

HOMEDALE
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*Pulpit Supply can be found on the back of the
Sunday morning church bulletins.*

The Summer of Love

by: Carolyn Rees

The beginnings:

San Francisco in the 1950s became home to the beatniks—writers and marijuana smokers who rejected mainstream culture and materialism. Do the names of Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Lawrence Ferlinghetti sound familiar? The main character of Jack Kerouac's novel On the Road was Neal Cassady (Dean Moriarty in the book). Neal got sent to prison for marijuana. A member of our church told my mother about his next-door neighbor who was supporting her family by painting portraits, so my mother sent me to Carolyn Cassady (Neal's wife) to have my portrait painted. She lived in a nice little house with her three children. The living room had no furniture other than a mattress on the floor for a thin, blue-jeans clad man who disappeared when my brother and I came in.

Carolyn and my mother became friends. Other beatniks moved to Los Gatos. Neal came to a party at the house after his release, then took off as one of Ken Kesey's Merry Pranksters written about by Tom Wolfe in The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test. Eventually he migrated to Mexico where he died on the railroad tracks outside San Miguel de Allende, a victim of amphetamine abuse according to the town's Episcopal priest. Carolyn wrote a book Heart Beat about her

adventures with Neal, Jack Kerouac, and Allen Ginsberg that was made into a movie with Sissy Spacek and Nick Nolte.

I went to Reed College and met many "red diaper babies"-- children whose parents were either card-carrying Communists during the depression or were suspected of it. Some parents who were teachers had lost their jobs during the era of the House Un-American Activities Committee. Others had parents who were labor union officers. Classmates told stories of FBI agents pretending to be telephone repairmen visiting their home when parents were out. One boy's mother was head of the Communist Party in California. He was the best dancer in the whole school.

After I graduated from college I got a job as a lab assistant in the gastroenterology department at Stanford Medical School in Palo Alto doing research on pernicious anemia and other autoimmune disease. My only plan was to work at a "girl job" for a couple of years, get married and start a family.

In 1965 word got out that Ken Kesey was having parties that featured a big vat of punch laced with LSD at his house in the redwoods above Palo Alto. Ken Kesey was the author of One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. He invited kids from Palo Alto as well as Hell's Angels. I went up there with a grad student from Nigeria, took one look at the repellent gathering, turned around, and drove home.

Social activism was ramping up. Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta led the farm workers march from Delano to Sacramento, and a doctor from the lab and I took bags of beans and rice and drove over to Sacramento to the rally to greet them. I heard about Saul Alinsky for the first time from one of their supporters. On campus, graduate students organized the Free University and taught any subject they were interested in learning. I took a course called Neo-African Literature and read books by contemporary African writers that was taught by a Jamaican grad student in the English department. He was half Chinese, half mulatto and looked like Nguyen Cao Ky, the flamboyant Vietnamese Air Force leader who took over after the assassination of President Diem. We had great parties with African grad students and West Indian airline employees. I was told I danced as well as an African. I learned that African men sought out smart, large women who

were good dancers. My girl friends-- a Jamaican lab tech and a Puerto Rican airline employee-- persuaded a local Black girl (a heavy girl, great dancer) who was living on welfare to go to work so she could buy nice clothes for the parties. Napalm was being shipped to Vietnam out of the docks in San Francisco Bay. We went out to demonstrate one day but attracted no attention. Medical students came back from the south after spending the summer registering voters.

I went up to San Francisco to investigate the rock concert at the Fillmore Auditorium. Ken Kesey was there doling out LSD laced punch from the back of his station wagon and serving it to his own children! Stoned kids were in the aisles moving randomly to the music under strobe lights. Not my idea of fun.

My plan to marry and start a family was going nowhere. I decided to go to medical school instead, but I would need to raise my grade point average. I enrolled at San Francisco State and moved to San Francisco. Students were volunteering to tutor kids in the Haight Ashbury, at that time a neighborhood of upwardly mobile black families renting flats from Russians who had fled the revolution through China, bought old houses in San Francisco and had now grown old and were renting the houses out. Students found inexpensive housing there, too. One of the tutors lived by the Golden Gate Panhandle with three roommates. When the Black Student Union formed at SF State, it was decided that black kids should have black tutors, so I was sidelined.

