



Tents were erected in the San Rafael backyard of son Jesse for the 75th birthday party for Pastor Kristi on May 26 — and what a crowd there was! Family (including son Gabe, daughter-in-law Joy and grandson Oliver from New York) and friends (from CCP, the San Rafael UCC and Peninsula Multifaith Coalition) showed up to celebrate Pastor Kristi, eat great food and sing some of Kristi’s favorites like Lord of the Dance and Spirit. Special thanks to Mike Venturino for accompanying the CCP singers on guitar and to Richard Meyer of PMC who took the professional portraits of Kristi and family. Kristi said she was exhausted after the party but very, very grateful for the outpouring of love.

## Happy Pride month from Pastor Jim Mitulski!

Dear friends,

I participated in my first Pride Parade in 1977 in New York City. It was literally inconceivable at that time that there would be pride marches in places like San Mateo. We more commonly called it Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day in those days, and it had a distinctly political feel. This was before our language had evolved and reclaimed to say LGBTQ+; in fact queer was considered an epithet, an insult even and impolite at best, hurtful at worst.

These protest parties (it felt like both) mostly took place only in large cities, and



**Rev Jim Mitulski**

people came from all around just to experience what it might be like just for a day to be open and unafraid. I’m so glad the world has changed since then. The fact remains, though, that in the majority of faith houses in San Mateo County, LGBTQ+ people and our families and friends are not welcome if we are open about who we are.

Join us on Saturday so that people watching the parade in San Mateo can witness that there are faith communities that welcome us, and that God loves everyone. Join us from the sidewalks to cheer us on when we walk by, or walk with us. I’ve

been practicing walking each day to increase my stamina so that despite my neuropathy I can do the whole three blocks — that’s how much this occasion means to me.

Sign up for the booth with the other UCC churches and invite people to visit us. Celebrate Pride/Freedom with us all month long, and rejoice for the positive ways in which church and society are changing.

And be sure to join us every Sunday throughout the month for some special observances and presentations. You especially will want to hear Rev. Janie Spahr, a nationally known Presbyterian minister and Pioneer of the faith, on Sunday, June 16 at 10:30 a.m. You can hear a clip of her [here](#) with footage that includes the historic gay **See PASTOR’S COLUMN, Page 12**

**We are an Open and Affirming Congregation valuing everyone’s race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, class, physical and mental abilities.**

# Pastor Warren's Wonderings

By Rev. Warren Dale

Last month we celebrated Mother's Day. Finally, we fathers get to catch up this month. So, today I been wondering about all of those volunteer fathers out there. I've been thinking about all those who were instrumental in fathering me. So, please join me in some acknowledgements.



Rev. Warren Dale

As you may remember, after birth I never saw my biological father. Thus, my first father figure was the man after whom I was named...my mother's brother, Uncle Warren. I remember at family gatherings he would say, "Hey Butch, let's hit Aunt Edythe's raviolis before the others get there." I felt so special.

Then, while I was in grammar school in the Bayview/Hunter's Point area, I remember attending the Central Branch YMCA in San Francisco. Each week I would have an hour of gym and 45 minutes of swimming. I remember a bald-headed guy, diving in the pool and imitating a swimming seal. He inspired me to learn to swim well.

I later swam on the swimming teams of high school and college, earned my water safety instructor from the Red Cross, and taught swimming, lifesaving, canoeing and rowing merit badges.

And oh, yes, years later I was to re-

meet the "seal-like swimmer," Spud Abbot. He was in the San Mateo service club with me. I enjoyed our catching up about that swim.

In middle school my mentor was Mr. Wilshire, my sixth-grade teacher. I remember making a rather large papier-mâché ship replicating the vessel that

laid the transatlantic cable. He told me, "Great work, now I need for you to write a page on what it is and what it did." I went right out and did the research and wrote. It was featured at the Back to Schools Night.

At San Francisco State, I was involved with the campus ministry. Our advisor was Rev. Al Dale (no relation, he was Scandinavian, I English/Scotch/Irish). He had guided me into several religious experiences, including our trip to Lincoln, Neb., to participate in the Methodist Student Movement Conference, where the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. was the keynote speaker.

