates the City of Palo Alto offers: Smart Power Strip rebate: A Smart Power Strip eliminates standby power by automatically turning off an outlet when the device plugged into it has been turned off. This can cut power consumption and save you money.

Attic Insulation rebate: Residents can receive a rebate of \$.20/ft off new, properly installed R-38 attic insulation.



Whole House Fan rebate: A whole house fan installed in the ceiling between an attic and a living space often eliminates the need for air conditioners.

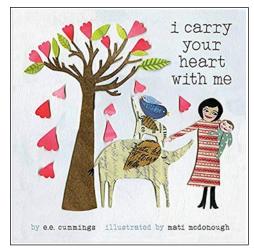
Pool Pump rebate: Replacing pool pump motors with newer, more efficient models can reduce a pool's energy usage up to 55%. Get qualifying information from cityofpaloalto.org/utilityprograms or (650) 329-2241.

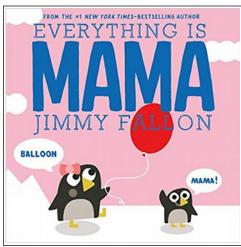
Mylar Consider an alternative to Mylar balloons when planning your next party. Metallic foil, or Mylar, balloons are a major cause of power outages. If you are going to use them, please make sure the balloons are securely tied to a heavy weight to prevent them from floating away. Never release Mylar balloons outside. Do not bundle Mylar balloons together. Thank you from the City of Palo Alto Utilities.

Showers Some more smiles from 31 Ways to Change the World, by 4,386 children: "Don't sing in the shower. The average shower lasts seven minutes and uses more than 10 gallons of water. Actually, two minutes is all it takes to soap up, wash down, scrub your armpits, do your private parts, and still have time for your hair. If everyone in your class took two-minute showers for a year, you could fill an entire swimming pool with the water saved. And then some.

Take shorter showers. Save your singing for the rain. (P.S. Shorter showers also mean more time to sleep in. Which is almost as good as saving the world.)"

Local water saving tips include 5 minute showers.





#### **Hello First Palo Alto Readers!**

by Charlotte Cutkosky

In honor of Mother's Day, we've acquired two new baby board books focusing on mothers. *i carry your heart with me* features the poem by

e.e. cummings, [i carry your heart with me(i carry it in], illustrated in collage by Mati Rose McDonough. McDonough places the mother and baby acting out cummings's poem in a stylized landscape with an emphasis on gentle images of nature, and uses her collage medium to draw attention to different textures and patterns, mimicking the "collage" of cummings's stylized verse: "i carry your heart with me(i carry it in my heart)i am never without it"

Everything is Mama, written by Jimmy Fallon (yes, that same Jimmy Fallon) and illustrated by Miguel Ordóñez advises wee readers who are just beginning to get the grasp of language: "Everything is 'Mama' according to you, but there are other fun words you'll want to know too." So begins a parade of animal mamas teaching their babies new words like balloon, shoes, and waffle, to which the babies all cheerfully reply, without fail, "Mama!"

If you want to find our collection of board books, check the low shelf under the windows (just the right height for little book lovers) and our new acquisitions display!

As always, happy reading, FUMCPA, and a very happy Mother's Day!

#### Mother's Day, from page 2

had to be both mother and father in the family. There are women who have sought adoption and been mothers in a way that a biological mother could not. And not all women who do have children are mothers, or at least aren't good ones.

Mother's Day, then, for me, is more about celebrating all mothering instincts. It is about remembering my own mother and enjoying her gifts to me even as I miss her presence in my life. It is about thinking of my grandmothers and aunts and other women in my life who helped me along the way. As a single young woman far from my own mother, I had a number of surrogates—and I still do although I am no longer a young woman. I call these women sisters now, but I am grateful for their "mothering." I remember that Mother's Day is about the other women who care for children and youth and marginalized and elderly persons with generosity and joy and compassion. That is what Mother's Day is about.

This Mother's Day, pause for gratitude at what you have received. Let it remind you of those who mothered you. May it be a day you commit to be more compassionate and ferocious in your love for others.

Mother's Day is really not about having children or about the consumeristic celebration that media bombard us with but about something deeper and wider and stronger. ... It is about seeking the attributes of motherhood, like the gift of love described in 1 Corinthians 13. It is about seeking a society in which everyone is nurtured in a compassionate and thoughtful way so that they experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ no matter who they are. It is about being who you are for whatever reasons you have and allowing everyone else to do the same. That is what I remember about my mother—unconditional love, unstoppable love, faithful and ferocious love. I will celebrate that on Mother's Day. Join me.

