



KENSINGTON PRESS

JULY/AUGUST 2010 | FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAN ANSELMO
An Inclusive Community

From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A church member referred me to a website for a Presbyterian church in San Antonio, Texas. On the church's homepage is this poem of welcome:

Home is where you put one foot on the porch
and before your other foot even touches the landing
the door dances open
and the first thing you see is a huge smile
and the first thing you feel is a huge hug
and the first thing you hear is your own name
spoken with excitement and elation and jubilation
and so much love.

Home is where you don't have to be anybody but you.
You don't have to be good enough
or clean enough, or smart enough
or strong or pretty enough
or think only the right thoughts
or believe only the right beliefs
or guard your heart
or deny your mistakes
or hide your wounds
or silence your needs
or measure your hopes and dreams.
You don't have to pretend to be somebody you're not
so you can belong
because at home
you belong already.
You are a child of God.

So, we say to you:
Come on in.
Come on in, as you are.
Come on in, child of God.

I wish I had written this – I don't know who did. It is one of the best statements of hospitality I've ever seen in the Church. It is both comforting, and challenging. It challenges me to live into radical hospitality – to live into making our congregation this kind of "home." The poem is probably

copyrighted or I'd propose we put it on our website, as well.

In July and August, we conclude our year-long emphasis on hospitality with a summer sermon series on hospitality. So, we say to you: Come on in. Come on in, as you are. Come on in, child of God.

In Christ,

Joanne



WORSHIP ON JULY 4TH

Please join us at **9:00 am**

for worship on Sunday, July 4th

A special postlude is planned:

The Stars and Stripes Forever

by John Philip Sousa,

Performed by our organist,

John Parfitt,

along with our guest soloist,

Andrei Gorchev, piccolo

Please mark this time change in your calendar, and remind your friends and family.

Do not miss this opportunity to worship, give thanks and celebrate!



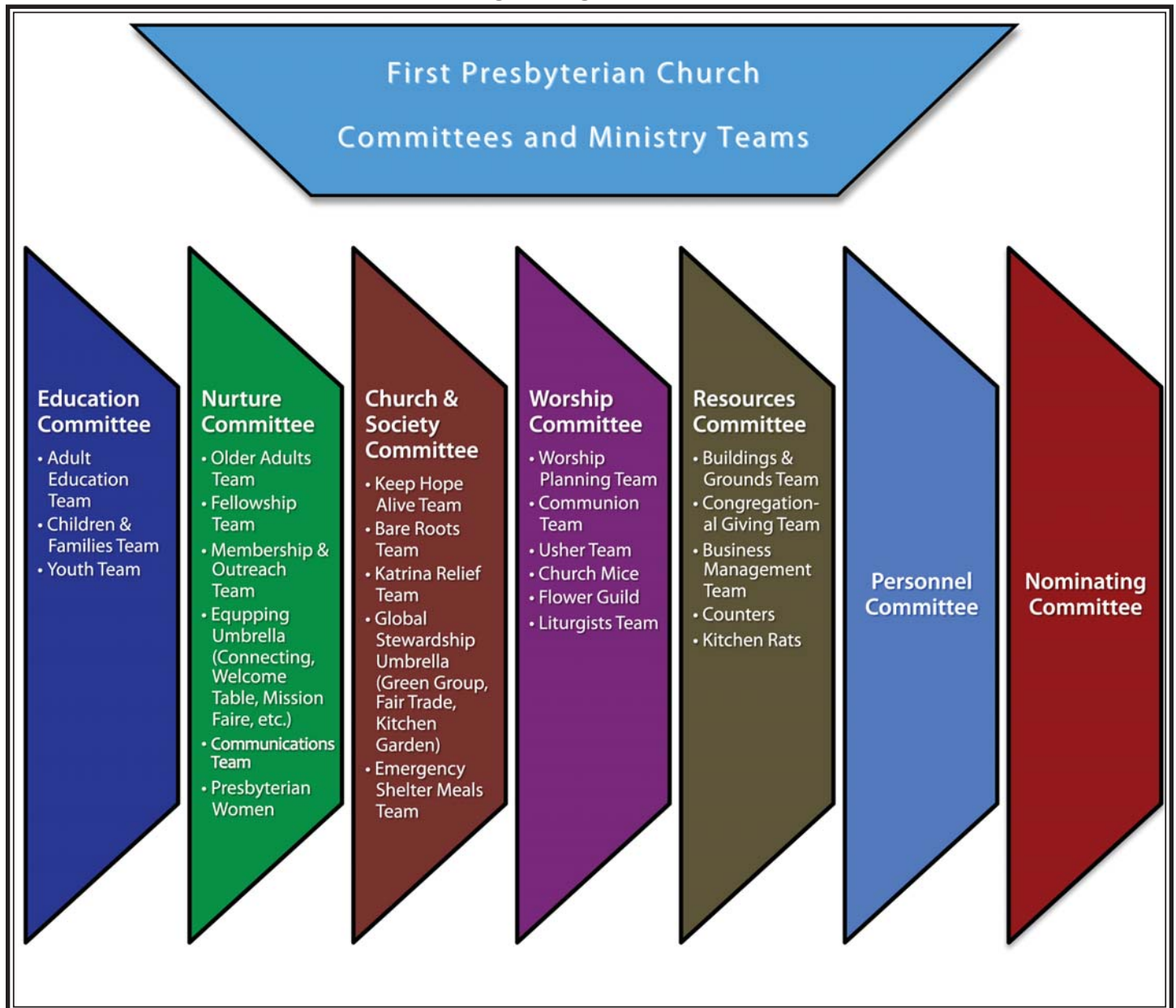
Session Announces New Committee Assignments

