

Days of Grace  
Quarantine Edition  
May 2020

Nancy's Note

As you can clearly see, Days of Grace is different this month. This will bring you the essential news but without the fancy format due to our printing and mailing service not deemed an "essential service". Please find the mail-in ballot for our budget and slate of officers to return in the enclosed envelope. We are also sending out the Membership Donation form for the 2020-2021 budget year at this time since so many of you contribute at Annual Conference.

Speaking of which, you know that Annual Conference Session has been postponed to September 18-21, 2020. What that will look like is yet to be determined. We still don't know if gatherings of that size will be allowed. Please make sure you are getting conference emails so the latest information goes directly to your inbox. Please remember, whenever we gather for ACS, wear your medallions! Let us be visible! (I would encourage you to wear it at all conference events, actually. You are a mighty force!)

In the spirit of love for all, the Board of Directors chose to cancel our annual luncheon. It was felt that it would be irresponsible to have one another in close proximity and missing the point to be "socially distant". Additionally, if ACS has to change time or format, we wanted to let The Greens book their space as they can. We invite you to gather, when we are able, in area groups to share a meal, a cup of coffee, or simply fellowship.

I am working from home for the duration. Paul, Brian, Andrea, and I are coordinating our time at the office so no two of us are there at the same time. They have moved to at home work as well and are still able to answer the phone when you call and, of course, get your emails. Please be assured your pension checks will keep coming! We all meet via Zoom, along with Dave Bennett, weekly to share information and make sure all needs are being met. Feel free to call any of us if a need arises. The Parish Visitors and Pastor Response Team are still working and available as well. We are just doing things a bit differently now, as we all are in so many ways.

Be safe. Wear your mask. Wash your hands. Keep the faith. I keep the RCA and all our members in our prayers.

~Nancy

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Surveys

Our Vice President, Pam Abbey, has coordinated with the Conference to email our annual survey. Please look for it in your email. Check your spam/junk folders and any other folder in which your email service might have hidden it. Last year's survey results were given to the Cabinet and they found it most helpful. Pam and Nancy will compile the results and send it to the Cabinet again.

President's Ponderings

Greetings to all in the name of Christ!

This is my final communication to you as President of RCA. This has been a roller coaster time, not only for RCA, but many related to this Annual Conference. Little did we know that the Annual Conference Session would be rescheduled; some retirements postponed; colleges, universities, and high schools would be shut down with no closing celebration. The list goes on and on.

Those of us who represent you on the Board of RCA, were not immune from closings. There will be no Annual Meeting and Luncheon in June for retirees, past and present. Out of an abundance of caution, the Spring Fling was cancelled, and the Annual Luncheon will not be held at the rescheduled Annual Conference in September. While frustrating, we recognize that all of us are in that high risk group due to age or health issues. The Respite Room will hopefully be operational in the Convention Center at ACS (we plan on it, barring any "gathering restrictions"). Just a reminder: Wear your Retirement Medallion at ACS!!

There are a couple of official acts that must be done; elect officers and approve our 2020-2021 budget. These are recommended to you by the Nominations committee and Board of Directors, respectively. Please return your ballot to Nancy Daley by June 15 using the enclosed envelope.

I am honored to have served as your President these past two years.

Blessings to all!  
Tom Kimball

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The Endowment Board

To Our Beloved Retirees and Spouses,  
**The last two months have posed many changes for us and our lives, but in the midst of change lies the beauty of unexpected blessings.** Finding joy in an unfamiliar season of life can be different, but if you look around, you can find God's hand in it all...may His grace comfort you during this journey.

In our 129 year history, we have experienced many triumphs, and weathered many storms. Through all of those moments in time and their positive and negative emotional impacts on our country and the world, The Endowment Board is proud to report that we have never missed our annual gifts to the Conference Board of Pensions and the Retired Clergy Association. In fact, since our inception, we have never given less than the year prior, regardless of any global event. Thanks to our generous donors, resilient investments, and tenacious management of our assets, we will continue to provide funding for YOU – our retirees and spouses. You can rest assured that The Endowment Board is continuing to steward the mission through these events.

Until we can physically meet again, we send our prayers to you and your loved ones and reassurance of our commitment to you.

God Bless - The Endowment Board

Scholarship Awards

Alice Ann Glenn, Chair

The Retired Clergy Association [RCA] as part of our purpose "to strengthen our relationship with our Conference and to continue to be of service to the church and the world", award Memorial Scholarships each year. This year RCA awarded six Memorial Scholarships to students who are Certified Candidates and working either toward Local Pastors License and/or Ordination. The monies for the scholarships are supplied by a memorial donation from the Association upon the passing of a member, as well as those received in memory of members from others.

Most of this years recipients of the scholarships are Claremont Course of Study [COS] students which is an alternative to seminary. The exceptions are noted. RCA Memorial Scholarships also support Licensing School. \$1500 will go to each of the following:

- Catherine Love Sacramento First UMC
- Alison Maki Fall River Mills Community UMC
- April Sousa Church of the Joyful Healer
- Yeu Vang Atwater UMC M.Div Hybrid Program
- Cheng Yang Oroville First UMC COS/Garrett in Hmong
- Jer Yang Sacramento Trinity UMC

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Relational Care

Linda A. Holbrook

A couple of weeks ago I had this article all planned. I was going to write you about the opportunity of traveling with other retired clergy and spouses. Then the world changed.

