

The Grapevine

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Congregational Christian
Churches for mutual care and
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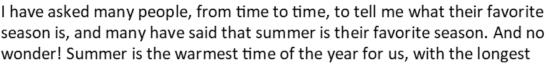
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SUMMER

Pastor James Frost





hours of daylight. We stay outside longer. Gardens are growing. We go on vacations. We take life a little more slowly. One woman said "I love how summer just wraps its arms around you like a warm hug." There is indeed a sense of relaxing into the moment, lingering, savoring, allowing the time to flow by.

The official first day of Summer is June 21st, but when we do really feel like it's Summer?.....(Memorial Day). But on the 21st, this longest day of the year, we may also observe a tipping point. From there on out, the days get shorter and the nights get longer. It is a reminder that time is passing, which can be melancholy or even scary. Speaking about scary, I don't know about you, but I didn't think twice, fifteen years ago about throwing on a bathing suit to go have some Summer fun, but with each passing year, I become more aware of my body's changes and usually not in a good way. I am more self-conscious, not as free. The body can be a problem that way in Summertime. So you can see what I mean that Summer can be a beautiful rejuvenating time, or it can be a challenging time. But sometimes we can feel both things in the same long sunny day. Our minds and hearts are not always in sync with the seasons as we have organized them. They have a life of their own. Let's take this a step further. Have any of you ever heard of the "Dog days of Summer?" This is typically the hottest part of the summer between the beginning of July and through the end of August, and is typically the driest and hottest part of the summer. Here's a few questions for you. Are any of you in a dry season today? Do you feel in a rut, a bit listless or restless? Have you lost some of your fire and passion, maybe for work or even for your close relationships? Are you trudging along like a person at the end of a whole day outside in 90 degree weather---going through the motions and ready for a nap? This is very normal; very human. Life can be so wonderful and marvelous, and yet in the everyday reality of it, so tedious and routine. That is the mystery we live with, every one of us. So what do we do to find purpose, passion and assurance of meaning?

I think that the Church deals with this by creating its own seasons. Just as society is governed by a sense of time, so too are people of faith. Our liturgies, church colors and types of prayers tell us something about God and community. We go through a reassuring cycle each year of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and now....we are in what is called "Ordinary Time". Every Summer has that name. But this is also a green season; that is why you see the color green up on the pulpit. The great work of Easter resurrection and Pentecost discipling has been accomplished. We are living in that time, and it's not a dramatic season, but it does offer potential for growth.

Continue from Page 2

Summer is an invitation to contemplate these more seemingly ordinary things; to use our senses to enjoy the sound of waves lapping a shore, the taste of juicy fruit, the tickling warmth of sunlight on our skin, the faintly sweet smell of honeysuckle. These things are small and they may seem ordinary, until we stop to really notice them for what they are: creation speaking to us about God. Have a great summer!



MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

As far back as I can remember, and as long as I have been a member of our church, I cannot remember a time when we had a minister that has put on such a good Bible study. I have learned a lot, and I know by talking to many who come that they have too. It is not just the teaching, but we have many interesting discussions about God's word, and I don't remember having such interaction before. And because of this I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to come out. You will be glad that you did. But make sure you get there early, the seating goes fast!

Another thing I have noticed, as I have gotten older, is that where I used to be "the braun" of this outfit, things have slowed down a bit and so I would like to encourage others

to come out and put their gifts, and strength to use. At the same time I want to let those who do come out regularly know that their help is greatly appreciated.



Lee Unruh, Moderator



TRUSTEES SNAPSHOT

from Chairperson

It's a busy and exciting time to be a trustee. We have been working to keep our finances in good shape. God's protective hands have surely been upon this church, and I want to thank those who have gone before us and worked so diligently to keep us financially stable—a job that is not as easy as it might sound. They did a good enough job that we are now able to start putting money away for rainy days. We are truly blessed. There are a number of projects we are talking about tackling and are looking forward to sharing some of that with you at the next Congregational meeting in July. We-Dave Baker—is still working on the water/sewer issue, and we hope to have that resolved soon with the possibility of a rebate. Thanks Dave!!

