



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF ALAMEDA

September 2016  
Volume 24, Issue 9

# Good News

## Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Growing up in Minnesota fall was my favorite time of year. It wasn't just because hockey season was starting soon, but it felt like things were changing around me. As the weather got colder the surroundings became more beautiful with the leaves changing on the trees. It was also the start of new things: school, new friends, new hockey season. It was a hopeful time.

Fall is still a hopeful time. As we think about 2016 we are already beginning to think about 2017. As First Alameda, we think about this through our stewardship. Stewardship has to do with commitment to our priorities. For the last couple of years, we've been building towards Consecration Sunday, but this year we'll be doing ...

*next page*



### 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*

**Jamie Cortes-**  
*Nominating Committee Chair*

**Michael Helbush-**  
*Fellowship Committee Chair*

**Kay Lamon-**  
*Mission Committee Chair*

**Nancy Lewis-**  
*Membership Committee Chair*

**Claudia Perkins -**  
*Personnel Chair*

**Kathy Smith-**  
*Clerk of Session,*

**Deb Saltzman-**  
*Older Adult Ministry Chair*

**Barbara Wildman**

## FPCA Deacons

**Parish A**  
**Bruce Parker**  
**Cathy Parker**  
**Damon Rodrigues**

**Parish B**  
**Kathleen Berquist**  
**Andy Eggett**  
**Marilyn Johnson**

**Parish C**  
**Lorene Eggett**  
**Bruce Johnson**  
**Kate Stiling**

**Parish D**  
**Andy Henning**  
**Rheem Henning**  
**Stacey Rodrigues-**  
*Moderator*

Please contact your Deacon

[Deacons.fPCA@gmail.com](mailto:Deacons.fPCA@gmail.com)

# Letter from the Pastor

*Continued from front page...*

something a little different. Beginning in October each household will be getting the book "Generosity-Moving Toward Life that is Truly Life," written by George MacDonald. It's a daily devotional divided into four one week themes: Transformation, Freedom, Trust, and Life.

At the end of each week there are questions and each of my sermons will touch upon these themes. I will also be offering a weekly book study during these four weeks. I believe all of us have God-given desire for an entire life of generosity and it would impact all our relationship. I'm looking forward to taking this journey with you.



Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'YoonGeong Lee'.

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*"The receiving of the Word consists in two parts:  
attention of the mind and intention of the will."*

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## Music Ministry News

### Welcome to the Vocal Workshop!

- *Dates : Saturdays- October 8th and October 15th*
- *Time: 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.*
- *All are invited!*
- *Instructor: YoonGeong Lee*

I have been wanting to give some voice classes and share what I love to do with FPCA. This Fall I will be providing a two-day vocal workshop. This workshop is not only for choir members, but for people who want to learn more about singing. Why not unleash your voice with us? We will learn fundamental ideas about singing, as well as reading music. The classes are consecutive so I encourage you to take both chances! Please sign up on the sign-up sheet after the service during the coffee hour, so that we know how many to prepare for. If you have any questions, please contact me at [music@alamedachurch.com](mailto:music@alamedachurch.com)

*I Look forward to meeting you.*

*YoonGeong Lee*

## Youth Ministry Update...

Rooted Youth Group has begun! High Schoolers are invited on Wednesdays from 6:45-8:30pm for time in God's Word, Christ-centered friendships, fun, and worship.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
for Santa Cruz Fall Retreat -  
Friday, Sept 30-Sunday, Oct 2.

Click *Ignite* picture  
for brochure of details.



## Children's Ministry

**JUMP IN!** Vacation Bible Study  
was a SUCCESS!

Thank you to all the volunteers  
and great people who made this year a hit!



## Older Adult Ministries News...

*Blast From the Past!* Our Annual Ice Cream Social will be on **Saturday, October 1st from 1-3PM**. Please note this gala event will have sundaes and cones, music, raffles, grab bag and lots of fun. Proceeds will benefit the Older Adult Ministry. \$5.00 admission entitles you to ice cream with delicious toppings. Bring your friends and family.

## 2016 All Church Retreat

Sept 16-18, 2016 at St. Dorothy's Rest, Camp Meeker, Sonoma County. The setting at St. Dorothy's allows us to step back from the day-to-day "busy-ness" of life, or even dramatic world events, to find the sacred center of our truly "real" world. We find new ways to experience God and each other. One-on-one conversations, group discussions, singing and board games often last until the wee hours of the morning.

