

December 2015

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THE NEWHALL PRESS



PASTOR'S COLUMN

December closes our year 2015. It has also been called the "darkest month of the year," cold and uninviting. Yet Jesus has made it the favorite month, for in it we celebrate the birth of God among us. There is unimaginable power in that event. The world was forever changed. God now dwelt among humans. God's creation was not forgotten, it was highly valued. And you and I were visited. One of my favorite stories was about a frightened little boy who knew what we all yearn for.

There was a small voice that penetrated the stillness of the night. It came from the bedroom across the hall. "Daddy, I'm scared!" Out of your groggy, fuzzy state, you respond with, "Honey, don't be afraid, Daddy's right across the hall." After a very brief pause the little voice is heard again, "I'm still scared." Always quick with an insight you respond, "You don't need to be afraid; God is with you. God loves you." This time the pause is longer . . . but the voice returns, "I don't care about God, Daddy; I want someone with skin!" It seems like the logic used by the little child is precisely the reason for the incarnation. After thousands of years of being unsuccessful in being able to convince his people that he really loved them, our Creator realized that the best way to demonstrate his love for us was to send "someone with skin." We worship a God who came and lived among us. He had "skin on."

A few summers ago we had first person sermons of great Christians. One of those was Father Joseph Damien. In 1873, a Belgian Catholic priest named Joseph Damien De Veuster was sent to minister to lepers on the Hawaiian Island of Molokai. When he arrived he immediately began to meet each one of the lepers in the colony in hopes of building a friendship. But where ever he turned, people shunned him. It seemed as though every door was closed. He poured his life into his work, erecting a Chapel, beginning worship services and pouring out his heart to the lepers. But it was to no avail! No one responded to his ministry. After 12 years Father Damien made the decision to leave. Dejectedly, he made his way to the docks to board a ship to take him back to Belgium. As he stood on the dock he wrung his hands nervously as he recounted his futile ministry among the lepers. As he did he looked down at his hands. He noticed some mysterious white spots and felt some numbness. Almost immediately he knew what was happening to his body. He had contracted leprosy! It was then that he knew what he had to do. He returned to the leper colony and to his work. Quickly the word about his disease spread through the colony. Within a matter of hours everyone knew. Hundreds of them gathered outside his hut, they understood his pain, fear, and uncertainty about the future. But what was the biggest surprise was the following Sunday, as Father Damien arrived at the Chapel, he found hundreds of worshippers all there. By the time the service began, there were many more with standing room only and many gathered outside the Chapel. His ministry became enormously successful. The reason? He was one of them. He understood and empathized with them. And this is the essence of Christmas, that God came and became a man. **"The Word became flesh." John 1:14**

In His Grip,

Bill Barnes

December Events:

GIVING TREE

December 1 to 13

CHURCH CLEAN-UP & DECORATING

December 5 9 AM-Noon

TREE TRIMMING & ADVENT DINNER

December 6 5:00 PM

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS

December 6 After Church

NEW DIRECTIONS

December 9 1:30 PM

PW CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

December 12 9:00 AM

CHRISTMAS CONCERT & DINNER

December 12 5:00 PM

STEPHEN MINISTRIES INFO MEETING

December 13 11:30 AM

SENIOR LUNCH

December 16 11:00 AM

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 20

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24 5:00, 7:00 & 9:00

COMBINED SERVICE

December 27 10:00 AM

Recurring Church Events:

BAND REHEARSAL

Thursdays 6:00 PM

BOOK BUDDIES

2nd Thursdays 4:00 PM

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursdays 7:30 PM

COMMUNION

1st Sundays 10 AM; 5 PM

HANDCRAFTERS

2nd & 4th Tues. 10:00 AM

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Not Meeting in December

MEN AT WORK

Not Meeting in December

MIDDAY BIBLE STUDY

Fridays 11:00 AM

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLES

Not Meeting in December

RECYCLING (For Camp Scholarships)

1st Sundays of each quarter

RING TONES REHEARSAL

Sundays 1:30 PM

STANDING TOGETHER

2nd Wednesdays 7:00 PM

TGIF (Children's Program)

Fridays 6:00 PM

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays 6:00 PM

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Leadership Meetings:

