

Boulder Creek United Methodist Church Mountain Messenger December, 2023



Our Vision

"To illuminate the world with God's love by serving our community as faithful followers of Christ."



On Advent Sundays we will invite a family to read an appropriate Scripture and light the next candle on our wreath.

Each Sunday an additional candle is lit until on Christmas Eve we light the Christ Candle and the wreath is complete.

Join us as we anticipate the coming of the Light of the World!

Plan to join us for a potluck lunch, on the first Sunday, right after worship.



Be sure to join us as we prepare for the Joy of Christmas

Sundays in December,

Worship each Sunday at 10:00
We will light the candles on the Advent Wreath and slowly watch as the crèche fills up with people and animals, anticipating the birth of Jesus.

Special Holiday Concerts

Concertino Strings, Dec. 6, 1130 a.m.
and Dec. 9, 3:00 p.m.

Quail Court Consort, Dec. 16, 2:00

Christmas Sunday (Dec. 24)

10:00, **Special Christmas Worship** and message from Ted Bond

5:00, **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** of Scripture and Carols. A brief message from Rev. Clyde.



Is Time our Friend?

*Clyde's
Corner*

Advent and Christmas are always challenging for a preacher. How do I share a message that is 2,000 years old, and try to make it new, meaningful and appropriate for today?

It is comforting to enjoy the familiar words of Scripture, hear the Christmas carols that we sang as children and repeat some of our church and family traditions. We might face a rebellion if we served a different entrée at our Christmas dinner!

But Jesus does not want us to merely say nice things and sing familiar songs then put him back in a dusty box, hidden in the garage. Jesus came that we might have LIFE, and that life renews itself regularly.

I understand that the cells in our bodies are regularly being replaced by new cells. Even our brain gets new cells daily to replace ones that are worn out. Hopefully for you, for our church and for me, there will be a new insight, a new understanding, a new joy as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Most of us **KNOW** that bringing a new baby into the house disrupts **EVERYTHING**! Hopefully that means that we clean up the old clutter, remove the dust and joyfully allow everything to be changed. That's what a baby does for our home, and, hopefully, what the Christ Child does for our lives.

Please continue to pray for me as I will continue to pray for you,

~Rev. Clyde

You Are Welcome Here!

As a Reconciling Congregation, we celebrate God's welcome to us and to all people, regardless of race, national origin, sexual orientation or whether your beliefs are the same as the preacher's. At Boulder Creek UMC your friendship is valued and safeguarded. You are accepted for who you are. You have a home!



Commercial Christmas or the Birth of Jesus?

Black Friday is quite possibly the grumpiest day of the year, which isn't the reason for the name but it might as well be. Black Friday marks the beginning of a season of unabashed consumer capitalism, materialism, and greed our culture has come to call Christmas, or simply "the holidays." This is the season of shoppers competing like gladiators for limited-time sales or an extra 5% off. This is the season when it is acceptable for children to throw screaming tantrums in public if they don't get what they want. This is the season of stressed out parents feeling out-performed by their neighbors.

Advent, not to be confused with Christmas, is upon us. Unlike the Christmas season, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas. It is a season of joyful expectation as we look forward to the coming of Jesus. It is a time of sharing and generosity, of singing, and gratitude. This Advent season, I challenge you to take back Christmas. How? Simply by being joyful.

Sincerely,

Ted

Zoom Link for our Thursday morning Bible Study:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5679990490?pwd=cFFHcEntWnBab2Z2NG9ReFpEenQ2UT09Zo9>



JOYS

Let's remember the **Valley Churches United Mission**. At this time of year they are busy providing meals, gifts and other necessities for those in our community who need them. Let's

take a bag of staples or write a check to support and celebrate their wonderful work.

For the families and friends that gathered to celebrate Thanksgiving. This is a chance to share the love around our table.

For the Promises of Christmas. In a world where there is so much dissention and violence, we are glad to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace.



CONCERNS

The Golding Family: Frank has been ill and there was significant water damage to their home while they are away in Colorado.

Tyler & Molliejane Johnson's parents

continue to deal with cancer issues. We'll want to continue to keep them in prayer.

So many who are still dealing with COVID, so many of our friends & family. Prayers for healing and a return to strength and wholeness for all dealing with COVID and other afflictions.

For our first responders: We need them in every season as nature brings us a variety of challenges.

For the people and leaders of Israel & Palestine. This tragic conflict, while it is half a world away, affects us all in so many ways. Our prayers are that the people and leaders of Palestine and Israel can find a way to live together in peace.

For those who are hungry and homeless. Our prayers are with them. We are grateful for Valley Churches United and other agencies who are able to provide assistance

For our **shut-ins** who are unable to be in church because of age or illness. Our prayers are with them.

If you have joys or concerns and desire prayer, please contact the Pastor or the church office with your request.

Thanks!

Carol and Wayne Hendryx decorated our church for Advent and Christmas. Thanks for making our church so joyful.



Be sure to log in to our church Facebook page to see the worship from previous Sundays.

