



# Presbeat



First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah, CA  
514 West Church Street; Ukiah CA 95482  
Office Hours Mon-Thurs, 9am-1pm ~ 707.468.9235  
Pastor David Rodriguez – *Mobilized to Africa*  
Pastor Daniel Christian, 707.380.6486

[www.fpcukiah.org](http://www.fpcukiah.org) “Like” us at [www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchukiah](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchukiah)

Editor: Denise Beckler, Office Manager/Music Director  
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Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! We have an exciting year ahead. Ukiah is a wonderful church and I am proud to be your pastor.

With the new year upon us I have been giving some thought and prayer to the hopes and dreams in my life and also our church life.

Statistics show that by February most New Year resolutions will simply fall away. I invite you to think differently about the “traditional” resolution. I don’t make resolutions as much as I make a mission statement for the year. I think that was my New Year Resolution one year. The difference is, the latter is broad and flexible, and the former is strict and binding.

Mission is living your life with purpose. How might this year be different than last? Most importantly how might I live deeper into God’s love this year? How do I share that love with others this year?

When it comes to matters of faith, being nudged forward by the presence of a Holy other in your life is particularly challenging. Let’s face it, sitting and watching college bowl games and the NFL playoffs is more attractive and fun and not nearly as challenging as changing your life in a deep and meaningful way. Life change at any level is asking us to look deeper and give ourselves a gut check.

Here is something to think about for those who are hoping to walk deeper into your spiritual lives. What might a life with the presence of Spirit in your daily ritual truly look like? What will your daily spiritual or religious practice be? It looks like this. If the voice of God has a clear promise and the cost of that promise is vague, watch out. It might be the voice of ego, your mother or something else. If the cost is clear, the promise is vague, yet alluring and moves you forward in a true and meaningful way, you just might be responding to the Spirit.

Said another way, spiritual calling and response is something that will cost you. The outcomes are not guarantees. However, this is what life looks like when “you walk by faith.”

Whatever your mission statement is for the year, I hope you go gently, compassionately and peacefully into 2018. Have a blessed and happy New Year!

Rev. Daniel Christian, New Year 2018



## From Pastor David in Djibouti

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

**December 21:** Dear All:

Thank you for the Christmas cookies. Here's a picture of us holding the boxes in our office (L to R).

Major Chris Melvin, US Army (chaplain)  
RP2 Joseph Ushi, US Navy (body guard)  
RPC Bill Meyer, US Navy (body guard)



We're about to head out with the cookies. Chaplain Melvin and RPC Meyer are taking some to Manda Bay, Kenya. RP2 Ushi and I are taking some to Mogadishu, Somalia. We've also given some out to folks here on our base in Djibouti.

Here's an article about what's going on in Somalia, so that you'll know how to pray for us and for the people there who are suffering.

### In Somalia, an Overlooked Extremist Hotbed Simmers

The Wall Street Journal

Militants with the al-Shabaab group control roughly 30% of Somalia, one of the largest swaths of real estate in the world that remains under jihadist sway since the recent demise of Islamic State's self-proclaimed caliphate in Iraq and Syria. [Read the full story](#)

In Christ ~ *David*

**Dear friends,  
Dear partners,  
Brothers and sisters,**

On the occasion of Christmas and New Year, we express our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones.

May these few words inspire in our hearts the desire of carrying more and always together the voice of the poorest :  
*"And she wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."* (Lk 2:7)

A merry Christmas and a happy new Year 2018 to come.

Fraternally yours. ~ *The Caritas Djibouti staff*



« Elle l'emballota et le coucha dans une crèche, parce qu'il n'y avait pas de place pour eux dans l'hôtellerie. » (Lc 2:7)

MERCI DE PORTER ENSEMBLE LA VOIX DES PLUS PAUVRES.  
UN JOYEUX NOËL ET UNE BONNE ANNEE 2018 !

FRATERNELLEMENT.

L'EQUIPE DE CARITAS DJIBOUTI

## ~ ~ ~ Children/Youth Ministries ~ ~ ~



### Father-Daughter Dance!

Date TBA (*aiming for February*)

Check in with Caroline, Shirley, and MaryAnn to find out more about this adorable event and how you can contribute to making it a special night! We will need help decorating, preparing, and serving food.



