

June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

THE NEWHALL PRESS



PASTOR'S COLUMN—JUNE 2015

June Events:

- ArtSLAM- Youth*
June 4
- NEW MEMBERS' CLASS*
June 7 & 14
- PRAISE IN THE PARK STARTS *
June 9
- CANYON THEATRE GUILD*
June 20
- FATHERS' DAY
June 21
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL*
June 22-26
- NEW MEMBERS' INSTALLATION & LUNCH*
June 28

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 9, 10:45 AM
- HANDCRAFTERS*
2nd & 4th Tues. 10:00 AM
- LADIES' NIGHT OUT*
Last Tuesdays 6:30 PM
- MEN AT WORK*
3rd Saturdays 8:00 AM
- MIDDAY BIBLE STUDY*
Fridays 11:00 AM
- PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLES
Various Times & Places
- RECYCLING (For Camp Scholarships)
1st Sundays
- RING TONES REHEARSAL
To Resume in the Fall
- STANDING TOGETHER
2nd Wednesdays 7:00 PM
- TGIF (Children's Program)
To Resume in the Fall
- YOUTH GROUP*
See Summer Schedule

**Additional info. in newsletter
Calendar Continued on Page 2*

As summer approaches, kids will be getting out of school, and collegians will be heading home, some hitchhiking holding signs saying, "L.A." and other destinations which they hold up to appeal to passing motorist. One industrious young man was holding up a sign saying simply "MOM IS WAITING." (*I bet he got a ride right away!*)

Here at Newhall Pres. have just celebrated our 124th birthday as a church on May 31st dedicating our new placement of the giant cross in our front yard with a BBQ and Ice Cream Social. We are looking forward to our annual Vacation Bible School June 22-26 with this years' theme of EVEREST. There will be some mountain climbing fun and some great characters, including a grizzled Yeti.

Then, beginning on July 5, there will be some changes in our Worship times. Our traditional service will begin at 10am in which we will have some fun hearing different members sharing a sermon on *What Would Jesus Teach Us from TV Programs?* If you are interested in preaching give me a call. We are all called to share our Christian experience and even if you've never preached or spoken in public, I would be happy to help you find a TV program and coach you on what it takes to create a sermon.

On July 5 we also will begin our newly designed contemporary service which will be a one-hour service from 5 to 6pm. It will still boast our wonderful Praise Band, but will also feature a more interactive prayer component that will vary in style, and feature a completely different sermon from our morning message. It is designed for family worship so there will be no Sunday School or Nursery Care provided. It is our hope that this time slot will better accommodate some folks' busy summer schedule, and also that some of our faithful worshippers might be tempted to come back Sunday evening for a second worship experience.

Our Youth Group is excited about its summer program with Bible Studies in the park on Tuesday Evenings and some wild and crazy adventures on Thursdays. In addition to that, there will be summer camps at Forest Home and a Youth Surf Camp in July. I remember a story told about summer camp for children. *One of the counselors was leading a discussion on the purpose God had for everything He created. They began to find good reasons for clouds and trees and rocks and rivers and animals and just about everything else in nature. Finally, one of the children said, "If God had a good purpose for everything, then why did He create poison ivy?" The discussion leader gulped and, as he struggled with the question, one of the other children came to his rescue, saying, "The reason God made poison ivy is because He wanted us to know there are certain things we should keep our cotton-pickin' hands off."*

Church Life has some fun adventures planned and Summer Magic will be back at my house for 3 Wednesday evenings from 6-8:30 for swimming, BBQ, playing lawn games and just enjoying the company of one another.

ALWAYS, In His Grip,

Pastor Bill

June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS - OVER-80S

Glenda Johnson	June 6
Betty Morris	June 9
Lois Williams	June 9
Norma Thompson	June 11
Marilyn Tanner	June 20

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

June 30th at 6:30 PM
Sizzler
19013 Golden Valley Rd.
Santa Clarita, CA 91387

Continued from Page 1

Leadership Meetings:

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM

BUILDING & GROUNDS COM.

