



August 2021

The Federated Family

== Filling the World with God's Love, Justice and Beauty ==



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DOING WHAT JESUS DID PRAYING WITH AUTHORITY

BY KATHY KROESCHE

Through the Spiritual Authority Cohort, I've been empowered to live out daily what Jesus teaches us to do with his authority - to actively bless and heal people and places. I would like to invite you to join me in this 7-month experiential prayer training starting this September. It is truly an incredible experience.

The commitment involves one online interactive class each month, including some pre-reading to prepare, and living out what you've learned. Participants are also strongly encouraged to get together at least once during the month with their small group (huddle group) either online or in person to discuss and practice the prayer tool for that month.

The Cohort is led by staff and lay leaders of Novo, a global missions organization with a vision to equip and mobilize the body of Christ around the world. Novo covers the costs of selected Novo publications, the online learning platform, and



support and training. Participants are responsible to purchase four books used throughout the Cohort (about \$40).

I found participating in this Cohort to be a life-changing experience, affecting my prayers for my family, my church, our community, and the world. I'm inviting people to join me who want to use what they learn to change our world for God's Kingdom. Together, we will learn about the spiritual authority God has given each of us and how that changes the way we should be praying.

Cohort meetings will start with an overview in September and run through April. For more information, visit novo.org/sacohort. Registration starts in August.

Please consider joining me and inviting friends you would like to join you. If you have any questions, contact me at kathy.kroesche111@gmail.com.



Many prayer walks around Los Gatos High School, neighborhoods, and even SFC were inspired by the Cohort.

A NEW BEGINNING

BY SEAN MILLER

Recently, I had the opportunity to sit with old friends and catch up. But it was far more than just catching up on what everyone is doing now and what's going on with the kids' education, sports, and other things that they do. This was a time of deep connection, refreshing vulnerability, and authentic community. You know those friends that you can talk to once in five years but you see them face-to-face and in two minutes, you are in deep conversation and there are tears and laughter just flowing out of you? A lot has happened since I've been in a day-to-day relationship with some of my old friends—years have gone by. Years of growing wiser, watching some of our dreams die, and learning how to dream again.

To dream again. Have you had the experience? It's powerful!

A few weeks ago, I gathered with a group of young adults and young families that are a part of our SFC family. We spent two hours dreaming and imagining what the future might look like for our church. **I will be inviting those who are in the second half of life to a similar meeting in the near future. You matter and our leaders want to hear from you.** Saratoga Federated Church is what it is because of your love and commitment to Jesus and his Church. As I reflected on our conversation, I thought of Psalm 145, which says, "One generation

commends your works to another." That's SFC! Our legacy has always been for one generation to pass the faith on to the next. The heart behind all this is to be a place where everyone can begin in faith—our children, grandchildren, friends, neighbors, and all God calls us to reach out to with the love of Jesus in the Gospel.

With this in mind, I want to invite you to pray for these younger folks. I also want to invite you to pray for our leaders as we navigate a new season and a new beginning for us all at Saratoga Federated Church. Finally, I want to invite you to pray for a 5-week Sunday teaching series that we will start on September 12 called *Vintage: Ancient Faith for Today*. This is a series that is uniquely suited for inviting our family, friends, and neighbors who have yet to follow Jesus or have wondered about some of the big questions regarding Christian faith. In this series, we will talk about Christianity, the Church, Jesus, the Bible, and the Holy Spirit. These are special Sundays that will be aimed at helping you as you enter into conversations about faith with people you know and love. We'll be communicating more about this opportunity as it gets closer. For now, please pray about who you will invite and mark these important dates on your calendar. You just might be the person God works through to help someone begin in faith or begin a renewed faith.

LOCAL MINISTRY FOCUS: WILLIAM JESSUP UNIVERSITY

BY JEFF CHERNISS

SFC has had deep ties to William Jessup University since the university's founding in 1939. Pastor Sean Miller is a graduate of San Jose Bible College, which became William Jessup, and has been an Adjunct Professor. Pastor Russ Ikeda has also served as faculty, and SFC's former Youth Minister, Matt Hall, is a Jessup graduate.

