



Greg Thornhill wrangled the MLK Day project at Hillsdale High School's pantry garden with help from Danielle and Steve Chamberlin and Henry Altorfer who pitched in to shovel and rake gravel and mulch.

Digging deep on MLK Day of Service

Elizabeth Mye and Mike Venturino led the singing at Carlmont Gardens and Andrew Altorfer worked on a paracord project at St. Bart's. More photos appear on Page 7.



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

Parish Personals

The new year was particularly cruel for many in the CCP family.

Bob Donovan fainted at home early in January and cut a gash on one knee and bruised some ribs. He ended up at Sequoia Hospital for several days while son **David** negotiated with his insurance to find a rehab center that would be acceptable while Bob recuperated.

Turns out it couldn't be done so Bob went home to Hiller Street with the help of a home-health nurse. The issue was severe anemia. After two blood transfusions, he was feeling much better, but he had to promise his doctor to move slowly and deliberately and not to drive until his iron levels were much improved.

His ribs are still a bit sore but, at 103, he amazed the staff at Sequoia with his grit, wit and determination!

Then just as we were sending out word about Bob, we learned that **Barbara White** had been stricken with excruciating back pain while lifting a box of antique silverware at her home across Alameda from the church. She had suffered a compressed lumbar fracture which left her in agony..

She was surrounded by her children (**Ben, Leslie and Kathy**) and granddaughter **Bella**, a sophomore at Carlmont High School, who lives with her.

Then two weeks ago, she underwent



Micki Carter with son David

a procedure called vertebroplasty which injects surgical "cement" into the collapsed vertebra. Voila! Just like that, no more pain!

Barbara is still moving around with a walker, but she's up for visits or calls.

By the way, **Maureen Gallaty**, who has been suffering back pain for years, had the same procedure done. We hope for the same positive results for her.

Longtime member **Jan Heise** sent a Christmas note telling us that husband **Norm** is dealing with those same compression fractures for Norm. And that means lots of caregiving for her.

They continue to reside in independent living at a senior living center in Fairfield. (We will pass the word about our new favorite procedure — vertebroplasty!)

And just when we had all these calls for pastoral care, **Pastor Jim** came down with a really awful cold or flu that morphed into pneumonia and put him in the hospital for several days. He got breathing therapy every hour or two until he was finally able to go home to his Oakland home and cat Keats for a more complete recovery.

Jim was able to return to the pulpit on Annual Meeting Sunday, after three weeks away (including the Jan. 19 presentation by

Diana Oestreich, a member of his former congregation at Peace Church in Duluth, Minn.). He offered his thanks to **Pastor Warren** for stepping in during his absence.

Micki Carter was surrounded by family when she celebrated her 80th birthday at husband **Mike Venturino's** family beach house on the North Shore of Kauai. She capped five days of barbecues, snorkeling and game nights with a set of tennis with her son David. She was particularly proud that she was able to take one game off him!

Then she came home to have cataract surgery on both eyes. She has high hopes for better vision the next time she gets on the court (in a few weeks).

We were thrilled to see **Paul Michel** in church for Annual Meeting, walking upright and unassisted after his broken hip. He was still depending on a walker when the CCP carolers visited him and wife **Sylvie** at his Redwood City home on Dec. 22, but he made huge strides (pun intended) in the following month.

Speaking of hips, **Gwen Jeong** will have hip replacement surgery on March 26 and she is already deep into the pre-op prepping. We long to hear that she is mended and ready to join us in the CCP Sanctuary once again.

The change in administrations has presented lots of us with anxiety. **Elizabeth Nordt** offered this prayer on the CCP Prayer Chain:

"May we sustain our hope, faith and will to act in accordance with the greatest commandments to love. God, please be with all those oppressed by power.

"With our power and privilege, keep us ever mindful of the humanity of others and the interconnection of all in the natural world."

Jan Heise added this thought:

"One more 'Amen' to your prayer, Elizabeth. Our challenge will be to now dig deep and learn to move from the truths we have been taught but often never been pushed hard enough to live out in real time. But we 'know' that the end results are always determined by the integrity of the means we use to achieve them and that one can only fight hate with love, fight vengefulness with forgiveness and fight violence by peaceful non-violence.

"It feels ironic that these lessons have raised themselves in full force on MLK day because we will need all the modeling we can get going forward."