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

4th Wed. Leaders 5:30 PM

Ed. 6:30 PM

Groups 8:00 PM

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

2nd Tuesdays 7:00 PM

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

1st Tuesdays 7:00 PM

YOUTH COMMITTEE

1st Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Upcoming Events:

NEW SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE*

Starts July 5

SUMMER MAGIC*

3 Wednesdays in July

SUMMER CAMP—4th to 6th Graders

July 19–24

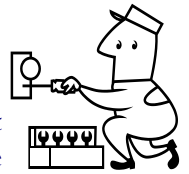
HOLLYWOOD BOWL*

July 19

MEN AT WORK

Next meeting: Saturday, June 20, 2015

Join the men of the church on the third Saturday of each month at 8:00 am for breakfast and a time of fellowship. Each month there will either be a guest speaker or a project at the church or in the community.



BOOK BUDDIES

Book Buddies will meet Thursday, June 11th at 4:00 pm to discuss Gregory Boyle's nonfiction book "Tattoos of the Heart" Gregory Boyle is the founder of Homeboy, an organization in Los Angeles helping teenagers.

Ellie Fuller will host the discussion and supper at 25035 Greenmill, Newhall. RSVP 661-259-4983.



HANDCRAFTERS

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month (June 9th & 23rd), at 10am, people gather in the Evans Room to share their skills, their interests, their accomplishments. We are the *handcrafters*, and everyone is welcome!



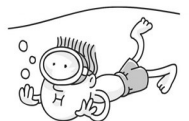
CANYON THEATRE GUILD/WEST SIDE STORY

On June 20th, we will meet for dinner at El Tracadero 24274 Main St Newhall 91321 and then enjoy the play **West Side Story** at the Canyon Theatre Guild. Tickets for this event will go on sale May 31, June 7 and June 14 (last day to purchase) Dinner is at 5:30pm and play starts at 8pm Please join us!



SUMMER MAGIC

We are invited to Bill and Brenda Barnes' home three Wednesday evenings in July from 6 to 9:30 PM. Watch the bulletin for the exact dates. These are very popular events every summer. We enjoy swimming and other outdoor activities along with a fabulous meal and great fellowship.



Please remember that the church office is closed every Friday.

HOLLYWOOD BOWL/CIRQUE MUSICA

Sunday, July 19 - Tickets will be on sale until June 7th and must be paid for by that date. Performance starts at 7:30pm and is suitable for the entire family. We will meet prior to this event for dinner in Fellowship Hall (time TBA) and then carpool down to the shuttle area.



FRIDAY MIDDAY BIBLE STUDY

We have had an exciting year beginning with the Book of Acts and the Gospel of Luke. Continuing in June we are discovering the wonder of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Using the book, The Holy Spirit, An Introduction by John Bevere we are exploring how important the Holy Spirit is to us as we allow Him to lead us through our days. Come and join the fun from 11:00 to 1:00 on Fridays. Enjoy the fellowship and the learning experience we all share.



CHURCH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL—May 31

IF YOU READ YOUR NEWSLETTER BEFORE JUNE, (I'm told some people read it word-for-word the minute it arrives!) HERE IS A REMINDER OF THE CHURCH'S 124TH BIRTHDAY PICNIC:

This event is brought to you by your Church Life committee and your Deacons. Also we welcome Little Shepherd's Nursery School's participation with an Open House!

Church Life will be cooking up pulled pork once again for this event; we are asking for your help with the sides. If you last name begins with:

A-J please bring a salad.

K-Z please bring a side dish or vegetable.

Church Life will provide the cake, and the Deacons will provide ice cream for everyone.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets to sit on (some tables and chairs will be provided).

There will be one church service on May 31 at 10am with the celebration following from 11:30am-2pm.

Come join us for food, fellowship, games and fun as we celebrate year 124.



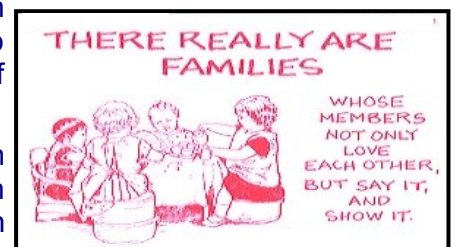
The Outreach Committee is called by our Heavenly Father to extend the hospitality that we find in our fellowship to the community, to visitors, and to new members, in order to draw them into the family of Christian faith at First Presbyterian Church.

New Members Class June 7th & 14th

One of the distinctive characteristics of Christian faith is that it is *shared*...in community in the company of others. In Matt 18:20 Jesus states, "for where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them". Paul described the church as the "Body of Christ". No one person is the whole body; each is a part. We need each other's gifts to complement our own. Membership means we are all necessary parts of the whole.

