



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF ALAMEDA

January 2016  
Volume 24, Issue 1

# Good News

## 2016 Opportunities to Enhance Our Faith Together

- ◆ **New Year, New You!- Sunday morning class**  
We begin a new Worship Warm Up class on **Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.** All ages are invited for 4-meetings as we discuss "NEW YEAR, NEW YOU", what are our new lives in Christ supposed to look like? We will be opening up the Bible and telling stories about our experiences. Let's encourage one another as we pursue Jesus
- ◆ **Adult Bible Study coming in January**  
Adults 20-55 are invited to a 10-week bible study on the New Testament book of Galatians (study by N.T. Wright). The study will be facilitated by Alisa Peterson & Kathy Smith on **Tuesday nights, 6:30 to 8:00pm**, beginning **Tuesday, January 12th**. We will meet at the church - upstairs in room 306 (Youth room). Space is limited. Please contact Alisa ([peteronalisa@gmail.com](mailto:peteronalisa@gmail.com)) or Kathy ([lacryosa218@gmail.com](mailto:lacryosa218@gmail.com)) if you are interested in joining us for the study - or have any questions. Materials will be available.
- ◆ **All Church Retreat: September 16-18, 2016**  
At St. Dorothy's Rest, Camp Meeker, Sonoma County. Plan on attending. We will have programs for adults, youth and kids. If you have never been to a retreat, talk to someone who has gone. It's a great weekend away in the redwoods. It's great fellowship. It's a great, spiritual experience. More information to come!



### Church Staff

#### Pastor

Rev. Christopher Peterson  
[Pastor@AlamedaChurch.com](mailto:Pastor@AlamedaChurch.com)

#### Pastor to Youth and Young Adults

Paul Scholz  
[Youth@AlamedaChurch.com](mailto:Youth@AlamedaChurch.com)

#### Music Minister

YoonGeong Lee  
[Music@alamedachurch.com](mailto:Music@alamedachurch.com)

#### Church Secretary

Jennifer Sacramento Streett  
[Office@AlamedaChurch.com](mailto:Office@AlamedaChurch.com)

#### Bookkeeper

Cindy Hovermale  
[Finance@AlamedaChurch.com](mailto:Finance@AlamedaChurch.com)

#### Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Friday, 9:00 a.m. to noon  
(510) 522-1477  
[office@alamedachurch.com](mailto:office@alamedachurch.com)  
[www.alamedachurch.com](http://www.alamedachurch.com)

## FPCA Session Elders

Rev. Christopher Peterson-  
*Moderator*

Jackie Barker-  
*Finance & Stewardship Chair*  
*Music & Worship Chair*

Michael Helbush-  
*Fellowship Committee Chair*

Susan Jeffries

Bruce Johnson-  
*Spiritual Development Chair*

Greg Klein-  
*House & Grounds Chair*

Kay Lamon-  
*Mission Committee Chair*

Nancy Lewis-  
*Nominating Committee Chair*

Kathy Smith-  
*Clerk of Session*

Deb Saltzman-  
*Older Adult Ministry Chair*

Barbara Wildman

## FPCA Deacons

Parish A  
Stacey Rodrigues-  
*Moderator*  
Kathleen Berquist Brady  
Andrew Saltzman

Parish B  
Rob Ade  
Andy Henning  
Marilyn Johnson

Parish C  
Lorene Eggett  
Andy Eggett

Parish D  
Sylvia Hudson  
Carol Cantrell

Please contact your Deacon  
[fPCA.deacons@gmail.com](mailto:fPCA.deacons@gmail.com)

## Youth and Young Adults News...



### HIGH SCHOOL WEDNESDAYS – GET INVOLVED

If you know a high schooler that does not join us on Wednesdays, please tell them to come! Every week we emphasize community, have fun, and talk about things that matter. We meet Wednesdays from 6:45-8:30pm.



YOUTH SUMMER MISSIONS  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 17th

## Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, January 24, 2016 at 12:30 p.m.

Plan now to join us for the past year reviews and new year announcements!

## OAM: Senior Fun-Day!

One of the new activities we are planning is a **Senior Fun-day** on the last Thursday of the month. On January 28th we will get together at 1PM to make valentines. The usual items we plan are a Spring luncheon, Ice Cream Social

(as our major fundraiser) in the summer and a Christmas party.

In the other months we try to think of activities that are fun and educational. We look forward to hearing from you.

~Deborah Saltzman

## Deacons' Corner: *Not Goodbye*

Five Deacons "terms are up" soon and a beloved Deacon has moved to Southern California. I am part of that first group and wish to share some of the loving thoughts I have about my six years as a Deacon at First Presbyterian.

**The Deacons who are "leaving":** I am happy to be in a church where I love the people. The people who will no longer be serving are, then, no exception. Is it a coincidence that I count Laurie Thompson, Rob Ade, Sylvia Hudson, and Carol Cantrell as especially close friends? These are people whom I trust and admire; they are Christians in a most peaceful, kind, and productive sense. If you are new to this church I know that you will be happy to befriend good persons such as Laurie, Rob, Sylvia, and Carol.

