

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2019



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SAN LEANDRO

HIGHLIGHTS

SECOND SUNDAY GATHERING

On Sunday morning, January 13th, we will gather at 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall to explore BAPTISM. We will be considering Jesus' baptism, and also exploring our own baptism and its significance even today. All ages are invited. A light luncheon will be served. We will conclude at 12:15 pm.



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION CLASS BEGINS JANUARY 20



Have you ever wondered WHO decided to include WHAT in the Bible? Are there "books" that were almost included? Why is a Catholic Bible different from a Protestant one? We will have a 3-week series on "the Canon" - WHO decided WHEN to include WHAT and does it matter? Join us on January 20, 27 & February 3 from 11:15 am – 12:15 pm in the Fireside Room to explore our sacred text with these questions in mind.

WOW AND PEAK RESUME JANUARY 9 WITH A STAR PARTY

Wonders on Wednesday and PEAK kick off their second semester with a STAR PARTY. Invite your friends for this opening night of fun! We will meet at our usual time, 4:30 – 7:00. The cost for second semester is \$65 for the first child in a family, and \$55 for each additional child. This covers dinner, arts/crafts supplies, and special prizes and activities. Scholarship help is available; please see Lauren.



A Star Guides Them

GROUP LIFE PLANNING POTLUCK

You are invited to a potluck luncheon on Sunday, January 20th at 12:15 pm. We will meet together to make plans for fellowship activities throughout 2019. Come with your ideas, and we'll plan some fun events for the year. See Linda Gizzi, Janine Kline or Bob Kraut for more information.

THANK YOU



A big thanks to the members of the Chancel Guild, who provided beautiful decorations in the sanctuary for Thanksgiving and for Christmas! We appreciate all of their hard work! Thanks too, to all of you who donated poinsettias for the sanctuary. A number of those poinsettias were then taken to our shut-ins and friends-at-home.

INSPIRED BOOK DISCUSSION CONTINUED

We had such a wonderful time discussing “Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again” by Rachel Held Evans, we are doing it AGAIN! You still have time to buy and read the book, and are welcome to join us for the discussion whether you finish it or not!

We will meet Sunday, January 13th from 4:00—5:30 pm at Mary and Gary Calame’s home—bring a snack to share if you can. See Lauren if you have any questions!

Women’s Book Club Book Exchange



The Women’s Book Club will be meeting on Saturday, January 19th at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room for brunch and a book exchange. Come hungry! Bring any dish you like, no assigned categories—a true potluck... For the book exchange, please bring a book wrapped in any style from fancy wrappings to an old section of the comic strips. The book can be old or new, and should be one you have enjoyed reading or would like to read. New members are welcome. Please RSVP to Jeanette Rauscher or the church office.

A NOTE FROM STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Thank you to all of you who brought your 2019 pledges to worship on Dedication Sunday, November 18th. We had a meaningful time in worship, bringing forward our pledges and placing them in the little wooden church.

We are working on a budget for 2019. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible so we can have an accurate picture of next year’s income. If you need a pledge card, please phone the church office (483-2772) and we will mail one to you, or you may pick up one in the narthex Sunday morning.

If for some reason you are unable to make a pledge for the coming year, please be sure to let us know so that we can plan accordingly. Thank you in advance for your ongoing support of this church and its ministries!



ANNUAL REPORT



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It’s that time of year again. All Committee Chairpersons and organization leaders are asked to have their annual reports in to the church office no later than Sunday, January 27th. If possible, please submit the report electronically. Thank you.

KITCHEN HOSTESS

We want to thank Lynn Roman, who has been serving as Kitchen Hostess these past two years. She has done a great job! Thanks, too, to Linda Gizzi who will be our new Kitchen Hostess in 2019. Please talk with her if you need anything, and be sure to contact the church office or Linda first if you wish to borrow church equipment. Please sign out the equipment and return it promptly.

ANNOUNCING NEW DAYCAMP DATE FOR 2019

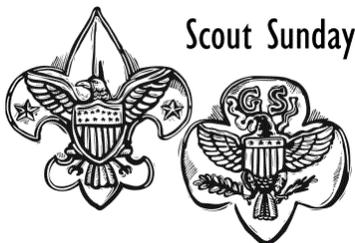
We are going to be having our Summer Daycamp a bit earlier this summer, so that our week of daycamp is not just prior to our children going off to their week at Westminster Woods.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Daycamp will be Monday, June 24 - Friday, June 28. The rehearsal for worship and barbeque at Cull Canyon will be on June 29th, and the daycamp children and youth will participate in worship on Sunday, June 30th.

Most of our children will be going to Westminster Woods the week of July 14-20. See their website for all of the camp dates and details.

