



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

Dan Fowler, Pastor
Martha Lopez, Commissioned Lay Pastor
Sid Long, Newsletter
Roger Thorburn, Webmaster

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*

Pastor's Column "A Divided or United Fort Bragg?"

In June, the city of Fort Bragg will be voting on a rather contentious ballot initiative known as measureU. Tempers have flared over this initiative (including mine). Being that I am on the board of the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center, I have my own slant on this initiative (I am against it, and would be happy to tell you why if you want to talk or email). That being said, I know that friends of mine and congregants may be in favor of this measure. I want to encourage us as a faith community to remember in Jesus' teaching that we are all neighbors, even when we have varying opinions. That by no means is easy, especially in light of how we communicate with one another these days- quick sound bites on Facebook designed to upset the other side; angry letters to the editor in our local papers; heated back and forth shouting at volatile city council meetings-all of these ways of communication can cause us to see our sisters and brothers as "other"- or "enemy."

Theologian Frederick Buechner wrote, "If we are to love our neighbors, before doing anything else we must see our neighbors. With our imagination as well as our eyes, that is to say like artists, we must see not just their faces but the life behind and within their faces. Here it is love that is the frame we see them in." May we be led by our Lord's teaching in the next couple of months in all of our communications, so that we see, really see our neighbors, and frame them in love.

In Christ,



LITTLE LAMBS PARENT TEA- *Thursday, May 5th, 10:30 A.M.* in the church social hall. Join us to celebrate being a family. The children will sing some songs, and you will also see a demonstration of what happens during the week as far as instruction. Tea, cookies, lemonade and fruit kabobs will be served. At the conclusion of the tea, there will be a raffle.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING MEETING- *Sunday, May 15th, 4:00 p.m.* at Trinity Lutheran church.



PENTECOST OFFERING- *Sunday, May 15th.* The Pentecost Offering is devoted to ministries that support our young people during their "first third of life," the time from childhood through young adulthood. Give to the Pentecost Offering, and you help provide opportunities for our young people to forge a deep and lasting faith on which to grow and build their lives.

SHERWOOD OAKS WORSHIP SERVICE- *Sunday, May 29th-* Join us as we bring God's love to the residents at our care facility. Service begins at 3:30 p.m. in the social hall at Sherwood Oaks.

DEACON & ELDER RETREAT- *June 3-4* - We will meet at the church. Friday June 3 from 6-9 (potluck dinner), and then on Saturday, June 4 from 9-2. Please complete reading the book, *Change Your Church for Good*.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- VBS will be on *June 20-23* in the evening from 5:30-7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran church. The theme is "Barnyard." Dinner will be served to all children and helpers.



OUR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY- *June 26th* - Celebrating 129 years of Ministry! Join us for a church bbq and celebration! We'll have food and festivities after worship. More details coming during worship services!



Save the Date!

Saturday, June 11, 2016

Big River Beach Party 4-10pm

Fundraiser for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner

- Potluck style - Bring a dish to share& a Chair
- BBQ -Chick on the grill
- BYOB
- BonFire

- Smores
- Dance Floor
- Music
- Raffle Items
- No Cover Charge – bring a guest/friends/family

Fun! Fun! Fun! For all!

If anyone has any items of value to donate for the Raffle, please contact me: ginabelle 962.4751 or email me at ginabelle@century21.com

P.S. there's plenty of parking and restrooms at the beach.;-)

Once again, the “Texas 4000”, a group of college students riding from Austin, Texas to Anchorage, Alaska to hep conquer cancer will be overnighing at our church on July 9th. We will serve dinner and breakfast to the group of approximately 25. They will sleep on the floor in the Social Hall. Everyone is invited to hear a presentation about their organization around 7 p.m. on the evening of their arrival.



Hello to each of you. If you didn't attend the Spring Blossom Tea you missed a good time. At the last minute the choir was not able to perform, so be had another excellent performance by our very our virtuoso Dan Fowler. The women thought he was great and said they wanted to hear him again. Thanks Dan, for pulling us out of the ditch.

Presbyterian Women are going to be busy this summer. This is a preview of what is to come so you can mark your calendars.

May 5th we will be hosting any registered voters who would like to come to our meeting. The speaker will be Bob Edwards, the CEO of the hospital, who will be speaking on the up coming bond issue. Please invite anyone who might be interested in learning what is going on in the hospital. This means the hospital district up and down the coast not just Fort Bragg. His part of the meeting will start at 2:00 giving us time for business.

- Continued on next page -



Women's Fellowship, continued

A Mystery Trip is being planned by Presbyterian Women. It will be on Thursday, May 19. Be at the church at 9 a.m. to carpool - we should be back in Fort Bragg by 4 p.m. Yes, it's an all day trip and you're not going to have to do any walking!!!! That is - unless you want to!!! Cost will be \$5.00 for your lunch and if you have a food allergy, please list it on the sign-up sheet so we can accommodate you! We would also like to know if you are willing to drive - please indicate that on the sign-up sheet as

well. A fun day is being planned so be sure to join us!

Lori & Nancy

June 2nd Regular Meeting, Iris Loushin in charge and needs help.

June 15th Hales grove trip. More details to follow.

July Anyone have any great ideas that sound like fun??

August 29th the start of the pie sale. WE NEED A CHAIRMAN, PLEASE. Give me a call if you will do it. 964-1671 (Jacque)

Our year now runs until January 1, which means we need to have some more coordinators sign up for this year. Be prepared at the next meeting to do this.

