



First Presbyterian Church of SANTA BARBARA



December 2016

Ve The Patio

**Worshipping and Serving in
Santa Barbara Since 1869**

21 East Constance Ave., Santa Barbara, CA 93105 . 805.687.0754 . www.fpcsb.org
Pastors: Peter Buehler, Erik Wiebe, Anne Shelton

In this Issue

December	1
Pastor's Message	2
Mission & Outreach	3
Faith Formation	4
News & Notes	5
Youth Ministries	6
Children & Families	7
Healthful News	8
News & Notes	9
Fellowship	10
Fellowship	11
Senior Activities Calendar	12

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

- 8:30 - Chapel**
With Communion
- 9:00 - Fellowship Center**
Informal Worship
With Praise Band
Adult Education
Sunday School
- 10:30 - Sanctuary**
Liturgical with Choir
- Nursery Care is available**
8:45 - 11:45 a.m.

December @ 1st Pres.

Advent Worship

*Wednesday 7, 14 & 21 December
In the Chapel at 7:00pm*

Presbyterian Women

Christmas Tea

Saturday 10 December at 2:00pm

Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday 24 December at 7:00pm

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday 25 December Single Service 10:30am



Pastor's Message

Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Member Updates **From the Clerk of Session's** **Report:**

In Memoriam

Annabelle Petrucci 8 November 2016

New Members

Tiare & Bill Dodson

Want a ride to church on the van?

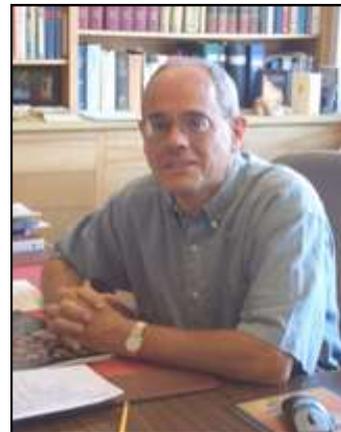
Call 687-0754, extension 9,
and let us know.

We'll call you on Sunday
morning and come pick you
up!



Dear Friends,

Having Christmas Day fall on a Sunday provides a special opportunity for celebration. We read of the joy and wonder the shepherds and wise men experienced and reflect on our own experiences of wonder. We see Mary and Joseph's love for their child and think of how dear our loved ones are. Our children express delight and gratitude for their gifts, and we think of how grateful we are to God for all we've received. Christmas is a gift.



Rev. Dr. Peter Buehler
Pastor

We'll be in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, the 24th for our service of lessons, carols, and candlelight. Once again, we'll see the scripture enacted in a tableau by our children and youth (along with some willing adults). Then on Sunday morning we'll gather in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. Be ready to sing! (Note that on the following Sunday, New Year's Day, we'll also have one service only at 10:30 a.m.)

Poet Ophelia Manney's prayer is our prayer:

Jesus, this is your day, show us the way.
Did we all find you, a loving heart, sent from God,
Being sent as a Son, like a big tall brother
Who gave his life for another.
Jesus, Christmas is your day that you gave us forever.

Grace and Peace to you, *Peter*

PATIO NEWS: Editor: Lee Kirkpatrick, Reproduction: church staff. **MAIL TEAM:** Margaret Brown, Al Harper, Diane Hemmer, Al & Arline Noreen



Register Now for SB Mission Conference 2017

January 27-28 2017. Don't miss out on keynote speeches by Richard Mouw and Jaun Martinez, outstanding breakout sessions, worship with the worship band and the conference's famous hospitality.

The theme this year is "On Earth as it is in Heaven" (Mt. 6:10). A sub-theme will be majority culture—Latino culture reconciliation

Speaking about Immigration

Comprehensive immigration reform in the U.S. may be a long way off. In the meantime Christians who embrace their true identity as "resident aliens" must consider how to speak compassionately, justly, and also prophetically about this important and divisive subject. In his workshop at this year's conference Daniel Rodriguez will propose a biblical and missional framework that reflects Kingdom values. Dr. Rodriguez is Associate Professor of Religion and Hispanic Studies at Pepperdine University.

