



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY:

On Sunday, November 11, we are going to be putting together “Clean-Up Buckets” that will be distributed by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to those who have suffered a catastrophic loss through floods and fires. We will be collecting all the supplies for the buckets ahead of time, and then on November 11th, we will assemble the buckets in Fellowship Hall after coffee fellowship. On October 28th and November 4th, you can sign up to bring some of the items needed to place in the buckets. Our goal is to prepare 40 Clean-up Buckets. See Carol Anderson or Sue Goodnow for further information.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2019

During coffee fellowship on **November 4th**, we will celebrate another wonderful year of ministry and fellowship here at First Presbyterian and look ahead to plans for 2019. Michele Johnson, our Stewardship elder, will be making a brief presentation in the Fellowship Hall following worship. We’ll enjoy coffee and refreshments afterward.

Michele will be reviewing the programs that our church budget has supported this year, and taking a look at our continued ministries in the year to come.

You won't be asked to make a pledge at this time, just to take your packet home with you and begin praying about God's call to you to be a faithful steward.

What is a steward? A Christian steward is one who manages the affairs of God on earth, and that includes each one of us! We have been given unique abilities and talents, and we are called to use them to serve God.

You will be asked to return your pledge to the church on **Sunday, November 18**. We will have a special time of dedication in our worship service that morning. We look with anticipation to the great things that this church will be doing in the year 2019.



**STEWARDSHIP
SUNDAY**

YOUNG AT HEART

All those who are seniors and young at heart are invited to a delicious luncheon at 11:30 on Thursday, November 15. A delicious menu is planned, including turkey and all the fixings! Following lunch, we look forward to a fun program led by Jeanette Rauscher. We'll be learning the "Turkey Tango" and other simple dances. Please sign up for the luncheon on Sunday morning, or call the church office so we will know how many to expect.



THANK YOU

A big word of thanks to all those who came to the Church Work Day on October 6th and helped with cleaning and polishing everything in the sanctuary! It looks great!

Thanks to Carol Anderson and Conrad Milner, for organizing the day, and to Bill Gile, Linda Gizzi, Sue Goodnow, Bill Holmes, Bob Kraut, Anne Milner, Lauren Patrus-Betzel, Kathy Pearson, Lynn Roman, Troy Schwenk, George and Anne Swanson, and Val and Jim Watts.

ADULT EDUCATION PLANS

On Sunday morning, October 21, we began a 3-week series on the **BELHAR CONFESSION**, written in South Africa in the late 1980's as a Christian response to apartheid. It was adopted in 2016 at our denomination's General Assembly to become one of our denomination's twelve confessions of faith. Come at 11:15 am to the Fireside Room on 10/28 and 11/4 to learn more about it! Lauren Patrus-Betzel will be teaching the class.

The Monday evening class will begin a new 6-week class on **CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS** on November 5. The class meets at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room – newcomers are welcome. See Sue Goodnow for further information.

An **Inspired Book Discussion** is planned for Sunday afternoon, November 4th at Zocalo's (645 Bancroft) at 4 pm to discuss *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. This fabulous book takes us on the New York Times bestselling author's journey of "slaying giants, walking on water, and loving the Bible again." Hope you can join us.

STAFF UPDATE

We are grateful to Melody Marr, who faithfully served as our Church Administrative Manager from February, 2011 to October, 2018. We will miss her, and wish her all of God's blessings! It was wonderful to have the opportunity to thank her at a special reception hosted by the Deacons and Elders on Sunday, October 7.

The Personnel Committee has begun a search process to find a new Administrative Manager. Please keep them in your prayers, that God will lead us to just the right person to serve in this important position. In the meantime, we are happy that Helen Fortner has agreed to fill in for us during this transitional period.

WELCOME New Members

We welcome Don Cooper, Tina Maier and Lawrence Wood to church membership! They officially joined the church on Sept. 23rd.

TOYS FOR DAVIS STREET FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Soon it will be time for us to collect toys that will be distributed by Davis Street Family Resource Center to needy families in the San Leandro area for Christmas gifts. New, unwrapped toys, as well as gift cards, may be given to support this local ministry. Watch for the Toy Boxes to arrive in the Fellowship Hall.



Also, don't forget to bring canned goods and other non-perishable foods for the food pantry to Davis Street. You may place them in the barrels in Fellowship Hall, or in the basket in the narthex of the sanctuary when you come in to worship. Thanks for your support!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On December 9th, after the Children's Musical, we will be going Christmas Caroling to some of our friends at home. We'll have a bite of lunch after the musical, and then head out to sing carols!

Everyone is welcome!



PROJECT ANGEL TREE



Our church family will be participating in a ministry of Prison Fellowship called Angel Tree, which provides Christmas gifts for the children of prisoners.

Through information provided by the parent in prison, members of our church family may shop for a child whose wishes are conveyed on a paper angel.

