



Presbeat



First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah, CA
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Pastor David Rodriguez – *On assignment with US Navy*
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Editor: Denise Beckler, Office Manager/Music Director
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What Does Memorial Day Mean to You?

An email arrived in my inbox this week. Our local pool sent out the summer schedule. The information included when the life guards are on duty, snack bar hours, pool hours and new menu choices, but did not include popsicle flavors. For some swimmers of a certain age, popsicles are about the only motivation to want to get out of the pool and dry off.

If you haven't already guessed, Memorial Day is here and thus begins summer for most Americans.

Memorial Day is less about summer kickoff and all about honoring the men and women who have fought and died for our country. My older brother Tim will take his family to the military cemetery near their home. My parents will do something very similar where they live. Most years I have been able to attend the Marin Civic Center Memorial or the one in the Presidio Cemetery in San Francisco. I hope this weekend each of you try and take some time to remember those who have served our country.

As a minister it is immensely challenging when asked to respond to tragic world events such as warfare, human suffering and acts of evil, and “where is God” in all of this pain? God does not create suffering and God's will is not that “we should suffer.” I could go on for pages but I am limited by a word count. However, I am reminded of a passage in the Bible that shines the light of human courage when we must face fear and suffering of our age. Are you familiar with the story about David and Goliath?

The David and Goliath story doesn't only speak to us in metaphors often associated within the arenas of sports and politics, the story offers deep personal and spiritual insights that shape our lives. David standing alone in the valley of Elah and facing certain death is an honest existential moment that speaks to all of us. Your life, your whole entire life: what will you stand for when the moment comes to put your life on the line for what you believe? Do you have anything outside of yourself that is worth believing in?

What will you lay down your life for? David facing Goliath is more than a story about one person standing up for himself. It is much bigger, and that is why it continues to resonate across the

centuries. David stands for himself, but far more important and why the story continues to have power is that David stands for an entire people, but ultimately, and this is the essence of this passage, David stands with God. He isn't standing for personal self-interest. He doesn't stand for increase market share. He doesn't stand because the political winds are blowing that direction. He stands for the ways of God.

To face the giant of his age, David doesn't need more modern weapons and technology. To go into that valley David needs just a few simple tools. Pause on this for a moment. Less, not more is what is needed when he descends into the valley to fight the giant of his day.

David takes the simple tools of a shepherd to face the giant. A staff, sling, and five smooth stones are all he needs. Simple and familiar tools are often enough when we face life's greatest challenges.

In the valley David becomes a model for new way. Goliath comes with every tool he has. Sword, shield and helmet are the best of his day.



The beauty here is that the story is not told from the powerful, it is told from the point of view of the weak. If you have ever been weak, or afraid, or not up to the task, and then had life's greatest challenge thrust upon you, then you know what it is like to walk into the valley and face the giant. You know what it is like to be David.

As I was writing I was thinking about what simple tools do we need in our age when it is our turn to enter the valley? What would you bring? Here is my list:

- 1) Faith that we are not alone.
- 2) A community that supports us when we struggle.
- 3) Some experienced and professional voices to counsel us.
- 4) The courage to put our faith in God and fling that metaphorical stone when our time arrives.

I think about the women and men who are serving our country, as they may be far from home and the ones they love. If you are barbequing, swimming, boating, enjoying an amusement park or celebrating graduation, I hope you take some time to remember those who have served and offer a tribute to those who have given their life.

In Christ ~ *Pastor Daniel*



Dear All:

I'm in Hawaii with the family. It's a blessing to have this time to reconnect with each other after being separated for over a year.

We've been on the big island of Hawaii. Here are some pictures of the erupting volcano nearby. We're on our way to Maui now.

We miss everyone in Ukiah and we're looking forward to being with you all again soon.



Please keep Pastor David and his family in your prayers as he transitions back into life away from war and with his family!

David & Cathy, we are very much looking forward to your safe return to Ukiah!

Good News ~ Sad News...

The good news, we're very excited to introduce Alexis Moore as our new Director of Youth & Family Ministries! Alexis most recently comes from Blackbird Farm (residential farm/educational camps for youth) in Philo and has also worked at Mt. Hermon Bible Camp as a Program Assistant. Alexis has accepted our offer of employment and will begin her ministry at FPCU on Monday, June 18th. We're happy to have a talented and devoted Presbyterian to accept this call. Welcome Alexis!!

The sad news; Pastor Daniel announced that his final day of ministry at FPCU will be Sunday, July 1, 2018. Pastor had wanted to continue his service until the return of Pastor David but an upcoming scheduled surgery for his wife Michelle calls him to family care. Pastor Daniel has done a marvelous job preaching the Lord's Word while with us. He has been a good friend and shepherd. We have been blessed to have him in our presences. A party seems a good way to give thanks for a job well done, don't you think? More information on that coming soon...