The Refugee Crisis—Christian Response

The Syrian Crisis grinds out into its fifth year, resulting in half a million deaths and causing the greatest human displacement since World War II. This humanitarian tragedy is the tip of an iceberg never before seen: 65 million refugees. What makes sense in any of this? Is there a way to do legitimate good? Steve Haas' workshops (2) will offer information on all aspects of the Middle East Crisis and why this may be one of the finest hours for The Church. Rev. Haas is Vice President and "Catalyst" of World Vision.

Juan F. Martinez, Speaker

Is one of two keynote speakers this year. He will speak Friday evening, Jan. 27, and Saturday afternoon. Dr. Martinez is the Vice President for Diversity and International Ministries and Professor of Hispanic Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. He has experience also as a church planter and a minister, having pastored a congregation in Guatemala City, Guatemala, for nine years. Among the books he has authored are *Walk with the People: Latino ministry in the United States and Churches, Culture & Leadership* (with Mark Lau Branson).

Our Vision

God calls us
to worship faithfully.
God calls us
to serve lovingly. States and
Churches, Cultures & Leadership
God calls us into community:
sharing grace unconditionally,

Faith Formation

Adult Education: December 2016 9:00 in Anderson Lounge

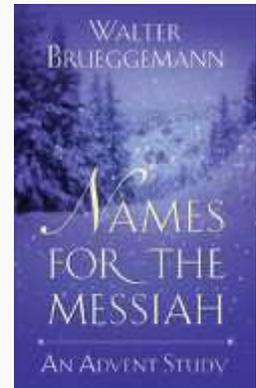
ADVENT STUDY November 29, December 4, 11, & 18

9 a.m. Anderson Lounge

Facilitated by Esther Bennett & Meryle Gaston

“In Isaiah 9:6, a divine utterance is given to us using four royal titles- Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. *Names for the Messiah* ponders each royal designation and how the people understood it then, how Jesus did or did not fulfill the title, and how Christians interpret Jesus as representative of that title.”

“Christians have claimed from the beginning that Jesus was the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament. In this study, best-selling author Walter Brueggemann tackles the questions: ‘What were these expectations?’ and ‘Did Jesus fulfill them?’”



No class on December 25 & January 1

“LET EVERYONE KNOW YOUR NAME”

Help us be a welcoming church by wearing your nametag. If you need a new nametag, you can order one free of charge by signing up at the Church Reception Desk. Nametags say to visitors that we are not a closed club but are anxious to welcome them into our fellowship.

Denise Rodman's year end message

Pre-paid Pledges and Year-end

As we draw to the end of 2016, a reminder that all 2016 gifts must be **received** by the church no later than December 31 for 2016 tax credit (postmark does not count).

Also, if you plan to make a full or partial contribution toward your 2017 pledge in the 2016 calendar year for tax purposes, please be sure to enclose a note with your check so we know that this is part of your 2017 gift.

Lastly, if you require reimbursement for 2016 expenses, please have these to the office no later than January 15. While we certainly will reimburse your expense after that date, once we have closed the books for the year we are unable to expense items against the 2016 budget.

Thanks, and as always, I'm available by phone (x106) or email (drodman@fpcsb.org) if you have any questions.

A year end reminder from Kristen Blabey

Did you know?

There is a great IRA opportunity for end-of-year charitable giving!

As you may have heard, Congress has made the Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") Charitable Rollover provision permanent. The Charitable Rollover provision enables individuals age 70½ or older to make tax-free gifts totaling up to \$100,000 from a traditional IRA account. Individuals 70 1/2 are required to take annual required minimum distributions from their IRA accounts. This law allows individuals to designate part or all of their required distribution amount to go directly to a charity or charities, such gifts, this distribution from the IRA counts towards your minimum required distribution for the year and reduces your taxable income because the amount of the transfer is not included as part of your taxable income. It would be a tax-free transfer from the IRA account directly to First Presbyterian Church.

In order to complete an IRA Charitable Rollover for 2016, please contact your IRA provider for detailed instructions. Such transactions usually take a few weeks, but the provider should be able to complete it by year's end. The transaction must be finalized by December 31, 2016 in order to apply to the 2016 required IRA distributions.

This is a fantastic and very exciting opportunity for anyone who has an IRA, is already required to take the annual required minimum distributions, and is considering making a donation to the church!