These are the current Session assignments

- **Education:** Laurie Buntain, Carl Carter, Taylor Crouch, Joy Snyder
- **Nurture:** Dani Hamilton, Margaret Melsh, Mary Waetjen
- **Church and Society:** Dick Schlobohm, Ron Vestal
- **Worship:** Alice Graham, Thom Taylor
- **Resources:** Carl Basore, Pat Mitchell, Robin Sparks
- **Nominating:** Nan Harle
- **Personnel:** Libby Davis (Robin Sparks continues to serve as a committee member but not as the Session representative)

View Your KP in **Full Color**
online at our website:
<http://togetherweserve.org>

Below is a visual aid to assist in understanding the organizational structure of the work of the church.



Please refer to our website for a calendar of ongoing and special events:
<http://togetherweserve.org/Calendar.htm/>

Memorial Garden: Saving Space, Going Green

Our much-appreciated Memorial Garden was designed to hold the remains of our beloved, departed saints for many years to come. However, due to the size and shape of the typical container for cremated remains, fewer containers fit into the garden than was originally planned. Session has moved to use flexible containers – cloth bags made of velvet or satin – so that we don't have to disturb the landscaping and go to the expense of sinking more tubes. The remains currently interred would not be disturbed. This change in policy would only apply to interments after a date to be decided. The Session invites your thoughts, concerns and comments. Please contact **Dr. Whitt, Elder Libby Davis, or Jean Holm**, Clerk of Session.

Together We Serve Sunday: November 14, 2010

On Sunday, November 14, we will once again join as a community to celebrate the abundance of God's grace in our lives – enough, more, overflowing! – by responding in gratitude in serving our community. Serving is what we do, and it is who we are. It is our favorite way of giving back to God. After all, our church slogan is "Together We Serve!"

As we did last year, we will begin the day with worship and a commissioning of all the workers. Then we will spread out to serve in a variety of local projects. Most require little or no skill; some are for more able-bodied people, some are appropriate for the youngest and oldest among us. The day will end with an **All-Church Stewardship Dinner** and sharing experiences at the church in Duncan Hall. The dinner is for the whole church family and we hope everyone attends to share in the celebration of our gratitude for God's generosity and this community. *Save the date!*

These were just a few of several opportunities to serve last year: from top left: Painting and cleaning at Isabella Cook Community Center, San Anselmo; knitting caps for newborns and afghans for veterans; dinner preparations for the evening festivities; survey of hazards on the church campus; and packaging black beans at the food pantry in Novato.



