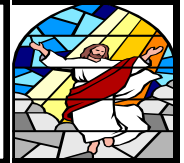




The Pastor's Page



“Demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church” . . .

Spring is often thought of as a time of change, but the season of fall also signals change. As the days get shorter and nights longer, we change our routines. We are inside more, we are tucked into bed earlier. We crave the warmth of the indoors. As Christians who belong to the church our lives are constantly being changed as we learn and grow.

As I prepare for the joys and realities of parenthood, I am looking forward to the change that it will bring to my life. I pray that as you consider your autumn you will see how God is continuing to move you in the various seasons of your life.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.*

In Christ,

Dus

What Are the Women Doing at First Pres?

Moderator's Report

Here I sit in the lobby of Gaylord Palms Resort in Orlando, Florida and my Window article is past due. Thank you for sending me on your behalf to learn how we can continue to nurture our faith and support the mission of the church to build an inclusive community with justice and peace for all God's people. This resort with its orchids, alligators, turtles, castles, bridges and flying fish is truly a world apart which you are all invited to discover July 18-22, 2012 when Presbyterians from around the world will GATHER. Like this meeting it will be a view of the Gathering promised in John's letter Revelation.

By the time you read this, our women will have read aloud the whole book of Revelation, beginning with chapters 21 and 22, continuing with Chapters 1-20. The evening circle has met and discussed the first lesson of our new study of Hope. Circle One (Mornings Circle) meets on Tuesday, October 5, at the home of Nita Taylor. Circle Two (Afternoon Circle) meets the same day at noon at church.

Tuesday, October 19, 2010 we have a very special program. The Rev. Carrie Lane is the Bereavement Counselor for Hospice of San Joaquin and Parish Associate of Grace Presbyterian Church in Lodi. The title of her presentation is "Finding Your Way Through Grief". We all experience losses—not just losses of significant persons in our lives, but also losses of jobs, physical abilities, relationships. So, I encourage you to bring someone. Just let Barbara Roek know soon so there will be enough food for everyone. In addition, we will also be presenting the Loving Service Award to a very special person. You don't want to miss this opportunity to gather as women of First Church. There will be a Coordinating Team meeting at 10:30.

October 30 is another important date. We will learn about the churches in the Dakotas. I just have spent time with Cynthia Bighorn, so I know I want to know more about our Native American sisters and brothers. It's the Fall Gathering of the Presbytery at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Modesto. Please let your circle leader know that you are going. We can't be a connectional church unless we are willing to reach out and travel a short distance. And...we will get a great lunch as well!

We are so blessed to have so many opportunities to come together and be the "healing waters" of the river of life in the city of God.

Opportunities for Generosity

By Gail Herron
Stewardship Commission

2 Corinthians 8:7, 13-14 — “But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving. ... Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality ...”

We have many opportunities for giving. But, where to put our money?

Fortunately, the internet gives us some options for

researching various charitable organizations. We can
1. Learning more about a particular charity and verify, i.e., efficiency, administrative cost, solvency, etc. and/or
2. Search for a project that resonates.

First of all- **General Assembly Mission Council of the Presbyterian Church USA**, Ministry and Mission has a web site that lists projects that they support. It includes ministries such as the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in this country and around the world. It lists other organizations supported by the Presbyterian church including schools, hospitals, farming projects, justice advocacy and building programs. See it all at:

<http://game.pcusa.org/donate>



PEACEMAKING OFFERING: OCTOBER 3

WORLD COMMUNION DAY IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3RD. WE WILL BE COLLECTING THE BI-ANNUAL PEACEMAKING OFFERING THAT SUNDAY.

THE PEACEMAKING OFFERING WAS CREATED IN 1980 TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) TO LIVE OUT A DEEPER

COMMITMENT TO PEACEMAKING AS PART OF OUR FAITHFULNESS TO GOD.

MOST CHURCHES RECEIVE THE OFFERING ON WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, WHICH THIS YEAR IS OCTOBER 3.

EACH CONGREGATION IS ENCOURAGED TO RETAIN 25 PERCENT OF THE OFFERING IT RECEIVES TO USE FOR LOCAL MINISTRIES OF PEACEMAKING WITHIN THE CHURCH AND ITS COMMUNITY. TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT IS USED BY PRESBYTERIES AND SYNODS, AND 50 PERCENT IS USED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINISTRIES THROUGH THE PRESBYTERIAN PEACEMAKING PROGRAM.