The new members' class will be June 7th and June 14th with installation and a luncheon on June 28th. The classes are informal and led by Pastor Bill. Any and all questions are encouraged. New members will be invited to the Session meeting on June 16th to see how the business of running this church is accomplished and also to meet with the Elders. There is no obligation to become a member, but if you choose to, you will be received into this family of faith.

If you are not a member yet and want to be a part of this caring church family of faith, please contact the Outreach Committee chairperson John Favalessa (661) 755-4269 (email: favalessa@yahoo.com) or Sandy McIntosh in the church office (661) 259-0555 (email: churchoffice@presby-newhall.org).





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.

SCENE FROM YOUTH-LED SERVICE, May 3rd



Come visit the Youth Group at the City of Santa Clarita's
ArtSLAM

Thursday June 4th, 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Main Street in Newhall - Near Metro PCS Store

Local, Live Music & Dance, Food Trucks, Family Fun

The Youth will lead an Interactive Art Exhibit

Come buy a bottle of water and support our Youth Group events.

Let's show Santa Clarita what an awesome Church Family we have!

The Youth will participate in ArtSLAM the first Thursday
of every month through October.

Mark your calendars now:

July 2, Aug 6, Sept 3, Oct 1

Our Youth Sunday was awesome as usual. Thanks to everyone for putting in so much effort! Our summer is almost here and calendars for all of our summer events will be out via email and regular mail in the next few days. But just a reminder: June 9th will be our first Praise in the Park at 6pm till 8pm at Old Orchard Park 25023 Avenida Rotella Valencia CA 91355. This is a time for games, friends and park time. This will be held on Tuesdays throughout the summer in the Park. Bring friends and get ready to study the book of Matthew. Stay tuned for more CRAZY event details like summer camp, surf camp and Messy Games.



What is the Church? By Pastor Bill Barnes

Well, that is a complex question. In one sense it is the Bride of Christ. (That's what He calls it.) Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." **Luke 5:34-35**

For some the Church is their own place of worship. In our church where people have been sitting in the same pew for years, the following is apropos: *The old retiring usher was giving instruction to his young, inexperienced replacement: "And remember, my boy, that we have nothing but good kind Christians in this church until you try to put someone else in their pew."* Then there was the one about the delinquent church member who suddenly began attending church faithfully on Sunday mornings. *The pastor was greatly pleased and told him: "How wonderful it makes me feel to see you at services with your wife!" "Well, Parson," said the prodigal, "It's a matter of choice. I'd rather hear your sermon than hers."*

It may be helpful to remember the words of Karl Barth: *The life of the one holy Universal Church is determined by the fact that it is the fulfillment of the service as ambassador enjoined upon it. Where the life of the Church is exhausted in self-serving, it smacks of death; the decisive thing has been forgotten, that this whole life is lived only in the exercise of what we called the Church's service as ambassador, proclamation, kerygma. A Church that recognizes its commission will neither desire nor be able to petrify in any of its functions, to be the Church for its own sake. There is the "Christ-believing group," but this group is sent out: "Go and preach the Gospel!" It does not say, "Go and celebrate services!" "Go and edify yourselves with the sermon!" "Go and celebrate the Sacraments!" "Go and present yourselves in a liturgy, which perhaps repeats the heavenly liturgy!" "Go and devise a theology which may gloriously unfold like the Summa of St. Thomas!" Of course, there is nothing to forbid all this; there may exist very good cause to do it all; but nothing, nothing at all for its own sake! In it all the one thing must prevail: "Proclaim the Gospel to every creature!" The Church runs like a herald to deliver the message. It is not a snail that carries its little house on its back and is so well off in it, that only now and then it sticks out its feelers, and then thinks that the "claim of publicity" has been satisfied. No, the Church lives by its commission as herald, it is "la compagnie de Dieu." Where the Church is living, it must ask itself whether it is serving this commission or whether it is a purpose in itself. If the second is the case, then as a rule it begins to smack of the "sacred," to affect piety, to play the priest and to mumble. Anyone with a keen nose will smell it and find it dreadful! Christianity is not "sacred," rather there breathes in it the fresh air of the Spirit. Otherwise it is not Christianity. For it is an out-and-out "worldly" thing open to all humanity: "Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature."*

KIDS, KIDS, KIDS

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.

