



PResPPress

September 2019

Presbyterian Church of Novato, 710 Wilson Ave., P.O. Box 631, Novato, CA 94948



As I sit at my desk typing these words listening to the rhythm of the wind sweeping across the trees and in through the door I have propped open, it is as if God's whispered voice breathes words I have yet to pen: words of comfort and challenge, truth and hope, encouragement and love. If only that gentle breeze could speak plainly or, better yet, type this article for me. That would be fantastic!

Ah...but that's not how God works. If God simply dictated everything to us or did everything for us why would God need us at all? Instead, God calls us to be partners in what God is up to in the world. God chooses us to be the body of Christ free to make choices and decisions as we follow Jesus: Jesus who is ever *building for the future* in and through us, the Presbyterian Church of Novato.

This realization leaves us with a question to answer: *How are we "Building for the Future" in partnership with Christ?*

As we begin this new program year together, we do so with this theme that is both challenging and yet filled with opportunity and hope:

"Building for the Future"

God is not done with us. God is ever calling us to serve Christ with the many gifts and resources we have been given, living into the fullness of who God has created us to be.

And there are opportunities coming up to get connected, to utilize and explore our gifts, to make a difference in the life and ministry of PCN, in the community, and throughout the world.

“Get Connected. Serve Jesus. Make a Difference.”

HOW CAN I HELP BUILD FOR THE FUTURE AT PCN?

On September 8th, we will have a **Ministry Fair** after Sunday service. You will be able to discover hundreds of ways to serve in the life and ministry at PCN as we build for the future. All of our ministries will have booths set up in the courtyard with information to share and with volunteer opportunities ready to be filled.

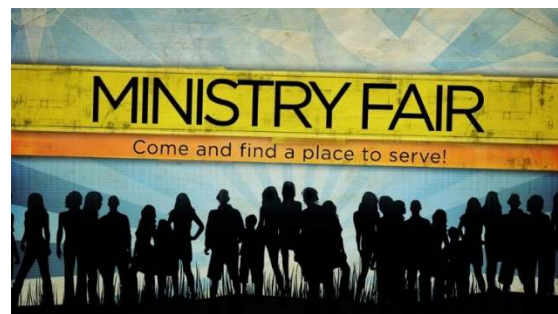
And then on October 20th, we are excited to welcome Rev. Dale Flowers, senior pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Rosa, to preach the Word on Consecration Sunday when we dedicate our Stewardship financial gifts that will help finance our 2020 program and mission.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION

Any kind of build requires a strong foundation.

As you will hear in the days to come, the Church Development Committee, which has had many iterations over the years with the task of reflecting on and exploring what it would take to meet our building needs - a.k.a.

a new fellowship space and/or kitchen - has taken a step backwards to do some faithful listening. Instead of jumping into a building project, they have, with some guidance from Brown Church Development Group and with thoughtful prayer and conversation, elected to do necessary ‘foundation’ work. This foundation work has nothing to do with brick and mortar, but is the work of understanding, clarifying, and articulating our identity and call from God. Who is PCN? What are PCN’s unique Mission, Vision, and Values? The answers to these questions reflect God’s call for us at PCN and offer us a unified sense of direction in our ministry, program, and building needs.



*“Where there is no vision,
the people perish.”* -Proverbs 29:18

HOW THE FOUNDATION WORK BEGINS



In order to do this discernment work the Church Development Committee has created and recruited for a **MISSION/VISION COMMITTEE** that will engage in prayerful discernment, with input from the congregation, to help fashion mission, vision, and values statements that reflect who we are and where God is calling us. This

team, that will be led by a member of PCN (TBD), is representative of our congregation in all demographics. The members include: Kay Walker, Tali Sundberg, Mike Winsor, Walt Campbell, and Don Brand. We hope to recruit one or two more people.

This team will utilize our 2017 Mission Study, Brown Church Development Group's Growth Positioning Study, Scripture, conversation with you, the congregation, and combine it with a lot of prayer and listening for the Holy Spirit in order to accomplish its work.

The Church Development Committee has also created two other subcommittees:

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE to help communicate with the Session and the congregation the activity of the Church Development Committee and the two other subcommittees. Building a strong foundation requires good communication.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE that – while not directly involved with the foundation work – will be working to address another of our congregation's needs, namely to choose a new website provider that will create a more professional, user-friendly, and easier to edit church website. Our website is often the first impression we give to those outside our congregation.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE BEGINS

Sunday, September 1st

- "Building for the Future" worship series begins

Sunday, September 8th

- Ministry Fair
- Congregation Commissioning of the 3 subcommittees to faithful service

Sunday, October 20th

- Consecration Sunday

PASTOR'S NOTE

My friends, this is an exciting time in the life and ministry of PCN! As we Build for the Future together – praying, discerning, investing, giving, and loving – we do so not for ourselves, but to partner with the God who transforms our lives and makes us whole, building us up as the Body of Christ to and for the world. This is a process that you all began long before I arrived in Novato, and I am simply blown away by a church that, while searching for a pastor, was not static and still but ever discerning God's call in the midst of transition. I am so very grateful to now be a part of how God is building for the future at PCN.