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

1st Mondays 7:00 PM

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

1st Tuesdays 7:00 PM

CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE

1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM

DEACONS

1st Mondays 7:00 PM

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

1st Mondays 7:00 PM

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

2nd Thursdays 7:00 PM

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

1st Fridays 8:00 AM

SESSION

3rd Tuesdays 7:00 PM

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Not Meeting in December

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

2nd Tuesdays 7:00 PM

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

1st Tuesdays 7:00 PM

YOUTH COMMITTEE

1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Upcoming Events:

CHANGE IN WORSHIP TIMES

January 3 9:30 & 11:00

STEPHEN MINISTRY CLASS BEGINS

January 13

SANTA BARBARA MISSIONS CONF.

January 22-23

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

April 2-8



The Church Life Committee promotes fellowship and fun activities for the church family by providing a variety of church, community, cultural and special events throughout the year.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS - OVER-80S

Jerre Crosier 12-10-29

Jim Creighton 12-14-35

Dorothy Koons 12-14-35



LADIES NIGHT OUT

LADIES
night
OUT

There will be no Ladies Night Out in December due to the Christmas holiday.

January Ladies Night Out will be Jan 26 at 6:30pm, Piccola Trattoria 18312 Sierra Highway, Canyon Country 91351.

BOOK BUDDIES

Book Buddies will discuss "The Boston Girl" by Anita Diamant on Thursday, December 10th at 4:00 p.m.

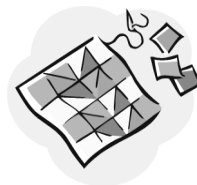
This novel tells the story of a Jewish woman growing up in Boston in the early 1900s.

Discussion and salad supper is at Pam Trammell's home: 22254 Oxford Lane, Santa Clarita. RSVP to Pam: 661-255-1727



HANDCRAFTERS

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month (Dec. 8 & 22), at 10am, people gather in the Evans Room to share their crafting skills, their interests, and their accomplishments. We are the *handcrafters*, and everyone is welcome!



SENIOR LUNCH

December 16 at 11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Special Christmas Program featuring our Little Shepherd's Nursery School children. Sign up on the Patio.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT MARKET

December 6th on the Patio. Discover many ways to bless needy people around the world while also blessing your friends and loved ones with unique gifts that express the true meaning of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT & DINNER

Everyone is invited to attend this celebration hosted by a visiting Korean Presbyterian church.:

Christmas Concert—5pm in the Sanctuary

Dinner—6pm in Fellowship Hall

Chili Cook-Off!



Sunday November 8th was a beautiful autumn afternoon as about 85 Presbyterians at First Presbyterian Church of Newhall congregated on the Church Patio for this year's Annual Chili-Cook Off and Dessert Contest.

There was serious competition for this year's Chili Title, as 9 members all brought delicious Traditional Chili's to the competition table. While 5 people tried for the Hottest Chili title, 8 people competed for the Best Traditional Dessert and 3 for the Best Non-Traditional Dessert.

After an hour or so of chili and dessert tasting, all were allowed to cast a vote for the favorites. After some hard decisions and some careful consideration, the winners were chosen.

And the winners are.....There was a tie for the Best Traditional Chili between Myra Moore and Linda Cummings. While Roland Wrinkle handily walked away with the Hottest Chili award. In the Dessert Category, congratulation go to Anne Watts for her Dessert called "Dirt" (yes really). While, the Best Non-Traditional Dessert award was given to Candy Belcher for her Delicious Peanut Brittle.

Participants for the Traditional Chili were James Allison, Myra Moore, Harry Davis, Shane Sindle, Beverly Stokes, Linda Cummings, Betty Shubert, Susan Fletcher, and John Favalessa.

Running for the Hottest Chili Title were Tod Tomei, David Lauerman, Pastor Bill Barnes, Yours truly, Patrick Stokes, and Roland Wrinkle.

At the Dessert table we had Marilyn Tanner, Julia Ballou, Marilyn Pettek, Coleen Knox, and Judy Jones

In the running for the Best Non-Traditional Dessert were Candy Belcher, and Cyndi Signett.