Officers Retreat: Save the Date

The annual retreat for church officers – **deacons and elders** – will be held on the SFTS campus the weekend of **October 22-24**. The retreat runs from dinner time Friday until after worship Sunday. As we have for the past two years, we'll rejoin the congregation for worship on Sunday morning, and then meet for a debriefing session after church.

A Couple of Reminders

This current edition of the KP is combined for July and August. The deadline for submissions to the KP is the **15th** of each month. There are three ways to submit: 1) email **Virginia Thibeaux** (marievi@comcast.net) *with the subject heading including the words Kensington Press (or KP)*; 2) drop or mail a hard copy off to **Kathleen McCalla** at the church office; or 3) send it to her at KathleenMcCalla@togetherweserve.org. There is no guarantee your item will be published if you do not follow these guidelines. Every effort is made to include all submissions.

Please remember to notify Kathleen McCalla of any changes to your contact information for the church directory.

Music Notes

Absence Makes the Foot Grow Stronger?

Martha Wall will be having foot surgery June 29 to correct a painful bunion. In her place for seven weeks will be the talented singer and conductor **Katie Gerber-Biswas**. Katie received a Bachelor of Music in Education Choral/General, and Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance, at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, and completed her Master of Music in Vocal Performance at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She is also the new Artistic Director for the Marin Girls Chorus, from which Martha has retired. Martha will be spending most of the summer in Santa Barbara being cared for by her sister. She will be back on the director's podium on August 22.

We pray for Martha's complete recovery, and offer a warm and friendly welcome to Katie!

Therefore, Send Not to Know for Whom the Bells Toll; They Toll for Thee*

"Plink, Plank, Plunk!" "Ring, ring, hook, double-damp!"

"One, TWO and a three, four!" "That's MY mallet!" "Who's got a pencil?"

These are sounds we haven't heard for a while, and it's time to break the silence! The handbells have been professionally polished and refurbished, and they are patiently waiting in their cases for us to get our act together and break them out and RING again.

Wouldn't it be awesome if we could find 13 eager ringers and play all five octaves once again? Let's set it up! How about Wednesdays, in the late afternoon-early evening zone? How about starting again this fall? If you rang in the bell choir before, or have interest in trying it out, and are ready to sign up, please contact **Martha Wall** at marthamusic@comcast.net to be one of the ringers. We have so much wonderful music in our bell library to choose from—let's get it out and RING THOSE BELLS!!!

~ Martha Wall (415) 828-2872

**Apologies to John Donne!*



Consort Chorale presents its 17th Annual Summer Concert

Consort Chorale will perform on Sunday, August 15 at 7:00pm, in our Sanctuary. The centerpiece of this concert will be Vivaldi's **Dixit Dominus**, a work scholars are calling "the most important Vivaldi discovery in 75 years." Unmasked in 2005 from its erroneous cataloging, the work has been indisputably recognized as a work by Vivaldi and has now been published. Consort Chorale may be presenting the premiere performance of this work in California!

The program opens with an Iroquois calling song, **Yanaway Heyona**, followed by recent contemporary works, the Vivaldi, and other choral gems and spirituals.

Allan Robert Petker leads the auditioned group which includes singers from our church. Our music director **Martha Wall** and **Sally Johnson** (*Music Director Emerita*) are both Associate Conductors for the group.

A reception on the patio follows the concert.

Tickets are \$15. at the door. For more information, visit www.consortchorale.org or contact **Bob Friestad**, dean@consortchorale.org or 415-568-0550, cell.

If you are a music lover, you will not want to miss this concert!



Food for Friends

One of the ways we serve our community is feeding others. We are currently involved in two ministries that do that. The first is providing a meal each fourth Friday of the month for the Mill Street Homeless Shelter. To help with this, you prepare a dish that would serve 10 (a large casserole, salad, or dessert) and deliver it to the church kitchen before 3:30 p.m. Friday. There are labels on the refrigerator door to insure your dish is collected. There are aluminum pans available for this use in the kitchen.

