



## Contents

<b>From the Desk of Roxanne Lemereis.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dean's Movie Review.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>August Calendar .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Birthdays and Anniversaries.....</b>	<b>4,5</b>
<b>Adult Bible Studies .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Costa Rica Mission Meeting .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Opportunity for Bookworms .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Boutique News .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Finance Update .....</b>	<b>7</b>

We've had a few surprises since the last issue of the *Coimmunicator*, haven't we? And we're probably in for a few more over the next few months as we move through the process of working with an interim pastor and eventually calling a new pastor. And God is with us in these changes, and in all the others we each go through.

On the YourSpace page, Mary Jane Campbell shares a number of guidelines for churches (and individuals) desiring to live fully and abundantly in Christ. The message from Roxanne's desk ties in beautifully as she discusses going back to basics of faith. What could be more vital to us as a body of believers in a time when we are evaluating our past and looking to our future?

For a change of pace, check out Dean's movie review. In its own way, "The Tree of Life" also deals with some basics of faith.

And just in case you were concerned that while we're in the search process there'd be nothing but the same ol' same ol', check out pages 4 - 7. You may be surprised by the opportunities that are available to you: for ministry (Costa Rica mission trip!), for consolidation and creativity (time to start thinking about the November Boutique!), and for getting a current photo (for all those Christmas letters that are blessedly still a few months away).

So while the new school year looms, enjoy the last few weeks of summer. God is with us, and He loves us. And He's all about surprises.

*Mindy Anderson*

## Back to Basics

I am not really a sports fanatic! I grew up watching my brothers play a variety of sports, but there wasn't much for girls "in the old days". I did learn and observe the strategy of the games (baseball, football, basketball...) and know the rules for creating a team and reaching goals.

I remember, too, my dad talking about an impressive football strategist, Vince Lombardi, and how under his leadership, he brought the fundamentals back to the Green Bay Packers after they lost to an inferior squad.

Vince was upset that his team seemed to have lost their perspective and had gotten too cocky about how to play football. So he sat them down, and went back to the basics of the game. He actually took men who had been playing on the gridirons for 15 or 20 years, who knew offensive and defensive plays better than their kids' names...and introduced them to a football! He yelled: "Gentlemen, this is a football!"

Lombardi worked on a simple philosophy. He believed that excellence could be best achieved by perfecting the basics of the sport.

It seems to me that Vince Lombardi had a good idea...even for the church! What are the absolute basics of the church? What is the foundational task of a biblically oriented fellowship? Filtering out everything that isn't essential, what's left?

If we listen to our coach, God, we are told we have *four* major priorities if we are going to call ourselves a church: teaching...fellowship...breaking of bread...prayer. (Acts 2:42)

To these four we are to continually devote ourselves. Solid balanced, "winning" churches keep at the task of perfecting those basics. These form the *what* aspect of the church.

## Filtering out everything that isn't essential, what's left?

The *how* is equally important. Again, God, the coach, addresses the team. He declares that a church that gets the job done is engaged in: "Equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ." (Eph. 4:12)

That's pretty simple, right? But here's the shocker! The toughest job you can imagine is maintaining these basic assignments. Most people have no idea how easy it is to leave the essentials and get involved in other distracting activities...to want to use the pulpit as a platform for various causes. These things may be good and wholesome things, but not essential...not directly related to our basic purpose: the interpretation (reading and understanding), exposition (sharing), and application of Holy Scripture (daily living), with relevance, enthusiasm, clarity and conviction.

So let's sit down. Let's pay attention to the Coach when He stands before us and says: "Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the Bible!"

## Sunday School Teachers Unite!

Our new year starts on Sunday, August 21 with classes for Nursery (preschool age and under), K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

If you have volunteered to help with Sunday school classes, please plan to join us on Wednesday, August 3 at 6pm for dinner, new insurance information, planning for the fall and curriculum, as well as calendaring.

Contact Roxanne with questions and suggestions for this meeting.

## Summer Movies and the Book of Job

**Do not watch Terrence Malick's "Tree of Life" with an expectation of a summer blockbuster. Or even a straightforward narrative.**

Sometimes expectations make all the difference. If you go to a museum with the expectation of seeing representational art, pretty pictures of landscapes and beautiful people, and instead find abstract combinations of colors and shapes, disappointment ensues. If you hadn't gone in expecting a Rubens, you might have really liked that Jackson Pollack.