We all spent a beautiful afternoon together and a great time was had by all.

Church Life Committee headed by Elder Sharie Telles, would like to thank all the people who entered this year's contest and made it so fun and wonderful, as well as her entire committee who arranged and hosted another wonderful event. The committee consists of Sandy Gravitt, Rod Belcher, Dan and Cyndi Signett and Patrick Stokes. See you next year.



Winners: Roland Wrinkle, Myra Moore, Linda Cummings, Anne Watts and Candy Belcher

DECEMBER 6th :

TREE-TRIMMING CEREMONY: 5:00 PM in the sanctuary. This is a traditional event for everyone, but especially families, children and adults who cherish the wonders of childhood. Bring an ornament for your child and/or family to donate to the tree, or retrieve your ornament from a former year from the table in the foyer. Enjoy the sparkly eyes of a toddler or two being boosted up to the very top of the tree to hang their ornaments. The Children's Choir will perform for the first, but not the last, time during Advent and we will all sing Christmas Carols with the Second Service Band to bring us into this special season.

ADVENT DINNER: Immediately following the Tree-Trimming Service in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per person, up to \$20.00 per family. Sign up on the patio. Space is limited to 80 people.

MEN AT WORK— will not meet in December . For information about meetings, contact Don Trammell.



Just then Jesus looked and saw the rich people dropping offerings in the collection plate. Then He saw a poor widow put in two pennies. He said, "The plain truth is that this widow has given by far the largest offering today. All these others made offerings that they'll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn't afford – she gave her all." Luke 21:1-4 (The Message)

Have you ever wondered what happened to that poor widow? She gave everything she had to the Lord. Did she starve to death? Was she homeless and did she sleep on the cold, hard ground? What about the other basic necessities of life? She had nothing left. What in the world happened to that poor widow in the Temple? As Dr. D. James Kennedy explains in Freedom from Financial Fear, "How you answer that question will reveal more about your true theology and religion than almost any other question that could be asked, because ultimately the question here is, whom do we trust for all things?"

The above verses remind us that there is an observer watching us today and every day. Maybe we do not think about it, or just do not want to think about it, but every week Jesus is watching us drop our gifts into the offering plate. He not only knows what we give but also what we keep.

It comes down to simple questions. Whom do you trust for all things? Whom do you trust in your life? Do you trust yourself or do you trust God? Look at each coin in your pocket or wallet or change box/jar at home. Look at each piece of currency that is placed in your hands. What does it say – "In ourselves we trust" or "In God we trust?" Do you think it was a coincidence that that is the phrase the Founding Fathers decided to put on our money? It is a constant reminder that in God we trust – for everything in our lives!

In the whole history of the Scriptures, you will see that God has most richly blessed those who have fully committed themselves to Him. God challenged Abraham to give something more than his money – He wanted Abraham's only son. When God saw that He was number one in Abraham's heart, He spared Isaac and Abraham was enormously blessed. How many of us are really that committed to God?

But that is why God asks us to bring the tithes and offerings – not to minimize us or restrict our blessings – but that He might bless our lives more abundantly. God wants to bless our lives. That's why He calls on us to give in abundant ways.

According to Dr. Kennedy, in 1789 after George Washington took the presidential oath of office, he leaned over and kissed the Bible. The next thing he did was lead the members of the House and the Senate two blocks down the street for a two-hour worship service of the Triune God. During that service the nation was dedicated to God.

Dr. Kennedy goes on to say that in 1804, Haiti declared their independence from France, and committed their island to Satan and voodoo. Today, Haiti is one of the poorest, if not the poorest, countries in the world and America has become the richest. In God We Trust.

God asks us to give, not to impoverish us, but that He might bless us all the more. So in whom do you trust for the things of this world and in the world to come? If you don't bring the tithes and offerings to the Lord, in effect, you are declaring that you trust someone other than God to provide for your needs, and by doing that, you will miss out on many, many blessings.

So what ever happened to that poor widow and her two pennies? As Dr. Kennedy proclaims, "Well, I don't know the details, but I am absolutely confident that God took care of her – and that abundantly!"



