



NEWS & VIEWS from the Pulpit & Pews First Presbyterian Church of Fort Bragg, CA

Dan Fowler, Pastor
Martha Lopez, Commissioned Lay Pastor
Sid Long, Newsletter
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PASTOR'S COLUMN "NOT THE SUMMER I HAD IN MIND"

I was shopping in Rite Aid yesterday and faced a shocking fact: There were Halloween costumes and Halloween candy out in the aisles, which meant that fall was approaching and that I had pretty much missed all of summer! I stood there for a moment in shock.

This wasn't the summer I expected. We had some real family struggles this summer, which meant we weren't able to go anywhere on our vacation, nor were Paula and I able to celebrate our 29th wedding anniversary. I also had to cancel my study leave plans for a church conference up on the shores of Lake Tahoe. Instead of vacationing and relaxing, most of our family spent time in the Refiner's Fire-not a fun place to be.

Psalms 66:10 says, "For You O God have tested us; You have tried us as silver is tried." Zechariah 13: 9 says, "And I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested." When we are in the Refiner's Fire, being melted, molded, reshaped and refined-That is when life doesn't go as we had hoped- we may struggle in the midst of the furnace. But in time, we come out from the experience with a new way of thinking and being. God molds and shapes us as we struggle with whatever crisis we may be facing. Theologian Anthony De Mello wrote, "Every painful event contains in itself a seed of growth and liberation."

In the mean time, in the furnace, we wait with hope and faith. We wait for God to help us, and reshape us, relying upon God's love and support through Christ's body (The church.) Theologian C.S. Lewis, after his wife Joy died from cancer, wrote "When pain is to be borne, a little courage helps more than much knowledge, a little human sympathy more than much courage, and the least tincture of God's love more than all." May God's love guide you and be with you always, whether you too are in the furnace, or have been remade and are out on the other side.

In Christ,



INSPIRE CHRISTIAN CLUB TO BEGIN AGAIN

The Inspire Christian club at Fort Bragg High School will start up again in September. Eve Oliphant will host the club this year in her Spanish class. The club will meet on Tuesday during lunch period. Youth who attend will have an open and safe environment to express their faith and talk about Christ. Thanks to Abby Fowler, who is the student sponsor for the club!

SEPTEMBER 25-MOVIE AFTER CHURCH- "When God Left the Building" Snacks will be available in the narthex after church. Grab a plate of goodies and join us back in the sanctuary as we see this powerful film about the decline of the Christian church in America. Small group discussion after.

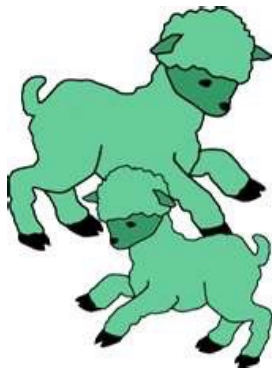
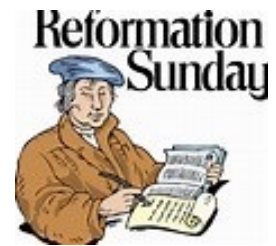


OCTOBER 2- WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Join us in worship as we celebrate God's gift of communion around the world!

OCTOBER 30- REFORMATION SUNDAY

Join us in worship as we celebrate the Protestant Reformation. Pastor Dan will preach a sermon from one of the church reformers from the 1500's. Dress in an outfit from your family heritage to celebrate the global movement of the reformation.



Little Lambs Preschool Director Nancy Pollard is feeding the children organic vegetables this year. Day of the first carrot. (Photo by Vicki Hautala)



NEWS FROM JOSEPH MUCHAI AT OUR SISTER CHURCH, ST.PETER NDUMA, IN KENYA

[Please keep our sister congregation in your prayers as they fund raise for a new church building. Pastor Dan’s understanding is that Greg, Eunice Bull’s son, will contribute some funds in August to help with the roof. **Ed.]**

REV.DAN,

Much greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. We had our fund raising and we thank God because we managed to raise 500 US dollars in cash and two guest I had requested them to support give 1000 dollars value in form of materials ,ie reinforcement bars worth 600 dollars and stone 1000ft worth 500 dollars and iron sheets 20 pcs worth 300 dollars. Another guest pledged all the sand to be used in that church till it get completed.We also can't forget to thank you for your prayers and support you had offered earlier. My prayers, i told the congregation is that by mid next year or earlier than that we be servicing there in that new church for our God is a faithful one AND WE BELIEVE ON THAT.

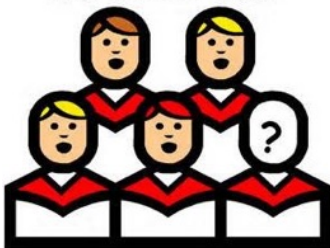
Greet all the church members and the elders of the church.
Be blessed.

Regards, **ELDER JOSEPH C.MUCHAI**

PER CAPITA UPDATE

So far in 2016 we have received approximately \$1,690 in per capita contributions from our congregation members. Our finance committee wanted to find some creative way to raise additional funds to cover those members who do not pay their per capita. So, Kathy Orsi stepped up to the plate and organized a BBQ a few Sundays ago which raised over \$1,500! As a result, we may not be able to pay what we are officially on the books for (170 members or so), but we will absolutely be able to cover per capita for all 109 members this year, plus a little extra.

