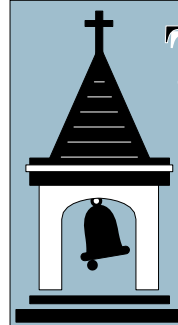
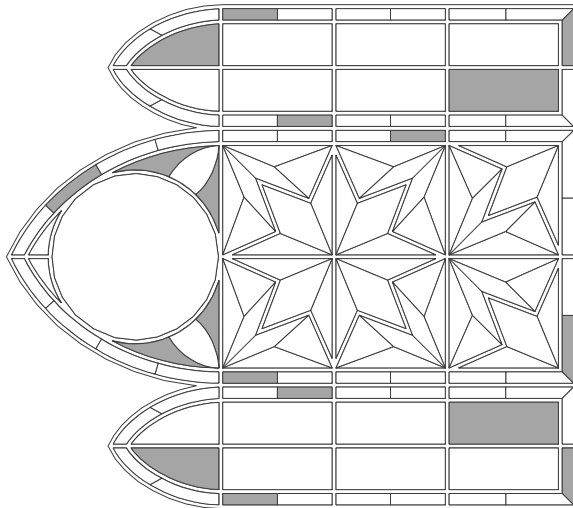




First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
1715 Bird Street  
Oroville, California 95965  
(530) 533-2483



# The CHIMES

May 2017

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
**First Congregational Church of Oroville, California**  
Informing you of our Ministry - Inviting you to Worship with us - Welcoming you always



**Sunday Morning Schedule**  
Choir Practice 9:00 -- Worship 10:00  
Coffee Hour at 11:00

## First Congregational Church of Oroville

1715 Bird Street, Oroville, California

*A great place to grow in Faith, Hope, and Love.*

### Worship Leaders

Jerry Hambleton — Pastor

John Zenor — Organist

Regina Jensen—Choir Director

### Our Sunday Schedule

9:00 am	Choir Practice	Chapel
10:00 am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Coffee & Fellowship	Social Hall

### First Tuesday of the month

9:30 am	Women's Fellowship	Social Hall
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### Every Tuesday

1:00 pm	Sewing Group	Youth Room
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### Every Thursday

5:00 pm	Choir Practice	Chapel
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### Administrative Asst./Bookkeeper

Sandy Bolt

### Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday 8:00-12:00

(530) 533-2483

Website [www.fccoroville.org](http://www.fccoroville.org)



# HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

**IT'S NOT EASY  
BEING A Mother.  
IF IT WERE EASY,  
FATHERS WOULD  
DO IT.**

*-The Golden Girls*



## WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings with this May issue of The Chimes. We have celebrated Easter Sunday and now enter the Christian Year with the seven Sundays of Easter which will take us to Pentecost Sunday, June 4.

Along the way we will have our Annual Meeting on May 21 and Bible studies beginning May 7. So far there are nine people attending. There is room for many more. As before, these will be after worship and a short time of fellowship in the hall. Take your snacks and coffee to the Bible study room. This year's study will be in two parts:

- (1) The images of God's Salvation in Christian history and
- (2) The images we have of Jesus Christ.

The Annual Meeting will interrupt one session and the Endowment meeting of June 30 another. So, we will overlap into June.

At our Annual Meeting we will receive reports from the various leaders of our ministries. The budget will be discussed and voted upon. We will have time to discuss future issues, such as the Jordan's Crossing's proposal to use our facility. We need to prayerfully discern God's movement in this proposal of a new ministry.

Another transitional challenge is that I plan to retire for the third time. I retired in 2008 from Nebraska. I retired again in 2010 after having served six months here at First Congregational Church. Then, when Pastor Carl became ill in 2012 I returned and have been here ever since. I will renew my contact May 31st until the end of the year 2017. *That is if you want me to do so.*

I have been in contact with the UCC Northern CA/NV Conference. The search and call minister has said that when the time is right, and they are invited by you, they will come and assist you in your search for a new pastor, interim or settled. I strongly encourage you to do this. The Conference has Search and call specialists with wide access to ministers that are in relocation processes. The Conference also has skills in assisting you in discerning your needs for the future, building on what you have already accomplished.

Ministerial ethics dictate I not be involved in this process although I will continue to be your pastor until the end of the year. This process, being done in an accountable way, will certainly take that amount of time. December 31, 2017 will bring us to the first Sunday after Christmas and a proactive way to launch into a New Year.

I look forward to being with you in worship and study as our "New Year" begins.