The Outreach Committee is called by our Heavenly Father to extend the hospitality that we find in our fellowship to the community, to visitors, and to new members, in order to draw them into the family of Christian faith at First Presbyterian Church.

OUTREACH – IS EVERYONE’S ROLE

Spotlight on our Church Theological Blog at presby-newhall.org - look for *Engagement* on the top menu then *Theological Blog*.

Did you know we have a robust website sponsored and maintained by the Outreach Committee? You can find news and events, sermon audio archives, find your Deacon, ask for help, and explore mission and committee opportunities.

Part of our church mission is to “encourage spiritual growth.” As Presbyterians we are all encouraged to read, study and pray scripture both alone and in community. With this in mind, did you know we have a tremendous theological blog as part of our website? There you can find the thoughts of some of our deepest church thinkers. Questions and comments are encouraged. Please join in as we journey together.

The rules are simple - This blog is a place to openly discuss and share ideas. All are welcome to participate. Paul tells us we must treat each other with humility and gentleness in our disagreements. That’s it!

Here are some of the topics you can currently find (or post your own topic):

The resurrection of Jesus and the new creation it launched

Hot to Read the Bible

The Gospel according to Acts

Things I learned from two Pauls

EASTER: When creations future came bursting into the present

Peacemaking in our time

Angles and More on Angels

Are we reading a different Bible?

Pray for Pope Francis

Doing Theology in the 21st century

Sermon on the Mount sermon series: takes on Matthew

The N.T. Wright convocation

A Meditation on how to exhibit the Fruits of the Holy Spirit without being religious

Growing in Christ

God’s plan for our good and for our future

Old testament worldview, murder & war

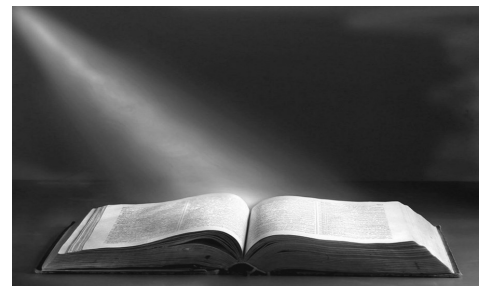
The Resurrection of the believers

Have we gotten heaven all wrong?

The Millenials,

Messiahmas

How the American church took “Christ” out of Christmas



Please join in or ask questions. We are in this journey to follow Jesus in community.



The Worship and Music Committee will strive with God's guidance and grace, to create Christ-centered worship experiences, inspiring God's people as they respond to the word proclaimed in prayer, song, scripture, sacrament and message.

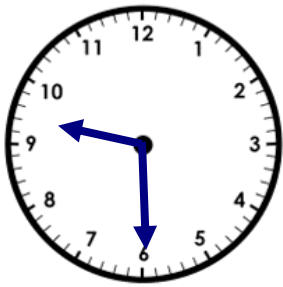
A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MEMORY by Sonja Tweedie

I love the season of Advent and Christmas Eve. Advent is a time of waiting and exciting anticipation of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. My fondest memories growing up were the numerous Christmas concerts, our annual community Messiah song fest, candle lighting ceremonies and glorious Christmas Eve services.

Gift giving and receiving was a delight, but it became so commercialized we sometimes forgot that the greatest gift we could ever receive was God coming to earth in human form as the baby Jesus. Ah, but, alas, as children, we longed for the things in stores and advertised on TV. One year, toward the end of World War II, I wanted a bicycle more than anything, an impossibility during those years. Instead, on Christmas morning I opened up a brown pleated skirt and a sleeveless vest to match — clothes!!? On a scale from 1 to 10, my disappointment was 15! My mom told me to go upstairs and try it on. I was trying so hard to be grateful, but - - - and this is the amazing part - - when I came downstairs ten minutes later in my new (not totally appreciated) outfit, there in front of the Christmas tree stood the most beautiful, shiny, blue Higgins bike I had ever seen! (It just happened that my uncle worked at Sears!!) That moment was perhaps the most memorable in my life! My first thought was how great God was and how ungrateful I had been, a lesson for us all.