Many Blessings to You,
Adam

Ariel Mink

As Adam referenced in his article this month, we have been engaged in a lot of discernment work related to our future. In the mid-2000s, we started looking at the feasibility of either building a new fellowship hall or renovating the existing CE building. Due to many reasons, predominantly the economic downturn in 2008, the decision was made to hold off on any significant campus development plans and initiate a capital campaign.

In 2017, a new committee was formed and, in the summer of 2018, solicited bids to evaluate potential partners to PCN regarding new development. Ultimately, Brown Church Development Group was selected. Their consulting framework begins with ministry development, which may or may not include physical campus development. Following the decision to enter into a contractual agreement with Brown CDG in the fall of 2018, a new implementation team was formed to begin programmatic work which included, among other things, a congregational survey, leadership surveys, in-depth interviews, as well as a demographic analysis of Novato.

Brown CDG's first deliverable to PCN was a study that identified factors limiting PCN's growth as well as identifying strengths of our ministry, with the goal of shaping our vision for the future. This "Growth Positioning Study" provided some immediate ministry actions items, three of which the implementation team believed would provide the most traction. Based on that recommendation, Session approved the formation of three sub-committees that would report back to the implementation team (which reports to Session): a communications team, a website team, and a mission/vision team. Greater details about the focus areas for each of those groups are included in Adam's article this month.

On September 8, the implementation team, as well as the subcommittee team members, will be commissioned to continue this important work. If you feel called to participate on any of these teams, please reach out to Adam or me! In addition, the implementation team will have a table at the Ministry Fair following worship with FAQs that you can pick up and read in more detail.

Morgan Smith

This past summer, we looked at a variety of faith questions, including can I be spiritual but not religious, and can I just worship God in the woods? The truth that some of these questions brought out is that our faith journey is not simply a road that we take alone. That in the church, we are one body. That God has so created the Christian life that we must be integrated in one another's lives for our own growth and for the growth of others.

Other questions brought out the truth that we are created for something more, something greater: to shine the light of Christ in the world. We were created for mission, for God's mission.

We all have a role to play in this body, in this church. And we all have a role to play in God's mission in the world. These roles differ, as our giftings differ from one another. God has so designed us all that we have varied gifts, and that the church needs all of those gifts and talents being utilized to operate as He calls us to in the world.

What role can you play this next year? Where can you use the gifts and talents the Lord has given you to bless our church and to expand the kingdom of Christ in the world?

Get out of your comfort zone and take a risk for Christ! Serve in a new way; go deeper in relationships; go on a mission trip; pursue Christ more passionately. Get connected to Christ, the church, and the world in a deeper way this next year!



PLEASE SIGN UP *NOW*
SERVE DAY AT GILEAD HOUSE
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 ~ 10 a.m. to noon

Join us for a fun and rewarding day at Gilead House for their fall clean-up day. All hands are welcome for a multitude of tasks: raking leaves, sweeping the patio, pruning shrubbery, sweeping floors, polishing furniture, cleaning leather sofas, cleaning out the refrigerator and kitchen cupboards, washing windows. You name it, there's a need for it!

Join us for camaraderie, a great feeling of accomplishment, and a fun day besides. Contact Carolyn Gerrans for questions or sign-ups: 415-897-1504 or grace624@comcast.net.



2018 Volunteers

PENTECOST OFFERING and BUCKAROO BREAKFAST

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

PCN has come through for North Marin Community Services in a BIG way this summer, with 40% of our Pentecost offering going to its food services, and the proceeds of the Buckaroo Breakfast going to its organization as well. PCN is an integral part of the community, and we are grateful for the gifts we have to share.



Cheryl Paddack, NMCS executive director, and Alan Dunham, Boys' Club architect and Board of Directors emeritus



Pastor Adam Smith, Cheryl Paddack, and Rob Sundberg



Children and supporters of NMCS giving a star-spangled welcome



Dear Rev. Adam and all the Buckaroo Breakfast Volunteers,

We are so very grateful for all your hard work on July 4th! Year after year, the Buckaroo Breakfast brings celebration, delicious food, and connection to our community. North Marin Community Services is truly honored to be your chosen partner.

Thank you for planning, organizing, sponsoring, working and gifting this event to our community. And, thank you again for the complimentary tickets you provided to our youth in need. They were able to enjoy a tasty breakfast before watching the parade and were so appreciative of the experience.

Please feel free to share this message of gratitude to your committee members, or feel free to advise us to whom we can email and share with.