Wow! What an awesome kids-led Sunday we had on May 17th! We had 21 kids help us make church special. It was filled with awesome music, dancing, and acting! Thanks so much to all the families who were a part of it.

Also, we want to thank everyone who has helped volunteer this past year in our children's ministry. Our ministry is amazing, and it is because of our talented and dedicated volunteers. There were 156 people on the list who were honored during the kids-led service and at a luncheon afterwards!



Don't forget, Vacation Bible School is right around the corner. VBS registration has already begun on the patio in between services. This year our program will be \$30 per student if registered before June 22nd. We are offering a chance to save even more on VBS. If you refer a friend who has not participated in VBS before, then your family will receive a 50% discount on a participant's registration. So get all your friends and neighbors ready for VBS. **Everest** is our theme, and we are excited about learning all about God's awesome power. Through snow games and funny skits, each kid will know

all about how great our God is. Registration is also available online at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/newhall. We always need volunteers, so be sure to sign up on the patio for volunteering and donation opportunities. See Mrs. Lelia for more details as soon as possible. See you at VBS!

SCENES FROM THE KIDS-LED SERVICE, May 17th



Children's Choir



Madison Hartmann joined the Second Service Band



Unforgettable Announcements





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.

AMOR THIRD TIME... by James Allison



What do you see when you picture the city of Tijuana in the beautiful country of Mexico? Do you smell the pungent scent of burning trash, or do you smell the sweet scent of tortillas being made in the afternoon? Do you picture the children suffering with what they do not have, or do you see hope within their eyes? What do you hear? Is it blaring music with language you can't understand, or do you hear the sound of commerce and a booming city? Are the roads full of bumps and potholes, or is the road a challenge to be conquered? When I go to Mexico, I see all of these things and they each represent life in all its beauty. When I think of Mexico, I think of opportunity, not only for building a home for a deserving family and modeling Christ's behavior, but an opportunity for the people of Mexico to know that there is a God, and God has people, willing to help. The message I see for us, is of a people willing to give hope to the hopeless, to



abandon our security, and to have sore hands so that others may prosper after us.



When I first went on the Amor trip in April 2014, I thought, "Wow, I can't believe we are actually building a house...with this crew!" Of course I am joking about the comment "with this crew." (We have a great sense of humor!) However, sometimes we even impress ourselves with how much work we can accomplish with our limited amount of time and our limited numbers. On my first trip we had fourteen people, on my second we had eighteen and on both trips we were able to get very far in completing the home. I was looking forward to doing that again, but this time I was worried. I was worried because we only had eight going with us to Mexico. This is a house we are talking about, not a room extension, or painting a church, we are building a house with eight people. Can it be done?

Meeting the family that we are building for has a unique anticipation. Typically, in the van, we all discuss who the family members are, their occupations and what is currently happening with the family. When we get to the job site, sometimes the family interacts with us, sometimes they don't, but we eagerly look forward to meeting the family regardless of how much time we get with them. This time, we had a wonderful family of four with one on the way, they were with us the whole time we were working. They helped in gathering materials and hammering nails. They communicated with us, and even made bean burritos for us. The taste of those burritos invigorated our senses and they were a great treat while we were working. This family couldn't have shown us more hospitality, and we were grateful for it.

Our next scheduled trip will be in October, I will be there because I wouldn't want to miss this opportunity, and I hope more of our congregation comes out to discover exactly why this twice-yearly trip to Mexico has lasted for over a decade at our church. **To see the beauty that is beneath the burning trash and pot holes. To preach the gospel through our working hands. To be the agents of evangelism.** We almost completed the home; only had stucco to go!





Dr. James Kennedy discusses in his book, Freedom from Financial Fear, how our nation has for the most part become “spiritually illiterate.” He states that we live in a nation “where every effort has been made to remove the Bible not only from the schools, but from the minds of people” we don’t understand the larger principles of stewardship where tithing is the primary importance but only a part of the larger picture of Christian stewardship. He says there are 5 principles that few people understand about Biblical stewardship and we need to apply them today.