A slightly longer version of this article appeared in Response magazine in May 2015

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

#### What Is Mission?

by Nancy Olson

Mission is more than you may realize. Mission is evangelism. Mission is sustainable development. Mission is a commitment to alleviate human suffering. We're joining together in God's mission to equip people and transform communities.

#### **Global Mission**

\*We have been blessed for years by having Paul Jeffrey as *our* Missionary. Paul has gone to troubled areas, areas in need, around the world on behalf of the UMW as photographer and missionary for *Response*, the UMW magazine of women in mission. He has championed the work of UMW and the mission work accomplished. Paul is retiring in July. He will be in Palo Alto on May 22 to thank his sponsoring churches and to present his final program to us. If you have heard him on previous visits you know how excellent these programs are. If you have not heard him in the past, this is an excellent opportunity to hear this dedicated man describing his work and seeing his wonderful photography.

Please plan to attend the potluck dinner and program on Wed., May 22, at St Andrews's Methodist Church. (See details in calendar at right.) Let us show our support for this—our—missionary! Note: Carpools will be available from our church and from Channing House.

#### **Local Mission**

On May 28 we will be preparing Welcome Bags for Hotel de Zink guests. Join us! (See calendar at right for details.) See page 3 to find out about contributing items for the Welcome Bags and to learn more about Hotel de Zink.

The United Methodist Women (UMW) is open to all women of the church. For more information contact Nancy Olson, nso2431@icloud.com.



On Friday, May 10 the New Century Chamber Orchestra's season concludes with Aaron Copeland's "Old American Folk Songs" and Samuel Barber's

famous "Adagio for Strings." Also on the program are selected works by Leonard Bernstein and George Gershwin's "Song Suite for Violin and Orchestra." The Marcus Roberts Trio makes its New Century debut. Roberts is perhaps best known for the development of an entirely new approach to jazz trio performance.

Tickets are available online (ncco.org) or at the door.

#### **WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES**



- 7 TUESDAY TREKKERS10 a.m.Contact Patty Bellardo,pbellardo@gmail.com
- 14 LUNCH BUNCH
  12:30 p.m. (Notice new time)
  Armadillo Willie's, San
  Antonio Road near El
  Camino. RSVP to Nancy
  Olson, nso2431@icloud.com
- 20 UMW READING GROUP 11:30 a.m. at Kolberh RSVP to Bernice Smoll, smolla@svpal.org
- 21 NEEDLEWORKERS
  9:30 a.m. at Channing House
  Contact Mary Ann Michel,
  mamichel@alumni.duke.edu
- 22 FAREWELL MEETING WITH
  MISSIONARY PAUL JEFFREY
  5:00 p.m. potluck supper at
  St. Andrew's Methodist
  Church, followed by a
  program presented by Paul
- 25 UMW POTLUCK LUNCH IN KOLSTEDT HALL
  10 a.m. Program followed by potluck lunch. Nancy Glaser will share her experiences in Africa. Please RSVP so we know how many tables to set up. Mary Lu Wood, admlwood@gmail.com or Nancy Olson, nso2431@icloud.com
- 28 MARY/MARTHA CIRCLE
  1:30 p.m. in Patio Room
  We will be assembling the
  Welcome Bags for our Hotel
  de Zink guests.
  Contact Nancy Olson,
  nso2431@icloud.com



| 5/1  | Ewan Keller      |
|------|------------------|
| 5/2  | Alan Cooper      |
| 5/2  | Mark Iglehart    |
| 5/3  | Madeline Buxton  |
| 5/5  | Gary Ahlberg     |
| 5/8  | Nancy Stowe      |
| 5/8  | Jordan Fung      |
| 5/8  | Michael Bellardo |
| 5/11 | Sandra Florstedt |
| 5/11 | Donald Iglehart  |
| 5/11 | Irene McReynolds |
| 5/13 | Doris Lippitt    |
| 5/13 | Ruth Letts       |
| 5/14 | Mo Olson         |



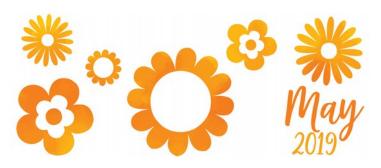


The Finance Committee thanks you for your generous and gracious support and requests that you continue to keep your pledges current. Please direct inquiries to Lou Bellardo: lou@bellardo.com