All this is to say, do not watch Terrence Malick's "Tree of Life" with an expectation of a summer blockbuster. Or even a straightforward narrative. The film is an impressionistic work that doesn't just move in and out of the character of Jack O'Brien from the present to his birth and his childhood in the early '60's in Waco, Texas; we also see the creation of the universe and quite possibly the characters in the afterlife.

The film jumps from domestic scenes of family tension to static shots of great natural beauty to flights of fantasy. So if you just go into a film wanting to see "boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy marries girl" or "man robs bank, cop chases robber, big shoot out"... Disappointment ensues. In fact, some theaters screening this film in some parts of the country have posted a sign saying, "This film does not follow a conventional narrative structure" to cut down on demands for refunds.

These tendencies are not new to Malick. His first films, "Badlands" (1973) about a less glamorous version of Bonnie and Clyde and "Days of Heaven" (1978) about farmers at the beginning of the 20th Century, featured leisurely meditations on natural beauty -- but within a traditional narrative structure.

Writer/director Malick took a couple decades off before returning with "The Thin Red Line" (1998) about the Pacific during the Second World War, a film that began Malick's downplaying of narrative. "A New World" (2005) about Pocahontas and John Smith had even less narrative drive, and with

"The Tree of Life", Malick seems to work without traditional cinematic storytelling altogether.

But if one goes in without expectations of a traditional narrative, there are treasures in this film. It beautifully captures what it was like growing up in a certain time and place. Even more, it captures remembering growing up. There are wonderful, natural performances by the children, especially by Hunter McCracken as young Jack. Jessica Chastain is luminous as Jack's mother and Brad Pitt gives one of his best performances as a father giving his all but perhaps not giving where he should.

What I appreciated most about the film was the consideration of Biblical and theological issues. The film opens with verses from the book of Job, "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations? ...while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?" (Chapter 38, verses 4 & 7.) We then see the characters dealing with loss as Job did, but we are given the context of the Big Bang through the dinosaurs. It is important to remember that God knows our grief, but He views it in a much larger context.

We also see Jack choosing between the path of Nature (what Paul refers to as the Natural Man) as represented by his father and Grace as represented through his mother and brother. Jack even paraphrased the Apostle Paul from Romans 7:15 that he does what he does not want to do. We do see Jack's progress to finding salvation through grace.

If you are open to a different movie experience, you may want to see the impressionistic work of Terrence Malick. Or this summer you have lots of opportunities to see superheroes and stuff blow up real good. Just know what to expect.

("Tree of Life" is rated PG-13 for relatively mild language, violence and sensuality.)

**Monday, August 1**

Jane St Claire's birthday

10:15 am Women's Bible study

**Tuesday, August 2**

9:00 am Tuesday Tellers

9:30 am Neighbors' program (ESL)

7:30 am Foster Parents' meeting

6:00 pm Custodian

**Wednesday, August 3**

9:00 am Youth group trip to Water World (until 7:00 pm)

9:15 am Women's Bible study

noon Pastors' lunch

6:00 pm Sunday School teachers' dinner and planning meeting

**Thursday, August 4**

Rena Harold's birthday

Jerry Lillis's birthday

10:00 am ABC Preschool

5:00 pm Praise Team practice

7:00 pm House & Grounds meeting

7:00 pm Neighbors' program (ESL)

**Friday, August 5**

8:00 am Gardener (until 11:30 am)

noon AA meeting

6:30 pm NA meeting

**Saturday, August 6**

Donna Ferris's birthday

Matthew Rochioli's birthday

Pat Shelton's birthday

1:00 pm Sanctuary cleaning

7:00 pm AA meeting

**Sunday, August 7**

Lynn Cavallo's birthday

8:15 am Bible study

9:30 am Worship with Communion

Worship workshop for children

**Monday, August 8**

Jerry Campbell's birthday

Ben Trosper's birthday

10:15 am Women's Bible study

11:45 am No Agenda lunch at Adel's

6:15 pm Stephen Ministry meeting

**Tuesday, August 9**

Gordon Evans's birthday

9:00 am Tuesday Tellers

9:30 am Neighbors' program (ESL)

7:00 pm Council meeting

8:00 pm Custodian

**Wednesday, August 10**

Megan Cannon's birthday

9:15 am Women's Bible Study

noon Pastors' lunch

1:00 pm Outreach meeting

5:00 pm Final youth group pool party (at Hernandez's)

**Thursday, August 11**

Randy Masselink's birthday

10:00 am ABC Preschool

5:00 pm Praise Team practice

7:00 pm Neighbors' program (ESL)