### Easter Egg Hunt!

Easter will be on April 1<sup>st</sup> in 2018, so we will likely have the egg hunt March 24<sup>th</sup>.

## ~ ~ ~ MISSION Opportunities ~ ~ ~



**Cents-Ability Reminder** ~ Don't forget to bring your Cents-Ability offering to church on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**THE MACK'S MISSION TRIP TO AFRICA** ~ They plan to leave January 8<sup>th</sup> with a couple days of travel to arrive in Zambia on the 11<sup>th</sup>. They will spend one week in Zambia and then on to Uganda where they have a couple of days to recover before meeting with Pastor John and working with him to determine and meet the needs of the village there. They will then fly to Amsterdam where they will give a report to the European Alkare Foundation, finally returning home January 30<sup>th</sup>! Whew – what a trip! God Bless them on this journey of discovery, good will and love. Fundraiser update: we collected \$4300 towards their trip! The generosity of this congregation is so appreciated!



**CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR MILITARY AND ORPHANAGE IN DJIBOUTI** ~ In anticipation of David's return, our last two Packing Parties for Djibouti will be January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>.

David writes, "What we need most are: beans, peanut butter, and children's vitamins. We could also use toothpaste and toothbrushes for the kids. You are a blessing to the children who are living on the street. You really are saving lives."

So, for the kids, let's fill the care packages with peanut butter, dried beans, and children's chewable vitamins. For troops, they always enjoy movie DVDs, any kind of snacks, and toiletries (tooth paste, floss, deodorants, foot powder, hair gel, skin lotions, bath gel, shampoo, women's products). Bins are provided for your convenience in the narthex, or you can drop your donations to the church office during office hours.

**AN UPDATE FROM PEGGY ARENDT** ~ A few weeks ago I had a chance to share at North Church, my home church in Spokane. Like all of my supporting churches, North Church is actively reaching out to show the love of Christ to our community. Pastor Mike Meade asked a simple question: "What exactly do you do?" Here's my answer in an 8-minute video: [vimeo.com/247014018](https://vimeo.com/247014018) Password: *Peggy*

CrossPoint Community Church in Modesto is having their 'Global Homecoming' December 31-January 4. I'll be part of the event on **Sunday, December 31 in the Family Life Pavilion at 9:15 and 11:00**. And I'll be sharing more about my ministry at an **Open House in the Social Hall on Thursday, January 4, beginning at 6:00 pm**. Hear reports from four of CrossPoint's Global Staff, or just pop in for my presentation at 6:20. If you're in Modesto, I'd love to say hello.

**PEDALS 4 PROTEIN - GRANT AWARD!** ~ The 2017 Pedals for Protein provided \$2500 to the Ukiah Food Bank in December. The grant provides for quality protein food such as nut butters, dairy products, legumes, and lean meats to help feed the hungry in our community. The funds resulted from 54 Redwoods Presbytery bicycle riders cycling from 10 to 310 miles and the generous giving by friends and family of the riders from churches within our Presbytery.

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Happy New Year! We are excited to share with you that on January 14<sup>th</sup> at our 10am worship service we are having a "Reaffirmation of our Baptism". For those who have already been baptized or for those who haven't, but are thinking about it; this service gives us a special focus and what baptism means in our everyday life.

I hope all of you can come! See you on January 14th. ~ Rev. Daniel Christian





**January VIP Luncheon**  
**Wednesday, January 17 @ 11:30**

All those very important people over 70 are invited to a fun-filled luncheon on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The menu and program will be announced at a later date. Please call the church, 468-9235, if you need a ride.  
Hope to see you there!



**MEETING  
MINUTES**

***Notes from the Session, November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting:***

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** I had pastoral visitations to: Joyce Sarber (communion, 10-25-17); Sammie Davies, 11-12-17; Adriane Nicolaisen, 9-27-17 and 10-18-17. I conducted the memorial service at the church for Al Nicolaisen, 11-2-17. Stewardship Sunday (11-12-17) was a success. **Presbytery Retreat:** The retreat was held at Westminster Woods, 11-10-17 to 11-11-17. The retreat emphasized our personal mediation/prayer practices. How our own practices connect to our congregations.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Communion was served during the Sunday morning worship service, 11-5-17. Ongoing efforts are continuing to contact active members (locally, out of town) who have not been attending or contributing to the life of the church to determine their desired level of participation.