Since college, my Christmas Eve's have always been in church, usually singing in a choir, celebrating Christ's birth. For over thirty years I have been alone on Christmas Eve because as I am worshipping in my church, my children and grandchildren are singing in their choirs and playing their bells and worshipping our precious Lord in their churches. Being alone on holidays can never be a first choice, but knowing that my family is blessing their congregations fills me with great joy.

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES TO CHANGE:



The long-awaited decision has been made! As a result of the comprehensive questionnaire completed by the congregation, the Town Hall Congregational Meeting on November 8th, and many hours of discussion by our Worship Committee, the decision has been made to change our Sunday Worship Service times back to two morning services. Starting January 3rd, our traditional service will move to 9:30 AM, and our Contemporary service will be at 11:00 AM.



FOURTH STEPHEN MINISTRY CLASS TO BEGIN

There will be a Stephen Ministry informational meeting on December 13th, immediately after first service, in the Market Street House. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you are welcome to apply for the new class which will start January 13. Information & applications are available in the church office. If you have a heart for coming beside hurting people, you will be blessed with the education and support to pursue this Gift of the Spirit with confidence. Please contact Sandy McIntosh in the church office or Phil Aijian, pastoral support. Call 661-259-0555 or email churchoffice@presby-newhall.org. We need time to order materials, so please inquire as soon as possible.



The purpose of The Mission Committee, in order to further share the gospel of Jesus Christ, is to responsibly use the resources of First Presbyterian Church of Newhall, wherever we find a neighbor in need. We are committed to meeting mission needs in our local community, across the nation, and globally, by sending money, food, clothing, volunteers, or whatever else is needed.



MISSIONS By James Allison

“It was great meeting with both of you yesterday and I really enjoyed the opportunity to fellowship with FPC Newhall. You have a great community of believers, and it was a blessing for me to worship with you.”
—Byron Hack, Glad Tidings, Board Member.

Wow! What a month for Missions! From our commissioning of Jack Irwin and Art Moore to install a water purification system in Laos, to blessing our Christian literature to be sent to India (see photo), and our upcoming Alternative Christmas and Giving Tree, your First Presbyterian Church of Newhall Mission committee is bringing Christ’s ministry to all parts of the globe. None of this could be possible without the dedication of our congregation members, so before we begin to discuss what opportunities we have in December, the mission committee says, “Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”



Alternative Christmas: Don’t worry if you missed our first round of giving. There is still time to give on **December 6th, 2015**. If you have a heart for mission, which I know all of us do, then stop by to either receive some new information on the mission field, donate, or even to just say “Hi.”

Giving Tree 2015 (Decorated Tree in Narthex): This is an opportunity to donate an unwrapped gift, toy, or gift certificate to a child in need. In partnership with our local Santa Clarita Valley Sherriffs, our congregation has the opportunity to donate any time from the **beginning of December until December 13th**. We accept gifts throughout the week but if you plan to donate on a Sunday, mark your calendars for either December 6th or 12th. We will do pick-up’s at your home if needed. No child should go without a Christmas present nor should they go without feeling love from the Christian Community. The simple joy of receiving a gift could mean everything to a child and change the world of a young family, it’s not just a gift, it’s an expression of God’s Love.

Christmas Joy Offering: This will be our last opportunity this year to give to our wonderful missionaries and different causes represented by the PCUSA. Check your pews during the first two weeks of December. A gift to the Christmas Joy Offering helps provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and also enables deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. SEE: specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy, 2015.

SANTA BARBARA MISSION CONFERENCE—RECONCILING ALL THINGS

Join others from First Pres at the: Santa Barbara Mission Conference, held at the Santa Barbara Presbyterian Church
Jan. 22-23, Friday-Sat., 2016

Theme "Reconciling All Things"

- Learn about Christians in the forefront of reconciling people groups to fulfill the Will of Jesus.
- Learn from the keynote and breakout session speakers.
- Speak with over 25 exhibitors about missions-related projects.
- Join in wonderful, Spirit-filled worship.
- Meet new people from all over.
- Learn what God is doing in other churches and with other Christians in America.

Ten people from First Pres attended the 2015 Mission conference.

Look for information about registration soon.