February Birthdays

Mike Venturino	Feb. 2
Lance Hilo	Feb. 3
Georgi LaBerge	Feb. 4
Belinda Sims	Feb. 8
Jane Fernald	Feb. 12
Gunwoo Kim	Feb. 13
Andrew Altorfer	Feb. 26
Danielle Chamberlin	Feb. 27
Elizabeth Nordt	Feb. 28

If we don't have your birthday listed, please email the church office with the date so we can add it to our list.

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

PENINSULA MULTIFAITH COALITION
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MULTIFAITH
DAYS OF SERVICE
 EDUCATIONAL SERIES PRESENTS

A Community Reading: MLK's "I HAVE A DREAM"

Sunday, February 2, 2-4 pm

**Domini Hoskins Black History
 Museum & Learning Center**



890 Jefferson Avenue
 Redwood City

Register by scanning
 this QR code with your
 phone

You can listen to the entire speech [here](#). You can watch the Peninsula Solidarity Cohort's recent public reading of Dr. King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail on Martin Luther King Day/ Inauguration Day when several hundred gathered outside the courthouse in Redwood City [here](#). You can read about why the public reading was organized [here](#).

Pastor Jim's Reflections

Perpetuating the legacy of Dr. King

I don't deny the power of my father's most well-known speech, "I Have a Dream." However, its power and popularity (with focus on its conclusion) have been misused to weaken its clear messaging about ending racism, stopping police brutality, ensuring voting rights and eradicating economic injustice. — Bernice A. King, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King

By Rev. Jim Mitulski

Dear friends, do you have a dream? An imagined future for yourself, your family or the world? Do you have a dream for our church and what it will look like or how it will feel in 2030?

Throughout the Bible, God speaks to people in and through dreams. Sometimes we go to therapists to help us interpret dreams, or we turn to our closest friends to share the details of our heart's longings. The church is a place that nurtures our hopes and aspirations so that these dreams can become a reality, where we can see something first and then work together to actualize it.

This month is Black History Month, typically observed in many United Church of Christ congregations as a sacred season. We commemorate and celebrate Black History as an essential part of our country's story

and of our church's heritage.

The UCC has recently [recognized](#) the historical strand of the Afro-Christian Convention as a historical stream of what we now call the UCC.

Dr. King's famous 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech is a great example of an historic moment that continues to affect us in the present. Coretta Scott King recalls the moment the speech concluded, the pause before the thunderous applause began, in this way,

"At that moment it seemed as if the Kingdom of God appeared. But it only lasted for a moment."

It's not uncommon for people to be able to quote some of the famous lines from the beginning, but not everyone has read or studied the entire speech.

This year the Peninsula MultiFaith Coalition continued its commitment in recent years to make sure that education is an essential component to our Martin Luther King Days of Service.

On Jan. 20, many of our members participated in service projects along with members of other faith communities. And on Sunday, Feb. 2, at 2 p.m. we will gather with PMC and the NAACP and several others at the [Domini Hoskins Black His-](#)

[tory Museum](#) in Redwood City to engage in a public reading of the "I Have a Dream" speech. It's short (less than 20 minutes!) and it still packs a punch.

Pastor Warren also will present a \$2,500 check from our church's Lyman Covenant Fund to support the work of the museum.

Throughout the month of February, we'll spend a few minutes each week hearing and studying the text of the speech, so that we will be able to say as a community that we read the entire speech, a dream still held by Dr. King's family, that people won't just quote their favorite lines but really become acquainted with the breadth of Dr. King's speech.

I hope I'll see you at church as the dream continues to unfold. We just committed at our Annual Meeting to disburse \$46,000 from the Lyman Covenant Fund this year to help make dreams come true in San Mateo County, and that doesn't even account for other actions we will contribute to through our other benevolence giving.

At CCP, we are committed to worship, education and the use of our building to prosper a Beloved Community in the world. Generosity, hospitality and social justice are some of the ways we practice our spirituality.

Come dream with us!

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

Warren's Wonderings

'Get busy living ... or get busy dying'

By Rev. Warren Dale
Associate Pastor

Well, friends, January has almost been as busy as December. We attended the Good Hope Luncheon at the Redwood City Senior Center and, with Georgi's leadership, we conducted a Power-Walking Seminar and luncheon as a fund-raising support to our Chocolate Fest.

On Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, we attended the celebration at the County Center Square to hear a reading of MLK's Letter From the Birmingham Jail. I am so glad that Pastor Jim brings us those "Contemporary Lessons."

It is also a time for new beginnings. I think periodically about the movie *The Shawshank Redemption* and some of the lines said:

Andy Dufresne to Red: "I guess it comes down to a simple choice, really. Get busy living, or get busy dying."

I think here, Andy was saying, "With the new year, changes in our leadership, church and nation, how are we going to be a participant?"

On MLK Day, we found ourselves walking from the Courthouse Square where the San Mateo County Historical Museum is to the County Center Square where the reading was taking place. We walked with a woman who told us that she was Quaker and was the daughter of a Bob Moon, a Methodist minister.

Now, I know of a Bob Moon, a giant of a man. She said that he marched with Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma. "Get busy living...". Yep, same man that I knew.

I also heard our wonderful Paul Michel talk of his father who fought in the Resistance in France in World War II and was a friend of Josephine Baker, an African American Woman, who moved to France to get away from persecution, danced at the Folies Bergère and was a courier for the French Resistance. She was decorated by Charles De Gaulle, and she spoke at the famous March on Washington "I have a dream" speech moment. "Get busy living..."

God will need our hope these next years ... and our involvement ... and like Andy Dufresne said, "Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies."

May we continue to live and serve with HOPE!

Some humorous bits from presidents

By Rev. Warren Dale

Dwight D. Eisenhower saw humor as fundamental to the job, saying, "A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done."

"If I had to name my greatest strength, I guess it would be my humility. Greatest weakness, it's possible that I'm a little too awesome."

— **Barack Obama**

"There is no pleasure in having nothing to do; the fun is having lots to do and not doing it."

— **Andrew Jackson**

"I'm not worried about the deficit; it's big enough to take care of itself."

— **Ronald Reagan**

"Being President is like being a jackass in a hailstorm. There's nothing to do but to stand there and take it."

— **Lyndon B. Johnson**

"Being President is like running a cemetery; you've got a lot of people under you and nobody's listening."

— **Bill Clinton**



Angela Kraft Cross recital at Island UCC

An organ recital by Angela Kraft Cross will inaugurate the Island United Music Salon Series at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, at Island United Church in Foster City. Dr. Cross is an internationally respected virtuoso organist, pianist and composer, as well as an eye surgeon. Her passion for performing and sharing the joy of organ music shines forth in stimulating performances that are easily accessible to a diverse audience. She is the organist for the Congregational Church of San Mateo. Dr. Cross has performed a number of times over the years at CCP at the keyboard of the organ that the late Gary Brandenburg built for us. The public is invited, and donations will be gladly accepted.

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

Chocolate Fest '24 check to LifeMoves

By Jill Visor

Linda Howard and I met with Patricia Bahamonde, corporate philanthropy officer at LifeMoves, on Jan. 23 at CCP. The purpose of our meeting was to present LifeMoves, our chosen Chocolate Fest 2024 beneficiary, with 50% of the proceeds from this event (\$8,397).

Patricia was extremely appreciative and gracious, and she hopes to see some of us at the annual LifeMoves luncheon on April 24.

As everyone knows, Chocolate Fest is a lot of work, but it is fulfilling to be able to donate this amount of money to such a worthy cause, as well as raise an equal amount for CCP projects.

Patricia informed us that LifeMoves is very close to opening two new centers in San Jose, modeled after the extremely successful Navigation Center in Redwood City.

The Navigation Center provides 240 safe temporary living spaces for unhoused individuals, along with intensive support services designed to help clients find and maintain stable housing. Linda Howard, Barbara White, Jane Fernald and Carol Chivers visited the Navigation Center last spring.

Linda remembers “we were very impressed with how happy and peaceful the residents seemed as they walked around. Residents are allowed dogs and there is a pet park. We also saw the beginnings of a garden.

“At the time, they were in the process of setting up a computer center and also providing dental services. The kitchen where the residents have their meals was very impressive and well equipped.”

We are proud to support LifeMoves and their mission to end homelessness by providing interim housing, supportive services, and building collaborative partnerships.



Linda Howard, Patricia Bahamonde of LifeMoves and Jill Visor.