The second ministry involves bringing food to a church member. Those for whom we provide food are listed in the bulletin. Then, you may either contact **Miriam Kazan** at kazanclan@sbcglobal.net or (415) 456-8653 or visit www.takethemameal.com and sign up directly. To do this, you use the password "food" with the person's last name. There will be notes about time or special needs, and then a schedule for sign ups. Simply scroll down to a date that works for you and click on "take", then fill in your name and the meal you wish to provide. It isn't necessary to be more specific than "dinner". This is an amazing way to experience grace. Please give it a try.

Think About It

As Presbyterians we are not asked to hand out pamphlets door-to-door, or spend time away from home as a missionary, but we all know that, in addition to our fine staff, the work of the church is carried out in large measure through generous gifts of time, talent, and money from our members. In this regard, your 2010/11 **Congregational Nominating Committee** has already begun its work of looking for qualified people who will be elected the first Sunday in May 2011, to serve on the Board of Deacons and the Session (both class of 2014), as well as next year's Nominating Committee, a one year commitment.

It is probably a given that most of us have more to do than we have time to do it in, but the church needs our support. Somewhere along the line we all chose to be Presbyterians and we chose to be a part of this church. So, if someone on the Nominating Committee asks you to serve in one of the ways listed above, please give that request prayerful thought, ask questions, talk it over with family and friends, so that you can make a well-considered decision.

We invite you to call any member of the committee with questions and/or to suggest someone you think we should be thinking about. **Nan Harle** (chair) 456-4008, **Yvonne Fox** 457-2198, **Jennifer Holm** 456-2117, **Robin Robinson** 453-6436, **Lorna Roulston** 457-7634, **Herman Waetjen** 456-8783, **Ash Wood** 456-9372.

Children, Youth and Families



Image from the *Seasons of the Spirit* 2010-11 catalog

Sunday School for Fall

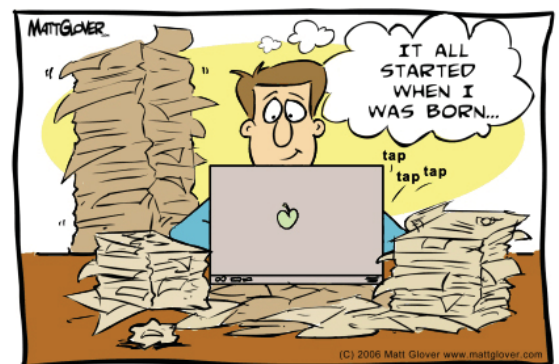
Children's Sunday School for the fall will begin on Sunday, September 19th, with the children leaving worship at around 10:20 a.m. We will continue using the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum with a younger children's class (grades K-2) and an older children's class (grades 3-5). The team approach we used last year served us well. Adult leaders are needed for one month of Sundays. If you are interested in helping teach our children, please contact **Kevin Buchanan** by calling 456-3713 or e-mailing him at kevinbuchanan@togetherweserve.org.

Youth Bible Study

The High School Youth Group has begun a Bible Study on the Book of Revelation (the final book of the New Testament) on Wednesday, June 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the Youth Room. We will meet through the summer every Wednesday (except July 21) for this interesting exploration of this challenging book. It's not too late, so join us!

Career Transition Support Group Meets Year-Round

The Career Transition Support Group meets every Wednesday morning, even during the summer, at 8:30 a.m. in the Office Conference Room to provide encouragement and networking for those seeking work or in a job transition. Come share leads, job-hunting ideas and prayer requests. Contact **Dr. Whitt** (456-3713) for more information.



Rèsumè, not Autobiography

Please Welcome Our New Members!

Gordon Anderson

In the past, my church responsibilities have been as follows: I have served as an elder, deacon, and trustee, being on various committees such as stewardship, mission, and other activities. My main interest in the past 20 years has been with helping the Hispanic Ministry in our area. I worked in Mexico for 3 years, so I have a working knowledge of the Spanish language. I am a member of Seniors for Peace at the Redwoods. I would be interested in some form of a Men's Fellowship that could meet early on a weekday morning, on a weekly or monthly basis.