Sincerely,

Cheryl and Stephanie, NMCS



Dear Presbyterian Church of Novato,

We need your help for the 6th annual **Pedal for Protein** ride with the theme of “Keep the main thing, the main thing” in honor of pastor and P4P rider Rich Gantenbein to support food bank pantries and food projects in Redwoods Presbytery and the Presbyterian Hunger Program food justice project planting fruit trees in deforested areas and bee-keeping in Nicaragua. The 2019 goal is \$60,000. All funds raised are donated through Redwood Presbytery’s eight food banks that support pantries in your area. We can only reach our goal with your help. Last year we raised \$53,568, and in the first five years \$197,972! Every single dollar donated to P4P supports protein food for hungry children, seniors, the homeless and low-income working families.

Ride dates: 7-day ride September 22-28, from Orick to Santa Rosa
1-day ride September 28, Santa Rosa at Knox Presbyterian Church

How can you help raise awareness and support Pedal for Protein?

1. Recruit at least one rider from your congregation to ride the north coast 7-day tour and/or the 1-day Santa Rosa ride. Options are available for two to four days of riding. See www.PedalforProtein.com.
2. Help publicize P4P. Ideas include putting up posters at your local bike shops, grocery stores, coffee shops, etc.
3. Adopt a P4P or community rider. We can supply a P4P rider who needs help fundraising or, with the help of a local bike shop, offer to do the fundraising for a local cyclist to ride for your congregation. No cyclist? Create a virtual rider! It could be your pastor or your congregation as a whole.
4. Have a P4P fundraiser. You could hold a rummage sale and donate the proceeds to P4P.

Each 7-day rider must raise a minimum of \$500 in addition to riding 375 miles, paying registration to do the ride, train, and get their bikes ready. These riders are committed to feeding the hungry and will appreciate your help!

Thank you in advance for supporting us as we Pedal for Protein for healthy food and balanced nutrition.

Sponsored by the Hunger Task Force, Presbytery of the Redwoods
Contact Patty Sanders, Redwoods Hunger Action Advocate and Pedal for Protein Ride Director:
(cell) 415.515.6127 or email pattyredwoodshae@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.PedalforProtein.com



2019 Domestic Mission

The Carr Fire burned 229,651 acres (359 square miles) in Shasta and Trinity counties starting on July 23, 2018. The fire started when a flat tire on a vehicle caused the rim to strike the asphalt creating a spark that set off the fire. Fed by strong winds, the fire jumped the Sacramento River, making its way into Redding. More than 38,000 people were evacuated, 1,077 homes were destroyed and eight people, died including three firefighters.

2019 Volunteer Teams

Volunteer teams will travel to Redding October 18-25, 2019 to rebuild lives working with **Hope City Response Network**, the same group we were with in Middletown the past three years. Individuals or groups may participate for the entire two weeks or just either the first or second week. There is a one-time fee of \$50 to cover team expenses. Transportation will be by personal vehicles and carpooling can be arranged.

Where Will We Stay?

Simpson Bible University has set aside a group of unoccupied student dorm rooms for our use. Each room accommodates four people in single (non-bunk) beds with one shared bathroom (cost per week per person is \$100). Three meals a day are provided by our team at one of the local churches (\$50 per week.) RV parking is being arranged (\$225 per week) or local motels are plentiful starting at \$60 per night.

Who can come?

Anyone over age 16 (youth 12 and older may work if accompanied by a parent). If you know the difference between a hammer and a potato peeler we have work for you. You do not have to have any particular skills, but there are some tasks in any construction project that may be strenuous or require specialized skills. The majority of tasks can be accomplished by anyone. Usually jobs are reduced to manageable tasks and good instruction is provided.

History

Photos of past trips may be viewed on the First United Methodist Church of Santa Rosa website: www.fumcsantarosa.org. Open the website home page and type "VIM" in the search box.

Join your PCN team for this exciting "hands-on" ministry

There are sign-up forms and brochures available in the church office or contact:

Bill Walker (H) 415-883-5780 (C) 415-726-6733 walkerb1959@gmail.com

Sierra Mink – YAV Update!



I am leaving August 19th to begin my year as a Young Adult Volunteer in Boston, Massachusetts. I began looking at the YAV website because I wanted to do work that was meaningful to me. The more I dug into the program, the more it seemed like a great way to use my gifts and talents. Now that I have committed to the year, I can only explain the decision as “right.”

In October of last year, I applied to the programs in Scotland, Austin, and Boston. I had the opportunity to interview with each site coordinator throughout the winter holidays and was encouraged to hear about the diversity of opportunities within each site. The food justice-focused programs offered at Boston called to me most concretely because food justice is a passion area of mine.



The Boston YAV program, also called the Boston Food Justice Young Adult Volunteer Program (BFJYAV), was the perfect fit for

my passions. I greatly value the power of presence and recognizing our common humanity over a meal. The non-profit organization I will be working with is centered on this human dignity emphasis. Living Waters: Center for Hope (<https://www.livingwaterslowell.org/>) is focused on helping those who want to change for the better by providing food, clothing, and other services aimed at those who are transitioning to a more stable living arrangement.