**Friday, August 12**

Lucy Fincher's birthday

Kay Schultz's birthday

8:00 am Gardener (until 11:30 am)

noon AA meeting

6:30 pm NA meeting

**Saturday, August 13**

7:00 am Men's Bible study

1:00 pm Sanctuary cleaning

7:00 pm AA meeting

**Sunday, August 14**

Ian Hayes's birthday

8:15 am Bible study

9:30 am Worship service

Worship workshop

11:00 am Costa Rica mission trip meeting

**Monday, August 15**

Yolyn Wilson's birthday

Tim Hayes's birthday

10:15 am Women's Bible study

6:45 pm Missions committee meeting

**Tuesday, August 16**

Tobin Cameron's birthday

Pat Bean's birthday

Ernie and Joanna Mull's anniversary

9:00 am Tuesday Tellers

9:30 am Neighbors' program (ESL)

5:00 pm Finance committee meeting

8:00 pm Custodian

**Wednesday, August 17**

9:15 am Women's Bible study  
noon Pastors' lunch

**Thursday, August 18**

Roger and Debby Dormire's anniversary  
10:00 am ABC Preschool  
5:00 pm Praise Team practice  
6:00 pm Choir practice  
7:00 pm Neighbors' program (ESL)

**Friday, August 19**

Gordon and Marsha Evans's anniversary  
8:00 am Gardener (until 11:30 am)  
noon AA meeting  
3:30 pm Missions meeting  
6:30 pm NA meeting

**Saturday, August 20**

7:00 am Men's Bible study  
1:00 pm Sanctuary cleaning  
7:00 pm AA meeting

**Sunday, August 21**

8:15 am Bible study  
9:30 am Worship service  
Sunday School

**Monday, August 22**

10:15 am Women's Bible study

**Tuesday, August 23**

9:00 am Tuesday Tellers  
9:30 am Neighbors' program (ESL)  
8:00 pm Custodian

**Wednesday, August 24**

9:15 am Women's Bible study  
noon Pastors' lunch

**Thursday, August 25**

Rachel Hilden's birthday  
10:00 am ABC Preschool  
5:00 pm Praise Team practice  
6:00 pm Choir practice  
7:00 pm Neighbors' program (ESL)

**Friday, August 26**

8:00 am Gardener (until 11:00 am)  
noon AA meeting  
6:30 pm NA meeting

**Saturday, August 27**

Mike and Chris Welty's anniversary  
7:00 am Men's Bible study  
1:00 pm Sanctuary cleaning

7:00 pm AA meeting

**Sunday, August 28**

Mike Welty's birthday  
8:15 am Bible study  
9:30 am Worship service  
Sunday School

**Monday, August 29**

10:15 am Women's Bible study

**Tuesday, August 30**

Bob Hampel's birthday  
9:00 am Tuesday Tellers  
9:30 am Neighbors' program (ESL)  
8:00 pm Custodian

**Wednesday, August 31**

Suzy Hayes's birthday  
Chris and Linda Cameron's anniversary  
9:15 am Women's Bible study

**Youth Activities for August**

Trip to Waterworld in Concord on August 3<sup>rd</sup>! Middle school and high school students will meet at the HCC parking lot at 9 am and return at 7 pm. The cost is \$25 for park admittance. Bring a lunch or money for food at the park and on the way home. Students should contact Dean at church for more information and a permission slip.

Last pool party of the summer at the Hernandez home (243 Terrace Blvd) Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:30 pm. Bring \$4 for dinner (and a towel)

Students will be receiving a survey to assist in planning for youth activities in the fall. Contact Dean for more information.

*I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, flowers, gifts and phone calls as well as the food that has been provided for my family and me during the past few weeks.*

*I am overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness and kindness.*

*Thank you so much!*

*Love,  
Susan Nelson*

### Adult Bible Studies at Healdsburg Community Church!

All studies are open for new members. Call the church office for more information, or just come. Here's when:

Sunday, 8-9:15 am

Michael Lemereis is leading this Max Lucado study on Acts in the library.

Monday, 10:15-11:30am

Our Monday women's study will start back up on August 1. in the library. Join Roxanne Lemereis as she leads a "second helping" follow-up to the sermon from the Sunday before in this open and informal study.

Wednesday, 9-11am

Mary Jane Campbell is leading this women's study in the CGC game room from 9-11am.

Saturday, 7 am

The men's breakfast Bible study is led by Lew Sbrana and meets in the kitchen at church.