Helen Anderson

Photo by Audrey Mahler

My husband and I moved last January to the Redwoods retirement community in Mill Valley from Orange County, in order to be closer to our son and daughter's families. This has been a time of transition to a new lifestyle for us, with its challenges and discoveries. We have enjoyed the beauty of this area, meeting new people and the opportunities available to us. We had been long-time members of Tustin Presbyterian Church – in fact, that is where we met and were married twenty-five years ago - and so we have looked for a new church home here in Marin. San Anselmo has been outstanding in your friendliness and welcome, and joining with you feels like the last important piece of our transition to put in place. My most recent service in the Tustin Church as an elder was as Chair of the Christian Education Committee, and as a member of the Green Task Force. I still have a heart for helping those who have hunger, or need shelter, and I am a member of Seniors for Peace at the Redwoods. I look forward to continuing my spiritual journey with you in this place, and to getting to know you.

Hans Eschen

I was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church in San Rafael when I was 14. I had a lot of fun growing up with my family in that church. My dad, who was German Lutheran, died four years ago and my mom began coming more often to First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo. Now, at age 22, I am joining with my mom and becoming Presbyterian. I am hoping to develop my spirituality and make a new church family.

The Rev. Peris Kamau

I am married to James Mereka and we are blessed with one child, a boy, Kevin Kamau. I am an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa. Currently I am on study leave in the US and have completed 2 years of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in Dallas, Texas. My passion for choosing to join the holy ministry and CPE is directly related to my compassion for the less fortunate members of our Kenyan society. In 2006, a few of us came together and incorporated **Tumaini la Watoto Outreach Foundation**. "Tumaini la Watoto" is Kiswahili and literally translates "Hope for Children". At Tumaini la Watoto we respond to God's love to the world, laboring to offer tangible results of Christ's love and working to pursue God's vision of justice and peace by integrating evangelism and social entrepreneurship. I am also trained as a Home Health Care Provider, my current occupation. I feel at home fellowshiping with Presbyterians and feel that God will bless us all as we continue worshipping together.



Photo by Audrey Mahler



Photo by Audrey Mahler



Tom McAfee

I have called the Bay Area home since 1976, living at various times in San Francisco, Pacifica, Tiburon, and now Fairfax. I met my wife and dearest friend Mary here in 1978, and together we raised three children, all of whom still reside nearby. I made my living as a commercial photographer for some 26 years, while Mary worked in various artistic pursuits including Antenna Theater and the Green Music Network. We joined Calvary Presbyterian Church in San Francisco in 1998, and were active members for ten years until moving to Tiburon in September, 2008, just before Mary was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The previous February, thanks to an invitation from Walt and Libby Davis, we had been blessed to be part of the inaugural **Keep Hope Alive** olive tree planting trip, so we already had the most loving and supportive group of friends we could ever ask for, our extended family in the truest sense of the word. Having served on the APNC at Calvary that called Joanne to her first ordained position before she was "stolen away" by FPCSA, we both knew that we were in exactly the right place, cherishing every moment until Mary's death last October. I have now begun to redirect my attention back to my career in photography and video to advocate for peace with justice in Palestine, as well as other social justice issues.

Sherry and Michael Whyte

Before coming to our church, Sherry and Michael were members of Aldersgate Methodist Church in Terra Linda, particularly during the time their children were young. They now live in Fairfax and have chosen to join our church family. Many of you know Michael as the owner of the bookstore on San Anselmo Avenue, The Booksmith. His connection with our congregation has already happened in his gracious offer of a group discount for any book that has been used in Adult Education or book discussion groups. Both Michael and Sherry have participated in programs at Spirit Rock and have broad interests in spirituality. Sherry is a family therapist and has had her own practice in the Ross Valley for many years. They are looking forward to getting to know us and to participate in the life of our congregation whenever possible.