In addition to Living Waters, I will also be working with Eliot Presbyterian Church in Lowell, MA. My work will range from teaching Sunday School classes to providing updates about my work with Living Waters to doing research about pertinent justice issues affecting the area. This is also the church where I will be worshipping for the next year! I look forward to being as involved at Eliot as I have been at PCN.

I want to thank everyone at this church for being so incredibly supportive of mission work and for showing me how to be the hands and feet of Christ to other communities. If you would like to follow my progress throughout the year, I will be updating a blog monthly. It can be found at <https://sierramink-bfjyav.weebly.com/>. My site coordinator, Sarah Goodloe, will also be sending out a monthly newsletter about all the great things the Boston YAVs are up to! You can get on her mailing list by sending an email to bfjyavprogram@gmail.com.





PCN's Youth Mission Team partnered up with various organizations in Sonoma County, and spent the week serving the people of Santa Rosa.







Notes from your Stewardship Elder

During the four years I have been Stewardship Elder, I have gone to the Bible many times for Scripture that would help me and my family, and also my church family, understand our responsibilities for stewardship while here on earth. I think the apostle Paul, blessed by the Holy Spirit, said it best in one of his letters to the Corinthians:

2 Corinthians 9:7-9 New International Version (NIV)

⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.”^[a]

As our pastors Adam and Ariel mentioned in their PresPress articles, our PCN focus going forward is “Building for the Future.” Challenging and exciting times are in store for our church as we look at how we can continue to grow and improve our ministries and church facilities to serve our congregation and our community, and to attract and welcome new families into our church family. This will take all of us, sharing our God-given time, talent and financial gifts.

Henry Ward Beecher, a 19th century Congregationalist clergyman, social reformer, and speaker, known for his support of the abolition of slavery and his emphasis on God's love, said it best: “If you want your neighbor to know what Christ will do for him, let the neighbor see what Christ has done for you.”

I hope all of you will gather at PCN on September 8th to help confirm our church development committees during our 10 a.m. service, and then visit the different ministry tables at our Ministry Fair to learn more about how you can share your time and talents serving our church and community. Then on October 20th, we will have a chance to offer and bless our financial gifts (Estimate of Giving for the 2020 budget) to our church during our Consecration Sunday service. See you all there!

Together we serve Christ in everything we do,

Brad Praun
Stewardship Elder

You Are Invited to PCN's Annual Ministry Fair!

PCN is a vibrant, healthy congregation. We have many programs and activities, as well as ministry opportunities, available to you in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Cor. 12:4-7)

On September 8, immediately following our last "summer single service" we will be having our Ministry Fair on the patio. Please plan to stay after worship to see what all is offered. If there is a particular ministry area that you feel called to do or want to participate in, but don't see it offered at the fair, please see Adam or Ariel.





Read to a Child

LYNWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL READING PROGRAM

Kids are funny and a joy to spend time with! Join our PCN volunteers who spend an hour a week or month (or whatever works for your schedule) to read with these youngsters. Students in grades 3 through 6 could use your help. Classes start mid-September, and it's a win-win for all involved! Contact Art Plumstead at aplumstead@comcast.net or call (415) 279-9949 to check out the opportunities and learn more about this rewarding program.



PCN Snack Sacks continues to provide 60 snack bags weekly to the Downtown Streets mobile showers. We can use help each week with baking homemade cookies or just stopping by and helping us assemble the bags after the first service. If you can, please sign up on our Sign Up Genius so we know we are covered, or email Regina at reginabrus@gmail.com. The Sign Up Genius address is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4EACA82EA46-pcnsnack>.

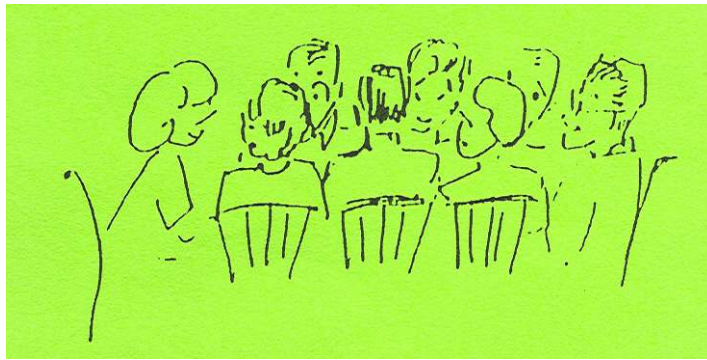
If you are the weekly baker, please bake 60 or 120 cookies (depending on the size) and wrap in plastic for 60 units to be included in each snack sack. Please avoid peanut butter in case people have allergies. The homemade cookies are such an act of love – we appreciate the help to make this happen every week.