Today, I am inspired by the men around me, not biologically connected, but spiritually helping me along. I hope this inspires you to travel down memory lane celebrating the Mentoring Fathers in your life.

Blessings,  
The Rev. Warren

## Pastor Warren shares some church-related humor

A Sunday school teacher asked her children on the way to service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

The little boy ran home from Sunday School telling his Mom excitedly, "I learned God's name today!" She asked, "Oh, what is it?" He responded, "Andy!" Mom, said, "How did you learn that? The little boy sings, "From the song - Andy walks with me. Andy talks with. Andy tells me I am His own!"

God is at the pearly gates with a computer, and says "Sorry, your user name and password don't match."

Signs on the wayside:

When gratitude becomes your default setting, life changes.

Don't make me come down there. - God  
Adam and Eve: The first people to read the Apple terms and conditions.

God is our wireless provider!

**Don't forget to wear orange on Sunday, June 9, for National Gun Violence Awareness Day! We will honor those lost and pray for an end.**

**Moderator's column**

## We look forward to summer and beyond

By Maura Whitmore  
Moderator

Happy June to all!

As we all look forward to our gardens blooming and fruiting, we also are tackling The Work of the Church.

We are kept busy with critters on the premises, faucets not working, the upcoming apartment vacancy, the back 40 "Walk" in progress, peace banners, book groups, graduations, broken fences...I must be forgetting something.

It's not all work and no play. A very happy and auspicious event happened on May 26. Many of us attended Rev. Kristi Denham's 75th birthday party at her son Jesse's house in San Rafael.

There were friends, family, speeches, gifts, food and cake in abundance. Our choir sang, accompanied by Mike Venturino on guitar. Kristi was absolutely delighted and subsequently tuckered by all the fun. It was a joy to give her this experience. Thank you, Jesse and Susanna, for hosting!

At church, we look forward to our NCNC Annual Gathering in early June in Fresno. Pastor Jim, Carol Chivers and I will attend.

And we are celebrating Pride Month. We look forward to Fellowship Camp at Monte Toyon in July.

We look forward!

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).



**Micki Carter and Mike Venturino made several trips to deliver pots and pans, kitchen utensils and small appliances to The Haven, a family shelter in Menlo Park. Accepting the delivery is Evelyn Reyes, the manager who runs the LifeMoves facility. More than three carloads were gathered as part of CCP's Mother's Day Magic drive. Special thanks to Jill Visor and Bob Donovan for their contributions. Besides kitchen goods, The Haven can use new sheets and pillows, clean blankets and bedspreads and hotel toiletries. If you still have items to donate, don't hesitate to contact Micki who will see that they get to LifeMoves.**

# Showing some pride in our church Pride heritage

**By Micki Carter**

It's Pride month, and the Congregational Church of the Peninsula has a lot to be proud of in its historic embrace of the LGBTQ+ community.

And it all began with the ordination of the first openly gay man, Bill Johnson, by a mainline Protestant denomination 52 years ago in San Carlos, right next door. An ecclesiastical council had been called to evaluate Johnson, a Pacific School of Religion graduate who had received a call to ministry from the Southern California Conference, UCC.

Bob Shouse was one of three lay delegates from the Congregational Church of Belmont to the council which was convened by the Golden Gate Association at the Community UCC of San Carlos, where Bill had served as a youth leader. Bob later told Pastor John Brooke that he expected to vote no, agreeing with the Northern California Conference's Committee on Ministry that a gay man should not be ordained.

"A large turnout for the ecclesiastical council on April 30, 1972, heard Bill's ordination paper and engaged in vigorous questioning and debate," the LGBTQ+ Religious Archives report. "Finally, after four hours, the delegates voted to approve his ordination by a 62 to 34 vote."

Bob recently said that he was moved by Johnson's presentation and the discussion during the council to vote in favor of his ordination.

A few delegates behind us were very upset with our decision. Very upset!" Bob recalled. "A lot of good came from his ordination."