Once again- a big THANK YOU to all who helped get the Broadway house ready to rent. Alesha and her kids are very happy there, and we are happy to have them.

And THANKS to all of you for your support of us as Board members. We are honored and proud to serve you! Please always keeps us in your prayers for wisdom and discernment in all the decisions we are called upon to make! Blessings,



Kim



~NOTICE~ CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH MEETING

First Congregational Church of Salida Sunday, July 22, 2018 11:30 a.m.

UNSUNG HERO



What would an Easter Sunday be like without someone playing the piano while we sing hymns? Well... We almost found out <u>THIS</u> Easter!

The pianist who was to play Easter Sunday did not show up at the specified time nor answer her telephone when Pastor James called to see if there was a problem. And, this was not an April Fool's joke! We almost had to sing Easter Sunday a cappella.

But, alas, someone stepped up to "save the day". And, I bet most of you did not even know there had been a "problem". Easter Sunday proceeded as the joyous occasion it was meant to be. Easter Sunday

was celebrated with joyful music... All because of one individual. The person who gave of herself on this day was... MARY ELLEN JOHNSON. For those of you who may not know Mary Ellen and her husband, Gary, who began attending FCC, with their friends of Brian and Peggy Velthoen. So... Thank you, Velthoens for playing a part in this "save the day" scenario!

And... One of the highlights of the morning was that we were able to <u>sing</u> the Lord's Prayer. We had not sung that since Shelly had left. How nice was that!

Mary Ellen had shared with Pastor James that she played the piano, and if there ever was a need for a pianist, she was available. Bet she never thought it would be "play on the spot" so to speak on Easter Sunday!

Since that Sunday, Mary Ellen has continued to play on Sundays when needed. She has taken it upon herself to take a hymnal home so she may practice the hymns for the Sundays she plays. What dedication!

We certainly owe Mary Ellen a note of gratitude for her willingness to play the piano enabling our congregation to sing our hymns on Sunday with musical accompaniment. We do appreciate your dedication and commitment especially since you and Gary are not yet FCC members.

So, it is with a great big "THANK YOU" that this Grapevine issue recognizes MARY ELLEN JOHNSON as our Unsung Hero!



MODESTO'S VIRGINIA CORRIDOR

Diane Suzuki



Want a great place to fellowship and exercise at the same time?

Check out The Virginia Corridor in Modesto. Once the Tidewater Southern Railway line, "begins" at Campus Way near Modesto Junior College's East Campus and the trail "ends" at Woodrow Avenue. It is a paved trail shared by pedestrians and bicycles.

You may begin walking or running at various locations along The Corridor. There are parking spaces next to the trails at Roseburg Square. A small children's playground is at the corner of Morris and Virginia avenues with street parking. Now that school is out I see people park at Woodrow School on Woodrow Avenue.

There are benches and picnic tables along the way. The only drinking fountains are at the play structure at Morris and Virginia avenues, and near the bathrooms at Roosevelt Park, Orangeburg Avenue. So, it is a good idea to bring water.

To cross Briggsmore Avenue, there is a pedestrian overpass which gives one a great view looking both ways on Briggsmore. It adds a little hill climb to mix-up your walk or run.

The photos were taken during May. The scenery has changed a little now that summer has arrived, but is still scenic.

So... Get friends together, and check out The Virginia Corridor. And, at Roseburg Square, there is a Yogurt Mill, and a Starbuck's in O'Brien's Market. There are restaurants as well.







BAPTISMS

APRIL 29, 2018

KARLEY KIERNAN AND ISABELLA SANGREE

At the home of the Kendalls











Pastor James presents Isabella and Karley with their Baptismal Certificates during a Sunday service.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

3333



6 - Michelle Brunelle

13 - Roy Wilson

26 - Lee Unruh

27 - Bev Connacher



MAY, JUNE & JULY ANNIVERSARIES



May 17 - Dan & Cindy Beynon May 20 - Dave & Vicki Pelucca June 2 - Jerry & Vicky Cheek July 9 - Mike & Kim Kiernan July 14 - Wayne & Kim Beck



- 3 Larry Connacher
- 8 Claire Wilson
- 14 James Frost
- 15 Patsy Stambaugh
- 22 Bill Gillette
- 23 Sheila Lamm
- 29 Dianne Gillette



- 10 Joshua Baker
- 27 Ethel Eastburn
- 30 Dan Beynon





On **SUNDAY, 17 JUNE,** Pastor James' children were at Sunday Service. Tricia came from the Bay Area with Christian and Mallory coming from SoCal.