In Christ, *Jerry Garcia, Elder Personnel*

WANTED: Studio or one bedroom living quarters.

As we prepare to welcome Alexis Moore to FPCU Ministry, it has come to mind that one of the big challenges for someone moving to Ukiah is finding housing at a fair price. If you have, or know of, a studio or one-bedroom size living space that would be suitable for a single person, PLEASE, let Roe Sandelin know right away (972-3477 or roe@pacific.net). He will personally guarantee the character and quality of the individual we select! He can provide property management services to you at no cost if it helps you get to "YES" in filling this need.

~ ~ ~ MISSIONS Michele Young, Elder ~ ~ ~



Don't forget to bring your Cents-Ability offering to church on the first Sunday every month. 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.

We are Building an Orphanage!

Update Phase II – Much Progress in a Short Time!



Pastor John and his family are so happy and grateful for our help. Also, please keep Pastor John in your prayers as he would like to come visit us in June. He has been turned down twice previously when applying for a visa.

Thank you all for your generosity, love and support.
We are truly making a difference in the lives of these dear people.





Know of someone in jail or prison? Target Truth Ministries offers inmates a Christian message/study weekly at no cost to the inmate...just provide the name, number and address to Pastor Gerry Burney, targettruthministries.com. It costs about \$3 a month to sponsor an inmate in prison, which includes

weekly messages, postage, envelopes, and once a year we send every prison inmate on our list a Christian book. Not one penny goes to wages or benefits!

And did you know that Wilma “recycles” all our past-due Daily Breads and donates them to Pastor Gerry for the jail ministry? She has the staples removed and gets them bound with string so they can be used safely by the inmates.

Our thanks to all of you who can help support this prison ministry. Please keep this ministry, the inmates, and law enforcement in your prayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- In house Chili cook-off coming in August.
Get your recipes ready and your ideas for booth theme ready, it'll be here before you know it!
- Community Chili Cook-off Friday, September 7
- Petal For Protein coming in September

SHOEBOX RECYCLING PROGRAM: Please keep the gently used shoes a'coming!

Receptacles are in the church foyer. We use the money earned from this ministry to buy new shoes for school age children in our community who have a need. 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.

~~ Youth & Children's Ministries Roe Sandelin, Elder ~~

A **BIG THANK YOU** to our many volunteers who helped staff the positions necessary to successfully complete another season of Wednesday evening HANGOUT for kids. Shopping for food, cooking and table setup, cleanup, registration, table hosts, Bible study lessons, arts and crafts project, child play and nursery, communications, SignUp.com coordination, and more cleanup. Whether you gave a single evening or many evenings in this effort is not what is important. The important stuff is that you chose to help children learn more about God and His plan for us! This is important work and **YOU** helped get it accomplished.

I wish to extend a special thank you to Dory Haselswerdt and MaryAnn Snyder for their leadership of the program. You girls are my ALL STARS! I get to say “girls” because I am so much older! Ha!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **Vacation Bible School** is scheduled for August 6 through 10.
- **VBS planning and preparation** will be in full swing July 23 through August 4.
- **SWAG (our junior high- senior high group)** is changing its meeting schedule for the summer. Effective June 20, SWAG will meet each Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., same location, same good fun! This change gives all involved more weekend time with families during the busy summer season.

~ ~ ~ **W O R S H I P** Shirley Lewis, Elder ~ ~ ~



Flowers for the Sanctuary: It's fresh flower season! Do you enjoy making flower arrangements? Do you have flowers in your garden that you would like to "show off"? If so, you are invited to bring flower arrangements on any Sunday. We have several places where flowers could be placed on display. If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Lewis or the office.



**Come and
Join Us!**

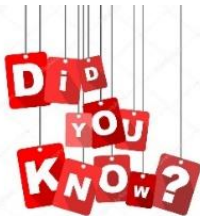
**All church work day!
Saturday, June 2, 8:30 am**

...Coffee and Goodies provided...

**June VIP Luncheon
Wednesday, June 20 @
11:30**

SUMMER

All those **Very Important People** age 70 and over are invited to a luncheon on the 20th.
Menu: Hot dogs (and all the fixin's), chili, chips, ice cream sandwiches
Please call the church, 468-9235, if you need a ride. Hope to see you here!



Did you know that Tom Desroches was recently honored for his work at the Ukiah Senior Center? Tom volunteered 500+ hours and received the 2nd Place Volunteer of the Year award for 2017. ***Congratulations Tom!***

And did you know Tom's wife, Gayleen, is retiring from Ukiah Unified School District, having worked for 24+ years in the Yokayo School Food Service?