Principle #1— “The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness” (1 Corinthians 10:26). God is the Creator. He created all things: galaxies, stars, planets, plants, animals, and even us. You name it, God created it. He made it and He owns it. He possesses it, it belongs to Him. WE belong to Him because He made us. WE need to acknowledge that nothing is ultimately our own. WE have received everything we have as a stewardship FROM God.

A steward, in case you don’t know by now, is someone who deals with, occupies, and handles the property of another. That person has to give an account to the owner of how he/she dealt with it. Remember, there is nothing we can give to God that is our own. He has given us all we have. We are just returning to God what was His in the first place.

Principle #2 – God wants us, not ours. “They first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God” (2 Corinthians 8:5). God is more interested in us than in the things we may possess. God created us in His image. Therefore, we must first give ourselves to God. Otherwise whatever we give to God is from an unclean heart and mind whose motives are principally selfish. Our gifts won’t be accepted by God. It’s only after He accepts us that He can and will accept what we give Him.

Principle #3 – “First Fruits” – God said our first fruits belong to Him. That means we demonstrate our acknowledgement that earth is the Lord’s and its fullness is His by returning to God what He requires. We were not given the middle fruit, the last fruit, or even the fruit that fell to the ground. We were given God’s first fruit and we must return it to Him. Start in faith by giving to Him the first fruits. The first fruits are described in the Bible as tithes and offerings. The tithe is one tenth and the offering is anything over that tenth. Anything less is robbing from God as stated in Malachi 3.

Principle #4 – The tithe is a test. It is a test of the reality of faith. Jesus talked more about possessions and money than he did about heaven and hell. That’s how important it is to him and we, being humans, have to hear something several times before it sticks in our heads. Even then sometimes we just don’t get it. Anyway, the handling of possessions is a visible, tangible representation of a reality of faith. Whatever you trust in is your god. Who and/or what is your god? Is it the true God or gold, money, or mammon? “You cannot serve God and mammon” (Mark 6:24). Whatever we trust in for our well-being is our god.

Dr. Kennedy states that every Sunday is a test of the tithe given. “People stand and sing and profess their faith and recite their belief, but do they tithe?” It doesn’t matter what we say with our lips, the reality of faith and trust in God is made plain every time the plate is passed. And it’s not a letter grade we get on this test. It’s a “pass or fail.”

Principle #5 – Wonderful blessings await us. What do we receive if we pass the test of the tithe? We receive God’s promise that wonderful blessings will be ours. “I will open the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10)

What could be better than that – a life full of God’s wonderful blessings.

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 Tea 2015 Written by Beverly Stokes

The theme of the Presbyterian Women's Tea held on May 9th, 2015 was "Love yourself, Love Others". The committee Beverly Stokes, Marilyn Tanner, Pam Trammell, Carole Wheeler, Sonja Tweedie and Patrick Stokes planned a wonderful day. We always have the Tea the day before Mother's Day, to be shared with all Mother's, daughters, grandmothers, sisters, aunts and friends. We enjoy this yearly tradition. The profits from the Tea are given to our Mission projects.

And with our tradition we select one woman from our congregation to be "An Honorary Life Member". An Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women honors an individual's faithful service in some



Santa Clarita Valley Men of Harmony

area of church work. Our special woman, is talented and spiritual, and it was our pleasure to announce this year Honorary Life Member, **Sonja Tweedie**. She is added to a list of 31 women (and one man) honored in prior years.

Our entertainment this year was "The Santa Clarita Valley Men of Harmony", acappella chorus. They are a wonderful group of men. You can look up their website on scvmenofharmony@gmail.com.

At the tea we had tables set up by "Table Hostesses", each hostess (or pair of hostesses) set a table with her own dishes. There is usually a story behind the dishes that are used. Our hostesses this year were; Brenda Barnes, Karen Bobby, Susie Creighton, Lynn Viggianelli, Connie Froeberg, Pam Trammell, Glenda Johnson, Myra Moor, Tina Pulliam, Tiffany Aune, Beverly Stokes, Marilyn Tanner, and Andrea Varney.

The program started with Lighting of the Christ Candle, followed by the Presbyterian Woman's Purpose and introduction of PW officers. Next Tina Pulliam presented the "Fellowship of the Least Coin." Marilyn Tanner than presented our Honorary Life Member.