Our Angel Tree Christmas Project will be in full swing starting November 25. You may pick up a paper angel from Val Watts or Gil DeHoyos on Sunday, Nov. 25, Sunday, Dec. 2, or Sunday, Dec. 9. Gifts for the children will either be a toy or an article of clothing. Please complete your shopping prior to December 16, and bring your wrapped gift before worship on that day to the church library. If you prefer, you may make a \$10.00 donation to help pay for an age appropriate Bible, or a \$20.00 donation for the family gift basket.

NOVEMBER 2018

Calendar on reverse



NOVEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee 11:15 AM Adult Education 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Officer Training	29 7:00 PM Adult Education	30	31 Halloween  NO WOW or PEAK	1 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	2	3 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Women's Fellowship
4 Daylight-Saving Time Ends 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 10:30 AM Stewardship Presentation 11:15 AM Adult Education 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	5 7:00 PM Adult Education	6 7:30 PM Christian Ed, Evangelism, Group Life, Church in the World and Stewardship Committees	7 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	8 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	9	10
11 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee 11:15 AM Second Sunday Gathering: Assemble Clean-Up Buckets	12 NO Adult Education Class	13 3:00 PM Presbytery Meeting	14 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	15 11:30 AM Young at Heart Luncheon 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	16	17
18 9:30 AM Worship/Pledge Dedication 10:30 AM Alternative Gift Fair 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 11:15 AM Adult Education	19 7:00 PM Adult Education	20 7:30 PM Session	21 NO WOW or PEAK	22  THANKSGIVING Day	23 Office Closed	24
25 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee 11:15 AM Adult Education	26 7:00 PM Adult Education	27 NO Deacons	28 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	29 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	30	1 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Women's Fellowship 5:00 PM Advent Celebration

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

The Church in the World Committee is pleased to present, once again, our annual Holiday Alternative Gift Fair. Come and enjoy looking for something different -- to make a difference!

There will be tables for East Bay Habitat for Humanity and Heifer Project, where you may give a donation in honor of a friend or relative. You will receive a colorful card to announce your gift and more information about the work of these organizations.

There will also be handmade items from around the world. These items are provided by SERRV and Pal Craftaid. Also there will be wonderful edible gifts, courtesy of Equal Exchange and SERRV, which come from a variety of countries. All of these organizations are committed to Fair Trade, helping artisans and farmers build a better future for themselves and their families, in parts of the world where this is difficult.

And there is something new being added to this year's fair: Badjao Bridge pearl jewelry, and the opportunity to sponsor a child in the Philippines. See the article below for more information about this ministry.



Plan to come and enjoy a little shopping during coffee fellowship at 10:30 am, knowing that your purchases do make a difference!

BADJAO BRIDGE

At the September meeting of our Church in the World Committee, the elders heard a presentation by Dan Johanson, Executive Director of a ministry in the Philippines called BADJAO BRIDGE. Here, a million people live over the water as "sea dwellers" – using the bridge as a place of shelter, and the river as a bathroom, a place to bathe, and as a source for drinking water. Needless to say, clean water is essential but in short supply. Few children were going to school. Many are at risk for sex trafficking.

During the past ten years, Badjao Bridge has been working to create the "Lighthouse Learning Center" for children and teens who cannot read or write. It is near completion, but they still need a

water pump for the center. On September 18, our Session voted to give \$1000 of our general mission giving to Badjao Bridge.

Badjao has a child sponsorship program for \$20/month, which provides schooling and a daily lunch for each sponsored child. Sponsors may correspond with their child, and receive a message back twice a year. Currently there are 200 children who have been sponsored, three of whom have graduated from college!

The people of Badjao make lovely pearl jewelry, which is then sold to raise funds for this ministry. We look forward to having Dan Johanson with us at the Alternative Gift Fair, at which time we can learn more about the ministry and how we can support it.



FIRSTPRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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REMEMBER TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR ON NOVEMBER 3rd

WHITE ELEPHANT PARTY

You are invited to a White Elephant Party at the home of Don and Linda Pollard on Friday, December 7. Everyone brings \$10 to cover refreshments, and a wrapped white elephant gift. Please sign up on Sunday mornings with Don Pollard.



ADVENT CELEBRATION

Our annual Advent Celebration will be on Saturday, December 1 5:00–7:30 pm. Come at 5:00 to

make various crafts, and bring finger foods to share – small sandwiches, appetizers, and desserts. We'll be taking a break mid-

way through crafts to go into the Fireside Room to hear the story of Jesus' birth, and to sing Christmas carols.

Then we'll return to the Fellowship Hall to complete more crafts. This is a great way to begin your preparation for Jesus' birth – please join us, and bring a friend!



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

The children will be presenting a Christmas musical called "Outstanding in the Field" on Sunday, December 9th at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall.

Mark your calendars now – you won't want to miss this special presentation.