If you have any questions or would like some info, contact Bruce Johnson  
brucejohnson51@gmail.com  
or 510-908-4156.

Click here to register:

[Registration Form](#)



## Mission Committee News



### Setting the Table of Peace

Every day, we are witnesses to conflict. We read news stories of violence and supposedly irreparable divides. Angry rhetoric fills our airwaves, inboxes, and social media feeds. We see conflict tear apart communities, families, even people we know. Surrounded by this strife, it's easy to see the world through a dark lens of discord. We may even come to share the doubt expressed in Psalm 78:19: "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?"

Yet our faith tells us despite our doubts, sins, distrust, or even anger, God not only sets a table, but invites us to join it and partake in an abundance of peace.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering challenges us to look at the world not as a place where conflict is inevitable, but where Christ's peace is possible. The programs supported by the Peace & Global Witness Offering to help bring people tables of peace, justice, and reconciliation even in the wilderness of war, violence, and division. In places of abiding conflict, the Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the work of Presbyterian mission co-workers to bring together former enemies and begin healing the spiritual wounds of war. In congregations closer to home, support from the Offering enables efforts to turn back the tide of gun violence that claims too many American lives. In other communities, it's facilitating a transformative dialogue about the difficult subject of race to find new common ground. And everywhere, this Offering supports witness, because by sharing the abiding love and mercy of Christ, more people can find their way to a seat at God's table.

Your support of the Peace & Global Witness Offering acknowledges that a wilderness of conflict may surround us, but we are not abandoned there. If we open our eyes to the possibilities of peace, we see God has set a table for anyone willing to take a seat.

***Please give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering:***

Through your congregation  
Text PEACE to 20222 to give \$10  
[presbyterianmission.org/give/peace-global](http://presbyterianmission.org/give/peace-global)



## Dear Church Family,

I want to thank all of you so much for your prayers, telephone calls and messages, cards, visits and concerns you showed me during my surgery in early August. The surgery was successful and my doctors and caregivers are very impressed with my speedy recovery and especially the fact that I did not experience much pain at all. I know your prayers were heard and I appreciate your support more than you know. Blessings to you all!

Sincerely, Kay Lamon



### In Memory of Lily Abraham

Roberta & Gary Jung  
Mark & Louise Cronenwett  
Bruce Johnson

### In Memory of Ethel Pedrick

Roberta & Gary Jung  
Bruce Johnson

### In Memory of Don Bowen

Louise & Mark Cronenwett  
Joan Curtis

### In Memory of Eunice Birkholm

Billie Jaber

### In Memory of Marjorie Albright

Roberta & Gary Jung

### In Memory of Bea Babcock

Billie Jaber

## Mark Your Calendars

**All-Church Retreat**  
Sept 16-18, 2016

**Men's Breakfast**  
Saturday, Sept 24th-  
9:00 am

**OAM Ice Cream Social**  
Saturday, October 1 -  
1:00 pm

**Women's Breakfast**  
Saturday, Oct 15th-  
9:00 am

**Deacons' Potluck  
Dinner**  
Saturday, Oct. 15th-  
5:30 p.m.

**House & Grounds-  
Work Party!**  
Saturday, Oct. 22nd-  
9:00 a.m.



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday

Sept 3	Gerry Higby
Sept 5	Nathan Johnson
Sept 6	Toinette Carter
Sept 8	Liam Peterson
Sept 17	Dorothy Fitzgerald
Sept 26	Gabby Smith
Sept 28	Maddie Smith
Sept 30	Pearl Cravens-Allamanno

### Happy Anniversary

Sept 4	Cathy and Bruce Parker
Sept 20	Rheem and Mike Henning

*"True contentment does not depend  
on anything in this world."*

## September Schedule

### Sound Schedule

Sept 4	Raymond Cortes
Sept 11	Raymond Cortes
Sept 18	Joab Muchiri
Sept 25	Rob Ade

### Readers for Sept

Sept 4	Deb Saltzman
Sept 11	Paul Scholz
Sept 18	Jamie Cortes
Sept 25	Andrew Saltzman

### Greeters for Sept

Sept 4	The Cortes family
Sept 11	Nancy Lewis & Mark Cronenwett
Sept 18	Barbara Curtis & Del Cook
Sept 25	The Eggett family

### Communion Servers

Sept 4	Jamie Cortes Deb Saltzman Andrew Saltzman
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Our Annual *"Worship and Picnic in the Park"*  
was a fun!  
Thanks for joining us for the outdoor celebration!

We hope to see you next year!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