Two months later, Bill Johnson was ordained at the San Carlos UCC.

(Pastor Jim, who's known Bill Johnson since the 1970s, spoke at an event celebrating this historic ordination in 2012. You can watch the event [here](#).)

Then, in 1988, Pastor John Brooke was planning to take a sabbatical and suggested Wendy Taylor as a sabbatical pastor while he was gone. Wendy, an openly lesbian woman with a partner, Ellen Sweetin, had applied for pastorships in other congregations only



**Bill Johnson in the 1970s**

to be voted down on candidating Sundays.

At the time, Wendy was running a counseling service in an office in the church building so she was familiar to the congregation. Wendy was hired to fill John's sabbatical, and the congregation got to know and love her and Ellen during John's absence.

When John returned, he proposed that he and Wendy become co-pastors, splitting the job equally. The church agreed, and Wendy had her call. We were able to ordain her and install her at CCB. Wendy was one of the first lesbians to receive such a call to ordination in the UCC, and she served CCB until 1997.

Then the church joined a handful of others in the Northern California Conference to vote to become Open & Affirming in 1992 after two years of deep and sometimes contentious consideration. One of the arguments against becoming O&A was: Why should we have to adopt a label when we had already proved how Open & Affirming we were by calling Wendy.

CCB came through all these changes smaller (we lost about a third of our congregation) but committed to the LGBTQ+ cause. Through it all, we got advice and guidance from the United Church of Christ from Bill Johnson himself, who was on the

**To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).**

# Remembering as a part of Pride month

By Rev. Dr. Thomas Crosby,  
BCC-MH

The month of June is an interesting time for me. June is Pride month, but it is also PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) Awareness Month. Though Pride is a time of celebration for the LGBTQ+ community. PTSD awareness is an opportunity to recognize the ministry I have been called to. Two critical items in my life, but both remind me of survivor guilt.

Survivor guilt was first recognized in the 1960s. Mental health professionals started seeing this type of guilt in Holocaust survivors. These survivors felt guilty that they survived the Holocaust when their family and friends did not. We recognize similar symptoms in survivors of traumatic situations such as combat, natural disasters, terrorist attacks and air crashes. Depression, withdrawal, difficulty sleeping, emotional numbness and inability to see a positive future are a few of the symptoms.

Veterans with PTSD can have survivor guilt; not all do. In the years of working in a Trauma Recovery Program, I hear stories about “what I should have done,” “why didn’t I do,” and “why was it them and not me.” Spiritual care for veterans with survivor guilt includes exploring self-compassion through affirmations, prayers and mindfulness practices.

One thing we ask the veteran to do is to write a self-compassion letter. The veteran



is asked to write the letter as if a friend wrote the letter. As you can imagine, the initial response is not favorable. “Chaplain, why are they making me do this? Then they want me to read it out loud!” Yet, those same veterans who struggle to write the letter are in my office a week later reading it. It is an incredible spiritual moment in my ministry.

Pride month can trigger my survivor guilt as a survivor of the AIDS epidemic. From the mid-1980s to the 1990s, I lost 22 dear friends and over 100 acquaintances. Most, like me, were in their 20s or early 30s.

One person affected by AIDS was my dearest friend, Gene. He and I were complete opposites. He was artistic, sophisticated and creative. He made his clothes, and they were beautiful and unique designs. He made me

a kilt that I still treasure. We would go out on Sunday nights to dance at “Trash Disco.” We watched British comedies and sang in the church choir. I gave the eulogy at his memorial service. He taught me that gay men could be friends with each other.

Although that was 30 years ago, I still miss Gene. I ask, “Why was it him and not me?” His passing has affected me in many ways. One way I dealt with his passing was to create a panel for the AIDS Quilt project (block #3885) with Gene’s other friends. I have to wonder, if he were alive today, how he would think about Pride month, Pride merchandise in large department stores and gay marriage. Back then, they were only dreams we could not dream because we had to get through the AIDS pandemic.



The CCP choir members (and Jeffrey!) showed up all in red for Pentecost Sunday on May 19.