"If at first you don't succeed, do it like your mother told you."

|   | MAR 2019 | Actual YTD | Budget YTD | Budget Annual |
|---|----------|------------|------------|---------------|
| MAR 2019 Income and Expense Summary DRAFT | Actual   | 2019       | 2019       | 2019          |
|   |          |            |            |               |
| Income                                    |          |            |            |               |
| Total Member Giving                       | 27,269   | 135,221    | 150,320    | 450,170       |
| Total Income All Other Sources            | 13,409   | 55,971     | 69,139     | 214,857       |
| Total Income                              | 40,678   | 191,192    | 219,459    | 665,027       |
|   |          |            |            |               |
| Expenses                                  |          |            |            |               |
| Conference Tithe                          | 3,155    | 14,349     | 15,000     | 60,000        |
| Council on Ministries                     | 273      | 3,319      | 8,447      | 39,790        |
| Staff Parish Relations                    | 29,846   | 76,009     | 92,217     | 368,862       |
| Office and Finance                        | 819      | 6,777      | 5,775      | 19,200        |
| Board of Trustees                         | 18,417   | 54,995     | 46,612     | 177,175       |
| Total Expenses                            | 52,510   | 155,449    | 168,051    | 665,027       |
|   |          |            |            |               |
| Excess (Deficit) of Income over Expense   | -11,832  | 35,744     | 51,408     | 0             |

—Author unknown



- 4 May Fête Parade, downtown Palo Alto
- Native American Ministries Sunday (special offering)
   Couples Group, 12:15 p.m.
- 7 Staff-Parish Relations Committee, 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Insights deadline for June-July issue
- 11 Koinonia Group Progressive Dinner, 6:00 p.m. (offsite)
- 12 Mother's Day
- 14 Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser, all day, Stanford Shopping Center location only. Bring copy of ad on page 5.
- 19 Couples Group, 12:15 p.m.
- 21 Finance Committee, 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Rev. Paul Jeffrey Speaks at St. Andrew's UMC, 5:00 p.m. potluck, 6:30 program
- 27 Memorial Day Church office closed
- 28 Church Council, 7:30 p.m.

# ALDERSGATE UMC BAZAAR

SATURDAY MAY 4

Bento • Teriyaki Chicken • Manju • Udon Collectibles • Crafts • Art Gallery 4243 Manuela Ave. Palo Alto www.aldersgatePA.org

Our electronic giving page is always open! Give with a few clicks at



http://www.firstpaloalto.com/give As always, your generosity makes our mission possible. Thank you!

#### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

#### **Sundays**

9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Book Study, Wesley room Children's Sunday School: Preschool–K, Butterfly room 1st–5th Grade, Rainbow room

10:45 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary Broadcast live online at firstpaloalto.com/live-webcast/

11:45 p.m. Snack and Chat

Childcare is available 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in Noah's Ark room

#### **Mondays**

12:00 noon Prayer

5:00 p.m. Breaking Bread

7:00 p.m. Fiumé di Musica rehearsal

#### **Tuesdays**

10:00 a.m. Tuesday Trekkers, Call 650-327-

1428 for information

12:00 noon Prayer

#### Wednesdays

10:00 a.m. Bible Study, Channing House, 5th

floor lounge

7:00 p.m. Upstream Worship

12:00 noon Prayer

#### **Thursdays**

12:00 noon Prayer 6:30 p.m. Handbells

8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

8:00 p.m. Upstream Community Band

#### **Fridays**

12:00 noon Prayer

# Information for the next edition of the Insights newsletter is due May 10.

Photos of church events are accepted at any time. Include photographer's name, date of the photo and a brief description of the event. Everything is subject to editing. Please send your submissions via email to Insights editor Michele Conway: <a href="mailto:insightsfirstpa@gmail.com">insightsfirstpa@gmail.com</a> or bring them to the church office. Thank you!



First Palo Alto United Methodist Church 625 Hamilton Avenue Palo Alto, CA 94301-2016 www.FirstPaloAlto.com Follow us on Twitter:@firstpaloalto.com

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#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Inside this issue of **INSIGHTS MAY 2019**

- •Paul Jeffrey to Retire, p. 1
- •CPK Fundraiser, pp. 1, 5
- •Hotel de Zink, p. 3
- ·Library News, p. 6
- •Finance Report, p. 8

Next INSIGHTS deadline: May 10