The Black Student Union attracted the attention of the community organizers, and Rennie Davis, who was later jailed for his part in the riots that accompanied the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago, showed up to recruit for The Movement. We could have important roles in social change. "Do you know of an issue people are concerned about that you could organize around?" I answered, "Young families in the suburbs are concerned about property values. They have sunk all they have into a new house." It looked to me he was inviting us to become important by manipulating poor people. San Francisco did not have a problem with neighborhoods of entrenched poverty. It is a get up and go place.

Well, the Haight Ashbury was about to change, and not in a way that was good for the families living there—two-parent families with high hopes for their children, several levels beyond the

neighborhoods where drug users hung out and recruited boys into crime.

"If you're going to San Francisco, be sure to wear some flowers in your hair..."

Left-wing activists, artists, and playwrights, some of whom I knew from college, organized the Human Be-In with amusing theater, anti-war themes, and lots of music. It made great material for TV news, magazines, and newspapers. The rock concerts that followed were publicized by colorful graphic posters. The Summer of Love was underway. Kids swarmed in. They wore colorful, loose clothing, flip-flops with daisies between the toes, and sat on the curbs and stairs. My boyfriend's roommate befriended new arrivals Jack and Lisa and they moved in to the flat. Soon Lisa's used tampons could be found on the bathroom counter with the toothbrushes. She got gonorrhea. She called her father (parents were divorced) to wish him happy birthday and he dismissed her saying, "What did you do that for?" They sat around in the wicker furniture smoking marijuana by candlelight until they fell asleep. Jack was a little more stable—he had been raised by his divorced mother, a nurse. Lisa brought home a toddler to feed. She had found his mother passed out from injecting heroin. Fire sirens could be heard every night as old wooden buildings went up in flames from the carelessness of the rootless invaders.

Out on the street, Hells Angels murdered a man in front of the Russian Coffee Shop. Bloodstains were still visible when I went for piroshki. Just then Timothy Leary was walking along, a self-satisfied smirk on his face.

This was too crazy for me. Later Jack informed us that Lisa had died of hepatitis. Not everyone was a hapless adolescent, though. My boyfriend had come out from Texas with classmates Janis Joplin and Chet Helms. Chet's ambition was to make a million dollars by age 30. He became a rock impresario. I never met either one of them—Janis had alienated my boyfriend by borrowing his Smithsonian records, "Songs of the South" and never returning them. He had written a profile on her for the Daily Texan—they had rooms in the same rooming house. "Total slob". What they had in common in the segregated society of Texas was that they were all committed to racial integration. The University of Texas had been forced to integrate the undergraduate school by court order and theirs was the first integrated

class—with a total of twelve black students. These students were not allowed to live in campus housing with white students. The YMCA where they lived was bombed. Later they scattered out into rooming houses where like-minded students lived.

I got a different perspective on the Summer of Love years later, in a conversation with the young doctor I worked with. She told me that she would not have survived without the support of the other kids that summer—she had left behind her two alcoholic parents in the East and escaped into the Haight. Communal living was her refuge and the only place she had. This corresponded to my take on the kids I met. White, uncared-for middle-class kids from broken homes seemed to make up the majority. The black people of the neighborhood worked hard to keep their families together and their kids away from drugs, aiming at a more prosperous and secure future. And here were all these white people doing drugs and engaging in promiscuous sex—all the things the black people were getting away from.

What did the Summer of Love accomplish? The media mainstreamed destructive behavior! Legitimized drugs. Legitimized "free love". Went on to legitimize out-of-wedlock childbearing. Made attractive the behavior that keeps people mired in poverty and destroys families.

That is what I think of the Summer of Love. It was not beautiful up close. Nevertheless the rock musicians went on to fame and fortune, overdosing and hepatitis. Chet made his million and more. Some of the politicians got elected to public office. People felt good about themselves for embracing the anti-war message. The press made lots of money and provided jobs for writers of fiction which they passed off as truth. Image triumphed.

