

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 "Like" us at www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchukiah

Editor: Denise Beckler, Office Manager/Music Director Volume 12, Number 2 ~ February 2018



Dear Friends,

I haven't gotten my flu shot yet. It just slipped by me this year. The news reports about the severity of this seasons flu woke me up and got me motivated to get my vaccination!

With healing and sickness in the news I am reminded of a passage in the Bible, before vaccinations, about how healing occurred. In the book of Mark a woman has a daughter who is demon possessed, and Jesus cures her; and in another moment Jesus opens a deaf man's ears so he can hear again.

With our modern ears and knowledge of medicine, miracles like these challenge us because we have to trust that healing and new life happens in ways that just don't add up from our point of view. Surgery, I get that! Chemo-therapy, I get that. Demon possessed cures and human touch curing deafness, that's a stretch for us to wrap our brains around!

Can the healing touch of God in this world, in my life, make me whole? Can I be made whole in this world, just as the woman's daughter and deaf man were made whole in that world? The passage in Mark takes us to the gentile region of Tyre, and the gentile territory of Decapolis. Jesus just wants to be left alone and yet we hear some pretty strong language from Jesus as he travels through gentile land. Wherever he goes, people constantly seek him out. Sometimes Jesus gets irked by all of it. Even in gentile territory he can't get any peace and quiet.

A woman comes to Jesus, bows at his feet, and begs him to cast the demon out of her daughter. If you have ever had a sick child or been worried sick, then you must know a little of what it must have been like to be this woman. Jesus says, "Let the children be fed first, (the children of Israel), for it is not fair to take the children's food (Israel), and throw it to the dogs, (gentiles like you)". She replies, "even the dogs under the table, (gentiles like me), eat the crumbs. Jesus doesn't sound very nice here, but this isn't the point!

Said another way, the message of God's love, compassion and devotion that is meant for the children of Israel, is falling upon gentile ears too, they are being fed and nourished as well. In Jesus' message of love, even the crumbs are enough to sustain this gentile woman and many like her.

A major theme in Mark's gospel is "Outsiders get in, and insiders are left out." People on the margins, the frail, the hungry, are welcomed into Jesus' arms. Something radical happens after the exchange between Jesus and the gentile woman! Something seismic. Jesus, once again, expands the boundaries of Judaism to

include gentiles. The arms of Jewish teaching are extended to include the others, the outsiders, heaven forbid, even the gentiles. This isn't sweet, polite or kind, this rocks thousands of years of Jewish tradition, teaching and understanding. He includes the rejected, the forgotten and despised into the body of holiness. If you live on the margins of life, your life has value and you are a beloved child of God, and you are welcomed here. This is big stuff!

We certainly see these themes of "who is in" and "who is out" being discussed, tweeted, and debated in our country today. We are discussing border walls, DACA, deportations and all of this is mixed in with racial tension and violence as we witnessed in Charlottesville, VA, a few months ago. The heart of these discussions is about "who is in" and "who is out?" Who is lowly and other and must stay out; and who is worthy and can stay in?

Jesus is breaking down the traditional taboos that keep people apart versus bringing us together. Imagine that for a moment? No matter who we are, the loving hand of God is extended to all people. No matter of race, gender, nationality, legal status, gay or straight, people with addictions, loneliness, rich, upper middle class, middle class, or poor. The hand of God is extended to those who grieve over divorce, over a broken relationship, or for those who know the sorrow of burying someone you love.

Healing miracles in the Bible are not some form of special magic or a promise that God will protect believers from illness. The healing miracles are profound truths that shine light into our lives that all forms of healing come from God. That said, I have prayed for outcomes that did not come to pass. I have prayed for doors to open that remained closed. These disappointments do not change my belief that healing comes from God whether I can see it or not.

In Christ ~ Rev. Daniel Christian (Posted in the Ukiah Daily Journal, January 18, 2018)



From Pastor David in Djibouti

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT

Thank you for your prayers, your encouraging cards and messages, and for the dozens of Care packages. I don't know how I could do this ministry here without you. You are helping to save the lives of abandoned children who are living on the streets in Djibouti. And you are helping to change the lives

of people who are longing to know the love and grace of God.

One of the issues that the CARITAS-Djibouti ministry is facing is sex trafficking among the orphaned girls. CARITAS is starting to develop a program that enables these girls to earn a living and escape the horrors of the sex trade. I'll keep you posted on how this new program is developing.

You are all in my prayers. I will see you again soon.