Seven chocolate lovers went to the TCHO chocolate factory for a tour of the factory and a 'tasting,' led by Brad Kintzer, their chocolate maker. We paired different chocolates with a sampling of wines and beers. Delicious and a great time! If you missed out, don't despair – the same social mixer may show up again in 2020! *We wish our youth mission trippers a bon voyage next year!*



SUPPER CLUB ALERT



GROUPS WILL BE FORMED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS FOR THE COMING YEAR

NEW MEMBERS: If you haven't participated in this great fellowship program, you'll find that SUPPER CLUB will give you a wonderful opportunity to really get to know members of the church family. SUPPER CLUB GROUPS consist of three or four regular couples (not limited to married couples, many singles take part) who meet three or four times during the year, from October 2019 to summer 2020. A substitute couple will join the group when a fourth couple is needed. Dinner dates are scheduled by the individual groups.

Each regular participating couple hosts a dinner and provides the main dish. Appetizers, salad, and dessert are provided by the other participants (substitutes provide food but are not required to host a dinner). To participate, please contact Janalee Holmes or E.B. Hanlein (contact information below).

SUPPER CLUB REGULARS: If you were in a group last year, you will be assigned a new group. Should you not wish to participate this year, wish to be on the substitute list, or wish to be active again, please CALL (by September 22):

JANALEE HOLMES 415-898-8418 fredandjanalee@comcast.net or

E.B. HANLEIN 415-225-6496 ebhanlein@hotmail.com



Do you know or remember any of these ladies?
Do you know what they have in common?
Turn this over to see why they are so special to the
Presbyterian Church of Novato.*

Carolyn Gerrans (2019)
Eleuteria Memba-Etuba (2015)
LaVerda Shaver (2012)
Ruth Haas (2011)
Fran MacDonald (2011)
Carol Dacquisto (2003)
Betty Hayford (1999)

Dorothy Ballard
Joy Clark
Pat Cleary
Polly Convis
Betty Doerksen
Marian Fox
Nancy Griffin
Kate Salmon Jones
Chelta May
Ruth McClure
Lora Lou Smith
Jeanette Tobin
Marian Wallace
Mae Wygant

*We apologize for any names we may have missed. If you know of anyone who has received this award, please contact either Carol Dacquisto or the church office so they can be part of the church's permanent record. Also, if a name appears on this list without a year and you know the year they were recognized, please contact Carol Dacquisto at (415) 892-2070.

The Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership

This honor is conferred upon a woman or man in recognition of faithful service in some area of the church's work.

Funds derived from Honorary Life Memberships are used for leadership development events for women, leadership grants, and training for mission interpretation.



Honorary Life Member pin

The caring, supportive hands on the pin represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women. The leaf represents growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith. The dove indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, shown in a globe. At the center of the design is the cross, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ, who is the center of our lives. The overall design is of a butterfly, the symbol of newness in Christ.

The women listed above are all recipients of this high honor.



Session

July Session Highlights

The Presbytery of the Redwoods is requesting suggestions for PCN Elders to help in updating the Presbytery's strategic plan, entitled, "The Way Forward."

An additional area of study is an update of the PCN website as part of the evaluative work being performed by Brown Church Development Group.

Session welcomed new members David Sekiranda and Shelly Passanisi.

Kathy Takemoto
Clerk of Session

SEEKERS



SEEkers will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 24 at 5:30 p.m. Join us for an open house for youth and SEEker families on Sunday, September 22 at 6 p.m.



The Deacons would like to thank the following people for their time, energy and loving food for the Jim Nye Memorial Reception.

Volunteers:

Audrey Boland, Bob Clausen, Jo Crocker, Don Erba, Barbara Gildea, Janalee Holmes, Brad Praun, Delane Ramser, Patty Reed, Kay Walker and Kathy Wright.

Lovely Salads:

Annie Clausen, Bev Cobb, Jo Crocker, Judy Grossi, Janalee Holmes, Beverly Pearce, Delane Ramser, Patty Reed, Shirley Shanahan, Diane Orsini-Tarkman and Kay Walker.

Delicious Desserts:

Audrey Boland, Jane Bradfield, MaryJo Dreosch, Becky Erba, Ruth Jankowski, Sylvia Jensvold, Carolyn Lee, Marilyn Pfeffer, Shirley Shanahan, Joanie Tapanainen and Don Taylor.

Jim's favorite 3-bean salad was lovingly provided by Shirley Nye.

A special thank you to the Property Committee and Bill Walker for providing access to umbrellas for the patio reception.



The Deacons would like to thank everyone for their continued generous financial donations to our Care and Compassion Ministry.