**Our church Community:** Being a Deacon has brought me in contact with so many great people in our church. Deb and I now have several lasting close friendships because we served as Deacons.

**Spiritual growth:** Yes, it happens. People in our church share a wish to grow spiritually. Importantly, we acknowledge that spiritual advancement can happen, through Messages from Pastor Christopher and through our friendly relationships. Being a Deacon has allowed me to focus on helping others. It is, frankly, spiritually therapeutic, and I do in fact recommend that you serve as a Deacon in our church.

I am truly grateful! The Deacons who remain and those who are starting new terms are fine people, as are literally all the Deacons whom I served with in the past six years. The support and encouragement the Deacons have received from you continues to inspire me.

It is difficult to say goodbye to being a Deacon at First Presbyterian. I know, however, that great good exists here, so really it is not at all goodbye. I still have wonderful friends and still shall serve our Lord here. God's Love continues in my life thanks in large part to our church.

*Andrew Saltzman, Deacon*

## Older Adult Ministries...

The members of the Older Adult Ministry are meeting this month to plan activities for the 2016 calendar year. We would welcome your input and ideas for excursions, ministry and mission, and activities that would fit the needs of our older adults. The members of the team are:

*Kathleen Berquist, Carol Cantrell, Kathy Edmiston, Michael Helbush, Bruce Johnson, Shirley Lustig, Cathy Parker, Deborah Saltzman & Barbara Wildman.* All the members are open to your suggestions. You are welcome to speak with us at coffee hour, e-mail or call.

## Mark Your Calendars

**Annual Congregational Meeting**—Sunday, January 24th, 12:30pm in Fellowship Hall

**Ash Wednesday**—Wednesday, February 10th

**Palm Sunday**—Sunday, March 20th

**Resurrection of the Lord**—Easter Sunday, March 27th

## House and Ground's Work Party!

Our next work party at the church will be on *Saturday, January 24, from 9-12 noon*. We will be pulling out some holly bushes, weeding, and cleaning the courtyard and side yard areas. If you have any garden gloves, please bring them, since the holly leaves are very spiky. Please let me know who can attend. Thanks!

## Women's Breakfast



Please Join Us Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday (except August and December)

9:00 am in the Fellowship hall

Questions? Call the church office at 522-1477 Or email [office@alamedachurch.com](mailto:office@alamedachurch.com)

*Kids Welcome!*

### Dates for Breakfast 2016

Jan. 16

Feb. 20

March 19

April 16

May 21

June 18

July 16

Sept. 17

Oct. 15

Nov. 20

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*"The more we live on a diet of God's Word,  
the more we grow"*

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## Shop 'til you Drop

The holiday season has past, but you can still contribute to the church by shopping. Its very simple. Please visit the church website for the link. Or click the picture to start shopping. All you need to do is give them your name and email address. Once you are registered you can start shopping as normal.



Click above to start shopping!



## January Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday

Jan 3 Andre Malanche  
Joab Muchiri

Jan 5 Deb Saltzman

Jan 10 Barbara Wildman

Jan 16 Hadley Klein  
Laura Reid

Jan 20 Ian Muchiri

Jan 22 Roberta Rockwell

Jan 25 Lisa Curtis

Jan 26 Mark Cronenwett

Jan 30 Rachel Freeburg

### Happy Anniversary

January 3  
Kathy & Don Kennedy

January 25  
Barbara & Armand Acosta

## January Schedule

### Sound Schedule

January 3 Rob Ade  
January 10 Rob Ade  
January 17 Andy Eggett  
January 24 Joab Muchiri  
January 31 Raymond Cortes

### Readers for January

January 3 Carol Cantrell  
January 10 Paul Scholz  
January 17 Mark Cronenwett  
January 24 Andrew Saltzman  
January 31 Barbara Curtis

### Coffee Hour Hosts for January

January 3  
January 10 Carol Cantrell and  
Sylvia Hudson  
January 17 The Parkers  
January 24 Annual Luncheon  
January 31 The Desmonds

## We Need YOU!

*How can you help our church?*

Are you seeking ways to get more involved? One way is to volunteer your time throughout the course of the year. Might you have the gift of speech? A voice that longs to sing? Do you like to make people at home? Are good at meeting new folks? Do you have a bit of OCD?

Share your gifts and talents with your church. Here are some ways to do so:

- ◆ Volunteer to host coffee hour
- ◆ Sing in the choir
- ◆ Be a greeter on Sundays
- ◆ Assist during Sunday service
- ◆ Quarterly Work Parties to garden and clean our church.

If you would like to support the church with your gifts...please contact the [church office](#).

*We pray that  
our church  
family and  
friends have  
a Blessed  
2016!*

*May your  
New Year be  
filled with  
Peace, Love  
and JOY!*



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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