There will be a retirement party on August 18th, 1-5 pm,
at the Ukiah Senior Center.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP (707) 462.3709 or
(707) 367.8651

Congratulations Gayleen!

Happy Retirement!

Afternoon Tea All Things British



Those who attended the recent Afternoon Tea relished traditional British delights: fresh made clotted (Devonshire) cream (*Wilma Pribyl*), lemon curd, strawberry jam (*Pam Schnare*) and scones, (*Wilma Pribyl & Linda Chapman Gates*). Festive cookies provided by *Cleda Erickson, Caroline Crowley, Nancie Garcia, Chris Gordon, Perrine Kirchen, Linda Logan, Sharon Ruddick, Molly Schultz, Kathy Smith, Diane Yanez, & Michele Young*. 'Sammies' (tea sandwiches) provided by *Jean Davis, Carolyn Barrett, Ann Denham, Gayle DeVries, Ellen Chinn, Jaunita Coddington, Gayleen Desroches, Myrinda Head, Shelly Mack, Sharon Ruddick & Diane Yanez* all served on gorgeously set tables displaying our finest china and silver provided by *Shelly Mack, Chris Gordon, Nancie Garcia, Gayle DeVries, Jaunita Coddington, Barbara Rones, Wilma Pribyl, Sharon Ruddick, Perrine Kirchen & Pam Schnare*. It was a not-to-be-forgotten experience for both our congregation and the Ukiah community. The event was both modern and lots of fun, with the local Ukulele Ladies (*Betty Hook, et al*) providing rousing entertainment and ending with a sought-after raffle of baskets filled with an array of creative as well as tasty items. It was loads of fun for everyone and so nice to welcome old friends and new ones alike!

Also, noteworthy, gents in attendance, and ones who assisted in the kitchen: *Lenord Swope, Chris Gordon & Myrinda Head, and our youth volunteer, Tessa Strickland*. Thank you!

SPECIAL THANKS to all of our cookie bakers and sandwich makers, as well as those who donated baskets: *Jean Davis, Cleda & Teresa Erickson, Marie Pera, Michele Young, Pam Schnare, Nancie Garcia & Diane Yanez, and Jaunita Coddington*, and to each of you who shared your beautiful table settings, those who did the behind-the-scenes work, as well as flowers for the stage: *Betty & Bill Hook*, and oh my!... how beautiful the stage was: *Michele Young*. Finally, thanks to *Denise Beckler* for her creativity in ticket design and sales.

Thanks to all of you, our nursery and preschool rooms will soon be getting much needed sunshades.



You are invited to our open house!

When: Saturday, June 16, 3:00-6:00 PM

Where: The Center for Hope, 150 Luce Avenue, Ukiah.

To our faithful supporters and friends:

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support. I want to make sure everyone hears the great news: WE ARE OPEN! We opened the doors to The Center for Hope last Wednesday at 7am and we have been going strong ever since! The Center is everything we hoped it would be and more. It is a beautiful place! We are especially happy to be offering showers to our guests, something we have praying about for years. They really appreciate it, as you can imagine!

I want to thank you all for your faithful support. Our annual fundraiser was well-attended and very successful. We are so grateful for your financial support and for our faithful volunteers, who are really the heart of the program!

I am writing to invite you to an OPEN HOUSE and BARBECUE (see above) so you can see for yourself what the Lord is doing. Please join us for some barbecue, a tour of the facility and to hear some stories about how God is reaching out to the homeless in Ukiah.

Thank you so much for partnering with us! I hope that you will stop by and see the work that the Lord is doing. I have included a wish list of items we need right now. Feel free to share this with others in the Christian community.

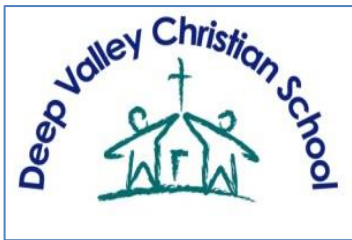
Tony Huerta, Director
707-481-8398

Wish list:

- Big Screen TV w/Sound System
- Gas Dryer
- Vacuum Cleaner
- Rug Shampooer

Ongoing needs:

- Laundry Detergent
 - Coffee
 - Socks / underwear
-



Looking for Christian school options for your children?

Deep Valley Christian School will be offering Preschool through 4th grade Instructor-led classes for the 2018-2019 school year. A brochure which details curriculum and subject content is available on the table in the church foyer. Enrollment packets are now available. For more information contact the DVCS office at (707) 485-8778.