Asma Nazihi Eschen

I was born in Afghanistan and have lived in Marin County since 1974. My ancestral belief in God is from the Islamic tradition, and I still pray and honor those core childhood traditions. When I married Eide K Eschen, who was a German Lutheran, I took his faith and was baptized at Trinity Lutheran Church in San Rafael. Then in 2006, my husband Eide passed away. Since 2004 I have been affiliated with First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo as part of the **Bare Roots Project**, a vision of Juliet and Ash Wood. I have traveled with many members of this church to plant trees in Afghanistan. A few weeks before coming to the Inquirer's class I heard my grandfather's voice encouraging me to "read Psalm 97 and 100". This was the affirmation I needed to make the decision to join this body of Christ community. The FPCSA's mission statement is in line with my own core belief in social justice and community/world outreach. Also, enriching the spiritual aspect of my faith is extremely important to me. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you as my new family in Christ.



Stan and Sharon Bluhm

We have been married for 44 years and have two adult sons. We moved to San Anselmo about two years ago after having lived in the small town of June Lake in the Eastern Sierra for four years. Prior to that, we lived in Manhattan Beach, where we raised our family and pursued careers; Sharon as a speech pathologist and Stan as an engineer.

Although we have no background in the Presbyterian Church, we are drawn to First Presbyterian Church San Anselmo by the demonstrated Christian love and caring for one another and for the wider community that we have observed. We have been members of the Lutheran Church for many years, but make this change willingly and with no reservation.

We are both retired, and now do volunteer work for various organizations. Sharon has just submitted her application to a program for spiritual direction.



Photos by Richard Schlobohm



Thomas Bird

I am a first-year seminary student here at SFTS from the Raleigh/Durham area of North Carolina. I live right across the street at Oxtoby Apartments (Apt.203) and will enjoy being able to walk to church in the morning – especially to such a warm and welcoming congregation as First Presbyterian, San Anselmo. I was born in NC, but grew up in Kirkwood, MO – just outside of St. Louis – attending First Presbyterian in Kirkwood. When my family moved to Raleigh in 1986, we started attending White Memorial Presbyterian there and I have been a member there ever since. I graduated from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill with a B.A. in Sociology and Anthropology. Since then I have worked as a social worker in refugee resettlement and, while not on the air myself, with a radio show called “The People’s Pharmacy,” a health information show carried on many NPR stations. I look forward to my studies here at SFTS and to getting to know you all as an affiliate member at First Presbyterian San Anselmo.



Photo by Richard Schlobohm



Photo by Audrey Mahler

Beatrice Gathara

I was born and raised in Kenya. I am the mother of a son, Geoffrey. He and his wife, Eunice are the parents of my two grandchildren, Jeff and Jessica. I have lived here in California for about eight years now, and am a person who loves to make a difference in people's lives. I feel that is my calling. As a vocation, I work at Kaiser in San Rafael on 3-west. I also belong to a ministry for mentorship to many Kenyan youth living in the Bay Area. This ministry meets once a month in people's homes to encourage one another, both physically and spiritually. The Rev. Peris Kamau, who has been a long time friend of mine since we were very young, is part of this ministry as well. I also belong to various church and community groups both here and also in Kenya.

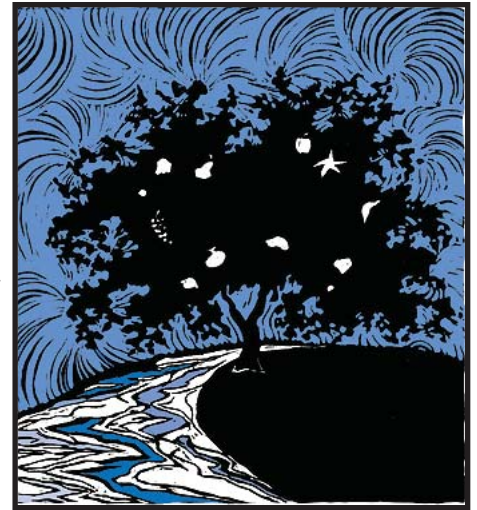


Bible Study Opportunities Abound

Weekday Bible Study Resumes in September: Revelation

The twice-monthly Wednesday morning Bible study resumes on Wednesday, September 22nd. The study meets every second and fourth Wednesday during the academic year, and is led by **Joanne Whitt**, Pastor and Head of Staff, and seminary interns.