[HTTP://GAME.PCUSA.ORG/MINISTRIES/SPECIALOFFERINGS/PEACEMAKING-OFFERING/](http://game.pcusa.org/ministries/specialofferings/peacemaking-offering/)

Other sites let you type in the name of the charity and get an evaluation which, among other criteria, starts with how much of their income is directed to programs and how much is administration.

The **Better Business Bureau** has a site:
www.bbb.org/charity-review

Forbes Magazine has a site that is largely financial but also allows you to search “Charity”. They have lists. Forbes is big on top 10 Lists. Try the 10 best colleges, 10 biggest charities, 10 most efficient charities. See it at:
www.forbes.com

Another site that is well organized and you can search by topic, i.e., Conservation. Health, Water, Children, Disaster Relief is “**Charity Choices**.” You can donate directly on-line to these vetted charities.
www.charitychoices.com

Maybe the best is **Charity Navigator**, as it has received awards from Time Magazine and Forbes, and Business Week inducted it into its “Philanthropy Hall of Fame” for “revolutionizing the process of giving.” See it at:
www.charitynavigator.org

The following charities are recommended:

World Vision	Heifer Project
The Nature Conservancy	University of the Pacific
Yosemite Fund	
Missions of the Presbyterian Church USA	

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your support as Ali and I anticipate the arrival of our new son. Thank you again for enabling me to take parental leave from October 11-31. During this time I will be freed from my ordinary pastoral duties. If you need assistance during this time, please call the church office. The members of session will be instructed in handling any emergencies that arise while I am on leave. Rev. Carrie Lane will preach on the three Sundays of my absences, and possibly one more depending on the arrival time of our child. I will look forward to sharing in our joy of birth when I return in November. I pray that you have a hopeful and blessed October. — Gus



Letters of Thanks

We would like to say Thank you for your cards, calls, food, flowers and plants.

Ellen, Jane, Joyce & Patrick Knoop.

To our extended family at First Church,

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers over these past weeks, months and years. As most of you know, Jewell went home to be with the Lord on August 15th. Jewell loved First Church and the friends she had made. Sunday worship was the highlight of her week.



Thanks to all of you who were able to visit her, especially, during the last few months. We know that she didn't always know who was there, but your visits meant a great deal to us.

We are blessed to be part of such a caring and compassionate congregation. Thank you for supporting us during this difficult time.

Sincerely, **The Roiders**

On behalf of the fellowship committee I would like to thank everyone who participated in the September baby shower, we had a great turn out and everyone had a good time. For the month of October the 2nd Sunday luncheon will be hosted by the stewardship committee and again should be a wonderful event. I

hope every-one will plan to attend.

Tami Buckley



Special Thanks to Presbytery Volunteers

Thank you to all of the volunteers for the Presbytery meeting in September. A good time was had by all. Thanks for your many hours of hard work and participation. It was good to be able to give back and support the mission of our Presbytery.

Special Thanks to Office Workers

Sylvia Cavanaugh, Cheryl Hunt, Jodie Graham and Katherine White all did an outstanding job of helping the office run while our office manager, Tara Cavanaugh was on vacation. Thank you for your encouraging support and your willingness to step in and volunteer.

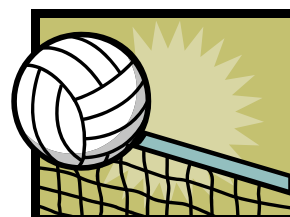
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP



ALL CHURCH WORK DAY:

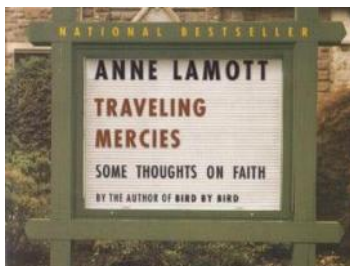
Volleyball for Adults

On Thursdays our church is hosting an adult volleyball night. September 16th was our opening night. We meet at about 7-p.m. You can come and join in the fun yourself, or pass this information along to a friend or neighbor that is looking for a good way to get moderate exercise and meet people. We'll try this as an experiment for a few weeks and see if there is some interest. There is no need to RSVP, just show up and play.



