



Presbeat

First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah, CA
514 West Church Street; Ukiah CA ~ Office Hours Mon-Thurs, 9am-1pm ~ 707.468.9235
Pastor David Rodriguez – *Mobilized to Africa*
Pastor Daniel Christian, 707.380.6486
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Editor: Denise Beckler, Office Manager/Music Director
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Coming Out of the Fire



Dear Friends,

I have been an agonizing time for many. The fires continue to rage and each day reveals more pain, loss and death. The grief and shock continue to ripple throughout our families, communities and across the country and around the world.

Witnessing human suffering at any level shakes us to our core. When we see wide scale suffering and destruction like we are witnessing in Mendocino, Napa and Sonoma, we struggle to find any words that can possibly express the depth of our pain, sorrow and horror. The right words to say, at the right time can be elusive. In the face of profound tragedy, our own feelings of life's frustrations and disappointments seem to just fall away. The phrase, “don't sweat the small stuff”, becomes automatic.

Tragedy and sorrow in another human being opens within us a sharing and care of the human condition. Instead of stepping back we step forward and embrace the needs, feelings and life of another. With fires burning acre upon acre I am reminded of the book of Joel. When destruction is all around us, what is important? What isn't? Where is God in this life? Where is God in your life?

The book of Joel uses images of fire and smoke as a way of reminding us how God can create anew out of the ashes of our lives. This is timely today as we have seen and experienced people sifting through the past, and taking what they could into the future.

What is stunning in the face of tragedy is the frequent ring of gratitude. People are devastated. They have lost everything. However, through the depth of their pain many remain grateful for their lives. Person helping person. Neighbor helping neighbor. We are not spiritual or physical islands. We are connected to one another. We are connected to God.

Doris is a member of our church. She is 103 years young. She has lost most of her sight and hearing. Her home was completely destroyed. I saw her on Sunday and she was smiling and had a twinkle in her eye. All she could talk about was how grateful she is and how she is a witness to the best of humanity in the face of devastation. She is an inspiration to us all. Doris' story like so many show us how the Holy Spirit creates space within us and allows us to experience gratitude, when all around is apparently lost.

The book of Joel lifts up the value of human memory. When we have experienced God's grace in the past, we believe in that grace in the present, and the future.

Remembering God's goodness in the past will be important during the days, weeks, months ahead. We will continue to sift through this tragedy and put our lives and community back together. The suffering, death and long-term restoration will be staggering. Yet, something else will also immerge out of the ashes, death and loss. The healing and saving hands of another by the grace of God. When tragedy hits, the human spirit has an endurable resiliency of turning our darkest hour, into our finest hour. Neighbor helping neighbor, county helping county, state helping state.

I am reminded of a quote by author Joshua Graham which was posted on my friends Facebook page. She is a pastor in Santa Rosa. Over 10 people in her congregation lost their homes. She opened up a shelter at her church and took care of mostly senior citizens who had to evacuate their homes. She posted "I survived because the fire inside me burned brighter than the fire around me."

I pray that within all of us we will continue to burn bright and help one another as we rebuild our communities.

In Christ, *Pastor Daniel* (Ukiah Daily Journal article October 21, 2017)



From Pastor David in Djibouti

CAPT David Rodriguez, CHC, USN
Religious Affairs CJTF-HOA
PSC 831 Box 0015
FPO AE 09363

September 29: Dear Capt. David, Thanks a lot for your previous emails and the pictures! The work which is done from so far for these children is impressive. I know many people are involved and may they be thanked from all our hearts for the precious help they bring. Next time, when we will

received those boxes, we will take pictures of children with the boxes and ask you to send them to our friends of Ukiah. Thanks again and blessings! ~ **Francesco Martialis**

October 6: Here's a photo of our team that was taken yesterday in front of a C-130 plane that we use when we travel from our base to visit the troops.