"From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another" ~John 1:16



COMING NEXT QUARTER SEPTEMBER through NOVEMBER 2019

"RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE"

This quarter focuses on faith in God and how we respond to it both personally and communally. The studies illuminate how God's grace impacts the lives of all believers, as demonstrated by their obedience, gratitude, and holy living.

The **Unit 1** lessons study God's faithfulness to Abraham by saving Lot, His answer to Hannah's prayer, and His provision to the Israelites in the Exodus despite their rebellion.

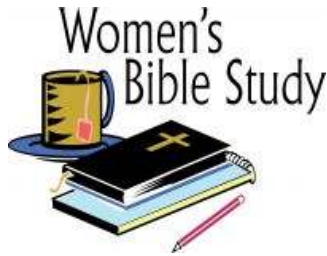
Unit 2 explores reactions to the many benefits that occurred to humans because of God's grace through the stories of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath and Jesus healing the centurion's servant and blessing the sinful woman.

Unit 3 examines letters to early churches that tell the Corinthians and Thessalonians how to live as faithful followers of Christ. First and 2 Peter teach that faith requires holy living and goodness.

The class will return to the 9 a.m. time on Sunday, September 16, 2019. We meet in the church library at the end of the breezeway. All materials are provided: adult-level guidebook, devotion booklet entitled ***The Quiet Hour***, and the weekly ***Power for Living*** (adult, magazine-style paper profiling Christians serving the Lord all over the world).

Lively Bible study! That's what happens here. As you study the Bible and discuss what you found you gain a growing understanding of how to move forward on your discipleship journey. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Study Leaders,
Carol and Larry Dacquisto



THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

The End Approaches

Women's Bible Study is back in session! We have a great year planned and are looking forward to welcoming everyone for coffee, tea and perhaps a couple of special treats at **9:20 a.m. Thursday, September 12, 2019**, in the Christensen room. If you are new to Bible study, or have been thinking about joining us, this would be the perfect time to come and learn about our class. We welcome all women and are eager to get to know you. Our lesson time will begin at **9:30** and end at **11 a.m.**

In this session, we will begin the final portion of our study of the Gospel of Luke. To prepare for our first class, we suggest that you read Luke 21, chapters 5 through 22:38 and review the questions found in Lesson 13 of our study guide beginning on page 151. If you don't yet have a study guide, no worries! We will have them available on the 12th.

Lesson 13 focuses on what Jesus wanted His disciples to learn and how far short of His desires they fell. For example, the disciples' misconceptions about the temple prompt Jesus to teach on the end times and the events that will characterize the period between His departure and His return (Luke 21:8-19). For our first class, we'll think through and talk about what these misconceptions were and our understanding of the "end times" guided by the following questions:

For thought and discussion, page 152:

People hold many different interpretations of "end times" passages. Rather than dwelling on what precisely is going to happen and when, what should we focus on in light of the end times (see 21:12-19, 28, 34-36)?

Question 1, page 152

Some of the disciples' misconceptions about the temple prompt Jesus to teach on the end times (see 21:5-7). What are those misconceptions?

We look forward to seeing you in class this September. Call us with any questions.

Carol Dacquisto 415-892-2070
Elaine Harris 415-382-0854
Melodie Baird 415-897-7512



*Presbyterian Women nurture their faith through prayer and Bible study,
support missions of the church worldwide, and build an inclusive, caring community of women.*

support missions of the church worldwide, and build an inclusive, caring community of women.

On Saturday, September 28th, the Presbyterian Women's meeting and luncheon will be held. Save the date and invite a friend ... ALL are welcome to attend! Our speaker is PCN member, Jane Flower, who will be talking about Guide Dogs for the Blind. This will be a meeting and luncheon not to be missed!

All women who attend The Presbyterian Church of Novato (PCN), please consider becoming an active member of the Presbyterian Women (PW) of PCN ... **ALL ARE WELCOME** (*invite a friend*)! We currently have two active PW circles at PCN that each meet once-a-month in the Christensen Room:

- (1) **Ruth Circle** usually meets the 4th Tuesday at 2 p.m. (Glenise Johnson, leader)
- (2) **Rachel Circle** usually meets the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. (Pat Sullivan, leader)

Books for our 2019-2020 Horizons Bible Study titled "*Love Carved in Stone, A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*," by Eugenia Anne Gamble will be available at the luncheon. The circle meetings are all presented via a video narrated by the author of the study book, which provides a very meaningful study and discussion among us for each lesson. **I am excited about this Bible study!!!**

Presbyterian Women Circles are currently on a summer break, but join us for the next circle meeting(s) to begin in October 2019 ... we are saving a chair for YOU. It's never too late to join us!

Presbyterian Women Mission Projects

- (1) **Least Coin Offering:** Since 1956, Presbyterian Women have been collecting the Least Coin offering worldwide for evangelism, service, and relief projects.
- (2) **Nickels for Nets:** Each month, our women donate at least \$0.05 for mosquito nets to help stamp out malaria in the world. Even the smallest donation will make a difference in the world when added together.
- (3) **Birthday Offering:** Each spring, we collect at least one penny for each year of our lives. This donation also goes toward innovative mission projects in the United States and worldwide.