Coat Donations

New and gently used coat donations are being collected now through the end of January.

This Sunday School mission project is hosted by the Upper Elementary /Sunday School class.



Coats will be given to support church programs such as The Warming Shelter and the Jail Ministries Clothes Closet.

All sizes are needed.

Drop boxes are located in the Fireside /lounge and outside Susan and Beth's offices.

Youth & Young Adults Ministries

I probably say this every month, but December is my favorite month of the year. I love the Holiday Season as we reflect on the eternal God becoming a baby and entering the human experience. Oh yeah, and I love holiday food. December proves to be one of the fullest months of the year too.

Our youth programs return to their normal times Jr. High on Sunday 4-5:30 and Sr. High on Wednesdays from 6-8. It's always a good time. We have a few special events that I'd like to draw your attention to. We are having a 2 day Presby Camp on Dec. 21-22 from 8:30-4:30 and our youth are going to be our CITs and it's a Christmas themed camp. There will be shopping, wrapping, treats, and of course Reindeer Games. Our youth programs are having our Christmas parties. **Jr. High will be partying on Dec. 18th.** and **Sr. high will happen on Dec. 21 from 5-7 after Presby Camp.** Wear your ugliest sweater, and we'll play games, eat snacks, and have a gift exchange. If you want to participate in the gift exchange please bring a NEW wrapped gift (valued between \$10-15). This is something that you would want to receive – **not a gag gift.**

Over Christmas we have a Christmas Eve service at 7 PM. We also have a service on Christmas Day at 10:30 and we would love to see you there. We aren't having youth programming on Christmas for obvious reasons – spend time with your family. Merry Christmas.

On December 28th, we are taking all youth to Magic Mountain. We will be meeting at the church at 9AM and returning at about 8 PM. If you want to go, buy your ticket online at <https://www.sixflags.com/magicmountain/store/tickets> prior to coming, or bring your pass. The cost of going with us is \$7.00 per person or \$10.00 for siblings. Also you will need to bring money for food in the park and dinner on the way home. It's going to be a wonderful time.

Please let me know if you have any questions.



What's Happening For Youth Regular Events:

Jr. High Youth Group Meets

Sunday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:30 in *The Lodge* Youth Lounge

High School Youth Group Meets

Wednesday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 in *The Lodge* Youth Lounge

Sunday mornings all are invited to attend the 9:00 service then afterwards meet in *The Lodge* Youth Lounge for donuts and "Coffee Tawk"



Rich Ellgen,
Minister of Youth &
Young Adults
rellgen@fpcsb.org
(805) 687-0754 x 108



Susan Croshaw
Director of Children's
Ministries
scroshaw@fpcsb.org,
(805) 687-0754 x 115

Children and their families

Sunday School

Toddlers and PreK December teacher is Kati Buchler

All Elementary ages are hosting their Traditions Month, where adults from the church come and share their favorite Holiday traditions, memories, decorations, or stories. If you would like to be our guest on a Sunday morning in December, please contact Susan Croshaw.



Kids in Mission Coat

Bring gently used coats, jackets, sweatshirts, and sweaters for our Coat-Box collection!

Donations will go to Transition House, Jail Ministries, and The Warming Shelter
Coat Box located in the Fireside Lounge, and downstairs by the CEC (Christian Ed. Center)



Gift Giving Ideas?

Presbycamp Jam makes a sweet gift!

\$5 per jar, Christmas Toppers available

Reserve yours, or see what we have out on Sundays...

We have:

- Fig, Plum, Peach,
- Citrus & Fig,
- Concord Grape
- Peach & Mexican Guava
- Strawberry
- Pomegranate & Berry



Calendar

Friday, Dec. 2 5-9 pm

Club 456 Chili dinner and Christmas Parade. Meet at Croshaw's between 5 and 5:30 for dinner. We will walk to the parade. Families invited!

Tuesday, Dec. 6 7-8:30 pm

Youth and Children's Ministries Committee Meeting in the CEC.

Saturday, Dec. 10 2-4 pm

PW Christmas Tea

RSVP to Katie by email, klakehart@fpcsb.org, 687-0754 x105, or on the welcome desk.