In the photo from left to right are:

RP2 Joseph Ushi (Navy bodyguard)

Me

Major Christopher Melvin

(Army chaplain and my deputy)

RPC William Meyer (Navy bodyguard)

~ In Christ, David



"Djibouti Care Packages"

We're moving the packing party to earlier in November to "get ahead" of holiday mailing traffic. Please come on Wednesday, November 15th, and help us pack the boxes.

This month we are sending packages of cookies. Please bake as many as you like – no chocolate chips or chocolate candies or anything that melts. Bring to the church November 14th and 15th for the packing party on the 15th.

Last mailing we packed 14 boxes!! PTL!! The cost is about \$20 per box, so if you can donate toward postage cost we won't turn it away. Please designate it to "Missions".

It's been a joy to see so many involved in this love effort for both the troops and children. Please do keep them all in your prayers!

~ ~ ~ CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRIES ~ ~ ~



Hangout with kids!!

We still need people to hang out with kids at dinner time! No training needed... just come, sit

at a table, ask them about their lives, listen to them, and tell them about you! You might be surprised at how much fun you have. If you can help, please come Wednesday nights at 5:30. Come once.... and you may want to come again!

#SWAG Special Event ~ Bring a Friend

Dinner & PJ/Movie Night

Friday, November 17th, 5:30 – 8:30 pm

Christmas Caroling & Soup Dinner

Sunday, December 10th, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

All FPCU church family are invited!

Ongoing Programs:

#SWAG Youth Group

Ages: 5th - 12th grade

Meet: Every Sunday from 6-7:30pm

What we do: Play games, eat snacks, and get to know each other and yourselves during devotionals!

Sunday School

Ages: K - 5th grade

Meet: Every Sunday morning at 10am in the sanctuary for worship songs

What we do: Discover what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, through games, science, art, and Bible stories!

Hangout Kids' Club

Ages: Preschool - 5th grade

Meet: Every Wednesday (starting Sept 27th) from 5:30-7pm

What we do: Eat dinner, play games, make art, and learn & serve with weekly Bible adventures!

Nursery

Ages: Newborn - Preschool

Meet: Every Sunday, 9:45-11:15 (during the worship service)

What we do: Offer parents a time of focused worship and a safe & fun place for kids to play!

All of our children's programs are free!

Prayers, volunteers, and donations are graciously appreciated!

**Questions? Contact Dory or Maryanne!
They have all the answers**



THANK YOU church family for the many ways you support Children & Youth Ministries!

MISSION Opportunities...

Cents-Ability Reminder



Don't forget to bring your Cents-Ability offering to church on Sunday, November 5th. The collection is taken during communion, baskets are in the front for your convenience. If you need a collection container to keep at home, you can pick one up in the narthex. Remember all your money is used to help feed the hungry in our area. Thank you for helping with your prayers and donations.

PUMPKINFEST 2017!

Another fun year at the PumpkinFest. A BIG Thank you to all who volunteered this year, from painting, designing, manning the booth, setting up, taking down, sharing a smile and a being a friendly example of Christ's love to our community.



CHRISTMAS CHARITY FAIRE

Many Charities/One stop shopping



Are there people on your Christmas list who don't need more "stuff" but to whom you would still like to give a gift? Come to our Christmas Charity Faire on Sunday, December 10th, during coffee hour, to make a purchase or donation to one of charities in their name. Gift cards in the honoree's name will be available. We hope you will join us for this worthwhile and alternative Christmas event.

Nor Cal Christian Ministries...

With winter months approaching, NCCM will be looking for donations of warm clothing – particularly for men: socks (black preferable), pants, sweatshirts, coats/jackets, gloves, hats, blankets. You can drop items off in the church office.

Operation Christmas Child

~ Letter from Sue Evans, Area Coordinator

I have been staring at my screen over the last 10 days or so, trying to communicate my heart through the tears streaming down my face. Most of you are aware that I live in Santa Rosa, the Coffey Park neighborhood to be exact. I am humbled by God's Grace in that I am one of the few (very few) in that area to have a house left standing. In the back of my mind there has been the need to communicate with all you who faithfully pack shoeboxes every year. I know many of you will continue to pack, others will find it necessary to turn your resources towards more local outreaches, or even yourselves. THAT IS OKAY! For those of you who are packing, maybe you can add a box or two for those who can't. Above all, remember that YOU are the hands and feet of Jesus, whether you pack a shoebox so a child may hear the Good News of Christ, or if you Minister to your neighbors who lost everything.