- (4) **Thank Offering:** During the autumn months, we collect money for the Thank Offering. The Thank Offering provides food and water, alleviates homelessness, provides educational opportunities, promotes health, and improves the lives of women, children and men throughout the world in many other ways.
- (5) Our newest project at PCN is providing baby caps and blankets to newborns. **ANYONE with knitting and/or crocheting skills can participate in this program.** A big THANK YOU to the women from PCN who have already contacted me and brought me their beautiful handiwork.

If you have any questions about PW, please don't hesitate to contact me: home (415) 897-8759 or cell (415) 717-7635. We always welcome new women interested in becoming an active part of our circles of Presbyterian Women ... ***come try us out!!!***

Glenise Johnson, Moderator



PCN Workshop to Reduce Older Adult Falls

Monday, September 23

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

This event is part of a nationwide observation of alls Prevention Awareness Day featuring education and fun



Each year, thousands of educators, caregivers, health and aging professionals, and older adults across the country focus their efforts on one goal: preventing falls. This year PCN is hosting a workshop to celebrate Falls Prevention Awareness Day on September 23. The workshop will focus on the teamwork needed to prevent falls effectively.

Falls are a leading cause of injury for people aged 65 and older, but they are not an inevitable part of aging. There are proven ways to prevent them. PCN's fun community event will empower older adults to stay active, independent, and safe in their homes and communities.

The evening will cover three topics relating to falls: causes of falls and how to prevent them; what to do if a fall does occur; and exercises that are helpful in improving our balance and keeping our bodies strong and flexible. A physical therapist and a Master Trainer from "A Matter of Balance: Managing your Concerns about Falls" will present at the workshop.

Join PCN's team – learn how you can prevent a fall in your future!

To help us plan for the evening please RSVP to 415-993-2557 or mob.beverly@gmail.com.



Unsung heroes chop down tree limbs on a moment's notice

There's never a dull moment for our property elders, who were notified about a downed tree limb and within hours had it chopped up, stacked, and removed. All this while the rest of us go about our daily business and never know there's been a problem. Thanks, Don and Bill, and all the other elders, who step in behind the scenes, at a moment's notice, and keep PCN tuned up and running. Blessings to you!



And speaking of cleaning up, the Property Committee would like to thank the following hard workers who gathered on Saturday, August 10th for a fun time cleaning and painting the education building, followed by a delicious pizza lunch: Dan Rice, Fred Holmes, Don Erba, Gary Pearce, Tom Telfer, Bruce Stahley, and Becky and Brad Praun.

Good Shepherd Middle School has converted classroom 25 to a modern science laboratory. PCN contracted with their painter to have all the classroom ceilings painted. After Saturday, August 17th, the windows will be professionally cleaned, and the building will be ready for the start of school.



Reawakening Spinnakers!

A long time ago there was a social group at PCN that catered to younger singles (25-45ish?) and couples/single parents with children still at home. The group events were a great way to connect with others at our church. Virginia Saysette and I would like to help kickstart this group again. We remember how Spinnakers helped us to make closer connections within our church family. So...to start things off we will host a Progressive Adventure!

Progressive Adventure

Saturday, September 28 at 5:30 p.m.

Starting location: Winsor Castle, 770 St. Francis Avenue, Novato

What to do with the kids: No babysitter? Beverly and friends will provide care for the kids until the adventure ends (no later than 9:00 p.m.).

Stay tuned for more details in the bulletin, on the website and Facebook.

Interested in helping? Call Beverly at 415-328-6361 or email winsor6@gmail.com



Losing my awesome dad was like losing a part of myself. I have felt lost for months. I know I'm not unique to grief, but grief is unique to me. I've felt sadness like nothing I've ever experienced. And frankly, I don't like it.

I first started coming to PCN when my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. I knew how much the PCN family loved my parents, and when the time came, I would need for them to love me, too. The time came. Love came. Thank you so much for the meals, the cards, emails and phone calls. Thank you to everyone who made my Dad's memorial service special. It was a tribute to an amazing man.

I am grateful and blessed.

Kai Lancaster





Congratulations to Jesse Robinson and the whole Robinson family. On August 4th, youngest brother Jesse became an Eagle Scout, Boy Scouting's highest honor. Jesse is a member of Troop 74 in Petaluma. Both older brothers, Joseph and Nick, had become Eagle Scouts in 2011 and 2017, respectively. Proud parents are Dale and Diana, who raised the boys at PCN until their move a few years ago. Congratulations, again, to the whole family!





Please make note of the following corrections in the new directories:

Jay Wayne's email address is eunwayne@aol.com. His cell phone number is (415) 320-4412, and his daughter's name is spelled Jayana.