They were here to celebrate their father's birthday and Father's Day. It is always so nice to have pastor James' family visiting.

Lu, Pastor James' wife, treated us to a Burmese dish and dessert, during Coffee Hour. When we entered the Fellowship Hall the dish was plated for us and ready to eat. Lu even had chopsticks.

Pastor James said during worship time that Lu had spent a lot of time preparing the food. And, he even had to go to the market to get different items at different times.



The food was very yummy! How nice it is that Lu is introducing us to her Burmese culture through food. We are so fortunate to have Lu and James part of our FCC Family!!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

When your group - Trustees, Deacons, Outreach, Christian Education, Supper Club, Fellowship Lunch, etc. - has a special activity that should be highlighted in The Grapevine, please designate someone from your group to take photos and write an article.

For example, if it is an activity where donations are taken, it would be appropriate to have an article about how much money was raised, and if for a cause, the cause. List the names of those responsible for the activity.

When a something special happens during Sunday Service like recognizing people for specific "awards", please have someone designated from your group to take photos and write an article.

Unfortunately the secretary nor the editor have time to write articles for the photographs submitted without words to go with them.

Remember The Grapevine is our way to let everyone know what is happening at FCC. Others besides our members do check out our website to see what our church has to offer them. We have a lot, so let's share it with our community! It is an inviting way to attract new people to FCC.

MOTHER'S DAY

We honored our Mother on Mother's Day 13 May 2018, during Sunday Service.

YOUNGEST MOTHER... Tiffany Sangree
OLDEST.... Lorraine Horton
MOST CHILDREN WITH 4 EACH.... Beverly Connacher, Carol Hertle, Lorraine Horton
MOST GRANDCHILDREN & GREATS.... Ethel Eastburn



FATHER'S DAY

On Father's Day, 17 June 2018, we recognized the following during Sunday service.'

YOUNGEST FATHER.... Charles Clay, 47
OLDEST FATHER.... Roy Wilson, 87
MOST CHILDREN.... La Aung, Lou's father with 7



STOCKTON HEAT

JoAnne Warner-Unruh



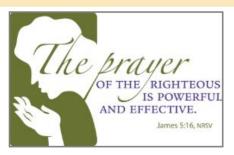
Ice Hockey - January 19, 2018. Supper Club outing with church members, family and friends.



Our annual **Modesto Nuts Baseball Game** will be held Friday, August 17.

Tickets are \$12 per person.

Please see Lee or JoAnne Unruh to buy your tickets.



PRAYER CARDS

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

As the above verses from Matthew state, it is vital for us to get the message of the gospel out into the world, and especially our individual communities. This is where our prayer cards come in. It may be difficult for some of us to share our faith, but it is easy to pray for someone. Make a list of people that you will commit to pray for, that live within a ten---mile radius of the church. Pray that God gives you opportunity to share your faith with them and invite them to church and our fun activities. You will be amazed at what the Lord can do in your life if you are deliberate in your prayers. Duplicate two index cards by placing the same names on both, keep one of the cards and personally pray, and bring the other to church and the prayer group at Church will pray over them as well. We already have two people that have been affected by this effective tool. In closing scripture says, "The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous has great power in its working' (James 5:16b). Let us make an impact upon this Salida community for Christ!

PASTOR JAMES





ITS A SMALL WORLD

Diane Suzuki

When I first saw Mary Ellen in the sanctuary with Peggy and Brian Velthoen, I said to her that I knew her from somewhere. We never figured it out at church. Until one day...

I was at a baseball game at Rainbow Fields to watch friends' son play 12 and under baseball. Up in the stands were Mary Ellen and Gary Johnson! Whoa! That is where I knew them from... BASE-BALL at Bel Passi.

When you only see someone a few times during a short period of time and not on a regular basis, it is hard to place the face with a place. That is what happened with Mary Ellen. I only had seen them sporadically over the years...