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

# What does Pride month mean to you?

*In May, we began asking CCP congregation members to share stories about what Pride month means to them. The intent was to amplify a mosaic of voices with the focus on LGBTQ+ individuals, though we welcomed allies to share as well. Unfortunately, the response level was a bit smaller than we expected. Many people may have simply glossed over the announcement or felt that they didn't have anything relevant to say. Whatever the case, we will share the few stories we did receive here with the hope that others will be inspired to share throughout the month of June.*

Office administrator Lea Mavroudis shared a story of her own journey as well as why she feels Pride month is important.

"I guess I was a bit late to the party on figuring out that I was bisexual. I was a bit of a late bloomer in general. But I also think this was partially because I didn't even realize that being bi was an option.

"Though people under the multisexual umbrella (including bisexual, pansexual, omnisexual, etc.) are estimated to be the

largest group in the LGBTQ+ community, I would argue that we are also one of the least represented in media, even to this day. The options are often presented as being gay or straight. A lot of people, from both the gay and straight communities, seem to view being bisexual as some kind of "stepping stone" on the path to being gay instead of its own unique identity.

"Pride month is important to me because it's a time when the community comes together to celebrate our identities and the strides that have been made for our rights, as well as to honor our queer ancestors and the hardships that have brought us to where we are today. It's also a time to acknowledge how far we still have to come.

"In the '90s and '00s when I was growing up, being queer was starting to become more accepted. One of the most joyful times in my life was attending SF Pride in 2015 shortly after Obergefell v. Hodges (which struck down all bans on same-sex marriage in the U.S.). I really felt hope for our community and the future seemed to be bright.

"But in the near-decade since, there have been a lot of unfortunate steps backwards. Anti-trans and anti-gay laws have been pop-



ping up all over the country, putting youth especially in peril. This Pride month, I hope we use our collective energy to continue fighting and advocating against these laws and to uphold the advances that have been made for the LGBTQ+ community.

"No one is free until we are all free." – Martin Luther King, Jr."

Council member Jill Visor also weighed in about her views on LGBTQ+ identity when she was younger vs. today, and how having a nonbinary child helped her views evolve.

"Growing up in the '50s and '60s, gender diversity was not a topic talked about or approved. It didn't mean anything to me at the time because I never knowingly met anyone who was gay or lesbian until I was in the workforce. Even then, it seemed strange, and I didn't really understand it.

"Fast forward 45 years and we have a nonbinary child. So now, it's personal. Pride month means to me that she didn't have to grow up with too many restraints on her individuality and that she is now able to publicly identify as her unique self and be in a loving relationship with another woman.

"I think about how reclusive her life might have been at an earlier time and it makes me sad. I am extremely glad, though, to live in California, because my home state of Florida doesn't appear to have evolved at all – or at least has taken a big step back. May it all change so that we genuinely love each other as ourselves."

**LOVE**  
IS OUR CORE

**June is Pride Month!**

**Please join us at 10:30 a.m. Sundays**  
**to learn what it means to us at the**  
**Congregational Church of the Peninsula!**

**Details at CCPeninsula.org • 650-593-4547**

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

# CCP honors Pastor Kristi Denham with a Project Change scholarship in her name

By Micki Carter

At Pastor Kristi's birthday party May 26, the Congregational Church of the Peninsula announced the creation of the Rev. Kristi Denham scholarship with Project Change.

Here is the letter that we gave her:

"It gives all of us at the Congregational Church of the Peninsula great pleasure to tell you that we have instituted the Rev. Kristi Denham Scholarship with Project Change, the San Mateo County Community College District Program that surrounds incarcerated youth with support services to assist them as they transition to and through college.

"The initial scholarship is for \$3,000, and we expect to renew it annually.

"We chose Project Change because of your passion for caring for the incarcerated. We wanted to honor the years you spent pastoring the young men at Hillcrest and your personal concern for your brother-in-law.

"Project Change is administered through the San Mateo County Community College District to help incarcerated and formerly incarcerated youth. It seeks to support these young people onto an educational path that includes career and technical education programs.

