

Faith In Action

A series profiling members and friends of SMCC

June Grube

June Grube, at 90, remains a Southern girl. She was born and raised in Alabama, the eldest of seven children. On Sunday mornings, her mother gathered all the children together, four girls and three boys, and they walked to church, skipping, dancing, and twirling their way there. At their small, country Methodist Church, June was captivated by the vivid and exciting Bible stories.



God was also very real and present in June's family life. People truly put their trust in God. When June's father, a cotton, corn, and cattle farmer, put in crops, he would say that the rest is up to God. God was ever-present and acknowledged in their lives.

When June met future husband Jack Grube she was wary about marrying a chaplain. Jack asked her straight out if she was a Christian. She replied that she knew that God exists. Jack wasn't satisfied with that answer. June confessed that as a young woman (even more irrepressible than she is today) she perceived Christ as a "killjoy", intolerant of fun such as dancing, playing cards, or going to a movie. Jack's reply was to read the Bible passage from John 10:10b: "[Jesus Christ] came that they may have life and have it abundantly." That statement turned her life around. She married Jack, who was a chaplain in the armed services, and began reading Christian works voraciously: C.S. Lewis, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and other great philosophers. After reading such works for two years she realized it was all very simple. It's about faith and the grace of God, his free gift to us.

June went with her husband to assignments in Germany, England, Venezuela, California, and Libya. She often taught school. After Jack died in 1976, June returned to California and joined San Marino Community Church in 1984. Shortly thereafter, June became a Stephen Minister and has been one for nearly 20 years. She was motivated to go through the extensive training program because after her husband's death she wanted to follow Mother Teresa's example and "do something beautiful" as a response to something sad. As a Stephen Minister June knows that her role is not to fix things but to simply walk alongside and help people with difficult times, just as God does for us. June has also taken this philosophy into her teaching and tutoring practice, firmly believing that each student is a child of God and that they are worthy of love, attention, and ultimately of success.

June loves and prays for San Marino Community Church. She is grateful for the opportunity to have served as a Deacon, an Elder, a member of the Mission Board, a Vacation Bible School teacher, and grief group facilitator, among other ministries.

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