Turns out their grandson, Parker, plays on the team with Issac, my friends' son, who happens to be Darroll Tuggles' great niece, Sarah's son. Small world!!

I see Mary Ellen and Gary at baseball games during April and May. I recognized Mary Ellen, but Gary always wears a cowboy hat! And, no hat on Sunday. Parker and Issac have played on the same team during some seasons.

Parker and Issac have also played on the same soccer team the last two years. Both are really talented soccer players as well as baseball players.

So... Mary Ellen and Gary are always there to cheer on the team! It has been fun talking about how the boys are doing...

I think Issac's father said that Issac and Parker would again be playing on the same soccer team this coming season. Sandy Tuggle attends some of the games. YES, it is indeed a SMALL WORLD!



OMELET BREAKFAST & BAKE SALE



MEMORIAL DAY BBQ at the Becks



Thank you to the Becks for the tasty tri-tip.

It was also a celebration for Pastor James' graduation from BIOLA/TALBOT SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

CONCERT IN THE PARK Graceada Park in Modesto





First Concert in the Park







Our moderator Lee is working hard and fell asleep.







Pastor James celebrates his birthday... How many candles???

ENCHILADA DINNER



Thank you to everyone who helped make this dinner such a success.



BAKER NEWS

Our grandson Spencer Blocher got married to Kayla on December 30, 2017, in Michigan. On the wedding day it was -3°. Since Dave and I and many family and friends couldn't be there, we had a reception in our yard May 19, 2018. A fun time had by all!













Hanna Blocher

On May 24, 2018, we went to Stockton to our granddaughter Mariah graduate from Delta College. Very nice ceremony! On May 30, 2018, we went to Gregori High to see granddaughter Hanna graduate, beautiful time, but freezing cold that evening.

A lot to be thankful for and a lot more happiness ahead.

In Joy, Janna Lou Baker

FAMILY TIES

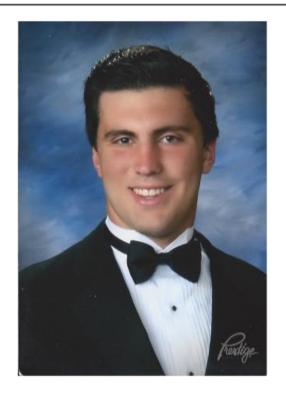
Hannah Blocher, Spencer Blocher, and Mariah Baker are the grandchildren of Janna Lou and Dave Baker. Their great grandparents were long time FCC members, Harold and Anna Lee Prickett.

Lane Bentley is the grandson of Diane and Alton Lane, and his great grandmother, was Alta Gaudreau, a long time member of FCC.

Alta Gaudreau and Harold Prickett were sister and brother. At FCC's 100th Celebration, Alta was honored for being a member since April 1927, and Anna Lee, April 1941.

So, the family connections at FCC go back many years. We are definitely a family of God.







Lane Bentley

Going to play football for Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Parents are Noelle and Eric Bentley. Grandparents are Alton and Dianne Lane. Great grandmother was Alta Gaudreau.



Pastor James presented each with a Bible.



Kaley Kiernan graduated from Joseph Gregori High School.



Josslyn Zuniga was promoted from kindergarten to first grade at Lakewood Elementary School.



WOODBRIDGE FAMILY GRADUATES

Jami Aggers

Joanne Woodbridge's two grandsons will be graduating this year from Stanislaus State University on May 24.

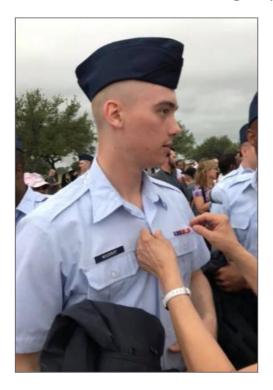
Justin Woodbridge will be receiving his Doctor of Education Degree and is currently assigned as Vice-Principal at Fremont School in Modesto, but in the coming fall semester he will be promoted to principal of a campus that is yet to be assigned. Jeff Woodbridge will be receiving his Master's Degree in Business Administration.