In addition to **Instructor-led classes**, Deep Valley also offers a **Home School oversight** program called PSP (Private Satellite Program) which assists families who would like to home school with assistance in choosing curriculum and assistance during the school year. Home School support is offered through High School. We also offer a Biology Lab. This coming year the curriculum is *“Exploring Creation with Biology”*. Another popular program were Wednesday After-School Enrichment courses which are open for a nominal fee to public school or home school students. Last year’s topics included: science exploration, ASL sign language, paper maché art creations, and cake decorating. Cheri Beuving Tussey has just been hired to oversee after-school programs. A list of these offerings and our Statement of Faith will be available on our facebook page (Deep Valley Christian Education Center) or our Web page:

<http://www.deepvalleychristianschool.org/>

Open House to Meet Deep Valley Teachers and Staff – Monday, June 18 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Gym Yard Sale Donations Gladly Accepted: Deep Valley Christian School is hosting a two-day yard sale every other month. Your tax-deductible donations are gladly accepted Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by calling (707) 485-8778 to make special arrangements. Our next Gym Yard Sale is June 29 and 30.

Gym Yard Sale: Friday, June 29 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, June 30 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley (across from the Broiler).

Notes from the Session Meeting, April 26th

April 26th was a meeting between Session, Staff, Rev. Joanne Martindale and Rev. Robert Conover.

Rev. Joanne Martindale led the discussion focusing on three points:

- How were you/church doing before Pastor David left?
- How are you/church doing while David has been gone?
- How do you/church see yourself moving forward when David returns?

Each individual was given the opportunity to respond to each question. The remainder of the agenda was postponed to the May meeting.

The next regular Session meeting is Thursday, June 21st, 6:00pm.

Session Members:

*Randy Beckler, Daniel Christian,
Kevin DeVries, Jerry Garcia,
Karen Golden, Randy Huffman,
Shirley Lewis, Roe Sandelin,
Lenord Swope, Michele Young*

As of April 30, 2018		Total \$\$
Income	\$	80,166
Expenses	\$	58,875
Difference	\$	21,291
Balance in Checking Account		Total \$\$
Non-Designated Funds	\$	92,311
Designated Funds (detail below)	\$	53,224
Total Balance in Checking	\$	145,536
Balance in Savings		Total \$\$
CD's	\$	44,312
Mutual Funds	\$	25,487
Other Savings	\$	60,249
Total Balance in Savings	\$	130,048
Detail of Designated Funds in Checking Account		
Missions	\$	20
Hispanic Ministries	\$	-
Hispanic MicroLoans	\$	1,010
Mission Trip	\$	1,564
Missions Fundraiser	\$	7,790
Centsability	\$	65
Shoes 4 You	\$	89
Per Capita	\$	1,320
Deacons	\$	48
Flowers	\$	-
General Memorial	\$	28,094
Camperships	\$	500
Buildings and Grounds	\$	5,020
Compassionate Ministries	\$	982
Singalong	\$	-
Senior Ministries	\$	-
Adult Ministries	\$	3
Youth Ministries	\$	-
Children's Ministries	\$	35
Childrens Playground	\$	3,876
Singalong	\$	704
Vacation Bible School	\$	-
Special Grants	\$	1,933
Fellowship Meals	\$	171
Total	\$	53,224

Did we miss your birthday last month???

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



Happy Birthday!

6/1 Lenord Swope	6/10 Michelle Christian	6/22 Kathy Vega
6/2 Daniel Christian	6/13 Elvina Pardini	6/25 Cindy DeVries
6/7 Larry Ballenger	6/14 Geraldine Dutton	Bella Kaeser
Zoey Garcia	Kayla Holland	6/30 Alea Johnston
6/9 Kevin DeVries		

Event Calendar ~ June



Sun weekly	10:00am	Worship Celebration
	6:00pm	#SWAG Youth Group
Mon weekly	6:30pm	Cub Scouts
Tue. weekly	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	8:30am	Serendipity Women's Bible Study
	5:00pm	SIPS Women's Bible Study
	6:00pm	Spanish AA; NAHOP
Wed. weekly	6:00pm	Worship Team rehearsal
Thurs. weekly	1:00pm	ABC Program
	6:00pm	Spanish AA

...additional events for the month

6/2	8:30am	Church Member Work Day
6/3		Communion / Centsability Offering
	12:30pm	Partnership Scholars
		Graduation Ceremony
6/6	10:30am	Worship Committee
6/9	9:00am	Stitches from the Heart
6/10	11:15am	Missions Committee
6/13	1:30pm	PW Bible Study

6/14	FLAG DAY	
	1:30pm	ABC Program
	6:30pm	Boy Scouts
6/17	Happy Father's Day!	
6/19	12:00pm	Family/Outreach Council
6/20	11:30am	VIP Luncheon
6/21	Summer Begins	
	6:00pm	Session
6/27	1:30pm	PW Bible Study
6/28	12:30pm	ABC Program

Our Calendar is also available online @ <http://fpcukiah.org/calendar/calendar/>

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