Session Minutes from January 15th

Present: Carolyn Rees, David Jones, Al Davaz, Mabel Itano, Ben Cardenas, Margaret Fujishin

Absent: Shelley Townsend, Raymond Smith

Moderator: Ben Cardenas

Treasurer's report by Mabel Itano:

Revenue last month	\$ 5,475.10
Expenses last month	\$ 5,183.54
Offering plate revenue	\$ 2,371.10
Basic expenses	\$ 1,528.49
Revenue year to date	\$45,168.19

Expenses year to date	\$41,906.21
Checking acct. bal.	\$14,267.05
	(\$3,654.54 of check. acct. is Special Funds)
Presb. Grant funds remaining \$	347.97
	(this is for Sunday School, not Friday club)
Savings balance	\$ 658.17
	(\$400 set aside for graduate school for Ben Cardenas)
Investments balance	\$60,157.17

Per capita for 2017 is 25.92

Building and Grounds committee report:

- Two chimneys on roof on west side of building were broken off by heavy snow and ice falling from upper roof.

Music and Worship committee report:

- Carolyn is working on pulpit supply.
- Ben will contact Tyler Wixom from American Music about the nonworking speakers that serve the fellowship hall.

Stewardship committee report:

- Pledges are coming in as expected.

Personnel committee report:

- No concerns at this time.

Fellowship and Greeters committee report:

- Everything is going well.

Christian Education committee report:

- Sunday school is going very well. The youth will have an indoor yard sale during spring break.

Deacons report:

- The deacons will meet to plan the February Sweetheart Dinner.

Evangelism committee report:

- Plans are underway for the second annual "Under the Shadow of the Owyhees" community concert.

Friday Youth Club report:

- Five or six computers are being purchased along with Internet access.

Saturday Lunch Bunch report:

- Attendance for 2016 matched the year before: 15 guests and 3 adult volunteers on average.

El-Ada report:

- Value of food donated for December was \$57.64

Wednesday CLC report

- No problems with sharing our building with the Friends Church for their Wednesday Christian Life Club for kids.

Presbytery representative report:

- The next meeting will be Feb. 4 at Boone Church.

Homedale Ministerial Assoc. report:

- Discussed program to help people who are being released from prison. Carolyn will find out when the next meeting will be.

Clerk's report by Margaret Fujishin:

- Average attendance for last month was 30.

Old business:

- The website is tabled for the moment.

New business:

- No suggestions in the suggestion box.
- Mabel Itano was appointed treasurer for 2017.
- Session voted to retain the same committee chairs as last year.
- Session voted to have the usual Special Offerings in 2017.
- Session voted to continue to have Communion once a month.
- The Audit Committee will meet soon. Barry Fujishin will be asked to be a member of the committee as a substitute.
- Session discussed gift ideas for visitors at worship services. The Deacons will talk about it further.

Called Congregational Meeting Minutes

Jan. 15, 2017

Moderator: Richard Green

Clerk: Margaret Fujishin

Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm in the sanctuary.

Opening Prayer: Moderator

Purpose of Meeting: To hear the report of the nominating committee and elect church officers.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Elders, Class of 2019: Shelley Townsend and Ben Cardenas

Deacons, Class of 2019: David Jones and Paula Saunders

No nominations from the floor.

Members voted unanimously to elect the above-named members.

The meeting was closed with prayer at 12:08pm



Sweetheart Banquet

It's that special time of year of again when our Deacons pick someone from our church family to

be honored as Church Sweetheart. This year's banquet will be on **February 12th**. Before worships starts our Sweetheart will be announced and following worship we will celebrate with a potluck banquet. This year's theme is traditional red, white, and pink valentines. We can't wait to see you there and help us all honor the 2017 Church Sweetheart.

Youth News

On January 15th the youth celebrated National Pizza week. Following worship they served handmade pizzas they had prepared during fellowship time for all to enjoy. Thank you everyone who donated pizza supplies!



Donations Wanted!!