Shoebox Collection Schedule:

Monday 11/13: 12 – 3pm	Friday 11/17: 10am – 1pm
Tuesday 11/14: 3 – 6pm	Saturday 11/18: 9am – noon
Wednesday 11/15: 10am – 1pm	Sunday 11/19: 1 – 4pm
Thursday 11/16: 10am – 1pm	Monday 11/20 8:30 – 11:30 (pack up)

ADVENT is December 3rd ~ 24th

“Advent” means “coming” or “arrival”. During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. In its historical origins, the season of Advent was patterned after the season of Lent, a six-week period of penitence and preparation for Easter. Similarly, the four weeks of Advent, starting this year on December 3rd, presents an opportunity for communal discernment and person examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ’s return.



The cross will be draped in royal blue which is the color of royalty to welcome the coming of a King. It can also symbolize the night sky in which the star appeared to announce the birth of Jesus.

Please contact Shirley Lewis 391-9942 or Denise Beckler 468-9235, if you and/or yours (biological or church family members) would like to join in this celebration in the lighting of the candles of the Advent wreath and reading scripture. Dates are December 3rd, 10th, 17th, and Christmas Eve 12/24 during Sunday morning worship service at 10:00 AM. The passages and prayer will be provided to you. This is a wonderful opportunity to join in the celebration of Christ’s birth and in anticipation of when he comes again. Christ has come! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!



As we’ve done in the past, we are combining two months to have one holiday luncheon in December.

Come and enjoy turkey with all the fixin’s and great company!
No need to RSVP, just come as you are!
Call if you need a ride, 468-9235



Yes, this is our 10th year!!

Once again, we welcome *Anna Maria Mendieta*, harpist. And we are introducing *4 Euphs 4 Him*, a delightful euphonium quartet directed by Marshall Merklin.

The choir is already rehearsing and we invite you to come join in to sing. (If you can carry a tune, you can sing!) Please bring along your friends who might also like to sing in the choir.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 17th, 3:30pm, for an afternoon of carol singing, followed by a time of fellowship with hot cider and cookies. You won't want to miss it!

Want an event postcard to give to a friend? They are available on the narthex table and in the church office. Feel free to pick some up.

Rehearsals Sundays 12:30:

November 5, 19 & 26,

December 3 & 10

(No rehearsal November 12)

Friday, December 15 – 5:30pm:

dress rehearsal on the risers

Sunday, December 17:

Call 2:00pm – Event begins at 3:30





All Church Work Day is coming....
Saturday, December 2nd.

Do you see any needed repairs or work done? Please let Randy Beckler know.

A Life of Service

"We are many but in Christ we are all one body. Each one is a part of that body." ~ Romans 12:5

God has enlisted us in his navy and placed us on his ship. The boat has one purpose – to carry us safely to the other shore. This is no cruise ship; it's a battleship. We aren't called to a life of leisure; we are called to a life of service. Each of us has a different task. Some, concerned with those who are drowning, are snatching people from the water. Others are occupied with the enemy, so they man the cannons of prayer and worship. Still others devote themselves to the crew, feeding and training the crew members.

Though different, we are the same. Each can tell of a personal encounter with the captain, for each has received a personal call...

We each followed him across the gangplank of his grace into the same boat. There is one captain and one destination. Though the battle is fierce, the boat is safe, for our captain is God. The ship will not sink. For that, there is no concern.

~ October 2; "In the Grip of Grace", from Grace for the Moment, by Max Lucado

Dear Faithful Supporters,

We are so sorry for the late notice but we are going to cancel our Fall Fundraiser on November 4th. We will be having our next Fundraiser in April 2018. We will make sure to let everyone know the date as soon as we have it locked down.