12/21 & 12/22 8:30am-4:30pm

Christmas Presbycamp - 2 Day Event. Registration materials available online at www.fpcsb.org.

Thursday, Dec 24 7 pm

Christmas Eve Service

Reception following in the CFC
If you are in the Tableaux, please arrive by 6:45. Costumes will be in the Anderson Lounge. Stay after the service for hot mulled cider and treats in the CFC.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

9 am - 8pm. Magic Mountain trip for Club 456, JH, and Senior High. Pre-purchase your tickets online. \$7 per person (\$10 max per family) to help pay for the van ride, and bring money for food in the park, and dinner on the way home.

Susan Croshaw, Director of Children's Ministries, 305-687-0754 X115, croshaw4@gmail.com

Healthful News

Remembering our gifts.....

Recently I attended a symposium at Cottage Hospital entitled, "Saving the Brain." This was the 10th annual neuroscience symposium of the Central Coast sponsored by the Santa Barbara Neuroscience Institute at Cottage Health. Physicians from Stanford University School of Medicine, University of California San Francisco and San Diego, along with Cottage Hospital Neurosurgeons highlighted the speaker list. The presentations addressed topics which included stroke, brain surgery, brain tumors, dementia, care in the era of genomic medicine, interoperative MRI, and teleneurology. For myself genomic medicine and teleneurology are the medicine of the future.

Cottage Hospital was the first on the Central Coast to earn the Primary Stroke Center Certification. That means our specialists have demonstrated the highest levels of standards and guidelines for stroke outcomes. Because Cottage is a stroke center it serves in partnership servicing three counties that include the Twin Cities, Lompoc, Sierra Vista, Ventura, Santa Paula, Santa Ynez Valley, Oxnard, Ojai, and Santa Maria.

Neurologists today are stretched between their office hours, following hospital patients, and responding to patients in the emergency room. Just as the hospitalist model has become dominant for adult inpatient and pediatric care the new neurohospitalist model is starting to emerge as pressure mounts to reduce length of stays, to improve patient safety and improve the quality of neurologic care.

Every 40 seconds someone has a stroke in the U.S. The lifesaving drug tPA can greatly enhance positive outcomes yet the national shortage of experienced neurologists has caused the field of teleneurology to explode. Teleneurology is a branch of telemedicine that offers consultations for neurologic problems from a remote location using a telephone or the Internet. When the doctor and the patient are not at the same location videoconferencing and email can be lifesaving in stroke treatment. Currently there are remote presence robots with a video monitor which allows a neurologist to talk and assess a patient with the same level of specificity as one on-one contact. Because of this new technology, all patients exhibiting the signs of stroke or experiencing a stroke can be treated close to home with information provided from the primary stroke care center. In the future you will see specialized ambulances armed with on board MRI imaging equipment, telemedicine equipment, and lifesaving drugs to provide faster treatment for stroke.

Never did I think that one day I could be medically evaluated by a robot yet medicine is changing. The population growth, the aging population, and the shortage of doctors and nurses brought forward the need for the nurse practitioner (1985) and the physician assistant (1965). The drugs and research done by pharmaceutical companies have increased our longevity as well as offered improved treatment for disease conditions such as HIV, Hepatitis C, and Diabetes. The rise of the internet brought with it

Sharon Head RN
Parish Nurse

**Parish Nurse—Hours
Tuesdays**

**Call for appointment
(687-0754x103)**

or email strollrn@aol.com



profound changes for the practice of telemedicine. Smart devices, video transmission, and robotics have opened up the delivery of remote healthcare to patients in their homes and workplaces. Robotic surgery may be in our future. Will doctors in the future be operating at remote distance surgical centers via robots?

As a nurse who started practicing over thirty years ago I embrace changes that can bring better healthcare to all. After all the gift of health is a wonderful gift and a healthy life is hopefully a happy life. Yet let us remember what Ron Tanner wrote...Yet a gift of birth to all on Earth, a gift that's far from small, to everyone, He gave His Son, The greatest gift of all.

*Wishing You A Merry
Christmas, Sharon*

Rooms for Rent

Would you like to reserve a room
at the church?