**COUNCIL-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Family Council: Children/Youth:** Hangout: Volunteer participation has been improving and is appreciated. Some of the children we work with have behavior issues, and the staff has worked to develop an environment where they feel safe, accepted and accountable. Hangout's last meeting for 2017 will be 11-29-17. The youth are planning to go caroling around the church neighborhood 12-10-17, and invite the church family to join them. **Congregational Life:** The Harvest Dinner (11-12-17) following the Sunday Stewardship Service was successful. Thanks to all Session members who helped. **Adult**

**Ministries:** A New Members Class is being scheduled for Sunday 1-28-18, following the worship service. The class will meet for 3-4 hours, with lunch provided.

**Resource Council: Finance:** Copies were provided the Session of: 1) 2017 Actual Income/Expenses; 2) Income/Expense as of 10-31-17. It was noted that the difference between income/expenses had lessened (-7,062). The Session reviewed, discussed, and adjusted the first draft of the 2018 budget. **Buildings and Grounds:** Estimates received for repairing the parking lot range from \$14,000 to \$64,000, depending on the work to be done (ongoing discussion with S.P.A.C.E.). Continuing to research air-conditioning needs and costs (\$10,000?) and roofing. Financing the needed improvements will need to consider developing a capital campaign. **Personnel: Nursery Staffing:** Dory and MaryAnn have graciously agreed to job share the Nursery Manager position. The job description for the Director of Youth/Ministries is being developed. (By consensus Session agreed that the job description could include presenting the Sunday message once-a-month.)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Session selected the following Ruling Elders to present to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting, 1-21-18, to serve as the corporate officers for 2018:

**President,** Kevin DeVries; **Secretary,** Shirley Lewis; **Treasurer,** Randy Beckler.

## **MOTIONS:**

- **Worship Committee:**
  - Purchase Battery Candles for Christmas Service: 250 for approximately \$325.00.
  - Communion time change from January 7, 2018 to January 14, 2018.
  - Christmas Singalong as a fundraiser for NorCal Christian Ministries.
- **Mission Committee:**
  - Taking a “LOVE” offering on December 3, 2017, for the Mission trip of the Mack family to Africa in January, 2018.
  - Use of FPCU facilities by NCCM.
  - Waiving the facility use fee for NorCal Christian Ministries for November and December. Normal Fees resume in January 2018 should they need to continue at FPCU.
- **New Business:**
  - Schedule the Annual Congregational Meeting for 12-3-17.
  - Session instruct/examine new elders and deacons, 12-17-17 (alternate date 1-14-18).
  - Ordination and Installation of elders and deacons, 12-17-17 (alternate date 1-14-18)
  - Schedule the Annual Congregational Meeting for 1-21-18

The next Session meeting is January 18<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:denise@fpcukiah.org) so we can send you a card and celebrate with you!

### Happy Birthday!

1/1 Drew Snyder	1/18 Brittany Bonacorso	1/23 Nancie Garcia
1/9 Zyan Couthren	1/20 Deb Cummings	1/26 Chandra Hamilton
1/11 Josh Kirchen	1/21 Carol Connerton	1/31 George Phelan
1/15 Michele Young	1/22 Joe Luiz	
1/16 Janet Noe	Cathy Rodriguez	