In Christ ~ David

The draping of the Cross follows the liturgical calendar

January 8 – February 10: Green - Currently to symbolize the renewal of vegetation and generally of living things and the promise of new life.

February 11: White – Transfiguration of the Lord (Matthew 17:1-13). White symbolizes purity, holiness and virtue, as well as respect and reverence.



February 12-13: Green

February 14 – March 29th – Purple. This is the color of Lent. It starts on February 14th, Ash Wednesday, (40 days before Easter, excluding Sundays) and goes through March 29th, Maundy Thursday, after the service (the Lord's Supper Matthew 26:17-30).

Liturgical Colors

During Lent
Draping of the

Cross

March 30 – Good Friday - The cross is draped in black which represents the death and mourning of our Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 27:32-56)

April 1 - Hallelujah – He is Risen on Easter morning, when the cross is once again draped white to symbolize the resurrection of our Lord and goes through March 20th the day of Pentecost when it is draped in red – to symbolize the presence of God when the tongues of fire from the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles (Acts 2:1-13).



Observances
During the
Season of Lent

February 14 - Ash Wednesday – Noon

Reflective service with ashes

February 18 - First Sunday of Lent - 10:00 AM

Special Worship service of communion and prayer

February 25 - March 18 - LENT - 10:00 AM

Worship service with communion

March 25 - Palm Sunday - 10:00 AM

Worship service with palms and communion

March 29 - Maundy Thursday - 6:00 PM

Seder dinner with communion

March 30 - Good Friday - 6:00 PM

Taize' service

April 1 - Easter - 10:00 AM

~ ~ ~ Children/Youth Ministries ~ ~ ~

2018 represents a big change for me (*Roe Sandelin*) as a member of Session. Dory Haselswerdt completed her term as our Youth and Families Session member and I am following in her footsteps...she wears BIG shoes! With Associate Pastor Kelsey Ingalls taking a Pastor call in Oregon, Dory's role expanded exponentially. She partnered with MaryAnn Snyder to keep our youth programs going as we prepared to hire a Director of Youth and Family Ministries. MaryAnn wears BIG shoes, too!



On Wednesday, March 7 we will again start up our Hangout Kids' Club. Your support of this effort is very important as we bring on a new Director. "Many hands make light work" as they say. Please do what you can!



Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at McGarvey Park (just south of the Presbyterian Church) on Saturday, March 24. More information will be forthcoming. Again, we will need a strong level of support from our congregation for this event. It represents a significant outreach effort to the community as we strive to share the love of Jesus Christ.

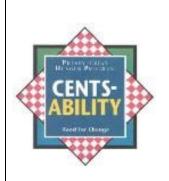


We are still planning a Father-Daughter Dance, but haven't decided on a date, yet. If you are interested in helping put together this special event, please me.

As you can tell from my comments herein, you ALL are the key to the success of our Youth and Families Ministry. When you choose to give of your time and talent in service to our youth and families you are serving God in a very meaningful way.