SFC's Local Outreach Team invests in scholarships at Jessup. In turn, SFC members who choose to attend Jessup can apply for scholarships to help

complete the degree or program of their dreams. Jessup offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, and paths toward careers in business, teaching, counseling, ministry, leadership, administration, science, medicine, music, and the arts. Jessup offers people who love the Lord the opportunity to seek an education and training that is Christ-centered and can help them to become the transformational leaders that they feel called to be for the glory of God. More on our partnership can be found at: www.Jessup.edu/church-partnerships.

STAYING COOL AT SFC

Everyone in our church community was looking forward to getting back to normal this summer, especially our children and youth. So SFC made a concerted effort to help families fill their summer months with fun activities for kids and teens, such as Village Preschool’s summer program (below), the High School Ministry’s Amazing Race, and summer Family Adventure Days (opposite).



SUMMER SENSATION

BY LINDA KERIN GARVEY

At Village Preschool, we were blessed to welcome 16 families to our Summer Sensation program. The joy and excitement that we got from once again seeing children happily playing and engaging in activities has brought us hope that we will be able to move towards full recovery after 18 months of being closed. We can learn so much from these precious children, who teach us how to be resilient, and to live life in the present moment. Beginning in September, we will have three full classes, with hopes of building back to where we were before the pandemic.



NEW CARE ASSOCIATES

BY ARVIN ENGELSON

We are gratefully and prayerfully entering a new season in our Care Ministry. After nine exceptional years as our Care Associate for Adults 40-69, Kathy Kroesche is completing her care ministry this summer. Kathy will be handing off that role to the capable hands and heart of Sarah Penzel.

Nazanin “Naz” Tooyserkani was our faithful Care Associate for adults 70+ during the pandemic. We are grateful for her ministry through that difficult time. Bonnie Noehr will now be lending her many gifts to us as she replaces Naz in that role.

May God bless the ease and pleasure of these transitions. Please thank Kathy and Naz when you see them. They have blessed many.



Bonnie Noehr

I love people and I love to learn. Originally from Philadelphia, I studied speech pathology audiology and linguistics at Penn State (BS) and Western Michigan University (MA). My professional focus helps people to find their voice and communicate well. I began my career in Brisbane, Australia, where Rolf and I were married. For 35+ years I worked as a speech and language pathologist. Rolf and I have two adult daughters. Kristen lives in Sydney, Australia with her two children, and Courtney lives in Mill Valley, CA. We joined SFC in 1976 and have found many life-long friends. I look forward to seeing how God will use me in service to our senior members and neighbors.



Sarah Penzel

My remembered journey with God began at SFC as a kid. I have since gone to college in Texas, taught school in Honduras, attended grad school in Miami for Physical Therapy, and returned home to raise three great kids with my husband, Brian. I have experienced many spiritual seasons – doubting, learning to love God with my mind, finding God in the desert, rich times of communion in community, walking in the dark, and a journey inward over the last few years. In May 2021, I graduated from Sustainable Faith’s school for Spiritual Direction. As part of the Care Ministry team, I look forward to meeting and loving people, caring for their needs, and encouraging them to be more fully themselves.

GRIEF MINISTRY UPDATE

BY PEGGY BECK

This past spring we hosted a 13-week Christ-centered GriefShare program with a follow-up monthly summer series. Both programs were well received with several attendees testifying to the programs' benefits: "I found it helpful to share my grief with others," "It was great to have all of that information and validate some of my own thoughts and feelings," and "I wasn't alone in my experiences of loss!" Attendees experienced healing and drew closer to God. One shared, "I gained my faith back while doing GriefShare." We will present the program again in 2022.

This fall, Pastor Arvin and I will be hosting Grief Recovery Workshops focused on self care and mutual care. The workshops will feature the following speakers from our congregation: Louise Blevins, Al & Corky Davis, Bob Goedjen and Ali Olivo. Each session will include stories, tips, discussion groups and recommended resources to encourage those suffering any type of loss. Friends and family members supporting the bereaved are also encouraged to attend. The workshops will be Sunday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:30 pm in Douglass Hall on October 17 and 24 and November 7 and 14.

The holidays, which can be a particularly challenging season for those grieving, will be here before long. We will be presenting the GriefShare "Surviving the Holidays" seminar twice to help those who have suffered loss navigate the holidays. The seminars will be held Thursday evening, October 28 and Sunday, November 21 in the afternoon. At each seminar, we will watch a video filled with practical holiday survival tips, hear how others coped, have the opportunity to share, and receive a copy of the GriefShare Holiday Survival Guide. Come and learn helpful tools for dealing with emotions, navigating social events, and handling traditions. Discover hope for the future.