The success of Chocolate Fest 2024 is a testament to the dedication and hard work of everyone involved. We look forward to con-

tinuing our partnership with LifeMoves and making a positive impact in our community.

Chocolate Fest 2025 still a question mark

Chocolate Fest 2025 is still an unresolved issue.

At Annual Meeting, Chair Jill Visor reported that we don't have the manpower to do the long hours of work that goes into Chocolate Fest before the event — lining up vendors, handling their health forms and fees, seeking donations for prizes and the Silent Auction, organizing staffing and a dozen other things that mostly go unnoticed until the day of the event.

Those responsibilities have increasingly fallen on just a couple of people, she said, and that's no longer tenable.

Jill has been looking for a group that might be the benefactor (as LifeMoves was in 2024) and could provide people who could take significant roles in the planning of Chocolate Fest. But so far, no luck.

Jill is open to ideas but the only viable ones will solve the pre-event staffing issue.

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From the Moderator

Annual Meeting leaves Maura cheery

By Maura Whitmore

I'm writing this with a happy heart after my first Annual Meeting as Moderator! Thank you all for your support helping me through it.

At Annual Meeting, we worked through the whole agenda, passed everything that needed it, asked questions for better understanding of the issues, and shared a wonderful potluck lunch.

We look forward to addressing our 2025 goals:

- Create a new Mission Statement
- Restructure our church into a Mission-driven organization
- Establish specific and measurable goals for each team and church leader, according to our Mission and organizational goals
- Grow participation of new individuals in our Church Programs by 25% from February to November
- Have an in-person and online attendance at Sunday morning worship of at least 40 people

CCP will host Good Hope Lunch Feb. 4

CCP will host the Good Hope Luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, in the Dining Room of the church.

We will cater the luncheon from Capo Restaurant in Belmont whose owner was unbelievably generous in his donation to Chocolate Fest 2024. As always, we want to let our donors know that we appreciate their generosity.

We will accept a \$5 donation from each guest, which is the usual Good Hope practice.

If you have never attended the Good Hope Luncheon, this is a great opportunity to get to know CCP's members and friends that we don't often see on Sunday morning.

It's a longtime First Church of Redwood City tradition that we are proud to make a CCP tradition as well.

If you can come, please RSVP to Rebecca at Office@CCPeninsula.org.



Parliamentarian Micki Carter and Moderator Maura Whitmore prep.

- Complete at least one major building improvement project.
- Expand our youth program and complete a confirmation class for our current youth.

We look forward to celebrating the centennial of our building! We look forward to spiffing up our Sanctuary, while also doing some less glamorous deferred maintenance.

We look forward to seeing the fruits of

our investment in programs, staff, music and fix-its!

We look forward to having new renters in the apartment by March 1. We have met with the new tenant, a single mom with a 16-year-old daughter, and 10-year-old twin boys. All fit as fiddles and excited to move in.

We look forward to discussing Chocolate Fest!

We look forward!

NCNC UCC Presents...

IMMERSION 2025: San Francisco

Winter Youth Event for Grades 6-12
February 14-16, 2025

Experience Includes

- Service Project with Haight Ashbury Food Program
- Sunday Celebration at Glide Memorial Church
- Lodging and Meals at The Waller Center
- Games, Music, and Fun with Friends!

A promotional poster for the IMMERSION 2025 winter youth event. The background features a stylized illustration of the Golden Gate Bridge and the San Francisco skyline. In the bottom right corner, there is a group photo of smiling youth participants.

Register now for IMMERSION 2025 winter youth event. Don't let money be an obstacle. Please tell Rev. Sheryl (sheryl@ccpeninsula.org) if you are interested.

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



Spending time in service

CCP members Elizabeth Nordt, Jane Fernald, Steve and Danielle Chamberlin and Greg Thornhill at three different work sites on MLK Day.



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Chernobyl/CCP link has been broken

By Micki Carter

Some of the longtime members of CCP may remember Dr. Olga Aleinikova, the director of the Children's Hematological Hospital in Minsk, Belarus, who was the heroine of the Children of Chernobyl Project of the Congregational Church of Belmont and the protagonist of my first book, *Children of Chernobyl: Raising Hope From the Ashes* (Augsburg, 1993).

She stood in the pulpit at CCB in 1997 to thank us for the half a million dollars worth of lifesaving drugs and medical supplies that our little church sent half way around the world to her hospital.