## Event Calendar ~ January



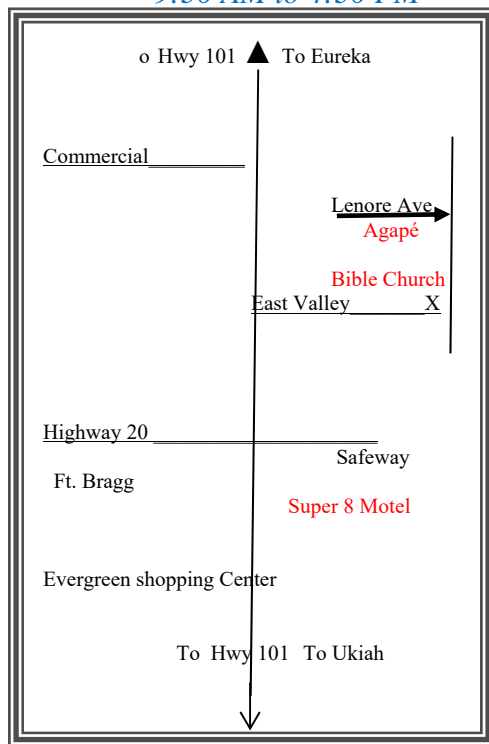
Sun weekly	6:00pm	#SWAG Youth Group
Mon weekly	5:30pm	Cub Scouts
Tue. weekly	6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	8:30am	Serendipity Bible Study
	5:00pm	SIPS Bible Study
	6:00pm	Spanish AA; NAHOP
Wed. weekly	6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
	5:30pm	Worship Team rehearsal
Thurs.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

## ...additional events for the month

1/1 – 1/9	Daniel on vacation	1/21	11:00am	Congregational Meeting
1/1	New Year's Eve Holiday			<i>Present Annual report &amp; 2018 budget</i>
1/3	10:30am	1/24	1:30pm	PW Bible Study
1/9	6:00pm	1/25	12:30pm	ABC Program
1/10	1:30pm		5:30pm	Deacons
1/11	12:30	1/27	all day	Day in Al-Anon
	6:00pm	1/28	11:15am	New Members Class
1/13	9:00am	1/31	6:00pm	Care package party
1/14	11:15am			
1/16	12:00pm			
1/18	6:00pm			

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)

**Agapé Bible Church**  
 290 S. Lenore Avenue  
 Willits, California 95490  
*Saturday, January 27*  
*9:30 AM to 4:30 PM*



Agapé Bible Church, located on the corner of S. Lenore and East Valley in Willits, CA. Get off the 101 at the Willits Exit, north or south. Go to East Valley at the Post Office. The church lot is just before the corner of Lenore.

Women's Advance is an independent, multi-denominational, self-supporting ministry. We appreciate the local churches that allow us to use their facilities.

## Women's Advance 2018

# Finding Joy in the Journey

God's treasures unveiled for health and healing!

**ONE DAY**

**January 27, 2018**  
**9:30AM to 4:30PM**



**Our Speaker:**  
**Becky Diehl of**

**"Forgiveness Ministries"**

*Acts 2:28 "You Oh God will make known to me the ways of life. You will enrapture me- diffusing my soul with joy and your presence." Amp Bible*

Teaching, Music,  
 Skits, Fellowship,  
 Food, and Workshops.

## **Worship and Skits**

Worship will be led by

**Jenny Thompson**

Skits by

**The Joy Warriors**

(Who may look familiar to you!)

## Register

Call or email Diane Sibille  
 707- 983-8001, 707-354-1034

1. **By check** with the registrant's names made out to: Diane Sibille  
 13971 Poonkinney Rd.  
 Dos Rios, Ca. 95429
2. **PayPal** <http://www.paypal.com>  
 Click payment and enter email address:  
[womansadvan@yahoo.com](mailto:womansadvan@yahoo.com)
3. **Pay at the door.**

Check in Sat. 8 -9:30AM/  
 Breakfast 8:30AM  
**COST One price: \$30.00**

## **Our Mission**

### Trees of Righteousness

This Christian Ministry helps women who have been rescued from human trafficking.



# Women's Advance 2018

## Freebies

Bring your unneeded Christian items



Bring your gently used books, key chains, T-shirts, plaques, etc. Pick up what is on the tables for free. No need to bring something to take something. Freely given, freely received!

## Meals

Breakfast will be served at 8:30 am  
Lunch will be a taco bar with a variety of choices for those with special eating needs.

## Workshops

will be on a variety of subjects. Sign up for 2 at check in.  
Please be sure to sign up or you may not get materials.  
There is limited seating



## Finding Joy In The Journey

**January 27, 2018**  
**9:30 to 4:30**

**See inside for  
details**

Women's Advance Ministries  
13971 Poonkinney Rd.  
Dos Rios, Ca. 95429