In years past, this Bible study has used a **Kerygma** curriculum, but this fall we will begin with a study of the book of **Revelation** put together by **Horizons**, the publishing wing of Presbyterian Women. The study is entitled, *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*, and is written by Barbara R. Rossing. In recent years, an enormous prophecy industry has marketed frightening images of Revelation, leaving many people intimidated by this amazing and often misunderstood book. The Horizons study seeks to reclaim Revelation as a book which, though brimming with mysterious symbolism, ultimately is a book of hope. Throughout history Revelation has sustained people who are oppressed. It is a wonderfully Christ-centered book, full of worship and praise.



Cover Art for 2010–2011 Horizons Bible Study.
Illustration by Martha Kally

The Wednesday morning study is open to all adults – men and women. We will be using the Horizons study guide; please contact **Dr. Whitt** or the church office so that we can order enough copies. The study guides are \$8 each and a CD version is available for \$15. Scholarships are available.



Seasons of the Spirit Lectionary-Based Bible Study Resumes September 19

The Sunday morning adult Bible study based on the lectionary Bible passages begins Sunday, September 19, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 203. The lectionary is a tool used by many preachers and churches, including ours, to select the passages for preaching in worship on Sunday mornings. Over a three-year cycle, it covers much of the Bible. The passages studied each Sunday morning in the Seasons of the Spirit Bible study will include those selected by the preacher for the morning sermon. All are invited; bring your Bibles.

Report from the Picket Lines: Success!

Hundreds of people from many Bay Area community and labor organizations gathered at the Port of Oakland from 5:30 - 10:00 a.m. and 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Father's Day (June 20) to prevent the unloading of an Israeli ship. This action was in response to the recent Israeli attack on the international "Freedom Flotilla." The flotilla ships were attempting to break the Israeli blockade of Gaza with a delivery of badly needed food, medicine and other supplies.

"As long as Israel deprives Palestinians of products that are essential for life," said one of the organizers, "we should deprive Israel of the right to export its products to the U.S.A."

The boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against apartheid South Africa over two decades ago took root in the U.S. when protesters stopped the unloading of South African ships in the Port of Oakland. The Father's Day 2010 picketing builds on that history, with the hope that this movement will spread to other commercial points of entry in the U.S.

Our congregation was represented by **Barbara England**, **Libby** and **Walt Davis**, and **Tom McAfee**. "We want to express our thanks to the congregation for your prayers," said Libby. "We felt God's presence as we walked on behalf of those who suffer."

KP Classifieds

KP Classifieds are offered as a way to support community. Those in need of work, services or housing, or who have work, services or housing to offer, are welcome to contribute to this column. First Presbyterian Church does not endorse or warrant these listings but offers them as a community service.

House and pet-sitting services available, long or short term. Mature, reliable. Contact **Sharon** at 415-381-2953; hmms-jj@aol.com.

Experienced home health aid: Will do chores, errands, doctors' appointments. Excellent driving record. References on request. Contact **Homa** at 415-461-6735 or 342-9015.

Tutoring for all ages. Experienced; references available. Contact **Maggy**, 415-479-1948.

Tutoring and editing. Experienced; references available. Contact **Joy**, 415-459-1266.

Urgent need for housing for Seminary student Totok S. Wiriyasaputra (an associate of John Titaley) for the second half of July and all of August. If you or anyone you know can help out, please contact **Betty Stott**, at 454-7405.