It was part of our effort to save a generation of children who were sacrificed — sent by their government to march in the acid rain of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April 1986 in a show of political bravado.

When I first met Aleinikova in 1990 (on a peace exchange sponsored by the Northern California Nevada Conference of the UCC), she was just beginning to realize that the children who were showing up in growing numbers at her doors with a rare form of leukemia were the victims of the Chernobyl catastrophe — and she had no chemotherapy drugs to treat them.

"Send me methotrexate!" she begged. And so we did, along with vincristine and gamma globulin and disposable syringes, catheters and tubing — and later we equipped a genome lab to aid Aleinikova's effort to prove that these children were indeed sick because of Chernobyl — although the Belarusian authorities continue to deny it.

At first, we carried the drugs ourselves to Minsk; later, we were able to arrange a system that allowed drugs we ordered from a pharmaceutical company in Europe to be delivered to Aleinikova in Minsk. She would fax us the invoice when the drugs arrived, and we would pay the invoice by electronic transfer.

When the citizens of Austria and Switzerland built a new Children's Hematological Center in Minsk, Aleinikova led me through the new building to the lab with a scarf over my eyes so she could surprise me — with a brass plaque that said, "This laboratory is a gift of the Congregational Church of Belmont in California in America."



Dr. Olga Aleinikova

Aleinikova and her hospital were important to this church. One summer, we hosted 17 orthopedically disabled children overnight when they were en route from Minsk to Kansas City where they would be treated by the Shriners Hospital.

They slept in sleeping bags on the floor of the Fireplace Room, ate three meals preparing by loving hands in the Dining Room and took showers in the apartment bathroom.

Doris Brown, my late husband Laurie, Mike Venturino and my son David accompanied me on trips to carry "medicamento" to Aleinikova.

Many others helped us sort donated medical equipment stored downstairs in the organ closet — equipment that would be shipped to Belarus by the U.S. State Department.

So many in the church had an investment in what the Children of Chernobyl Project was doing.

Over the years since we closed the books on the Project (when the Belarusian government finally recognized its responsibility to these children and the hospital), I've stayed in touch with Aleinikova. We met a couple of times when I was living in Moscow in 1995, and from time to time, she was able to attend the American Society of Hematology (ASH)

conferences in San Francisco.

Mike and I had lunch with her a few years back when we were saddened by her "conversion" to the political line of the Belarusian President Lukashenko, the thug often called Europe's last dictator.

But we understood that her family's safety was determined by how she behaved on her trips abroad. She never knew who was listening.

Then, this December, I got a text from Aleinikova. She was going to be at an ASH conference in San Diego. Could we meet?

I texted back that we were just coming back from Europe ourselves then, but we promised to talk.

And we did — since she had so much to tell.

Aleinikova was no longer living in Minsk, no longer the director of the Children's Hematological Hospital of Minsk — which she created.

How could that happen?

The crisis began when one of her sons was arrested in Minsk, protesting Lukashenko's claim that he won the last election. He was convicted and sentenced to a long prison term, but he managed to escape to Latvia where he now lives.

Immediately, his whole family, Olga included, was declared *persona non grata* in Belarus. She came to work at the hospital the next day and found that someone else had been installed in her office.

Olga was ushered out, and it was immediately clear that she needed to get out of the country. She and the rest of her family fled to Latvia as well.

However, it didn't take long for word to spread in the small world of pediatric hematology that Aleinikova was available. The largest clinic in Moscow offered her a directorship and that's where she is now.

But the hospital in Minsk, she said, has been purged of the doctors she trained, and the cases she was directing were taken over by others new to the hospital.

And, she said with some reverence, the plaque is gone too.

After 36 years, it appears the connection of the church to the Children of Chernobyl has been broken — along with a piece of my heart.

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Strengthening the ties that bind us

By Linda Howard

As the new year got under way, the Social Action Team explored new organizations and re-evaluated past organizations we have supported. The organizations vary in mission but all are devoted to improving the lives of people in our local and state communities.

SAB has disbursed money to organizations associated with immigration, food insecurity, scholarships, housing for vulnerable populations, under-represented peoples' history, domestic violence, conflict mediation, disaster relief and migrant communities.

Meeting for the first time in 2025, SAB chose to donate money to Domini Hoskins Black History Museum, Project Change, Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, California Community Foundation and to the Altadena Community Church UCC.