As you may all know from previous communications we are pursuing a Lease Agreement on a permanent location at 150 Luce Avenue in Ukiah. This lease is contingent on getting the approval of a Major Use Permit from the City of Ukiah. We have submitted our application and are waiting on approval from the permit department.

PLEASE PRAY that we fly through this process and soon be blessed with a permanent location that we can call home. We covet each and every one of your prayers!

Love and need you all!

Tony Huerta, Executive Director



“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

~ 1 Peter 4: 10

Dear Members and Friends of Ukiah,

Our church and ministry is stronger and more vibrant because of you. We thank you for your continued faithfulness reflected in the many acts of joy, love, connection and witness to the amazing works of God.

Sunday, November 12th is Stewardship Sunday, a special day to consider our commitment to Christ and our ministry in our community! Ukiah Presbyterian Church is an extraordinary community of faith. Throughout this past year we have witnessed the importance and value of a supportive church community as we minister to one another and to our community and beyond. Ukiah Presbyterian is here for you in good times and in challenging times. Through the Deacons ministry and our Youth Group to name just two, the face of a caring Christ is a bright light in our community.

We ask you to make a pledge from a heart of abundance and generosity. We are hoping and praying to see 100% of our members and friends participate in our Stewardship this year! You can bring your pledge cards to church on November 12th during our worship service. You can also mail them into the church office.

We thank you for sharing in the work of Ukiah Presbyterian Church’s ministry. We have much to look forward to as we venture into 2018. God is extraordinary and gracious to us all. Now is our opportunity to give to God our time, talents and treasure. ~ Yours in Christ, *Pastor Daniel*

As of September 30, 2017		Total \$\$
Income	\$	190,498
Expenses	\$	207,781
Difference	\$	(17,283)
Balance in Checking Account		Total \$\$
Non-Designated Funds	\$	60,812
Designated Funds (detail below)	\$	40,139
Total Balance in Checking	\$	100,951
Balance in Savings		Total \$\$
CD's	\$	44,271
Mutual Funds	\$	24,693
Other Savings	\$	50,462
Total Balance in Savings	\$	119,426
Detail of Designated Funds in Checking Account		
Missions	\$	201
Hispanic Ministries	\$	494
Hispanic MicroLoans	\$	1,010
Mission Trip	\$	3,043
Missions Fundraiser	\$	2,031
Centsability	\$	30
Per Capita	\$	-
Deacons	\$	10
Flowers	\$	-
General Memorial	\$	25,334
Camperships	\$	-
Buildings and Grounds	\$	200
Compassionate Ministries	\$	850
Singalong	\$	452
Senior Ministries	\$	-
Adult Ministries	\$	3
Youth Ministries	\$	72
Children's Ministries	\$	15
Childrens Playground	\$	4,346
Vacation Bible School	\$	26
Special Grants	\$	1,933
Fellowship Meals	\$	90
Total	\$	40,139



Harvest Celebration Feast *Sunday, November 12th, after worship*

Join us as we dedicate our 2018 pledges and fellowship together around a meal.

Church provides meat, potatoes, rolls
You bring side dishes and desserts!



MEETING MINUTES

Notes from the Session, September 21st meeting:

Pastor Report: Pastor Daniel reported that he had been in close contact with Sammie Davies and Saturday, September 30 will be a memorial service for her husband Bill. Deacons will help Sammie with the service and reception.