Kelly Kopulsky's address is 11 Aries Lane, Novato 94947.

David and Rebekah Harmon have moved. Their new address is 1637 Fifth Ave., San Rafael 94901.

Melodie Baird's email is melodie.l.baird@gmail.com.

Diane Griffeath's email is dgriffeath@gmail.com.

Pastor Adam Smith's phone number is (515) 528-3538.

The phone number (707) 664-8406 for Mike and Carol Robinson is no longer connected. Also, Carol's cell phone number is (415) 246-5357.



Our church library is pretty full! Please contact Carol Dacquisto at (415) 892-2070 if you have a donation. She knows what books are needed and what books are not! Please don't just drop them off without checking so that Carol doesn't have to cart away unneeded books. Thank you!



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Bible Study group meets Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Starting September 4, we will begin a study of Revelation. Join us for this one-hour mid-week boost and share great fellowship with brothers. And no homework!



If you are interested in being part of the Prayer Quilt/Marian Stitchers ministry, mark your calendars for the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. You don't have to know how to quilt to participate and help!



If you would like to listen to a copy of the Sunday sermon, you don't need to request a CD. They are now being posted on a PODCAST at <http://www.buzzsprout.com/218646>. They are usually available by the Tuesday following the service. Thank you to Jim Rolka for making these available!



Here's an important number to jot down: (415) 472-0911. This is the **non-injury** lift assist phone number from the Novato Fire Department. If you or someone you know has fallen and you can't lift him/her, the fire department will come help!

moments & memories

(Fifth in a series of stories about PCN by long-time member Tali Sundberg)

Have you ever wondered about the black communion set used during the contemporary service? It is the only one of its kind in the United States.

(excerpts from the church newsletter dated September 27, 1966)

In 1954 Marian Merritt was president of the Chapel Guild on Okinawa. In working with the small Okinawan church, she learned that they were serving communion in tea cups, and this bothered the most devout Okinawan Christians. So Marian took an old wooden communion set from the base chapel to Bembo's Lacquer Works and had it coated with what is supposed to be the finest lacquer in the world. This was presented to the little Okinawan church one Sunday by the Chapel Guild.

From this small beginning grew the project of giving to each small Okinawan church its own lacquered communion set. Each occasion was followed by lunch with Chapel Guild members. The Okinawans considered this "breaking of bread" the greatest test of friendship.

When Marian and Bob returned to the states and Hamilton AFB, they became active members of PCN. When the purchase of a new communion set came before Session, Bob and Marian offered to contact Bembo's Lacquer Works to buy a set for this church.

By the way, Bob and Marian are my parents!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 Adult Bible Study 10:00 One service - contemporary	2  <i>Labor Day – office closed</i>	3 8:00 Stephen Leaders 2:00 PW Coordinating Team 5:30 M&O	4 7:30am Men's Group 5:30 Mission Cmte. 6:30 Worship Cmte. 7:00 CE Committee	5 2:00 Singles Coffee Creekside 7:00 Choir rehearsal	6	7
8 8:30 Adult Bible Study 10:00 One service - traditional 11:00 Ministry Fair 4:30 Youth Group	9 9:00 Morning Prayer 5:30 Finance Cmte. 6:30 Program & Fellowship	10 6:00 Tween Girls Bible Study 6:30 Personnel Cmte.	11 7:30am Men's Group 10:30 Prayer Quilters/ Marian Stitchers 6:30 Deacons	12 9:30 Women's Bible Study 2:00 Singles Coffee Creekside 6:00 Brown Consulting Implementation Team 7:00 Choir rehearsal	13	14
15 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Contemporary/ SEEker Sunday 10:30 Traditional 1:30 Creekwood 4:30 Youth Group	16 9:00 Morning Prayer 2:00 Mill St. meal p/u	17 6:00 Tween Girls Bible Study 7:00 Stephen Ministry Supervision	18 7:30am Men's Group 6:00 Session dinner 6:30 Session meeting	19 9:30 Women's Bible Study 2:00 Singles Coffee Creekside 7:00 Choir rehearsal	20 6:00 Mingling Singles Pizza Night 	21
22 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Contemporary 10:30 Traditional 6:00 Open House for youth and SEEkers families	23 9:00 Morning Prayer 6:00 Tween Girls Bible Study 6:30 Fall-prevention workshop	24 5:30 SEEKers	25 7:30am Men's Group	26 9:30 Women's Bible Study 2:00 Singles Coffee Creekside 6:00 Brown Consulting Implementation Team 7:00 Choir rehearsal	27	28 9:00 PW luncheon 5:30 Progressive Adventure dinner
<div> <div>Student</div> <div>Leadership</div> <div>Retreat ➡</div> </div>						
29 9:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Contemporary 10:30 Traditional 4:30 Youth Group	30 9:00 Morning Prayer					

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