### Costa Rica Mission Informational Meeting August 14

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve on a mission trip? Would you like to experience God's blessings as you live with a Costa Rican family and give yourself away in the small mountain community of Tuis? Would you like to be part of the ministry at Voz Que Clama by sharing the Gospel and offering prayer with God's people, as well as creating a fun playground environment for the children who come to the Mission? Please join us for an informational meeting in the library on Sunday, August 14, right after worship. You will be glad you did!

For more information before the meeting, please contact Roxanne at 433-8886.

### Are you a bookworm?

Then take the opportunity to serve by helping in the church library! Contact Susan in the church office for more information.

### SAVE YOUR "STUFF"

November seems like a long time away! But now is the time to think about the annual Christmas Boutique. As you clean out your garage or cupboards this summer and decide to get rid of things, don't throw them away. **Your trash will bring cash** if you'll just store it until the last week in October and *then* bring it to the church for the garage sale and silent auction. .

Some in the congregation have already begun creating beautiful items. Please be thinking of what *your* field of expertise is. What is *your* talent that you can use for the Lord's work? Don't bury the talent He's given to you but use it to raise money to help support missions (both local and foreign), activities in our church and community, and the general operating expenses of our church. If each person donates at least one item or service – our Boutique will be a huge success.

## What it means to be the Body of Christ

During the past year, the Wednesday morning Bible Study has been studying the book *Experiencing God*. We find it most interesting that we are now in the section which discusses the body of Christ and what it means to be the church. Could it be more timely?

We don't see this as a co-incidence, but rather, a God-incidence! The author lists twelve suggestions on how to experience abundant life in Christ and we'd like to share them with you. As we all practice these, we will stay united with Christ and with each other.

1. Be patient and accepting of those whose faith is weak or those who are immature.
2. Don't be quick to judge others on matters that are disputable.
3. Don't be selfish. Seek the good of others even at your own expense.
4. Be absolutely truthful in all you say.
5. Don't be critical and tear people down with your speech. Don't focus your conversation on unwholesome subjects.
6. Be an encourager. Build people up. Keep their needs in mind as you speak.
7. Forgive one another as Christ forgave you. Don't let a root of bitterness remain between you and another.
8. Get rid of anger, inside fighting, and slander. Don't intentionally try to hurt another person (physically, emotionally, or spiritually).
9. Encourage one another in your joint worship of God. Make music together.
10. Die to self daily and submit to one another. Do this in reverence for Christ, who submitted Himself to death on the cross for you.
11. Be patient with one another, even when you have been mistreated or offended. Forgive even the worst offenses: God does.
12. Love one another.

Mary Jane Campbell

### Save the date: Lifetouch photo directory coming!

Oct. 14, 15 and 25  
Watch for details!

### General Fund

	June	Year-to-date
Revenue	\$19,572	\$157,949
Expenses	\$28,916	\$168,734
Balance	(\$9,344)	\$10,784)
Budget	\$28,742	\$172,454



**Healdsburg  
Community  
Church**

**1100 University Avenue  
Healdsburg, CA 95448-3539**

## **Your Announcement Here**

What would you like to see in the *Communicator*? More missionary news? More from our Council? Amusing or thought-provoking tidbits? More detailed finance information or Sunday school statistics? A bulletin-board type section for items and services? This is your newsletter, and as always, your input is vital to shaping what this newsletter looks like.

Contact Mindy (mldate@yahoo.com), or the church office (433-8886) to leave a message about your ideas. (There's also a box for the *Communicator* in the office, just to the left of the door as you go in) If possible, your ideas will be incorporated. As you know, the deadline is the 15th of each month, and the newsletter is available at church on the last Sunday of the month and by email on the first of the month .

### **HEALDSBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH STAFF**

**(p)707.433.8886 (f)707.433.8890**

**office@healdsburgcommunitychurch.org**

Minister of Christian Formation: Rev. Roxanne Derr-Lemereis

Minister of Creative Arts in Worship: Rev. Dean Anderson

Administrative Assistant: Susan Nelson

Financial Assistant: Carol Finwall

Choir Director: Darlene Sumner

Youth Summer Intern: Meike Loob-Rabe

Nursery: Cailin Lobb-Rabe & Meike Lobb-Rabe

***The Communicator* is a monthly publication of  
Healdsburg Community Church.**

Editor: Mindy Anderson, HCCmindy@yahoo.com 707.431.1056

Graphic Designer: Barbara Tuscany

**Deadline is the 15th of each month for contributions.  
(email to Mindy or drop off at the church office)**