<https://www.facebook.com/Boulder-Creek-United-Methodist-Church-179851719450777/>



December Birthdays

10 Alexis Imrie
15 Amy Loofborough
25 Tuck Hartshorn
31 Andy Johnson



December Anniversaries

We have none recorded! Did we miss someone???

If, for some reason, your birthday or anniversary is not listed above, please contact the church office and let us know. We want to include our whole church family.

Music at Boulder Creek United Methodist Church



Concertino Strings

Prepare yourselves for a **Winter's Musical Feast of Christmas** and other Holiday music at the church. BCUMC's orchestra in residence, Concertino Strings, is preparing for its next set of concerts, December 6th at 11:30 am and Saturday December 9th at 3:00 pm (note earlier than usual time, we want people to be able to travel in daylight). Always free admission, all ages welcome, and concerts are under an hour long. The orchestra of 25 string players, winds, and keyboards will play Noels for Instruments by 17th century composer Charpentier; a gorgeous arrangement of the ancient Irish Wexford Carol; Leroy Anderson's fun classic Sleigh Ride; and the Pifa from Handel's Messiah.

But that's not all! A week later, the **Quail Court Consort** will play a program of music from the Baroque era, on historically correct string instruments. The Quail Court Consort is a chamber ensemble of 9 skilled musicians who specialize in authentic baroque practices, led by Boulder Creek resident Eric Finley who previously taught a Baroque Workshop series at the church for interested string players. The performance will be on Saturday, December 16th at 2:00 pm (again a travel-friendly time for the season). The program will be Concerti Grossi by Corelli (including the famous Christmas Concerto), Handel, and Bernard Bach, a descendant of J.S. Bach. Free admission, donations gratefully accepted.

--Joanne Tanner



If you would like to follow the Concertino Strings, check out their website:
www.concertinostrings.com

Will we see
you here on
Dec. 17?

**BOULDER CREEK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

SUNDAY COMMUNITY DINNER

JOIN US THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH.
FREE TO EVERYONE, DONATIONS GREATLY
APPRECIATED THIS ALLOWS US TO CONTINUE
OFFERING MEALS TO THOSE IN NEED

SUNDAY EVENING 5-7
AUGUST 20
SEPTEMBER 17
OCTOBER 15
NOVEMBER 19
DECEMBER 17

BOULDER CREEK UNITED METHODIST
12855 BOULDER STREET

MORE INFO CALL
408-332-4818



Something to look forward to. Put it on your December calendar along with the Concerto Strings concerts on Dec. 6 & 9.



Join us for the debut concert of the Quail Court Consort!
A Baroque Ensemble group on period instruments!

**Works by Handel, JB Bach and Corelli - including the famous
Christmas Concerto**

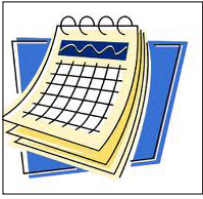
Music Directors: Loren Tayerle and Eric Finley

Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 2pm
Boulder Creek United Methodist Church (12855 Boulder Str., Boulder Creek)

FREE admission – Donations are greatly appreciated

Home-baked holiday cookies will be served at the intermission!





Calendar

Dec. 3, First Sunday of Advent, Rev. Clyde, "Praying for God's Presence"
Isaiah 65:17-25, Communion

11:00 Potluck

Dec. 4, Noon, Leadership Team on Zoom (if you would like to join us contact Pastor Clyde)

Dec. 6, 11:30, Concertino Strings Holiday Concert

Dec. 9, 3:00, Concertino Strings Holiday Concert

Dec. 10, Ted Bond will lead our worship, Mark 1:1-8

Dec. 16, 2:00, Quail Court Consort Concert

Dec. 17, Ted Bond will lead our worship,
John 1:6-8, 19-28

5:00, Community Meal, Everyone is welcome

Dec. 24, Christmas Sunday, Ted Bond will lead our worship, Luke 1:26-38

5:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Scripture and Carols

Dec. 31, Ted Bond will lead our worship,
Luke 2:22-40

Jan. 7, Epiphany, Rev. Clyde, "Searching for Hope"
Matthew 2:1-12, Communion

Bible study, Thursdays at 11 a.m. as we explore Jesus' teaching in the book of Luke.

The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5679990490?pwd=cFFHcENTWnBab2Z2NG9ReFpEenQ2UT09Zo9>

Boulder Creek United Methodist Church

Church office: 831.338.6232

Web: <http://bcumc.com>

Join us on Facebook, friend us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Boulder-Creek-United-Methodist-Church-179851719450777/>

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Vaughn: 831.662.8908

Cell: 831.212.1052

Director of Christian Education:

Ted Bond 831.419.0241

Church Administrator & Bookkeeper:

Gina Billington 831.246.0394

Prayer Chain, please contact the pastor if you wish prayers for family members or friends.



The January Mountain Messenger deadline for information will be Sunday, December 31.

Check out our website at

www.bcumc.com.

Website

Boulder Creek United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 2187
12855 Boulder Street
Boulder Creek, California 95006
831-338-6232
www.bcumc.com
bcumc@bcumc.com
December, 2023, Mountain Messenger