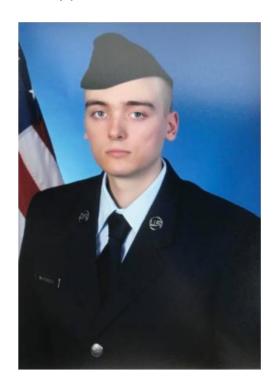


AIR FORCE GRADUATE

Elaine Tindle

My Great grandson Timothy Woodruff joined the Air Force. On May 4th he graduated from Boot Camp at Lackland Air Force base in Texas. His dad and mom, his two grandma's and his grandpa were there for the week-end. He is doing very well. I'm very proud of him.





PRESTON CASTLE: IS IT HAUNTED?

Wade Meier



On April 21st I went on a trip with the M.I.C.L. group of students to Preston Castle in Ione, near Jackson, California. It looks like a castle, but it was a youth reformatory. Merle Haggard was one of its most infamous inmates. Some say the castle is haunted by the spirit of Anna Corbin, the head house keeper who was murdered there in Feb. of 1950. She was beaten beyond recognition and left with a rope around her neck. If you put your ear up to the enclosed fire escape, sometimes you can still hear her screams. The mystery of her death

has never been solved. There are guided tours on Halloween Night. If you are interested in reading about the other unsolved mysteries of Preston Castle, there is a book titled: "If these walls could talk; more Preston Castle History." By J'aime Rubio

MY FAMILY VACATION IN KAUAI, HAWAII

Elaine Tindle

On April 24th we left on our family vacation to celebrate my Daughter and Son-in-laws 40th Wedding Anniversary, Delbert and Denise Reese, also there daughter and son-in-law Jesse and Jessica Lozoya, and there son Nathan, and my son Gary and daughter-in-law Diane and me.

We rented a villa, it was a Beautiful place. The Island is so Beautiful, so lush and green. You see no dead trees or bushes anywhere.

There are chickens everywhere and beautiful roosters.

We visited a Botanical Garden, the flowers and greenery were just amazing.

We went on a train ride to Kauai's Famous Plantation Estate and saw acres and acres of coffee trees, plus other fruit trees and we also got to feed many different animals.

We kept our selves very busy the whole time we where there.

One night we went to a Luau, it was wonderful, very beautiful.







CHASING THE DREAM

Kaitlyn Garcia Grandsons of Ethel Eastburn

Every weekend is a new adventure for brothers Aidyn and Noah who race BMX full time. Mom and dad pack the gear bags, ice chest, snack bag and bikes and they are off! Their latest big adventure was attending a National BMX race in Las Vegas where Noah Raced 6 Novice and Aidyn raced 5 and under Novice and both did great! Shortly after arriving home the boys were asked to join a team out of Stockton, Ca called Robby's Bike Shop, this will be their newest adventure! Noah is 6 years old who is ranked top 10 where he will race for top 4 in August at the State final. Aidyn is 3 years old and proudly rides with 5 year olds. Aidyn went from racing a strider/balance bike to jumping on a pedal bike shortly after he turned 3. The boys love meeting new people, making new friends and racing weekend after weekend with the goal to come home with a win.



ALASKA CRUISE

JoAnne Warner-Unruh

Alaska Cruise on the Grand Princess with Lee and JoAnne, May 16-26 from San Francisco. What a wonderful group! The cruise stopped in Ketchikan, Juno, Skagway, cruised the glaciers and the last stop in Victoria, Canada. The Gillettes had a family reunion and several others celebrated birthdays.



RECOGNIZE ANYONE?

Phyllis Agers

Maybe you recognize some of the people from the Alaska cruise JoAnne Warner organized for May 16-26.



July 11, Frankenstein, by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley.

Aug. 8, **The Paris Wife**, by Paula McLain- in 1920 Chicago, Hadley marries Ernest Hemingway and in Paris socializes with Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Sept. 12, **Devil in a Blue Dress**, by Walter Mosley - 1940's African-American Community in Watts, Easy Rawlins needs money, is offered money to find Ms Monet, a blonde beauty known to frequent black jazz clubs.

Oct. 10, The Girl who Kicked the Hornet's Nest, by Stieg Larsson - his third and final novel.