We Need You!



CHOIR TO START UP AGAIN

Choir practice will start up on Tuesday, September 13 from 4:00-5:15 p.m.in the music room. Do you like to sing? Please join us!

Spreading God’s Love Through Jesus Christ at First Presbyterian Church, Fort Bragg, CA

***"As Christians, we warmly embrace our congregation and community, believing that all people are the children of God, and that God’s house is for all people.
As a church, we are an anchor in life’s storms, offering safe haven through God, His Son Jesus and the Holy spirit, who give us hope, grace, healing, peace and endless love."***

Adopted October, 2012



TEXAS 4000 REACH ANCHORAGE STILL BEING POWERED BY THE HEAVENLY HASH BROWN POTATO CASSEROLE LORI COLE AND HER HELPERS PREPARED FOR THE CYCLERS THE NIGHT THEY STAYED IN OUR CHURCH

This recipe came from the Vintage Vicksburg Cookbook put together by the Vicksburg Junior Auxiliary in Vicksburg, Mississippi in 1985. This was given to me by Dave & Rhoda Ward after one of their trips. Every time they went on a trip they brought me a cookbook. This couple were so loving and thoughtful and treasured members of our congregation for many years. My Grasshopper Pie also came from this cookbook! Lori

HEAVENLY HASH BROWN CASSEROLE

- 1 - 32 oz. package of frozen shredded potatoes, thawed (I used the other frozen potatoes not the shredded)
- 1/2 cup butter, melted (not margarine)
- 1 - 10-1.2 oz. can cream of chicken soup, undiluted
- 12 oz. American cheese, shredded (I use cheddar cheese)
- 1 - 8 oz. carton sour cream
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 small onion, chopped
- 2 cups crushed corn flakes (I use the corn flake crumbs)
- 1/2 cup melted butter (not margarine)



Place potatoes in a 9x13 inch casserole dish. Mix together the next 6 ingredients and pour over potatoes. Top with corn flakes and melted butter. (I drizzle the butter over the corn flake crumbs). Bake, uncovered, at 350 for 45 minutes. Freezes well. Yield: 12 servings.

In my house we call this "Monte's Potatoes" since this is my son-in-law's favorite potatoes!!!!



THE NEW KITCHEN RANGE ARRIVES!!!

On Saturday morning, August 27th, our new range arrived. With the help of Conway truck driver, Dee, Pastor Dan, Tim Humecky, and Sid Long moved the range into the kitchen.





PIE SALE!!! There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and HELP IS NEEDED on Thursday and Friday, September 1st and 2nd - hours are from 8 -12 and 1 - 5. There are some folks signed up for the morning on Thursday, but not the afternoon. Very few signed up for either shift on Friday. DON'T FORGET - PIES ARE NEEDED FROM HOME AS WELL! There were more requests for creme pies last year than pies available. If you're bringing pies from home, sign on that sheet as well along with the kind of pie you will be bringing! Thanking you in advance!!!!

The following is the list of coordinators of each month along with the dates of our meetings. The 2017 dates will be published in the November newsletter. Meetings are on the first & third Thursdays of the month, but please CHECK THE DATES since sometimes they are not on those days. Thanks....

Thursday, September 1 - NO MEETING - WORKING ON MAKING PIES

Friday, September 2 - continue pie making.

Saturday, September 3 - PIE SALE

Thursday, September 15 - Coordinator Colleen Cleary will present a program "SING GOD'S PRAISE: Music and Faith" from *Horizons*, the magazine for Presbyterian women.

Here are some statistics from *Horizons*:

What is your favorite hymn? (237 responses)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Various hymns (52.19%) | 6. "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (4.82%) |
| 2. "Here I Am, Lord" (7.89%) | 7. "How Great Thou Art" (4.39%) |
| 3. "Amazing Grace" (6.14%) | 8. "Morning Ha Broken" (3.51%) |
| 4. Are you kidding? I can't choose! (5.70%) | 9. "In the Garden" (3.07%) |
| 5. "Be Thou My Vision" (5.26%) | 10. "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!" (2.63%) |

What type of music do you prefer in worship?

- Traditional: 33.91%
- Contemporary 2.15%
- Both 65.24%

Do you sing in your church choir?

- Yes: 32.61%
- No 60%
- Special Services Only 8.26%

October Coordinator - Lori Cole

October 6 - Business Meeting and a presentation by high school exchange student, Alessia Ghiani from Italy..

October 20 - NO MEETING

October 27 - United Christian Women's Luncheon hosted by US. You DO NOT have to bring a salad - instead please bring a dessert. The luncheon is at Noon and Lori will need help with set up, centerpieces, etc. We will discuss this at the October 6 meeting.

November Coordinator - Iris Loushin

Meetings are on **November 3 and 17 at 1:30 p.m.**

December Coordinator - Lori Cole

December 1 - NO MEETING

December 3 - CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - There will be a sign-up sheet for those who are in charge of a booth so Lori will know who is doing what!!! Lori and crew will be serving a lunch at noon - Bazaar shopping will begin at 11:00 a.m.