I love to travel and was taking a cruise. I left home on March 9th to travel to Norway in search of the northern lights. I thought I might be safer than here in Santa Clara County. After all there were fewer cases of coronavirus in Norway than in Santa Clara County. I boarded the ship on March 10th and we left port on March 11th. We woke up on March 12th to the captain's announcement that the cruise was suspended and we had turned around. I returned home on March 15th. I returned home to a different world than I had left.

None of us have ever seen anything like this. We are a connected people and social distancing changes the way we connect. I realize that I have many things for which I am grateful. I am grateful that I got home safely. I am grateful for the organizations that are offering webinars and zoom calls to share information and keep people in touch with each other. I am grateful for every call, email, and text I receive with family or friends. Each one tells me that even at a distance there are people who care. I am grateful for all the churches that have learned how to use technology to offer virtual worship services.

I am grateful that I have many verses from the Bible that nurture my soul. One of my favorites is Psalm 46: 1, 2a "God is our refuge and strength, a very

present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear." This can be a scary time and it is ok to admit that we are afraid or anxious. However, we don't have to let our fear or anxiety control us. We know that God will be with us, and we can find others to talk to or prayer or meditation that will lower our fear and anxiety. God's grace will cover us in this uncertain time.

I am grateful for each of you. Over the many years your ministry has changed the lives of thousands of people. The way we respond to our current situation tells the world that we go forward with God's help and with our connections to our neighbors; exactly what Jesus told us to do.

Take care and be safe and know that God is with you.

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Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RetiredClergyAssociation/>

Find us on the web: <https://ca-nv-rca.org/>

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We appreciate your understanding as we adapt to the current circumstances.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

President: Tom Kimball

Vice President: Pam Abbey

Treasurer: Gregory Floyd

Secretary: Dave Bennett

ACS Commission: Dave Thompson

Relational Care: Linda Holbrook

Pastoral Response Team: Carolee Catterall

Spring Fling: Floyd Quenzer and Donna Hougland

Scholarship Program: Alice Ann Glenn

UMVIM: Betty Pagett

Class of 2020: Heather Hammer, Kristie Olah

Class of 2021: Judson Gears, Jinsik Lee, Eileen Lindsay

Class of 2022: Norma Betancourt, Pam Cummings, Sandy Roberts, Ben Silva-Netto

### EXECUTIVE OFFICER & RCA CONTACT INFO

Nancy Daley

9328 Elk Grove Blvd. #105-141 \* Elk Grove, CA 95624

916-539-4249

**Annual Elections**

**\*President: Pam Abbey**

**\*Vice President: Sandy Roberts**

Secretary: Dave Bennett

Treasurer: Gregory Floyd

ACS Committee Rep: Dave Thompson

Memorial Scholarship Chair: Alice Ann Glenn

Pastoral Response Team Chair: Carolee Catterall

Relational Care Committee Chair: Linda Holbrook

Spring Fling Committee Co-Chairs: Floyd Quenzer and Donna Hougland

**\*VIM Chair: Marty Murdock**

Past President: Tom Kimball

At Large Members -

**Class of 2021:**

Judson Gears

Jinsik Lee

Eileen Lindsay

**Class of 2022:**

Norma Betancourt

Pam Cummings

Ben Silva-Netto

**Class of 2023:**

**\*Alexis Easton**

**\*Becky Goodwin**

**\*Kristie Olah**

**\* To Be Elected**

See Budget on Reverse

**RCA - Treasurer's Report**  
**2019-2020 As Of Mar 31, 2020 & 2020-2021 Proposed Budget**

**INCOME**

Budget Item	2019-2020 Budget	Proposed 2020-2021 Budget
Earnings - CCEB, UMF	10,000	-
Endowment Board grant	106,000	106,000
Membership Donations	14,000	15,000
Donations (Misc + Elliot Fund)	500	1,000
Reserves	<b>35,757</b>	<b>48,436</b>
Total Income	<b>166,257</b>	<b>170,436</b>

**EXPENSES**

**Program**

Annual Conference Luncheon	11,000	11,000
Annual Conference Per Diem	30,000	30,000
Annual Conference Respite	4,000	4,000
Book of Memoirs	3,200	3,200
Days of Grace	5,500	5,500
Gathering of Orders	4,500	6,000
Memorial Scholarship Fund	7,500	7,500
Relational Care Programs	9,500	9,700
RCA Budget	9,500	9,700
Card Ministry		200
New Retiree Lunch		500
Relational Care	1,500	1,500
Parish Visitor	5,000	4,500
Pastoral Response Team	2,000	2,000
Surviving Spouses Luncheon	500	500
Welcoming Interviews	500	500
Retiree Event Grants	-	500
Spring Fling	9,000	9,000
UMVIM Program Grant	2,500	2,500

**Administrative**

Operations	4,000	4,000
Board/Executive Committee	6,000	6,000

**Executive Officer**

Salary	60,057	61,836
FICA	52,273	53,856
Worker's Compensation	3,924	4,120
Business Reimbursements	410	410
	3,450	3,450

**Total Expense**

<b>166,257</b>	<b>170,436</b>
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**BALANCE**

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