Or look up the conference at

<http://sbmissionconference.org>

From the Missions and Adult Education Committees



The Youth Committee nurtures the Junior High and Senior High-aged youth as well as the college-aged young adults of First Presbyterian Church of Newhall, and the community; by providing a Christ-centered program of worship, education, fellowship, and service in order to equip them with a framework in which they can realize their spiritual gifts and live a Christian life.

Youth Newsletter:

It's that time of year...to party! Bring all your friends in the Junior High and High School age group to youth group on Sunday Nights. We will be giving out gifts each week and playing some great Holiday games. Also, don't forget that we have a youth Christmas Party on December 20th at the Knox home.



Details will be given out as we get closer to the party; but plan to be there to eat some yummy Panda Express, wear a hideous Christmas sweater, and bring a gag gift no more than 10 bucks for the gift exchange. Come and celebrate with us this season at youth group.

History Quiz:

Here are some photos from our 1987 church directory. Guess who they are, then confirm your answers by peeking at page 11. Hint: One person shown is now in Heaven. (Thank you Glenda Johnson for sharing your collection of church directories!)



Little Shepherd's Nursery School

at First Presbyterian Church of Newhall



December is nearly upon us! Our friends at Little Shepherds are excited about Christmas approaching, and full of the wonder and joy this season brings. We

have been practicing our Christmas songs with Miss Kathy, which will be performed once for our Little Shepherd's families, and once more for the Senior Luncheon. We are also busy creating handmade gifts for the children to present to their parents.

We will be closed for the Holidays December 22- January 7. The Little Shepherd's staff wishes all of you at First Presbyterian Newhall a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support.





Presbyterian Women, as forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, commit ourselves: To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the Church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

Presbyterian Women's Amazing Year by Sonja Tweedie

My year as co-moderator of PW, along with Carole Wheeler, is coming to an end. What a blessing it has been to serve in this capacity. We began by choosing the theme for the year: "A Love for Mission: In our Hearts, our Homes, our Workplaces, our Churches and in our World." PW has been blessed by the mission work we have continued throughout the years; we shared much of this in various newsletter articles.

Our year began at the December Christmas Brunch where Jana Baker delightfully spoke about her Amor mission trip to Mexico; our new officers were introduced, the Ring Tones entertained us and the food was delicious. Our May Tea was, as always, a beautiful experience with scrumptious sandwiches and desserts and the delightful sounds of the Men of Harmony who entertained us. Our Chair, Beverly Stokes, gets kudos for an outstanding and memorable day. In late May, we offered a Card-Making activity with Terri DeYoung where we had so much fun we followed it up with a second one in November with, hopefully, more to come next year. We cannot forget our Annual Fall Retreat in September with Carole Cliffe as our inspirational speaker. Tina Pulliam and her committee outdid themselves once again!

The best part of PW, however, is always our monthly Circle/Bible Studies where we celebrate our "Sisterhood in Christ." If you are not part of one of our 5 Circles and want to feel the closeness and love such a group can provide, please let us know. We would love to have you join us.

Thanks to all who made this PW year truly special.

DECEMBER PW MISSION PROJECT



Help the Children once again thanks you for your generous donations! For the month of December we will focus on baking products such as cake and brownie mixes, frosting, small packages of sugars and flour, etc. Please leave your donations on the shelves in the Evans Room. Thank you!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

All women are invited to attend the annual Christmas Brunch. It will be held on Saturday, December 12, at **Marie Callender's** Restaurant on The Old Road at 9:00 a.m. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale at Circle meetings and after worship on the patio on December 6. The **Ring Tones** bell choir will play; the Thank Offering will be dedicated; and the 2016 PW Coordinating Team will be introduced.

Moderator—Beverly Stokes,

Secretary—Florence Craig

Treasurer—Tina Pulliam

Historian—Carol Cogley

Peace/Justice/Mission Interpretation—Chi Kanagi

Past Co-Moderators—Sonja Tweedie and Carole Wheeler

Circle Moderators—To be announced



PW CIRCLES—ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!

PW Circles will not meet in December, but will be listed again next month. Join us for our Christmas Brunch on December 12th. See above announcement.



The Adult Education Committee at First Presbyterian Church of Newhall encourages the congregation to mature in their knowledge and practice of their Christian faith as disciples of Jesus Christ both personally and in community with other believers.