The best thing I am happy to announce is that all of our mission pledges have been paid and we have voted to send more money to some.

| | Pledge | Additional amount |
|------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Cameron House | 100 | 100 |
| Hospitality House | 200 | |
| Little Lambs | 1,000 | |
| Mendo. Coast Children's Fund | 500 | 200 |
| Parents and Friends | 100 | |
| Project Sanctuary | 200 | 200 |
| Redwood Coast Sr. Day | 400 | 200 |
| Safe Passage | 100 | 200 |
| Seminary | 200 | |
| Texas 4000 | 100 | |
| Friends of Hospice | 100 | 200 |
| TOTAL | \$3,000 | 1,100 |

A TOTAL SO FAR OF \$4,100 HAS BEEN SENT TO VARIOUS GROUPS. (The ones involving camps have not been sent yet.) You can tell we are a very active group even if we are small. Hope some more of the church women will join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 1:30.

Jacque Moore

SPRING BLOSSOM TEA THANK YOU

The tables were beautiful thanks to Colleen Cleary, Norma Cleary, Charletta Evans, Nancy Mantel, Jacque Moore, Marsha Robinson and Crystal Sanderson. Colleen, Nancy and Jacque each did two tables so we could have the 10 we needed.

Thanks to the sandwich makers: Norma, Cleary, Lori Cole, Chareltta Evans, Jacque Moore, Mary Sue Rhoads, Marsha Robinson, Helen Marie Rogers, Arleu Sias, Christine Stone and Claudelle Zack.

Thank you cookie bakers: Colleen Cleary, Julee Estes, Carletta Hollenback, Geraldine Loomis, Roen Mallory, Marsha Robinson and Isabel Rogerson

Also a big thanks to Dan Fowler for providing our entertainment at the last minute, Cathy Hollenback who helped in the kitchen and also those who helped clean up afterward.

Lori



The church recently signed a new contract for propane service from Amerigas. Church members may also qualify for a discount paying \$1.20 over Amerigas' cost if they go into the Americas office and sign a contract.

USHERS WANTED!!! Anyone wishing to greet, help hand out bulletins and take the offering will be greatly appreciated!! Contact Marsha Jeffries 964-0545.

**ANOTHER THANK YOU**

Thank you to all you wonderful people who helped make the Petker Choral Workshop a success. The following are the folks who made it possible....all this taken from the sign-up sheet. If you helped and are not mentioned, please know that you are appreciated. Those who worked with registration, continental breakfast, making green salad and the luncheon were: Jacque Moore, Marsha Jeffries, Iris Loushin, Pat Long, Cathy Hollenback, Nancy Mantel, Norma Cleary, and Isabel Rogerson. Those donating **food** for the continental breakfast, lunch and wine/cheese tasting were: Isabel Rogerson, Jacque Moore, Carletta Hollenback, Misty & Jayden Elam, Roen Mallory, Ginabelle Smith, Nancy Mantel, Mary Sue Rhoads, Lori Cole, Kathy Orsi, Cindi Hood, Claudelle Zack, Helen Marie Rogers, Pat Applegate, Marsha Jeffries, Arleu Sias, Colleen Cleary, Ruth Smith, Julee Estes, Marsha and Larry Robinson and Cindy VanWormer. Some folks donated more than once!!! Thanks to Marsha Jeffries for jumping in at the last minute to help with the wine & cheese event. A special thanks to Marsha & Larry Robinson for setting up the tables. And, we can't forget Pastor Dan who set up the chairs in the sanctuary and kept things organized, Vicki Hautala for getting the brochures out and putting together our music folders. And to Sylvia Burns for her wonderful accompaniment. I hope everyone who was at worship enjoyed the festival choir and also those who have watched it on our website.



Thanks again...Lori

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 VICKI HAUTALA
- 2 CINDI HOOD
LYDIA MANTEL
- 3 TOM EVANS
CAROL STEELE
- 6 LYNN BLACK
- 14 JESSIE VAN WORMER
- 19 DUANE TELL
- 21 ELIO NELEPOVITZ
BRUCE ROGERSON
- 23 TAMI SMITH

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 8 EMMITT SANDERSON
- 10 BOB STEELE
- 11 HEATHER SMITH
- 12 HANNAH BOSMA
GINABELLE SMITH
- 16 NANCY HERRON-PIKE
- 24 DEANNA LOWE
- 27 CECILIA TOWNSEND

MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 ROEN & NORMAN MALLORY - 1956
- 22 GINABELLE & JIM SMITH -1994
- 31 JULEE & TOM ESTES -1964

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 SHANNON & ADAM VANWORMER
- 10 LINDA & ED RUNNER - 1994
- 18 YVONNE & FRANK DOBBINS -1949
HILARY & ERIC MILLER - 1989
- 20 PAULA & DAN FOWLER - 1987
- 24 MACY & KYLE NELEPOVITZ - 2006



EUNICE LILLIAN "MAMGI" BULL

February 9, 1928 - March 8, 2016

You Are Invited

**UNITED CHRISTIAN
WOMEN'S
POTLUCK SALAD
LUNCHEON**

Saturday, July 9, 2016

**Chapel of the Redwoods
31201 Comptche Ukiah Road
Comptche CA**

Please bring a salad and friends to share in the day.

The Comptche Women will provide drinks and desserts
for this afternoon of shared Christian Fellowship.

Please call the church at 937-0850 with your reservation
count prior to the event to let your hostesses know how
many place settings are needed.