The Menu of the day was; Buckingham Palace Garden Party Tea, Scones with Lemon Curd and Devonshire Cream, Waldorf Chicken Salad sandwiches, Egg Salad sandwiches, ham rolls, Roast Beef on bagels and Cucumber and Tomato sandwiches. Then we enjoyed desserts of; Lemon Squares, Red Velvet Cupcakes, Madeleines, Brownie Bites and Fresh Strawberries.



Our handsome servers for the day were great. A big thanks to: James Allison, Jim Creighton, Mark Gravitt, Brian Michael, Tim Pulliam, Dan Signett, Patrick Stokes, Richard Telles, and Don Trammell. Thanks go to so many people. I would particularly like to thank Val Boss for being our kitchen coordinator, Ken Craig for being our lift operator and Patrick Stokes for the programs and ticket design.

The day was beautiful and we had great entertainment and the wonderful company of lovely ladies. Just like a beautiful wedding, things don't always go as planned and generally the guests don't know anything that went wrong. I can reveal the secrets now. First we forgot to tell Steve and Sandy we needed tables and chairs set up, so as we entered fellowship hall to decorate tables and make food, we found Steve and Sandy rushing to set up the tables and chairs. I would like to personally thank them both. Next as sometimes we have family emergencies, our child care provider had one that day and not being able to answer my phone because I was preparing food, I got a voice mail message that we had no babysitter. So two of our dads, instead of being servers for the day, stayed home with their kiddos and we also had a backup babysitter. Our thanks go to Shay Stokes for stepping in. Our last little blooper: As we started to make the tea and before over 70 women entered fellowship hall, the smoke detectors went off and we couldn't get them off. Thanks to Nelson Orellana who came to our rescue after several frantic calls. So as you can see things can happen that you don't expect, but in spite of it all, we had the best day with everyone and hope to see you all next year.



Sonja Tweedie



4 Generations—Tiffany, Lillian, Tina & Hailey



The Stewardship Committee will strive to build stewardship disciples of our church family by: *transforming the hearts of believers to reflect the image of Christ*, to become generous "as Christ is generous in being rich toward God" in the stewardship of all our gifts; to empower God's Kingdom work to be fully staffed, funded and shared throughout our community, country and world; and, as a committee, to monitor the fiscal responsibilities of our church ministry.

News You Can Use: The First Presbyterian Church of Newhall has a permanent Endowment Fund set up with the Presbyterian Foundation.

Name: First Presbyterian Church of Newhall Fund

Fund Account Number: 1021203028

Theological Foundation: Endowment gifts are theological statements which demonstrate one's belief that we are never ultimately proprietary owners, but only stewards, lifetime guardians entrusted by God to use wisely what God has placed in our hands. It declares to the present and future generations the importance of our faith and trust in God. We have each drawn water from wells we have not dug; we have sat under shade trees we did not plant and we each have a wonderful opportunity to provide the means for the Church to have a strong and empowering ministry for generations to come.

Genesis 26:17-25 "And Isaac dug again the wells of water which had been dug in the days of Abraham his father..." It is good to leave something behind in better condition than what you found it.

Matthew 2:11b "Opening their treasures, they offered him gifts..." Endowment gifts come from our treasures, our accumulated assets.

Goal: to add \$1,000.00 to the Church's Endowment Fund this year.

Why add? As the Church's permanent Endowment Fund grows, the Church receives greater income.

What can the income be used for? It is for use as determined by the Session - for example: mission work, special projects, anything - or even for re-investing to keep growing.

And gifts to the Presbyterian Foundation (Account #1021203028 "First Presbyterian Church of Newhall Fund") are tax deductible.

If 100 gifts of \$10.00 each were made, the goal would be reached.

To give online:

www.presbyterianfoundation.org

click on "Endowment Fund" under "Ways to Give",

"Give to an Existing Endowment",

Type in "newhall" in the "Fund Name" on the "Endowment Locator",

and then "View More" to see "Donate". It accepts a credit card for any amount.

To give by check:

www.presbyterianfoundation.org

click on "Endowment Fund" under "Ways to Give", then print the "Donation Form".

On the Donation Form, check "Existing Endowment Fund" and print "First Presbyterian Church of Newhall Fund" in Fund Name, and 1021203028 in Account Number.