Advent Devotions: Welcoming Jesus Into Your Family

Please use the insert for your family’s Advent devotions.

Buildings & Grounds Committee



The Buildings and Grounds Committee is responsible for diligently maintaining and thoughtfully developing the buildings and grounds of the Church facility that the Lord has provided, so that we may carry out His Ministry.

DECEMBER 5; 9 AM–NOON

CHURCH CLEAN-UP

Dust off your overalls! Everyone is invited to participate in our annual Fall cleanup sponsored by the Building and Grounds Committee! There will be indoor and outdoor projects.



NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! All tools and supplies will be provided.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING

If your talents bend more to the creative than the nitty gritty, come between 9 am and Noon to join our decorating crew as they transform the sanctuary into a Christmas Wonderland.

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SIGNAL articles of interest:*



October 24th: “War Hero Honored” About the late Harry Bell, and featuring a great photo of FPCN members Janet Austin (Harry’s daughter) and Ed Bolden.

October 30th: “Church’s mission trips help poor in Mexico” About our Amor Trip, quoting Susan Fletcher, Jack Irwin, John Favalessa and Rachael Durley.

To read these articles, go to signalscv.com, and type in keywords from the article titles.

*Note that in the future we will try to reference outside articles about our church and members, and, space permitting, reprint some of them as we did last month. Please let Sandy in the Church Office know about any such articles by phone, email or giving her hard copies.

Pastoral Staff presents:



December 12

5 pm Christmas Concert

- Featuring a visiting Korean Presbyterian Church

6 pm Christmas Dinner

- Hosted by the Korean Presbyterian Church

Everyone is welcome!



The Children's Ministry Committee at First Presbyterian Church will invite children to EMBRACE the Word of God through worship, games, songs, and other activities; ENCOURAGE their spiritual growth to become closer to our Lord, Jesus Christ; and EQUIP them to go out into the world and share God's love.

Hey Children's Choir participant's Parents!

Here is a list of our practices for the Advent service and the Christmas Eve 5:00 pm service. If you would like your child to participate, please see Ms. Sarah or Mrs. Lelia for a practice cd. Practices will continue from 11-22 through Christmas Eve after 1st service each Sunday.

Saturday December 5th 1:30-2:30

Saturday December 19th 1:00-3:00

Wednesday December 23rd 1:00-3:00

Thursday December 24th 3:15 till 5:00 pm service ends.

And don't forget our AWESOME Advent service that will be on December 6th at 5:00 pm with a yummy dinner to follow. We want all our families and the kids choir to participate in the service and the dinner. Church life is hosting our dinner and the Second Service Band will be leading us in song. This is fun for the whole family! We hope you can make it.

History Quiz Answers: Gary and Chi Kanagi and daughter Courtney; Gail and Cam Stewart; Jerre and Marilyn Crosier

The Newhall Press

First Presbyterian Church of Newhall
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Permit No. 49

DECEMBER 2015



Sunday Worship Services

Traditional Worship 10:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 5:00 p.m.



Deadline for the January Newsletter: December 20, 2015

Thank you for your articles and
input to the newsletter.

Special thanks to Ellie and Steve Fuller, who faithfully prepare newsletter for mailing.

The Newhall Press

First Presbyterian Church of Newhall
24317 N. Newhall Avenue
Newhall, CA 91321-2721
(661) 259-0555

E-mail: churchoffice@presby-newhall.org

Web Site: <http://www.presby-newhall.org>

Pastor: Bill Barnes (ext. 1)
Pastoral Support: Phil Aijian (ext. 2)
Dir. Christian Educ.: Sarah Bolin (ext. 4)
Assoc. Children's Dir: Lelia Meadows
Assoc. Youth Dir: Ian Fletcher
Office Administrator: Sandy McIntosh (ext. 0)
Music Conductor: Connie Woodson
2nd Service Worship Leader: Sam Besse
Treasurer: Dorothy Ng (ext. 3)
Custodian: Nelson Orellana
Groundskeeper: Steve Fuller
Nursery Care Provider: Linda Weingarten

Little Shepherd's Nursery School
(661) 254-2312