The Domini Hoskins Museum in Redwood City strives to educate the public about the rich history and contributions of African Americans throughout our country and local community – past and present.

For the second year, money will be donated to the Rev. Kristi Denham Scholarship fund, managed through Project Change, a program administered by the San Mateo Community College District.

It provides help for students who are incarcerated or were formerly incarcerated. Wrap-around services include access to post-secondary education inside juvenile youth facilities.

Pastor Kristi regularly met with youth at the Hillcrest Juvenile facility while she served CCB.

Throughout history, human beings have migrated to escape poverty, persecution or natural disasters, seeking a better life. In the current political climate and rapidly changing policies, the vulnerability of migrants and refugees is fraught with uncertainty, insecurity and danger.

For this reason, the Social Action team has chosen to donate to Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, which seeks to find housing solutions for newly arrived migrants on the Peninsula through local congregations.

Volunteers step in to provide food, clothing and basic necessities to help families newly arrived. Legal aid is part of the package as migrants navigate through the process

Photo removed upon request.



An Associated Press photographer caught the Altadena Community Church UCC ablaze in the midst of the Eaton, above, and, at the left, as it stood before the fire. Only its iconic archway remains today.

families.

On a more personal level, one of our own, the Altadena Community Church UCC, was destroyed in the Eaton fire. Imagine going to church one Sunday and the next day there is no church building – only ruins. Social Action is donating money directly to the Altadena church. Further support in the form of delivering church materials may be in the future once a determination is made on their needs.

Additional information on the Altadena Community Church UCC can be found [here](#)

If you would like to donate to any of the local organizations, CCF or the Altadena church, you may send your donations to CCP. The contribution will be routed to the organization you choose.

Please follow this [link](#), write a check or place cash in the envelopes provided in the pews. Be sure to write in the memo the designated organization.

Commitment to support these organizations and agencies binds us together and unifies us in the community of humanity.

of re-establishing their lives and applying for asylum.

Horifying and frightening images of the devastation caused by fires in Southern California fill our screens every night. SAB has explored various donation sites and settled on the California Community Foundation (CCF). There are literally dozens of sites offering assistance, but Charity Navigator rated CCF in the “excellent” category.

According to its website, CCF coordinates with community and government agencies to provide an array of critical recovery services, including housing, case management, mental health and medical care for displaced residents.

It also aids in building and restoring critical infrastructure and offers financial disaster assistance, labor and immigration law to low-wage workers and immigrant

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How we can be a force for good in this madness of mass deportations

"In a moment of darkness, we can be the light." — Lorena Melgarejo

By Micki Carter

So many of us are chilled every time we hear of another roundup of undocumented people whose families will be forever torn apart by arrest and potential deportation.

And no doubt everyone of us is asking: How can I help?

Pastor Jim, husband Mike and I learned a great deal about ways to help (and ways to make things worse!) when we attended a Zoom presentation last Monday by Lorena Melgarejo, executive director of Faith in Action/Bay Area.

The meeting was organized by the Peninsula Solidarity Cohort, a group of about 30 religious leaders that includes Pastor Jim.

Melgarejo was invited to tell us what ordinary people can do to help, and she described Rapid Response teams that can be vital to a successful outcome.

It starts with a phone call to the Faith in Action Hotline (which is answered around the clock every day). The number is 203-666-4472, and the sooner that call comes in after or during an arrest in a "targeted enforcement operation" by ICE the better.

Do all that you can to share that hotline number with people who are in jeopardy.

The next step involves "witness enforcement." After a call is received, Faith in Action turns to ordinary people like us who agree to receive a phone call and leave immediately to the site of an arrest in progress to get the full name and date of birth of the person arrested and videotape the action taken. The witnesses then upload that video to Faith in Action.

(And absolutely promise NOT to post that video to social media, Those posts, according to Melgarejo, create mass panic which does no one any good.)

The witnesses's equally important role is to reassure the family that Faith in Action — and you — will provide support for them as the next days and weeks unfold.

Faith in Action, Melgarejo said, has a pool of attorneys who work pro-bono or "low-bono" and will talk to the detained

REPORT ICE ACTION!