Nov. 14, English Creek, by Ivan Doig - Montana in the 1930's rodeo, dance, forest fire, and 14 year old Jick comes of age.

Dec. 12, Crown of Dust, by Mary Volmer - gold rush in the Wild West

See Phyllis Agers if you want a book. They're from the library so there are no fees. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:15.

PHYLLIS AGERS





We are grateful for the color cartridges for this issue of *The Grapevine* courtesy of

LINDA KENDALL

Thank you, Linda, we appreciate your kindness!

THE THREE AMIGOS



Dotti Wilkinson, Florence Velthoen and Carol Hertle.





Jo Ann Tamura's New Address

Casa De Modesto Room #27 1745 Eldena Way Modesto, CA

Facility Phone: 209-529-4950

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FCC

BIBLE STUDY (Beginning again in August)

Every Wednesday evening, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

BIBLE STUDY

Every Tuesday, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., Fellowship time 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.

BOOK CLUB

Second Wednesday of the month, 1:15 p.m. See article on page 23.

CHURCH WORK DAY

Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

Second Tuesday of the month,12:00 noon exceptions June, July, and August

YOUTH GROUP

Every Wednesday evening, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Exception July

MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Second Saturday of the month, 8:00 a.m., at Salida Kountry Kitchen

PRAYER GROUP

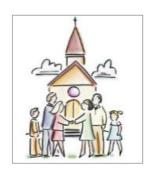
Every Wednesday morning, 9:00 a.m.

SALVATION ARMY COMMODITIES

Second Monday of the month, 7:30 a.m. Help assemble grocery bags for community distribution

SUPPER CLUB

Fourth Saturday of the month, 6:00 p.m. exceptions June, July, and August



Enjoy The Grapevine in full color?

Consider donating an ink cartridge for the printing of The Grapevine...

This issue is color on selected articles due to the limited quantity of ink available.

Our printer uses **HP 951** colored ink cartridge.



FCCofSalida.org

So, let your relatives and friends know they can catch all the latest happenings going on at Salida First Congregational Church online.



PRAYER CHAIN

Pastor James Frost 626-320-2361 Dianne Gillette 529-3488

Church Office 545-1156

The Prayer Chain may be started by calling Pastor James, Dianne Gillette, or the Church Office. They will contact each other, and then the first team member to start the prayer requested.



If you would like to start the Phone Tree please contact Pastor James or one of the First Contact Leaders listed below.

Pastor James Frost 626-320-2361

First Contact Leaders

Dianne Gillette Elaine Tindle Secretary, 529-3488 545-0461 Elizabeth or 613-5775 545-1156

The First Contact Leaders will notify each other and Team Captains in the event of an emergency.

IN THE SPIRIT OF PRAYER

Lifting up in prayer those who cannot be with us for Sunday service.

Capt. John & Denise Beynon

Priscilla Bowman

Jo Ann Tamura



If you need assistance from the Church Office please contact Elizabeth our Church Secretary at:

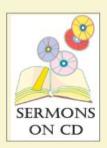
209-545-1156

Email:

fccsalida@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.



CD's are available for each Sunday service. Please contact the Church Office to request a copy.

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFO

Pastor James Frost is available in the Church Office Sunday through Thursday. For emergencies he is available 7 days a week. He may be reached at:

Office: 209-545-1156 Cell: 626-320-2361

Email: fccsalidapastor@sbcglobal.net



GRAPEVINE DEADLINE

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT 2018 ISSUE WILL BE POSTED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN

If at all possible, please e-mail your submissions to fccsalida@sbcglobal.net By e-mailing, it makes it easier for Elizabeth to format your article into the newsletter. We are always up against the time factor, and e-mailing expedites the process as she can cut and paste rather than retype the entire article.

Keep the articles coming in... We appreciate everyone's efforts. Remember... Without your articles, there would be no Grapevine.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

All articles submitted should be publication ready: How you submit it, is how it will appear. You may:

E-mail to fccsalida@sbcglobal.net

Mail to: First Congregational Church of Salida

P.O. Box 1039 Salida, CA 95368

 Hand deliver to the Church Office, "Newsletter" slot behind Elizabeth's desk.