"It offers career counseling, tutoring, supplies, academic support and college readiness services — and anything else they would need to succeed.

"Project Change also arranges in-person college instruction inside youth facilities for those who remain incarcerated.

"Thank you for spurring CCP to care for this vulnerable group of young people through our special birthday gift to you.

"We wish you a very Happy Birthday!

**If you would like to donate to the Rev. Kristi Denham scholarship, please contact the church office.**



To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).



To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).



**LGBTQ**  
Religious Archives Network

Presents

# Yes Gawd!:

## How Faith Shapes LGBT Identity and Politics



Royal G. Cravens, Ph.D.  
Author



Rev. Dr. Jim Mitulski  
Moderator

Thursday, June 13, 2024  
5:00pm PT - 7:00pm CT - 8:00pm ET

Register @ [bit.ly/yesgawd2024](https://bit.ly/yesgawd2024)

Pastor Jim will interview author Royal G. Cravens on his new book *Yes Gawd!: How Faith Shapes LGBT Identity and Politics in the United States*. Click [here](#) for more details and to register for the Zoom event.

## Pride at MCCSF: Voices from the Archive

Saturday, June 22 @ 4 PM | 1620 Gough St, SF, CA 94109



This event features recordings and a live panel presentation with historian Lynne Gerber and Rev. Jim Mitulski, pastor of MCC San Francisco from 1986-2000, about what it was like to live and do ministry in San Francisco's Castro District during the AIDS years. There will be an online option as well as in person. Click [here](#) for more details.

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).



# CORA, Sustainable San Mateo County and Project Change benefit from CCP donations

By Linda Howard

CCP's Social Action Board made three allocations of funds in the past month. Here's a breakdown of two recipients; the third, Project Change through the Rev. Kristi Denham Scholarship, is discussed on Page 7.

## Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA)

Relationship abuse affects not only individuals but rips apart the fabric of families. For that reason the Social Action Board chose CORA as a recipient of a donation from the Lyman Covenant Fund.

Earlier this spring, Dr. Karen Ferguson, chief executive officer of CORA, informed our congregation about how the organization works by telling the story of one woman's journey. No longer willing to play the role of a victim, this mother received financial and emotional support from CORA and took control of her life, escaping a dangerous situation.

Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse is the single provider of comprehen-

sive services for domestic violence survivors in San Mateo County. This agency provides a 24-hour hotline, support and emergency shelter, legal and mental health services and long-term rental assistance. Families in this transitional situation receive further support in the form of after school art and enrichment activities, family counseling and safety planning.

All these services are free of charge, funded through a federal program called Victims of Crime Act. Unfortunately, this fund has been diminishing over time and cuts are slated to begin in July. CORA's capacity to provide life-saving services will be reduced by up to 45 percent.

If you would like to donate to CORA individually, click [here](#).

## Sustainable San Mateo County

Social Justice takes form not only by acting with compassion toward our fellow human beings but also in environmental concerns. Who suffers the most due to climate change, contaminated water, air

pollution etc.? People living on the edge socioeconomically.

For this reason, the Social Action Board chose Sustainable San Mateo County to receive a \$5,000 donation from the Lyman Covenant Fund. This money will provide stipends for interns for a two-month period this summer. The college-age interns will be engaged in research and policy work centered on sustainability.

SSMC addresses pressing environmental challenges that disproportionately affect vulnerable communities.

What appealed to the Social Action Board in choosing this organization is the lasting impact of empowering and educating young leaders to advocate for policies that promote environmental justice and foster equitable outcomes for all members of our society.

If you would like more detailed information about Sustainable San Mateo County, click [here](#).

Jeffrey Jones

Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be -

5  
low; Praise God for all the love has done; Cre - a - tor, Christ and spi - rit

9  
one.

In case you didn't notice the name of the composer on Pentecost Doxology that appeared in our bulletin, it was written by our own CCP musician Jeffrey Jones. This is Jeffrey's first attempt at writing church music, and the choir loves it. Who knows what's next! Perhaps a Christmas concerto or a whole symphony!