Council/Committee Reports:

Family Council:

- **Worship Committee:** Since Shirley Lewis, the Worship elder was not present, Daniel announced that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year and the Worship Committee has discussed having only one service that Sunday at 5:00 p.m. and no church service in the morning. This service would be an intergenerational service and not a children's service. The service would be held from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. It was decided to table the discussion until the worship elder is present.
- **Youth & Children's Ministries:** MaryAnn Snyder and Dory Haselswerdt brought their concerns before Session regarding the lack of volunteers to man the positions of weekly Hang Out Meetings. Currently, all of the positions are filled for September 27, 2017, but they lack six table leaders for October. They are considering a once a month meeting and discussion followed. Members of Session encouraging them to start out slowly and then add more meetings as the year progresses, with a strong focus on presenting positive feedback from the current workers and a video or snapshots of the activities and children projected during Worship Service announcements. MaryAnn and Dory stated that there are monthly events planned for SWAG from October through December. Dory and MaryAnn reported that a new, inside play structure, has been ordered for the nursery and it should arrive soon.
- **Missions:** Michele Young reported that \$146.00 was raised for the Pedal for Protein Program. The Pumpkin Fest will be held October 21 & 22, 2017, and we will need volunteers to participate and man the booth that we will sponsor down town both days. Signatures will be collected for volunteers throughout the month.

The question was asked by Michele if the Nor Cal Christian Homeless Group can continue to meet here in the Fellowship Hall on the usual weekday mornings. The group's use of the hall was passed unanimously.

Resource Council:

- Finance: The Stewardship/Harvest Dinner will be held Sunday November 12, 2017. The Finance Committee is responsible for the meal. ~ Discussion regarding the Board of Pensions payment overage that was not expected. ~ Randy Huffman reported about the Land Partnership - the property left to FPCU will be liquidated by Mendo Foundation and the money will be placed into an account for the church.
- Buildings/Grounds: Parking Lot – we have been in an ongoing conversation with the SPACE board regarding the problems that SPACE has in meeting the Handicapped Specs and compliance of numbers of parking spaces required with their last phase of new construction. ~ Work Day will be Saturday, October 2, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Randy Huffman said that he will reach out to Boy Scouts to help with the work days at the church.
- Personnel: A motion was made by Roe Sandlin and seconded by Randy Huffman, that First Presbyterian Church will relinquish the Assistant Pastor position and give the Personnel Committee the directive to find job descriptions for a Youth and Young Families Director. The vote passed unanimously.

A second motion was made that the Session approve the job descriptions offered by Roe Sandlin regarding the Nursery Manager and the Nursery Assistant. After discussion, the Session members felt the age of the Nursery Manager should be changed from 18 years to 21 years old. Roe will make that amendment to the job description. It was moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

Clerk Report: Letters will be sent to two members who have not been attending or contributing in any way to the life of the church to determine their membership wishes.

Other: After discussion the Session, by consensus, agreed to schedule a Session/Congregational Forum following the worship service 9-17-17. Discussion items will focus on: 1) going forward with an Associate Pastor or a Youth and Family Pastor: 2) current financial status.

Next regular meeting is November 16th, 6:00pm.

Session Members: Randy Beckler, Daniel Christian, Kevin DeVries, Karen Golden, Chris Gordon, Dory Haselswerdt, Randy Huffman, Shirley Lewis, Roe Sandelin, Michele Young

Did we miss your birthday last month???

Please contact the church office or email Denise, denise@fpcukiah.org so we can send you a card and celebrate with you!



Happy Birthday!

11/2 Danna Johnston	11/6 Zach Beckler	11/22 Bob Rogers
Shirley Lewis	11/8 Shannon Phelan	11/25 Doris Chapman
11/3 Kevin Hamilton	11/11 David Rodriguez	11/29 Dona Huff
11/5 Trudi Gernert	11/18 Debbie Brutocao	

Event Calendar ~ November



Sun weekly	6:00pm	#SWAG Youth Group
Mon weekly	5:30pm	Cub Scouts
Tue. weekly	6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	8:30am	Serendipity Bible Study
	5:00pm	SIPS Bible Study
	6:00pm	Spanish AA; NAHOP
Wed. weekly	6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
	5:30pm	Hangout Kids' Club
		Worship Team rehearsal
Thurs. weekly	6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
	1:00pm	ABC Program
	6:00pm	Spanish AA
	6:30pm	Webelos