December 15 - Christmas Tea - Location to be announced—probably at Colleen's.

THE FIRST 19 YEARS OF OUR CHURCH'S PIE SALE from Wanda Cashwell's notes

[2016 is our 38th Annual Pie Sale! Annual numbers of pies sold and income figures since 1996 have not been researched, but reading about the first decades of the sale are interesting and fun. Ed.]

- **1978:** The first pie sale was held over Labor Day weekend in 1978. The Fireside building (currently the brewery restaurant) was opened for a comfort station as there was a gasoline crunch and the service stations were closed on the weekend. People came to rest and use the restrooms. The sale began as an outreach to the community and was called a Community Service Project. Our location was ideal for this. That first year we sold all 90 pies donated by members and friends of the congregation. The church burned in November following the first pie sale. All proceeds then went into our *Recipes Treasured* cookbook fund to buy equipment when the new church was built.
- **1979:** We set up tables and chairs inside the Fireside Building and served pie from the small kitchen. We were open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for several years. Our net was \$608.28
- **1980:** 135 pies sold. Net profit \$807.29
- **1981:** Held outside the building. The College of the Redwoods agreed to let us continue the sale although it had leased the building. As we broke ground for the new church, the proceeds went into a Church School Cabinet Fund.
- **1982:** Demand was so great we started baking pies in our new church kitchen to supplement those baked by members and friends at home. Sold 224. Net \$1,300.
- **1983:** 230 pies. Net \$1,400
- **1984:** 272 pies. 71 baked in new kitchen. We received an anonymous \$100 donation to help with expenses. Net \$2,055
- **1985:** College of the Redwoods continued to let us use the premises and provided napkins cleverly designed to complement our causes. Printed on them, with sketch of a piece of pie, was: "If you want a Piece of Pie or just want to enhance your own particular Slice of Life, College of the Redwoods offers a Menu for all.
- **1987:** Sold 316 pies, plus 4 dozen made by individuals at home. Net \$2,577.
- **1988:** 340 pies. Net \$2,600. We moved to Acme Automotive (currently Paul Bunyan Thrift Shop) as the brewery had leased the old church property. We were concerned that people wouldn't find us. Two ladies came by who were camped at MacKerricher State Park and said, "We have been all over town asking people where those Presbyterian ladies are with the good pies!" They always took at least 8 pies back to their camp site.
- **1989:** 364 pies. Net over \$2,800
- **1990:** 335 pies. Net \$3,127.54. Proceeds went to new robes for the Chancel Choir, directed by LoriCole. We dropped back to two days of selling. We decided to cut out Monday after the parade, as we were selling out and had little to sell on Labor Day.
- **1991:** 388 pies. Net \$3,121.57
- **1992:** \$3,135.57. No number of pies listed in newsletters. As you can see, we have almost reached our peak.
- **1993:** \$3,553.97
- **1994:** 465 pies. Net \$4,192
- **1995:** 225 plus 183 pies made at home. Net \$3,655.28
- **1996:** 262 plus 160 pies made at home. Net \$3,968

1996 prices:

Whole Pie	\$9.00
Slice of pie:	\$1.75
Ice cream:	.50
Milk:	.50
Coffee:	.50



BIKE TOUR TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CALIFORNIA FOOD PANTRIES

For the third year in a row, a group of avid cyclists between 30 and 70 years of age will take to the California roads this September to combat hunger. The Pedal for Protein ride is scheduled for September 18-22. The Presbytery of the Redwoods launched the ride two years ago to help community food pantries provide protein-rich foods to families in need.

“In the past, the tour has lasted seven days covering more than 429 miles,” said Patty Sanders, Presbytery of the Redwoods Hunger Action Advocate and ride director. “This year we’ve shortened the trip to 268 miles over five days.” In two years, more than \$49,000 has been raised. Sanders says the five-day ride, September 18-22, will take participants from Mendocino through Ukiah, Middletown, Davis and finish in Rockville. The ride will include a special stop at the U.S. Bicycling Hall of Fame in Davis on the 21st.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 8 PAULA FOWLER
- 14 LORI COLE
- 15 GERALDINE LOOMIS
- 16 HENRY JOHNSON
- 19 SAVANNAH HOOD
- 20 NANCY MANTEL
- 21 BRUCE PHILP
- 22 ADRIANE LOWE
RICK McMILLEN
- 24 JANE ESTES
- 27 SARAH PETERS
JAMES PAUL SMITH
- 28 EARL THOMPSON
- 29 LYNN ORSI
- 30 PAM JOHNSON

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 16 SARAH & LINDY PETERS

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 NAN HALSTEAD
- 5 CINDY VANWORMER
- 11 TIM ESTES
- 14 ROEN MALLORY
- 16 BETTY HELM
- 20 PRINTHA WORTHEN
- 30 MARSHA JEFFRIES
- 31 NORMA CLEARY

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 SHELLY & GREG TREGONING -1994
- 15 PRINTHA & STEVE WORTHEN - 2005