(203) NO-MIGRA
(203) 666-4472



**IF ICE COMES TO
YOUR HOME,
WORKPLACE, OR
NEIGHBORHOOD,
REPORT THIS
ACTION BY
CALLING THE
HOTLINE AND
SEND HELP TO
THOSE
IMPACTED**

community member with hours after the arrest. This day-of response is critical.

So we can help in a number of ways:

Spread the hotline number as widely as possible.

Volunteer to join a Rapid Response witness team. Mike and I did this in 2017 along with a number of other CCP members. We were well informed about our roles.

Volunteer to provide support for families who has had a member arrested. Multilingual helpers are especially needed.

Donate money to Faith in Action Mutual Aid Fund for their family support network,

to pay for attorneys and court filings as needed and a dozen other things. You can donate [here](#).

If you would like more information and help in understanding how you could be useful in this effort, email me at micki-cartr@gmail.org. I would like to get a Rapid Response team ready at CCP. I will set up a meeting ASAP for those joining us in person and online. I have a slide show and printed hand-outs to share.

Feel free to invite like-minded friends to be part of this effort.

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CCP's February Calendar

2 Sun	9:30AM - 10:15AM	☐ Church Events	Preschool Playgroup with Rev. Sheryl
	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 - 1:00PM	☐ Off-site events	Good Hope Luncheon
	1:30PM - 2:30PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Book Group
5 Wed	11:00AM - 12:00PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Prayer Time with Pastor Jim and Pastor Warren
6 Thu	6PM - 7PM	☐ Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
	7:30PM - 9PM	☐ Church Events	Choir Rehearsal
9 Sun	9:00AM - 10:30AM	☐ Church Events	Scout breakfast in Dining Room
	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
11 Tue	1:30PM - 2:30PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Book Group
12 Wed	11:00AM - 12:00PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Prayer Time with Pastor Jim and Pastor Warren
13 Thu	12:00PM - 1:00PM	☐ Church Events	Centennial Committee meeting
	6PM - 7PM	☐ Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
	7:30PM - 9PM	☐ Church Events	Choir Rehearsal
16 Sun	10:30AM - 12:00PM	☐ Worship	Sunday worship
	11:30AM - 12:00PM	☐ Church Events	Coffee Hour
	12PM - 1:30PM	☐ Church Events	Social Action Board Meeting - Parlor
	5PM - 6PM	☐ Off-site events	Zoom worship with Pastor Warren
18 Tue	1:30PM - 2:30PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Book Group
	6:00PM - 7:00PM 📧	☐ Church Events	Deacons' meeting
19 Wed	11:00AM - 12:00PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Prayer Time with Pastor Jim and Pastor Warren
	6:30PM - 8PM	☐ Off-site events	Trustees Meeting (Zoom)
	7:00PM - 9:00PM 📧	☐ Off-site events	Council Meeting
20 Thu	1:30PM - 3:00PM	☐ Church Events	Death Cafe
	6PM - 7PM	☐ Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
	7:30PM - 9PM	☐ Church Events	Choir Rehearsal
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
26 Wed	11:00AM - 12:00PM	☐ Off-site events	Online Prayer Time with Pastor Jim and Pastor Warren
	7:00PM - 9:00PM 📧	☐ Church Events	CCB Council Meeting
27 Thu	6PM - 7PM	☐ Off-site events	Thursday Night Prayer & Check-in
	7:30PM - 9PM	☐ Church Events	Choir Rehearsal

Scouts will serve up pancakes on Feb. 9

By Elizabeth Nordt

Mark your calendars to be at church early on Scout Sunday, Feb. 9!

The Scout Venture Crew will be preparing a pancake breakfast in the CCP kitchen early in the morning and serving it up from 9 to 10:15 a.m. in the Dining Room.

We are invited to eat heartily for the price of a (generous!) donation to the Scouts to offset the cost of their SuperTrip to Iceland in June. Bring your friends!

Scout Sunday is an annual event to honor the connection between a Scout group (Cub Pack, Troop and Crew) and its Charter Organization (that's CCPen)!

While our Scouts are always welcome to worship with us, Scout Sunday is designed to celebrate our relationship.

Our Scouts will help participate in the service, tell us about what Scouting means to them and thank us for being their Charter Organization.



It's a wonderful opportunity to meet Scouts and their families and show them how we do Church!

March Messenger deadline will be Feb. 20.



United Church of Christ

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To go to the Congregational Church of Peninsula website, click on CCP.