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).



**Micki's granddaughter Kira holds one of the butterflies that she nurtured from caterpillars that BCE gave to kids on Easter. The cat mask was an art project at her birthday party. The butterflies hatched on her birthday!**

## Book group begins new selection in time for Pride month

The Chat 'n Chew online book group is starting a new book for June. Their Pride month selection is *Coming Home* by Brittney Griner, the WNBA star and Olympic gold medalist who was held captive in Russia for 10 months. Here is a [link](#) to a Goodreads review. See Pastor Jim if you would like a copy. Watch a great interview with Griner [here](#).



# Social Media guidelines added to the CCP Safe Church Policy

**By Micki Carter**

It's been more than 10 years since the church wrote and adopted a Safe Church Policy.

It was intended to enshrine the state's Mandated Reporter law into church practice along with policies that would protect children trusted to our care.

Most of our young children have grown into teens and young adults so the Safe Church Policy hasn't garnered much attention in the recent past.

However, the Church Council decided that this document was the place to state clearly that we also want to protect our children in our social media practices. As a result, the policy was amended to include

this statement: "We understand that children can be harmed when their image and name are shared publicly. Therefore, children in photos in church publications and postings to social media shall not be identified by name, and photos of children shall not be posted to the internet without explicit approval of each child's parent(s)."

In rereading the policy in preparation for the amendment, Council noticed a few other issues with it that needed attention so Elizabeth Nordt will undertake a review before it comes before the congregation for approval at Annual Meeting early next year.

You can read the amended Safe Church Policy [here](#).

## Easy Going Green!

# You can skip the plastic at this grocery store in downtown SM

*In response to CCP's goal of caring for our planet, The Messenger will feature an occasional column on eco-friendly options that we all might like to know about.*



**By Jane Fernald**

When you look for ways to be more planet-friendly, look no further than Byrd's Filling Station.

It's a woman-owned business, in its second year in downtown San Mateo. An eco-friendly, waste-free store, Byrd's is well-stocked with a variety of items, many in bulk. It carries items from local merchants, such as olive oil from Napa, Coastal Bees' honey, Jeremiah's coffee of San Francisco, local produce and many more.

They also offer detergents (from Oakland), soaps, lotions and vinegars in bulk, plus teas, spices, grains, etc. Byrd's has some

canned and packaged items such as cosmetics, soups and compostable bags, and it even carries shampoo bars for humans and dogs!

You bring your own containers or buy inexpensive recycled, sanitized ones donated by customers.

Byrd's Filling Station is located at 219 S. San Mateo Drive in San Mateo. You can read a great San Mateo Daily Journal article about it [here](#) or check out its website [here](#).

Shop at a store that is trying to make a positive impact on the world. You'll be supporting a small business and helping our planet.

**To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).**

## Pastor's Column

Continued from Page One

church in San Francisco singing hymns.

Here's an [article](#) several of us San Mateo clergy wrote for Pride Month for the San Mateo Daily Journal a few years ago. It still feels timely.

Yours in Freedom and in Pride,  
Pastor Jim



Rev. Dr. Janie Adams Spahr

## Scouts projects honor veterans and restripe the CCP parking lot

By Elizabeth Nordt

In May, the Scouts honored veterans for Memorial Day by placing flags on their graves.

Our Cubs participated in the Council-sponsored event at Golden Gate National Cemetery. Our Troop and Crew continued their tradition of going to Skylawn Memorial Park where they had to read the grave markers to determine if it was for a veteran, and plant a flag if it was. The Troop then went camping on Brannan Island. The Cubs had their Spring Campout the following weekend at Mt. Madonna State Park in Watsonville.

Troop 4027 member Perry McHale will dedicate her Eagle Project to helping our church. On June 10, she will lead fellow Scouts and volunteers to repaint the parking lot, including clearly marking the spaces designated for people with disabilities. Please do not park in the church lot on the morning of Monday June 10!