Pastor Jerry

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## REPORTS

### Council...

Our church is observing its 160th birthday with many thanks to those in the past and present who made this milestone possible. It is amazing what a small congregation has been able to accomplish this past year, and we look forward to the year ahead with prayers and thanksgiving.

Our continued association with the YMCA is most heartening, and we are now looking into seeing if our church may be of assistance to the Jordan's Crossing fellowship.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 21 right after our church service. It is important that we have as many present as possible so that we may pass our proposed budget and elect new board members for the coming season.

Although Pastor Jerry is retiring and not renewing his contract, he has been kind enough to stay on a monthly basis as we find a new minister. The Diaconate and Trustees will be giving our pastoral search top priority in the weeks ahead.

Happy Birthday First Church  
and Best Wishes to all,

Jim Lenhoff,  
Moderator

**Diaconate...**

April 2017

All went well for our Good Friday Service and Easter Sunday. About 45 people attended the Good Friday Service. Most stayed the whole two hours and it was a most enjoyable service hearing from the four different ministers:

Stan Henderson	Trinity Presbyterian Church
Jerry Hambleton	First Congregational Church
Roy Fisher	GracePoint Church
Ron LaGatta	Trinity Bible Church

Several solos were added from the different churches and John Zenor provided the organ music for the rest of the service.

On Easter Sunday, John Zenor made arrangements to have Morgan from GracePoint Church be there to accompany him on the special tunes playing the trumpet. Very enjoyable.

On May 21<sup>st</sup> we will have our annual meeting for the year following the service. Please try to attend as it is an important meeting dealing with the budget of the church and the officers of the church. If you have any interest in "stepping up" to the plate please let us know as we always need new blood and changes.

Bible Study will start again in May.

Shirley Quackenbush

**Annual Meeting****Sunday May 21, 2017 - Following Worship**

The annual meeting for the purpose of electing new officers and board members, adopting the budget, receiving the annual reports and such other business as may come up will be held Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> following the regular service.

Reports from all Boards and Committees will need to be on Sandy's desk as soon as possible so she will have time to get them into the Annual Report.

**Harold Austin Dahlmeier**

1923 - 2017

Harold Austin Dahlmeier passed away on April 24, 2017 in Oroville, California. Graveside Services will be held on Monday, May 8, 2017 at 9:00 AM at Memorial Park Cemetery, 5646 Lincoln Blvd. Oroville, California.

We are saddened by the news of the passing of Hal. He and his late wife Liz were long time members of the First Congregational Church in Oroville and were deeply involved in the life of the church.

**The 6 Best Doctors in the World.**

1. Sunlight
2. Rest
3. Exercise
4. Diet
5. Self confidence
6. Friends

## Life from the seat of a tractor

An old farmer's Words of Wisdom

- A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
- Words that soak into your ears are whispered . . . not yelled.
- Meanness doesn't just happen overnight.
- Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.
- Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
- Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.
- Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
- Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you are.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You cannot unsay a cruel word.
- Every path has a few puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Most of the stuff people worry about, ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.
- Timin' has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
- Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
- The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.
- Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.
- If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
- Speak kindly, and leave the rest to God.

*From Jeannine Maes*

## Obituary

Our church was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, Someone Else.

Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years and for every one of those years, Someone did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's list, "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; "Someone Else can work with that group."

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in our church. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone just assumed Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person; sometimes appearing superhuman. Were the truth known, everybody expected too much of Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do.

Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did?

When you are asked to help this year, remember -- we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

*From <http://jokes.christiansunite.com>*

I have never seen a monument erected to a pessimist.

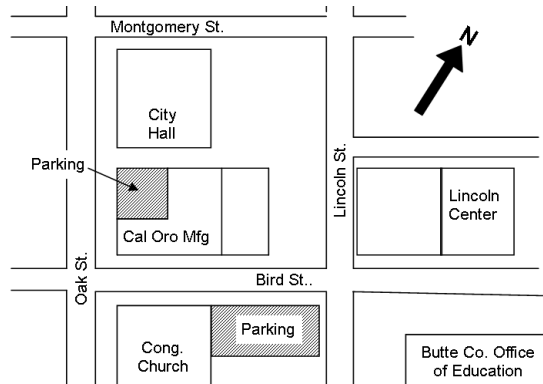
*-Paul Harvey*

## PARKING

Sunday and evening parking for church attendees is available at the following locations by agreement between the Church and the owners of the lots.

Lot behind the Cal Oro Manufacturing building on the NE corner of Bird and Oak Streets.

Department of Education lot on the SW corner of Lincoln & Bird.