The youth are beginning to collect items for a **Spring Break Indoor Yard Sale** in March. The funds raised will go towards the Presbyterian Kids Club (PKC) account. The funds will be used for Sunday School supplies, curriculum and field trips. Start looking through your closets, cupboards, sheds, garages, and under the bed. Items can be left in the elementary Sunday School room. Anything will help!

Deacons News

Baked Potato Bar

Help the Deacons celebrate National Potato Month on **Sunday February 26**. Following worship we will have a baked potato bar for everyone to enjoy. A sign-up sheet for toppings is located next to the coffee pot in the fellowship hall.

Souper Bowl Sunday

The Deacons are hosting a canned food drive! On **Sunday February 5th** everyone is encouraged to bring a can or two of their

favorite soup to church. The cans will then be donated to the Free Saturday Lunch program at the church.

Visitor Gifts

The Deacons are working on creating a gift to be given to folks visiting our church for the first time. As you can see, our Deacons are very active!

2nd Annual

Under the Shadow of the Owyhees

After a successful concert last year, the Evangelism Committee is excited to announce a second *Under the Shadow of the Owyhees* musical concert to be held March 5th at the church at 2:00 pm. This year's concert funds will be donated to Homedale High School's drama department. Admission price will be \$4 and a canned food donation for El-Ada food bank. Performers for this year's concert are still tentative but will include our most popular acts from last year's concert plus some exciting new ones – a Scottish bagpiper and a Spanish flamenco dancer! The Evangelism Committee is asking members to bring two dozen cookies the day of the concert. We look forward to seeing everyone **March 5th** and ask that you help spread the word!

February 1998

- Jean Frelove sold her home lived with her daughter Mary Lou Wilson until the new Senior Apartments were ready
- Janet McCornack attended a national community training in Philadelphia where guest speakers included Colin Powell, and the governor of Alaska.
- Tony Hoshaw got all A's and one B on his report card. The B he received was in Mrs. Pottenger's calculus.
- Florence Klahr and Ann Prickett made a velour crazy quilt for Florence's daughter, Sharon Taggart.
- Scott Itano represented Homedale High School at the district BPA competition
- Carolyn Rees traveled to California to celebrate her mother's 90th birthday
- Tomi Bidwell as honored as the 1998 Church Sweetheart

Sunday Humor

Talking through Scripture

A new pastor moved into a town and set out one day to visit his parishioners. All went well until he came to one house. It was obvious someone was home, but no one came to the door, even after he had knocked several times. Finally he took out his card, wrote on the back "Revelation 3:20" and stuck it on the back of the door.

Revelation 3:20: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with me."

Later in the week, as he was counting the offering, he found his card in the collection plate. Below his message was the notation "Genesis 3:10."

Genesis 3:10: "And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked: so I hid myself."



"I wasn't always as religious as I am now. For years I thought the Ten Commandments were a doo-wop group from the 1950's!"

Have Newsletter Information?

E-mail Ben no later than February 23rd with March information. bennycardenas@ymail.com



Our Church Family

“If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad.”

I Corinthians 12:26

Joys

Donations totaling \$52.95 was donated to El-Ada in January. An itemized list of the donations is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

A year ago the Evangelism Committee proposed a **“Read the Bible in a Year”** challenge.

Congratulations to Vivian Lillie. She is the **one** among us who met the challenge!

Prayers for:

Janet McCornack’s brother Jerry who will be undergoing surgery

Lin Lentfer who was sick with a cold

Bonnie Cade who is going through rehab for a broken ankle

The Weiser Presbyterian Church of the Redeemer, whose building suffered damaged from the heavy snowfall

Rev. Daryl Wilson’s wife Cathy, who sustained a winter ice injury.

Every affected adversely by our weather

Judi Jemmett’s mother Bonnie who suffered a stroke

Cliff Eidemiller and Glenn Lillie as they continue to treatment for cancer

Our church Elders and Deacons as they guide us in the year ahead

Thanks to:

Barry Fujishin for hiring Ric Uria to plow the deep snow from our parking lot
Whoever hauled away, before Ben had a chance to put it in the trash, the old Christmas tree left outside the door

In Search of:

Ivy Cardenas is searching for a double bed box spring or a mattress. Anyone have one?

God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.