This project will help ease traffic flow



**Soon-to-be Eagle Scout Perry McHale**

and increase safety for everyone who comes to CCP! Here's the [link](#) to her Go Fund Me where she quickly exceeded her goal to raise \$900 for supplies and expenses for her project. A huge thank you to our next Eagle Scout, Perry McHale!



Pastor Jim, David Donovan and Bob Donovan met for lunch at Ella's Kitchen in Belmont (that's really the name!).

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

Don't forget to join us — along with CCSM, College Heights UCC, and Island United UCC — at the San Mateo County Pride Celebration on June 8! We are also welcoming volunteers to staff the booth at the event and/or march with us in the parade. If you are interested, please visit this [link](#) to sign up.



**San Mateo County  
Pride Celebration Event & Parade**

**Saturday, JUNE 8, 2024**

Get ready to come together at the **PARADE**, meeting at 2nd Street and B Street in San Mateo at 10 am!

**EVENT** at San Mateo Central Park, where the fun never stops!  
Location: 50 E 5th Ave, San Mateo, CA 94401  
Time: 11 am to 5 pm

**Love at our Core**

**LOVE**

**Pride in 2024!**

**JOIN THE CELEBRATION AT OUR EPIC 12TH-YEAR PRIDE ON THE PENINSULA CELEBRATION!**

**FREE and SOBER EVENT**

Resource & Vendor Booths - Entertainment  
Food Trucks - Live DJ - Family and Pet Friendly  
Youth and Older Adult Areas and More...

SCAN ME



To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

# JUNETEENTH CELEBRATING FREEDOM

**Saturday,  
June 15, 2024  
1 pm to 5 pm**

**Foster City  
Community Center  
in the Wind Room**

**1000 E. Hillsdale Blvd.  
Foster City, CA**

**Sponsored by Foster City  
Association of Black Residents  
Co-Sponsored by Island United Church**

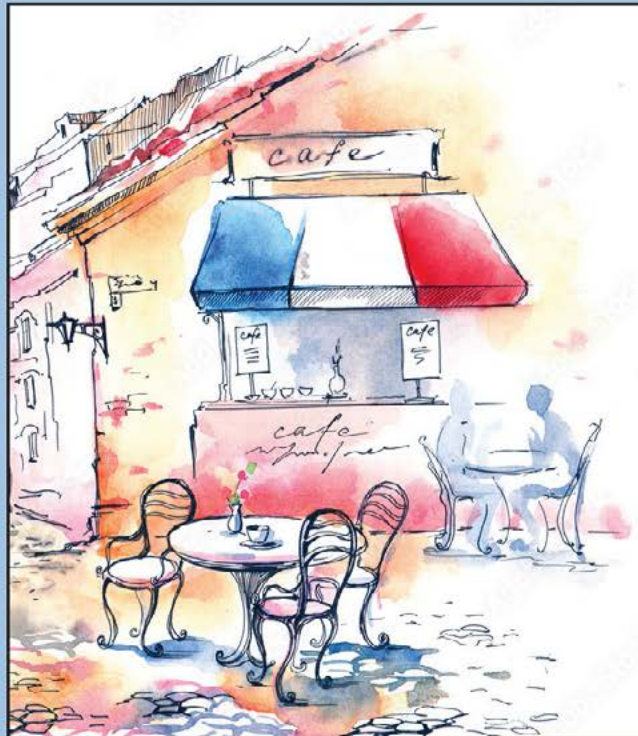
**FREE EVENT  
WITH MUSIC &  
REFRESHMENTS**



**RSVP to:**  
[Juneteenthfostercity@iucfc.org](mailto:Juneteenthfostercity@iucfc.org)

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

Join us for a  
**DEATH CAFE**  
to discuss how we think about dying.



We promise it's not as dark as it sounds.

We talk about end-of-life issues (that we may not even care to think about) over coffee or tea and cake.

Sometimes we laugh!

**Thursday, June 20, 1:30-3 p.m.**

Also, Jim Van Buskirk, who leads Death Cafe, will offer a workshop on "Talking About Death Won't Kill You" at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, June 16.