...additional events for the month

11/1	10:30am	Worship Committee		11/15	10:00am	Shoebox Collection
11/2	2:00pm	Nicolaisen Memorial			11:30am	VIP rescheduled to 12/6
11/4	Set your clocks				6:00pm	Care Packages
	BACK one hour			11/16	10:00am	Shoebox collection
	before you go to bed!				6:00pm	Session
11/5	Communion / CENTSABILITY			11/17	10:00am	Shoebox collection
	12:30pm	Singalong rehearsal			2:00pm	PEO fund raiser set up
11/8	1:30pm	PW Bible Study			5:30pm	#SWAG dinner/movie night
11/9	12:30pm	ABC Program		11/18	9:00am	Shoebox collection
11/10	Daniel off for Veteran's Day Holiday					PEO fund raiser
	4:00pm	Red Wagon set up		11/19	11:15am	Mission Committee
11/11	9:00am	Red Wagon Craft Faire			12:30pm	Singalong rehearsal
	9:00am	Stitches – CANCELLED			1:00pm	Shoebox collection
11/12	11:00am Harvest Celebration Feast			11/20	8:30am	Shoebox pickup
11/13	Office Closed for in lieu of Veteran's Day Holiday			11/21	12:00pm	Family/Outreach Council
	12:00pm	Shoebox Collection		11/22	1:30pm	PW Bible Study
11/14	3:00pm	Shoebox collection		11/23-24	Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed	
	6:00pm	Resource Council		11/26	11:00am	Hanging of the Greens

Our Calendar is also available online @ <http://fpcukiah.org/calendar/calendar/>
(Note: if using a phone, you may need to turn it to landscape orientation)



Fall 2017

Can women be trusted with secrets? In some parts of Africa, the answer is a resounding "no!" Once there was a man who carefully saved his money in the hay of the mattress he shared

"I thought we would learn how to 'fix' the African worldview. Now I see that it's me who needs a biblical worldview!"

~ American missionary

with his wife. His wife, not knowing his secret, wanted to surprise her husband with a new mattress. She found a good deal at the market, brought the new mattress home, and burned the old mattress. When her husband came home, he was, indeed, surprised! Although this story gets a good laugh, the cultural lie that 'Men are better than women' carries destructive societal implications.



"Kingdom Math" Activity

We've just finished the ReachGlobal / Disciple Nations Alliance Biblical Worldview Conference in Minneapolis. Forty church leaders, missionaries, missions equippers and African leaders learned together, seeking to see the world through the lens of God's Word. I've been part of dreaming about, planning, then seeing this conference happen. The three sessions I taught, *The Irreducible Minimum: Love, Jesus' Model of Growth and Service*, and *Kingdom Math* were designed to help participants apply the concepts of moving away from either an animistic or a secular materialistic worldview toward a better understanding of God's plan for flourishing. We also unpacked some of the lies that Satan uses to lead us away from God's intentions. Lies like "Men are better than women" and this lie from Western culture . . .



Cross-cultural workers
discuss differing worldviews

"You're so isolated from one another. How can you ever share the Gospel?"

~ African ministry leader reflecting on American culture

As Americans, comfort and safety have become our highest values. Because of this lie, we don't take risks

"As a Discipline of Love I decided to call my daughter to encourage her. She needed the encouragement, and we prayed for one another."

~ American mission leader

to be hospitable to strangers, or even to get to know our neighbors. We don't make sacrifices for the gospel to go forward among people who are different than we are. In fact, we don't even make friends with people who don't share our opinions and beliefs! This is leading to a divisive spirit within our country.

What we believe – our ideas – have consequences. Our prayer is that the conference will be the start of a movement of biblical thinking throughout the world where ReachGlobal works. Will you pray with us?

When you get this letter, I'll be leaving for a three-week trip to Uganda, South Africa and Kenya. In each place, I'll be seeing how the principles of biblical worldview have been translated into effective training programs. Please pray for my learning on this 'best practices' journey.

Grateful for your prayers and partnership,

Peggy

"A body of art based on patients with tuberculosis has brought about greater compassion toward their suffering."

~ Christian artist in India