## M-O-T-H-E-R

"M" is for the million things she gave me,  
"O" means only that she's growing old,  
"T" is for the tears she shed to save me,  
"H" is for her heart of purest gold;  
"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,  
"R" means right, and right she'll always be,

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"  
A word that means the world to me.

- Howard Johnson

## Where's Melvin?

Church mouse Melvin is hiding somewhere in the pages of the Chimes.  
Can you find him?

## Pledge Form

Our **Annual Budget** time is approaching. In order to create our budget we want to estimate how much money we can reasonably count on for the coming year. Your assistance in filling out the enclosed form will greatly assist us in determining what we can afford to do.

Your pledge is also important, of course, to the life and work of this fellowship that we share. The information that you provide about what you intend to give is most important.

The church is a fellowship of people who give and who combine their offerings in order to accomplish faithful work that none of us can do alone.

Only our Financial Secretary will see your pledge form, and your information will be treated as confidential. A summary report with totals for the congregation will be prepared.

Please keep one of the attached copies of your pledge for your own personal records.

Your pledge is a faith promise; it does not create a legal obligation. If during the coming year it should become necessary to reduce your giving, or if you decide to increase your giving, please contact our Financial Secretary, Eleanor Pontius, at 530 589-0686.

Thank you for your faithful and generous support of the ministry we share at First Congregational Church (UCC) of Oroville.

Thank you for trusting, for caring, and for giving together.



# Pledge Card – 2017-2018

First Congregational Church of Oroville  
United Church of Christ

Please return this card by May 14, 2015 or sooner to the offering plate during worship or mail to our Financial Secretary:

**Eleanor Pontius**  
**6277 Woodman Drive**  
**Oroville, CA 95966-3845**

For June 2017 to May 2018, for the **General Budget** of the church, I promise to give...

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

For June 2017 to May 2018, for **Organ Maintenance**, I promise to give...

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

For June 2017 to May 2018, for **Gardening Fund** for church grounds, I promise to give...

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

For June to May, for the **Our Church's Wider Mission** (to send on to our Northern California-Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ), I promise to give...

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

In addition to the above, I am enclosing with this form a **special gift** of...

\_\_\_\_\_ for the General Budget of the church.

\_\_\_\_\_ for Church Grounds Maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ for Organ Maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ for other area of interest

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Please Retain This Copy for Your Records

First Congregational Church (UCC) of Oroville  
Record of Pledges – 2017-2018

My pledges for June 2017 to May 2018.

For June 2017 to May 2018, for the **General Budget** of the church, I have promised to give...

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

For **Organ Maintenance**, I promise to give

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

For the **Church Grounds Maintenance**, I promise to give

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

4. For **Our Church's Wider Mission**

(to send on to our Northern California-Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ), I have promised to give...

\_\_\_\_\_ per month or  \_\_\_\_\_ per week

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A SWEET LESSON IN HUMANITY



Years ago, a 10 year old boy approached the counter of a soda shop and climbed on to a stool. "What does an ice cream sundae cost?" he asked the waitress.

"Fifty cents," she answered.

The youngster reached deep in his pockets and pulled out an assortment of change, counting it carefully as the waitress grew impatient. She had "bigger" customers to wait on.

"Well, how much would just plain ice cream be?" the boy asked.

The waitress responded with noticeable irritation in her voice, "Thirty-five cents."

Again, the boy slowly counted his money. "May I have some plain ice cream in a dish then, please?" He gave the waitress the correct amount, and she brought him the ice cream.

Later, the waitress returned to clear the boy's dish and when she picked it up, she felt a lump in her throat. There on the counter the boy had left two nickels and five pennies. She realized that he had had enough money for the sundae, but sacrificed it so that he could leave her a tip.

The moral: *Before passing judgement, first treat others with courtesy, dignity, and respect.*

I have wondered at times what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress.

Ronald Reagan

## Monthly Financial Update For the Month of April

Thru 4/16/17

<b>Approved annual budget for 2016–2017</b>	<b>\$ 94,712.00</b>
Budget needs for each week:	\$ 1,821.38
Budget needs each month:	\$ 7,892.66

<b>Income for the month:</b>	
Pledges, gifts & tithes:	\$ 3,286.00
Rental	\$ 50.00

**TOTAL INCOME FOR THE MONTH: \$ 3,336.00**

### BIRTHDAYS

4	Kay Lenhoff
11	Ginny Vanhart
12	RoseAnn Oliveira
26	Fred Grant
31	Dolores Devol

### ANNIVERSARIES

None on file



**Chimes Deadline will be Tues. May 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Articles may be left in the Chimes box at the church office  
or e-mail to [adevol@comcast.net](mailto:adevol@comcast.net)