To name the Church's Fund as a Beneficiary:

Name: Presbyterian Foundation Account #1021203028 (Must include the account number for funds to go to the First Presbyterian Church of Newhall)

Tax ID of the Presbyterian Foundation: 23-1440115

Address: 200 East Twelfth Street

Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Telephone: 800-858-6127

website: www.presbyterianfoundation.org

Each of us has a passion about some part of our Church's ministries and missions. And where there is a vision, there is a way.



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.

How to Read the Bible, PART II: *More on the Biblical Genres, Idioms and Rhetorical Devices Used In the Bible* by Roland Wrinkle

In Part I, I opened with this point: **HERE'S THE KEY: Look For the Intended Meaning—We All Know What the Words (Translated From Ancient Languages by Others) SAY, But What Do They MEAN?** I tried to explain why, in order to understand any particular passage in scripture, we first need to appreciate the genre of literature, rhetorical device or idiom being used. To read all of scripture literally, while ignoring the genre or rhetorical device, will lead to missing the author's intent, i.e. what he was trying to say. I went over the use of idioms, hyperbole and narratives. Now, on to some more examples (I have relied at times on GotQuestions.org, a terrific resource.)

Discourse: This genre is where people are speaking. It can be a sermon, a prayer, or any other long speech. The book of Job has a lot of this, but there are also examples in the Gospels, such as the Sermon on the Mount, and in the book of Acts. In fact, I believe that there are nine sermons by Peter and Paul in Acts that tell us exactly what the gospel is and is not. Determine the main point of whatever the person is saying. Take things literally, but don't believe everything that people say. In the book of Job, there are a lot of things said that are simply not true. If you know who is speaking you can determine if what they are saying is true or not.

Poetry: Poetry is the genre of Psalms. It is full of symbolic language and is full of emotion. Look for repetition. In ancient times, repetition was used for emphasis, so pay attention to the things that are said more than once. Look for parallelism. Sometimes (especially in Proverbs) an idea will be stated and then restated either as its opposite or from a different perspective. The two ideas are basically saying the same thing. Don't take the figurative parts literally. Look for the comparisons being made by the figures of speech. Many scholars believe Job to be the greatest poem in the entire Bible. From *The Great Poems of the Bible* by James Kugel (Simon and Schuster, 1999):

"From the Psalms to the Prophets, from Job to Ecclesiastes, much of the Bible is written in poetry. The poems of the Bible include some of its best known and most beloved passages: "The Lord is my Shepherd," "Let justice roll down like water," "By the rivers of Babylon," "Remember your Creator," "Arise, shine, for thy light is come!" These poems live in the hearts of those who are familiar with the Bible and offer rich rewards to anyone who is approaching the world's greatest book for the first time. . . . Taken together, these poems represent the very essence of the Hebrew Bible. Reading them one after another is like taking a guided tour through Scripture, meeting firsthand some of its most important teachings and opening the way to an understanding of the Bible as a whole."

Law: This includes the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy. The purpose of law is to express God's sovereign will concerning government, priestly duties, social responsibilities, etc. Knowledge of Hebrew manners and customs of the time, as well as a knowledge of the covenants, will complement a reading of this material. One of the principle purposes of the law is to teach us what sin is (*What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law.* Rom 7:7) and how we can never get in a right relationship with God by following the law because it serves to convict us. Enter the perfect Israelite, Jesus of Nazareth, who gathered all unwitting evil together and had them thinking they could destroy the Son of God but, instead, He nailed them all to the cross for all time. The law served a pedagogical purpose and we will never understand the Old Testament unless we understand that.

History: Stories and epics from the Bible are included in this genre. Almost every book in the Bible contains some history, but Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Acts are predominately history. Knowledge of secular history is crucial, as it dovetails perfectly with biblical history and makes interpretation much more robust.

Anthropology: This is the study or science of humankind and the Bible is just loaded with it. Genesis, Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings and the passion narratives of Matthew, Mark and Luke are great studies in anthropology. They are, for sure, brimming with cruelty, massacres, wars and atrocities, but not because this was how God made us, but because we rebelled against God and His plan for Creation. These are "merely" stories about fallen and broken human nature. It all sets the stage for the eventual unfolding of God's grand plan to restore us and all of Creation to the way things were supposed to be in the first place. The Bible is a text book on human anthropology.