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------|
| Erick & Debbie Sturm | Aug 4 | 42 years |
| Eddie Babcock & Karen Chez | Aug 5 | 32 years |
| Henri & Barbara Jeanrenaud | Aug 6 | 44 years |
| David & Ann Fisher | Aug 8 | 68 years |
| Robert & Karel Peer | Aug 12 | 59 years |
| CJ & Traci Lyn Clark | Aug 12 | 9 years |
| Iain & Lindsay Roush | Aug 14 | 11 years |
| Carl & Sharon Liljenstolpe | Aug 15 | 57 years |
| Jack & Phyllis Dunstan | Aug 17 | 58 years |
| Ray & Mary Coustier | Aug 17 | 36 years |
| Marty & Miriam Von Raesfeld | Aug 17 | 36 years |
| Tony & Carol Catron | Aug 19 | 60 years |
| Dick & Lynn Rowe | Aug 19 | 43 years |
| Larry & Carla Bjork | Aug 20 | 61 years |
| Chris & Barb Clark | Aug 20 | 44 years |
| Mike & Judi Falarski | Aug 22 | 57 years |
| Sam & Laura Wolfe | Aug 22 | 12 years |
| Doug & Marilyn Nagel | Aug 24 | 65 years |
| Keith & Dorothy Fraker | Aug 24 | 61 years |
| Jeff & Barbara Cage | Aug 26 | 38 years |
| Ted & Elaine Clabeaux | Aug 30 | 64 years |
| Larry & Betty Hinman | Aug 30 | 52 years |

ADDRESS CHANGE

Kathy Storton
1540 Main Street #218-182
Windsor, CO 80550

FED FAMILY CHANGES

After the August 2021 issue the Federated Family newsletter is changing to a new quarterly format. The next issue will be emailed in December, 2021. In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, we are confirming the accuracy of our email lists. If you wish to continue to receive the Federated Family newsletter at this email address, please email [Debbie Sturm](mailto:Debbie.Sturm). If you prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please [let Debbie know](#) your preferred physical mailing address. If we do not hear from you, we will assume you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, and we will unsubscribe you. You may opt back in to receiving the newsletter at any time by contacting us at communications@saratogafederated.org.

BEREAVEMENTS

We celebrate the life of **Norman Miller**
who died on May 20.

We celebrate the life of **Bernice Pruetzel**
who died on June 7.
Linda & Bob Connors (daughter & son-in-law)

We celebrate the life of **Joseph Park**
who died on July 13.
Young Ja Park (wife)

We celebrate the life of **Bill Revell**
who died on July 16.
Elaine Revell (wife)

BIRTHS

We celebrate the birth of **Justin Archer Kolesar**
who was born on June 1
Jim & Ruth Kolesar (parents)
Greg & Debi Cormier (grandparents)

We celebrate the birth of
Dean Hudson Feldmeyer
who was born on July 12.
Steven & Jennifer Feldmeyer (parents)
Harvey Feldmeyer (big brother)

We celebrate the birth of Sophia Louise Clark
who was born on July 10.
Jeff and Jordan Clark (parents)
Chris and Barb Clark (grandparents)
Eric and Tracy Leonard (grandparents)
Bob and Joan Leonard (great-grandparents)

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

ADDITIONAL DETAILS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.SARATOGAFEDERATED.ORG

MONDAY, AUGUST 30 - 7:00 TO 8:30 PM GRIEF SHARE SUMMER SERIES

CONTACT: PEGGY BECK - (408) 867-1000 EXT. 239

PEGGY.BECK@SARATOGAFEDERATED.ORG

REGISTER: WWW.SARATOGAFEDERATED.ORG/CARE-MINISTRY

We will examine how life changes after the passing of someone close to you and share tips to help you think through how to move forward.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19 - 12:00 TO 1:30 PM WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

CONTACT: JEANNIE HILT - (408) 858-8623

JEANNIEHILT@GMAIL.COM

LOCATION: ROOM 111/112

We will be discussing *The Authenticity Project* by Clare Pooley

THURSDAYS - 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM CSIX CONNECT

CONTACT: HAMID SAADAT

HAMIDSAADAT@COMCAST.NET

REGISTER: WWW.CSIX.ORG

CSIX Connect helps individuals in career transition significantly improve their job search success through education, in-person networking and mutual support.

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