Please contact Katie Lukehart
at KLukehart@fpcsb.org
or 687-0754 x105.

Club 456 Visited Unity Shoppe and got a tour from Executive Director Thomas Reed. We stayed and worked a bit in the food sorting area - getting snack foods ready to go on the shelf. We were impressed by the bread and produce area, and shocked to see completely empty "Soup" shelves. Bring your Peanut Butter donations (or soup cans) on Sunday, December 11. Rich Ellgen and the youth will be returning to Unity Shoppe to deliver the donations.



Future Session Meeting

Fellowship

PresbyFolks

PresbyFolks Caroling & Chili Supper

Wed. Dec. 7th, 2016 at
5:15 PM

Sing Christmas Carols At Vista Del Monte

Church vans will leave at 5:25
PM

This is open to ALL ages &
Families!

About 7 PM we return to
Church For a Chili Supper.

It is requested that everyone
BRING COOKIES to share
With SB Rescue Mission
& Warming Shelter program.

Sign-up at Church Reception or Call
Mary Marsh at 884-0534



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women meet monthly on the fourth
Monday, Dinner by Kay at 5:30
Program follows

This month it's the Presbyterian Women

Christmas Tea

Saturday 10 December at 2:00pm

Sign-up at the front desk or call Katie Lukehart
at the church office, 687-0754.

The Adventurers

In January it will be the 11th

And, the film will be:

The Boys of 36

Sign up in person at the front Desk
or call Katie Lukehart at 687-0754.

FOOD



FIRST SUNDAY
of each month,
bring non-
perishable foods
for



Transition House
In-Gathering

The Adventurers

The Adventurers invite you to join us each second Wednesday of the month in the Christian Fellowship Center

11:30am Fellowship
12:00pm Lunch by Kay
1:00pm Program:

Cost per person: \$10

Wednesday 14 Dec.

Erin Bonski-Evens



The Music of Christmas

Reservation deadline: the Sunday, before
(A reservation made is a reservation paid)

Sign-up in person at the front desk or call Katie Lukehart at 687-0754.

Can You Drive or Help Once a Month?

Do you have one day a month (or one day any month?) to show God's love simply by sharing your ability to drive – and to enjoy a nice lunch with lovely people, too?! Driving not for you? Be a driver's assistant!

On the third Wednesday of each month, September through May, about 40 community seniors enjoy our "Chariot of Friends" lunch trips to restaurants anywhere from Oxnard to Buellton, often here in Santa Barbara. We provide transportation from the church and also pick-up people who need a ride, so we need drivers for our church vans.

No special license is required for two of the vans, just a good driving record and some training we provide. However, we are also in great need a Class B driver every month for our larger van, as our current drivers are retiring.

Driver's Assistants make phone calls for the drivers and help with seatbelts, walkers, etc., all much-appreciated by our passengers.

Chariot of Friends

The Church Vans go somewhere each third Wednesday for lunch

Chariot of Friends – Wednesday, December 21st

Scenic Drive to Pea Soup Andersen's!

We are continuing our tradition of a December trip up the coast to Pea Soup Andersen's Restaurant in Buellton. The Christmas decorations, vintage and cute gift shops, pastries, cheeses and other food gifts there add to the enjoyment of fellowship and the beautiful scenery.

Our vans will leave promptly at **9:30 a.m.** with the people boarding at church. Then we will pick up those requesting a ride, meeting those who want to drive themselves at **11:30 a.m.** in Buellton. The cost is \$17.00 each.

Menu choices are:

Fresh Fruit Platter (with Rainbow Sherbet or Cottage Cheese)

Hap-Pea's Monster Burger

Croissant Sandwich (Chicken Salad or Tuna Salad)

Classic Reuben (Corned Beef, Swiss Cheese & Sauerkraut, served on Grilled Rye, with Andersen's Special Dressing)

Danish Style Meatloaf, with Mashed Potatoes and Vegetable Medley

Coffee, Tea or Iced Tea is included, as well as Andersen's Famous Pea Soup, and for dessert Tapioca with Raspberry Sauce on the side.

Please call Diane Hemmer at 563-0063 with your menu

choice and to let her know whether you will meet us at the church or at the restaurant, or if you would like us to pick you up.