Worship in July 2010

July 4 **Worship at 9:00 a.m.**

Communion

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 25:31-46

I Was Hungry, I Was Thirsty

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

July 11

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Luke 10:25-37

Good Neighbors

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan, preaching

July 18

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 10:38-42

The Perfect Hostess

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

July 25

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Cor. 11:17-34

Welcome Table

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

Worship in August 2010

August 1

Communion

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 15:11-32

Open Hearts

The Rev. Beverly Brewster, preaching

August 8

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ruth 1:1-19

Wherever You Go

Scott Clark, M.Div., preaching

August 15

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:1-8

Hebrews 13:1-2

Lavish Hospitality

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan, preaching

August 22

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Samuel 25

Acts 16

Family Gathering

Barbara England, Seminary Intern, preaching

August 29

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 10:13-16

Let the Little Children Come to Me

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt, preaching

In Memoriam

Florence Ahlers, d. June 6, 2010

Diane Fairchild, d. June 12, 2010

*No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined
what God has prepared for those who love God.*

1 Corinthians 2:9b

Memorial Service Receptions – You Can Help!

The deacons do a wonderful job of putting together receptions following memorial services – homemade cookies and other goodies, hot coffee, refreshing punch, warm smiles. They could use some help. If you could contribute goodies or a couple of hours serving in a role of hospitality to grieving families and their friends, contact **Dr. Buchanan** or the church office.

Creature Corner

(Contributed by Neill Whitman.)

Lorenzo the Magnificent

I've never been partial to jays. They're too noisy and aggressive for my taste. However, after I read about the exploits of Lorenzo, jays climbed a notch or two in my admiration!

Early one morning, a naturalist named Robert Leslie found a young injured blue jay lying on the ground near the wildlife clinic where he was the director. He and his wife nursed the little bird and got him back on his feet again. They called him Lorenzo. He lived as a member of their household for almost three years, then left to start a new life nearby with a mate.

Using special sounds and body language, Lorenzo communicated to the Leslies everything that mattered to him. Lorenzo always kept careful track of the two dozen toys he owned. He checked daily to see that each toy was where he had placed it, and if one was missing, he complained by wailing and pecking on Mr. Leslie's hand until he got it back.

He understood the idea of trading, and would tug at a visitor's ring or other jewelry, leave to bring one of his toys to the visitor, then tug again at the object he wanted.

Lorenzo was not above using "sleight of hand", as it were, to procure the bauble if a swap was not forthcoming. His technique was to distract, and then swipe. In one case, he tweaked the earlobe of his victim; in another, he messed up the victim's hair; in a third, he placed an after dinner mint down the victim's shirt!

Having met Lorenzo, I now see blue jays through new eyes!

*You can read more about Lorenzo in the book by Robert Leslie, **Lorenzo the Magnificent - the Story of an Orphaned Blue Jay**, WW Norton & Co (1985)*

Photo by Eric Bégin, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ericbegin/2325823056/> Creative Commons License



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF SAN ANSELMO
an inclusive community

72 Kensington Road

415.456.3713

website: www.togetherweserve.org

e-mail:

mail@togetherweserve.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP
& SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 a.m.
(Nursery Care)

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Whitt
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan
*Interim Associate Pastor for Children,
Youth & Families*

The Rev. Beverly Brewster
Parish Associate

Mary Wright Gillespie
Associate Pastor Emerita

Sally Johnson

Director of Music Emerita

J. Carolyn Johnston

Business Manager

Tom Lannert

Church Custodian

Kathleen McCalla

Office Administrator

John Parfitt

Organist

Martha Spears

Coordinator of Older Adult Ministries

Martha Wall

Director of Music

KENSINGTON PRESS
is published monthly

Virginia Thibeaux
Editor

Kathleen McCalla
Production

Grace & Frank Ferguson,
Suzan Plath, Barbara Shindelus,
Carol Cowperthwaite, Shirley New
Mailing



Oil in the Surf, Orange Beach, Alabama

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lumis/4712807529/in/set-72157623828092935/>

**I am your lodging: Do not abuse me!
Tenderly use me, soothing my scars;
my health is your health, my wealth is your wealth,
shining with promise, set among stars.**

~ from "I Am Your Mother (Earth Prayer)"
Hymn 2059 in **Sing the Faith**
(words by Shirley Erena Murray)