**Congregational Church of the Peninsula**  
751 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont

CCPeninsula.org - 650 593 4547

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

# UCC WESTERN REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT



Long Beach, California

*Save the Date!*

**JUNE 23 - 27, 2024**

Join hundreds of UCC Middle and High Schoolers from the 8 UCC Conferences of the western half of the United States. We're gathering at California State University - Long Beach for a few days of workshops, service projects, music, worship, an adventure day at Disney and more!

- Sunday - Arrive & Evening Worship
- Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday- 3 days of Workshops, Service Project and an adventure day at Disney.
- Thursday - Morning Worship & Depart

Registration costs are still being finalized (somewhere around \$600) and will include housing, meals, and admission for one day at Disneyland. More info coming soon.

QUESTIONS? WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Rev. Wally Hoeger | [whoeger@firstchurchlb.org](mailto:whoeger@firstchurchlb.org)

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).

# Calendar for June 2024

2 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	Worship	Sunday worship
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	Church Events	Coffee Hour
	5PM - 6PM	Off-site events	Zoom worship with Pastor Warren
4 Tue	12:30PM - 2PM	Off-site events	Good Hope Luncheon
	1:30PM - 2:30PM	Off-site events	Online Book Group
5 Wed	11AM - 12PM	Off-site events	Bible Study (Zoom)
6 Thu	6PM - 7PM	Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
	7:30PM - 9:00PM	Church Events	Choir Rehearsal
8 Sat	11AM - 5PM	Off-site events	San Mateo County Pride
9 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	Worship	Sunday worship
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	Church Events	Coffee Hour
	12PM - 2PM	Church Events	Graduates Luncheon
	5PM - 6PM	Off-site events	Zoom worship with Pastor Warren
11 Tue	1:30PM - 2:30PM	Off-site events	Online Book Group
12 Wed	11AM - 12PM	Off-site events	Bible Study (Zoom)
	6PM - 7PM	Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
13 Thu	7:30PM - 9:00PM	Church Events	Choir Rehearsal
	9AM - 12PM	Church Events	Let's Talk, Let's Listen with Pastor Jim
15 Sat	10:30AM - 12:00PM	Worship	Sunday worship
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	Church Events	Coffee Hour
	12:30PM - 3:00PM	Church Events	Death Cafe workshop
	5PM - 6PM	Off-site events	Zoom worship with Pastor Warren
17 Mon	6:00PM - 7:00PM	Church Events	Deacons' meeting
18 Tue	1:30PM - 2:30PM	Off-site events	Online Book Group
19 Wed	11AM - 12PM	Off-site events	Bible Study (Zoom)
	6:30PM - 8PM	Off-site events	Trustees Meeting (Zoom)
20 Thu	1:30PM - 3:00PM	Church Events	Death Cafe
	6PM - 7PM	Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
22 Sat	9AM - 12PM	Church Events	Let's Talk, Let's Listen with Pastor Jim
23 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	Worship	Sunday worship
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	Church Events	Coffee Hour
	5PM - 6PM	Off-site events	Zoom worship with Pastor Warren
25 Tue	1:30PM - 2:30PM	Off-site events	Online Book Group
	11AM - 12PM	Off-site events	Bible Study (Zoom)
26 Wed	7:00PM - 9:00PM	Church Events	CCB Council Meeting
	6PM - 7PM	Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
27 Thu	9AM - 12PM	Church Events	Let's Talk, Let's Listen with Pastor Jim
29 Sat	10:30AM - 12:00PM	Worship	Sunday worship
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	Church Events	Coffee Hour
	5PM - 6PM	Off-site events	Zoom worship with Pastor Warren

To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).





From the Northern California Nevada Conference: Save the date, [register](#) today, and organize yourselves to participate with us in San Francisco Pride, one of the largest LGBTQ+ parades and celebrations in the world. For nearly three decades, LGBTQ-inclusive congregations and affirming clergy from Northern California have proudly marched together, UNITED IN SPIRIT, as a collective testament to God's extravagant, inclusive love. Read more [here](#).

**July/August Messenger deadline will be June 27.**



To go to the Congregational Church of the Peninsula website, click [here](#).