Readers “R” Us

Readers R Us, the new book group from First Presbyterian (and friends), has chosen its first two books. We’ll read *Traveling Mercies*, by Anne Lamott, for October, and will meet at the Trapp’s, 706 Dupont on October 21st at 3 p.m. to discuss it. Call 475-9055 if you’d like to join us.



In November, we’ll read *Rediscovering Values* by Jim Wallis. The November meeting will be at

Wishful Thinking— Plan Ahead

Why not start your annual reports now? December is always a rush and computers are a great way of storing information, you can save and print later. If you are a committee chair and will be writing an annual report at the end of 2010, start now. It’s a great way to assess how your committee has accomplished its goals so far. Also, if you have your report almost done, you can enjoy Advent and Christmas without that

EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE, I LEARNED FROM NOAH’S ARK

— from the Web

One: Don't miss the boat.

Two: Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Three: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Four: Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

Five: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Six: Build your future on high ground.

Seven: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

Eight: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

Nine: When you're stressed, float a while.

Ten: Remember, ! the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

Eleven: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting. .



Home Communion Available



Our Session believes that the Lord’s Supper should be available to every member of First Church. Any member desirous of having the sacrament brought to them following worship on the first Sunday of each month is encouraged to call the church office. Two Elders visit for about half an hour on Communion Sunday and will share the Lord’s Supper and a brief devotion and prayer. Call the church office to have a name added

If you are interested in joining our church or arranging a baptism, please speak with Pastor Gus following any church service.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

If any information is listed incorrectly or needs updating, **PLEASE** contact the church office!

- Alice Lenz Oct. 1
- Sarah Beasley Oct. 4
- Carl Hammel Oct. 5
- Eve Roeser Oct. 8
- Zachary Graham Oct. 9
- Ruth Strombom Oct. 9
- Richard McKee Oct. 11
- David Strombom Oct. 15
- Connor McKee Oct. 18
- Sydney Buckley Oct. 21
- Beverly Hedburg Oct. 23



History Tidbit

Did you Know?

Our church bell that rings every week, is quite old. According to our church historian, Joy Panzer, “the very first church bell was a steamboat bell that Rev. Woods had borrowed for the first few services in our original building. In a very short time money was raised to purchase a bronze bell from the East. The inscription on that bell shows it was cast in Boston in June of 1850. This is the bell that has been used in all of our churches to present day.” Generally a volunteer rings the bell 10 minutes before our worship service.

Next Session Meeting:

TUESDAY

October 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Income August 2010	Actually Received	Budget
Pledged	\$16,375.20	\$14,333.33
Unpledged	\$1258.41	\$1,000.00
Loose Offer.	\$99.31	\$183.33
TOTAL	\$17,732.92	\$15,516.66
Expense August 2010	Actually Spent	Budget
Expenses	\$18,735.15	17,905.85

Church “Idea/Dream” List

1. Afterschool tutoring for children .
2. Items for supplemental food pantry to share with church attendees in hard times.
3. Volunteers to help with 2011 photo directory.

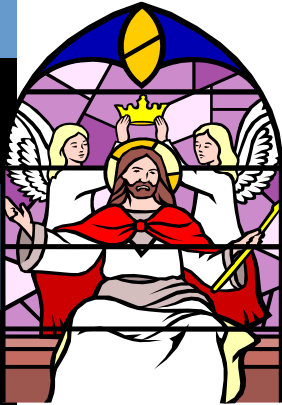


Congratulations, Emma Adelene Teran was born on September 1st. She is the daughter of Cynthia and Robert Teran, the granddaughter of Joy and Mike Panzer, the great granddaughter of Adelene Campbell.



Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Casey Hettervik. Casey and Shelly were married in the chapel on September 18th.

THE WINDOW



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As God's family, forgiven and freed through Jesus Christ, we seek

- We seek to know God through prayer, worship and Bible study.
- To reflect God's love to each other and to the world.
- To respond to the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- To spread the Gospel throughout our community

**NEXT WINDOW DEADLINE:
Wednesday October 20, 2010**

PRAYER FOR UNITY

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant to be like minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may be with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus.

Romans 15:5-7

**Dated Material
Please RUSH**

Business Office Hours:
Monday - Tuesday, Thursday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

Website: fpcstockton.org
Pastor's Email: gwright@fpcstockton.org
Email: office@fpcstockton.org

Phone: 209-465-2653
Fax: 209-465-2655

31 E. Vine Street
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