As Jesus said in Mathew 19:14 "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these".

~~~ MISSIONS ~~~



Don't forget to bring your Cents-Ability offering to church on Sunday, February 4th. 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.

prayers for Kevin and Shelly and all

those they served in Africa. Look for a full report in next month's newsletter.

THE MACK'S MISSION TRIP

TO AFRICA

Thank you all for your support and

Thank you for all the donations that we have received every month.

This month we want to overwhelm our troops with love by sending cookies!... as many a possible!



Wilma says 17 ½ dozen will fit in one box, so start baking and freezing those cookies now so they will be ready for our February packing party.

Time and date to be decided. We'll keep you posted!

PEDAL FOR PROTEIN **2017 REPORT**

As you know, last September we participated in Presbytery's Petal for Protein Fundraiser. We saw tangible results from that fundraiser with a check for \$2500 to go to our local foodbank. Thanks again for your support for this fundraiser and to our Presbytery for their commitment to the hungry in our communities. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



Last fall we sent our first shipment (5 large boxes) back to headquarters to be processed and shipped to those in need. We recently received payment for that shipment for \$89. We will use that money to buy shoes for local school age children in need.

Thank you for donating your gently used shoes and keep them coming! We will be sending our next shipment sometime this month.

Also, if you know of a family or child that might benefit from our Shoes-for- You program, please contact the church office to let us know.





photo by Peter Armstrong

Thank you for your donation to the Disaster Fund for Mendocino County!

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

We want to thank you for raising and donating \$4,772.00 to the Disaster Fund for Mendocino County, received by us on December 11, 2017.

In the first eight weeks, the Disaster Fund for Mendocino County received over \$1,250,000 in contributions from roughly 2,700 donors. The Disaster Fund has already provided over \$250,000 for immediate and short-term relief for those displaced by the evacuations and fires, and will provide for further short-term essentials (such as temporary housing, household items, and medical care or counseling) as well as the long-term needs of those rebuilding from the fires. Please know that your contribution will enable us to address the fire survivors' needs for months and even years to come.

Thank you once again for your generosity to those in need in our community!

Warmly,

Megan

Megan Barber Allende

President/CEO



The Community Foundation of Mendocino County 204 South Oak Street, Ukiah CA 95482 (707) 468-9882 www.communityfound.org

Staff:
Megan Barber Allende, President/CEO
Neil DiBernardo, Administrative Coordinator
Michelle Rich, Senior Program Officer
Holly Madrigal, Program Officer

SPRING TEA INFO MEETING

Don't you agree that it's about time for another Tea? Join us after church Sunday, February 25 in the James Room to make plans for a Mother's Day Tea on Saturday, May 5. Your help will be needed and it is always a lovely church and community event. Questions? Please call Jaunita Coddington, 263-5534. Hope to see you February 25th!





A few months ago I got a phone call from Rowland Pringle. He was calling from his home near his son in Roseville. His voice sounded faint and hoarse, but his mind was clear, and he was just calling, he said, to recall old times, to re-connect and, he said, to tell us he loved us.

As I have just learned that my dear friend Rowland has entered into the joy if his Lord, I believe now that he was calling to say "goodbye".

When I was called to be

pastor of Ukiah 1st Pres in 1993, Rowland was on the Pastor Nominating Committee. That was one of the finest PNCs any pastor could ever have. We always encourage our PNCs to try to remain as a sort of support group for the new pastor.

Well this one truly did, and Rowland was in the forefront.

In our first month at FPCU Rowland came to me and said, "OK, I'm ready to go visiting with you, if you want me to". Wow! What a gift!

Every Wednesday, for the next four to five years, Rowland and I would meet, review who is shut-in or in the hospital, take a little time to pray, and then set out to go calling. He knew all the

back stories, who was related to whom, who left the church when, why, what might bring them back, and who all the newbies and prospectives were. He also saw that I was introduced to all of the other pastors in town.

I'm not sure how many new pastors have been given a gift like that by one of their elders, but I have never forgotten the love and leadership and practical hospitality shown to me by Ruth and Rowland Pringle.

So, goodbye, old friend, my mentor and confidante. Well done, good and faithful servant.

Larry Ballenger, FPCU pastor, 1993-2002



All Church Work Day

Saturday, February 3rd
8am to noon
Coffee/pastries are provided



FPCU offers an e-prayer ministry where our church leaders and members promise to pray for those who are ill, lonely, hurting, or in need of prayer. If you are in need of prayer, please contact the church office (468-9235) or email our e-prayer coordinator, Caroline Crowley (cfcrowley60@gmail.com)

THANK YOU to everyone who has been faithful to pray for all the concerns our church family has lifted up through this ministry. We know that God does answer prayers and changes lives through this ministry! So, we want to encourage you to *keep praying*!

Every year, we update and renew our ministry. The way we do this is by asking you to review the policy and sign up to continue to be on the email list.

e-Prayer reminders:



This is not a prayer chain. e-prayers are intended to be received and treated with confidentiality. Asking for prayer is an intimate thing, so we do ask that you keep all prayers confidential, and to commit to praying for the specific request.



If you are asking for prayer on someone else's behalf, please do – ALWAYS – get that person's permission first. We don't want to blindside anyone who might be experiencing a difficult time already.

If you are not a part of this ministry and would like to be, please read the Prayer Ministry Policy near the end of this newsletter, sign the form and return to the church office. If you are already a part of this ministry and wish to continue for 2018, please review the policy, sign the form and return to the church office to remain on the list. The email list will be finalized by February 20th.



February VIP Luncheon Wednesday, 21st @ 11:30

All those Very Important People age 70 and over are invited to a fun-filled luncheon on the 21st. Marv Talso will be here to talk about his trip to China. The menu is Orange Chicken, Fried Rice, Cabbage Salad & Chocolate Cherry cake. Please call the church, 468-9235, if you need a ride.

Hope to see you there!



Housekeeping Note...

Have you left something behind? Are you missing anything from your closet? Or did you put Christmas decorations up?

There are several 'dumping ground' locations around the church: on the kitchen counter, coat racks, and stickers on windows. Please remember to 'tidy up' by picking up your items and removing any decorations you left behind. Your help in keeping our church tidy and clutter free is appreciated!

Also, we could use some help updating our bulletin boards. Anyone interested?? Let the office know!

And last but not least, please take extra care in cleaning tables/counters and removing trash after your meetings/events. **It's "ant season" and they are hungry!**Thanks for **your** help in keeping our church clean and pest-free.



2018 Per Capita Contribution

What is the Per Capita rate for FPCU and are we required to pay?

Per Capita 2018 General Fund: \$25.21 Per Capita 2018 Building Fund: \$5.00 TOTAL \$30.21 per member

Per capita is not mandated, but we are obligated to pay for all members. Therefore, we do ask that you please reimburse the First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah this amount in addition to your regular pledge. Simply write "Per Capita" in the memo section of your check and drop in the offering plate.

What is Per Capita?

What is Per Capita and why do we pay?

Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Said another way, it is a Presbyterian Covenant Community Fund — part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system should be shared by everyone as well. Per capita funding is how we mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future.

What does Per Capita fund?

For example, some funding provides the costs of bringing together:

- Commissioners and advisory delegates to the General Assembly
- · necessary tools to develop and administer ordination exams to seminarians preparing to become future pastors

Per Capita also funds (some examples):

- work in the area of vocation, helping all Presbyterians discern their sense of God's call in their lives
- information, advice, and counsel to presbyteries and pastors whose members have immigration issues
- the expenses of the Moderator and Vice Moderator of the General Assembly as they travel across the church to attend church anniversaries, presbytery meetings, retreats, ecumenical gatherings, and so forth
- a Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in this country and worldwide, which extends our mission efforts and our work for peace and justice far beyond what we can do by ourselves and promotes Christianity



Notes from the Congregational Meeting, December 3

2018 Nominating Committee – from the congregation: Molly Schultz, Jean Davis, Barbara, McLean.
2018 Corporate Officers: Shirley Lewis (President), Kevin DeVries (VP), Randy Beckler (Treasurer)
Eldons along of 2020, Bandy Barblar Language Systems, Large Carrier

Elders class of 2020: Randy Beckler, Lenord Swope, Jerry Garcia

Deacons class of 2020: Marie Pera, Juanita Coddington, Meredith Lintott, Kim Huffman

Notes from the Session Meeting, December 21

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Session was given: 1) Income-Expenses for the year as of 11-30-17, noting that expenses exceeded income by \$3,120; 2) full 2017 calendar review of actuals, noting that by

years end income-expenses should be close to the same amount. It was also noted that although the church checking account exceeds \$80,000, that amount will be significantly reduced by a required payment to the Board of Pensions. The Session with Cindy DeVries, church treasurer, reviewed the proposed 2018 budget, including pastoral compensation. Following discussion, it was **MSA** to set the 2018 budget at \$260,384.

PASTOR'S REPORT: included member visitations, communion services, and pulpit supply.

COUNCIL-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Family Council: C.E./Youth Ministry: Christmas caroling (12-10-17) was well attended, including scouts and members of other choirs. Hangout will start again in March 2018. The Easter egg hunt will be in March 2018. Missions: MSA Nor Cal Christian Ministries to use church facilities, January 2018.
- **Congregational Life:** Deacons will be doing sack lunches twice during December and on Christmas Day, and invites one and all to come and help.
- **Adult Ministries:** The new members class will be 1-28-18 following the worship service and includes lunch. At this time five individuals have expressed an interest in attending.

Resource Council:

- **Buildings and Grounds:** The workday on December 9 was very productive. The next workday is scheduled for February 2018. Committee continues to address the issues of the parking lot, roof, and air conditioning. **MSA** Waive church use fee for Nor Cal Christian Ministries for January 2018.
- **Personnel:** The job description for the Director of Youth/Family Ministries has not yet been finalized. Roe will work with Dory to create a job description for the 1-18-18 Session meeting. The Session discussed the need to form a search committee for the Director position ASAP. After discussion it was **MSA** to elect the following individuals to serve on the search committee: Roe Sandelin, MaryAnn Snyder, Shirley Lewis, Daniel Christian, David Rodriquez. Since there is not an urgent need for a nursery attendant at this time, the development of the job description has been put on hold.

Christian Educa	tion 2017 Statistical Report		
Birth 3	3	Grade 7	6
Age 4	1	Grade 8	3
Kindergarten	8	Grade 9	2
Grade 1	3	Grade 10	1
Grade 2	6	Grade 11	0
Grade 3	6	Grade 12	3
Grade 4	4	Young Adults	0
Grade 5	3	Over 25	35
Grade 6	6	Teachers/Officers	17
Total	107		

The next Session meeting is February 15th, 6:00pm.

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!

2/2	Gay Sibley	2/12	Gavyn Young	2/26	Shelly Mack
2/3	Marge Moynahan	2/13	Jeffrey Royle		Joyce Sarber
2/5	Cleda Erickson	2/15	Kris Guadagnoli		Molly Schultz

2/8 Kooper Dockins 2/19 Kathy Smith



Event Calendar ~ February



2/16 6:00pm

10:00am	Worship Celebration
6:00pm	#SWAG Youth Group
6:30pm	Cub Scouts
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
6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
5:30pm	Worship Team rehearsal
6:30am	NorCal Christian Ministries
1:00pm	ABC Program
6:00pm	Spanish AA
	6:00pm 6:30pm 6:30am 7:00am 8:30am 5:00pm 6:00pm 6:30am 5:30pm 6:30am 1:00pm

...additional events for the month

2/1	5:230pm	Buildings/Grounds
2/3	8:00am	All Church Work Day
2/7	10:30am	Worship Committee
2/8	12:30pm	ABC Program
	6:30pm	Boy Scouts
2/10	9:00am	Stitches from the Heart
2/11	11:15am	Missions Committee
2/12	12:00pm	Family/Outreach Council
2/14	Нарр	oy Valentine's Day!
	12:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service
	1:30pm	PW Bible study

Session

2/19 Presidents Day Holiday – Office Closed		
2/20 - 23	Daniel on Study leave	
2/21 11:30am	VIP Luncheon	
2/22 12:30pm	ABC Program	
5:30pm	Deacons	
2/25 11:15am	Spring Tea info meeting	
2/28 1:30pm	PW Bible study	
-	•	

Looking ahead...

3/10 10:00am Rowland Pringle Memorial

Our Calendar is also available online @ <a href="http://fpcukiah.org/calendar/calend

(Note: if using a phone, view in landscape orientation to view properly)



First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah (FPCU) Prayer Ministry Policy

Our Purpose: To provide for an avenue for church family members and friends of the congregation to request for prayer, either confidentially or publicly.

Our Goal is to use our prayer ministry in a God-honoring way, and to share Christ's love to all those with prayer concerns.

Psalm 121: 1-2 "I lift my eyes up to the mountains. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

Statement of Policy:

The Prayer Ministry is an effective and accessible way for friends and members of our church family to share their prayer concerns. There are two (2) different prayer groups through which prayer may be requested:

- Confidential Prayer: Sometimes a person may want prayer, but does not wish their concern to be shared publicly or printed in the bulletin. The Confidential Prayer group includes the Pastoral Staff (Pastors and Office Manager) and Ruling Elders.

 James 5:14 "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.
- **E-Prayer:** Prayer concerns that are not confidential will be shared as an e-prayer. The e-prayer group includes the Pastoral Staff, Ruling Elders, members of the congregation, regular attenders, and friends of the congregation. *Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."*

Prayer requests will be shared via email and not by phone. *It is understood that e-prayer is not a "prayer chain"*. *Prayer requests are not intended to be passed along to others*. The prayer ministry is simply an invitation for those members to join in the ministry of prayer – to uphold each other when in need of healing, for prayers of praise, or other prayer concerns.

Submitting Requests:

- 1. Prayer requests are given to the Prayer Ministry Coordinator. The Coordinator will help to determine with which group to share the prayer concern, whether it's confidential or e-prayer.
- 2. If the requestor is asking prayer for someone else, permission must be granted by that second person. The second person should also determine from which group s/he wants to request prayer.
- 3. The Coordinator will include in the prayer request email the name of the requestor, the person for whom the prayer is for (if not for themselves), and specific details of the request. Each request

will also include scripture and a reminder that e-prayer is not a "prayer chain", but simply an invitation to join in the ministry of prayer.

- 4. Requestors should follow up with the Coordinator with periodic updates when possible.
- 5. Requests for prayer may also be submitted by completing the request form in the Sanctuary Registration Pads and dropped in the offering plate. These will be given directly to the Pastor(s), who may make the determination to share with the Confidential group.
- 6. It is required that all participating in the Prayer Ministry will review and re-confirm participation on an annual basis.

We strive for a high level of confidentiality. Although, in making a request one must be made aware the we cannot guarantee communication will remain confidential.		
Name (printed)	email address	
Signature	 Date	

If you wish to be part of the e-prayer ministry, please complete this signature page and return to the church office.