Prophecy: A process in which one or more messages communicated to a prophet are then communicated to others. Such messages typically involve divine inspiration, interpretation, or revelation of events to come. These books are easy to recognize: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah, Amos, etc. There are also prophecies in the Gospels, the Epistles and Revelation. When you come across a prophecy, see who it was given to originally (Israel, Judah, everyone). Interpret it first in light of the original hearers of the prophecy. Look to see if the prophecy has already been fulfilled. The Gospel of Matthew is one big exercise in explaining to the Jews (and to us) how, in considerable detail, the entire story of Israel is fulfilled by the story of Jesus. Indeed, this is the heart of what we call the Gospel of Jesus.

Apocalypse: This is the genre of revelation. It is something big revealed to someone. This is similar to prophecy although in an apocalypse the events being described are of a large scale. This genre can be found in the book of Revelation and also parts of Daniel, especially chapter 7. This is that part of the Bible where God tells us how everything turns out in the end, i.e. the Christian hope for the “new heaven and new earth,” promised in Isaiah 65:17, preached by Peter in 2 Peter 3:13, set as the cornerstone of Christianity in 1 Corinthians 15:35-38 and vivified and glorified in Revelation 21 as the culmination of history, when heaven comes down to and merges with earth, when the Creator’s project—began in Genesis 1 and 2 and grotesquely distorted in Genesis 3 when humans, formed and designed to reflect the image of God, rebelled—is finally fulfilled. This is the Good News. This is the Gospel.

You want to know about allegories, parables, similes, exhortation, wisdom literature, household codes, covenants, myths, aphorisms, dialectics and metaphors? Come stop by the benches outside the church before service. I’ll give you a biscuit.

Passages – A Museum of the Bible by Anne Watts, Elder for Adult Education



We had a great turnout (37 adults and 4 children) for the Adult Ed field trip on May 17th to Passages. Everyone found it very interesting and informative, to see all the work and effort taken to preserve the Bible so that we can all have one (or more) in our homes that we can easily read. I recommend that everyone take the time to visit this museum before it leaves in February, 2016.

After visiting the museum 32 adults and 4 children joined together for dinner at



President e
(Church Life had reserved seating for 30 and more tables had to be added). The food and drinks were good and we had a chance to get to know each other better and share our thoughts about Passages. It was requested that Adult Ed sponsor another trip before they leave next year. It was a really fun day!



Little Shepherd’s Nursery School

May was a busy month at Little Shepherd's! We celebrated Mommies with a very special Mommy Luncheon prepared by the children. We also watched our caterpillars change into beautiful butterflies; then we set them free.

The end of our school year is quickly approaching. June 11th will be our last day, with several of our precious students "graduating" and ready for Kindergarten.

We are preparing for our Summer Program- which will run the last three weeks of July. If you are interested in enrolling your child- ages 2 1/2 through 5- please contact our office at 252- 2312. These are fun days with lots of time outside, water play and Popsicles!

The Newhall Press

First Presbyterian Church
24317 N. Newhall Avenue
Newhall, California 91321-2721

Return Service Requested

JUNE 2015



Sunday Worship Services

Traditional Worship 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 10:45 a.m.



Deadline for the July/August Newsletter: June 21, 2015

Thank you for your articles and
input to the newsletter.

Editor: Kathy Bressler- Please text comments & corrections to 818-720-1017.
Special thanks to Ellie and Steve Fuller, who faithfully prepare newsletter for mailing.

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Santa Clarita, CA
Permit No. 49

The Newhall Press

First Presbyterian Church of Newhall
24317 N. Newhall Avenue
Newhall, CA 91321-2721

(661) 259-0555; Fax: (661) 259-8054

E-mail: churchoffice@presby-newhall.org

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

Pastor: Bill Barnes (x102)

Pastoral Support: Phil Aijian (x106)

Dir. Christian Educ.: Sarah Bolin (x104)

Assoc. Children's Dir: Lelia Meadows

Assoc. Youth Dir: Ian Fletcher

Office Administrator: Sandy McIntosh (x101)

Music Conductor: Connie Woodson

2nd Service Worship Leader: Sam Besse

Treasurer: Dorothy Ng (x107)

Custodian: Nelson Orellana

Groundskeeper: Steve Fuller

Nursery Care Provider: Linda Weingarten

Little Shepherd's Nursery School

(661) 254-2312