SCOUT SUNDAY

This year we will be having one Scout Sunday at our church on Sunday, February 3rd. All Scouts, both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, are encouraged to wear their uniforms and come forward during worship for a special time of recognition.



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

We are happy to be partnering with a ministry in Alameda County called "Sleep in Heavenly Peace," which builds twin beds or bunk beds for children who are currently sleeping on the floor. Rob Normann (Pete and Verna Normann's son) is the Chapter President, and so far their chapter has built beds for 28 children in our county who were previously sleeping on the floor!

We are invited to be a part of their next "build day" on Saturday, February 2nd, from 9 am to 12 noon in Livermore. Mark your calendars now—we'll be

assisting with the construction of beds for children in our community. This is a great project that we are delighted to be involved with!



Sleep In Heavenly Peace

CAMPERSHIP SUNDAY

Going to Westminster Woods for a week of camp can have a lasting impact on the life of a young person. God is able to do amazing things when children and youth spend a week focusing on His word and fellowshiping with other Christians. A week of camp costs around \$500 per camper, and many of our families are unable to afford this cost. That's where the congregation comes in.

We participate in fundraisers all year long, through donut contributions, bake sales, the Palm Sunday breakfast, and the annual spaghetti dinner. All of this helps us to raise money to help pay for camp,

but still it isn't enough. Again this year we are going to have a special Campership Sunday on January 27th. We will kick-off a campaign to support our children and youth through individual donations and various fundraisers. We hope that you will be present for this special time when we focus on getting our children to camp.



January 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee	31	1  <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	4	5 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Women's Fellowship
6 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts	7	8 7:30 PM Christian Ed, Group Life, Church in the World Committees	9 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK  Star Party	10 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	11 Women's Retreat Westminster Woods January 11-13	12
13 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Bake Sale 11:15 AM Second Sunday Gathering 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:00 PM Inspired Book Discussion	14 7:00 PM Adult Education Class	15 7:30 PM Session	16 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	17 11:30 AM Young at Heart Luncheon 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	18	19 10:00 AM Women's Book Club Exchange 
20 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 11:15 AM Adult Education Class 12:15 PM Group Life Potluck and Planning Meeting	21 7:00 PM Adult Education Class	22 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting	23 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	24 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	25	26
27 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Campership Sunday (Send a Kid to Camp) 11:15 AM Adult Education Class	28 7:00 PM Adult Education Class	29	30 4:30 PM WOW and PEAK	31 6:17 PM Chancel Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	1	2 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Women's Fellowship

SOUPER BOWL OFFERING

February 3, 2019 is Super Bowl Sunday, and again this year our young people will be collecting our congregation's "Souper Bowl of Caring" offering. This special offering is collected after worship in soup pots, and then the money is used to help provide lunches for the homeless who come to April Showers right here in San Leandro.

Each person at worship on February 3rd will be asked to contribute \$1 as he/she leaves worship. The young people will be at the doors with soup pots to receive the offering. We hope that you will join in this nationwide effort to care for the less fortunate. Last year, 3,373 groups participated in this offering, and \$8 million was raised in cash and food items within the United States! We were one of those groups!



WIDOWS/WIDOWERS GRIEF RECOVERY

We are excited to be hosting a widows/widowers grief recovery class and support group at our church beginning on Friday, February 1, 2019. The group will meet for 10 weeks on Friday afternoons, 1:00 -3:30 pm. It will be led by Merrilee Mitchell, and will include topics such as Facing Loss, Understanding Grief, Letting Go of the Past, and Getting Back in Balance.

The group is open to widows and widowers of all ages, no matter how far along you are in your grief process. Whether you have recently lost a spouse or your spouse died years ago, all who are interested in working through their grief are welcome. Please call Merrilee at (510) 482-5296 for further information, or stop by the church office for a brochure.

YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM

The Young at Heart group will be having its monthly luncheon on Thursday, January 17th at 11:30 am. We are looking forward to having the Oakland Zoomobile visit us, and bring along some of their living creatures!

MONDAY EVENING ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

The Monday evening Adult Education Class will start the new year on January 14 at 7:00 pm with "An Introduction to the New Testament," followed by a new series, "The New Testament You Never Knew." Sue Goodnow will be teaching the class.

BREAD BAKING TEAM

A big thank you goes to our Bread Baking Team. These folks bake two or three loaves of bread that are then placed in gift bags along with information about our church. A gift bag is given to first-time visitors, and serves as a warm welcome to newcomers!

Thank you to Scott Betzel, Carrie Cutting, Norma Ehlers, Jo Franklin, Sue Goodnow, Janine Kline, Carol Price, Sue Robertson, Lynn Roman, Karen Touchon, Val Watts and Alta Young for the thoughtful welcome they are providing!





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE FOR 2019

Offering Envelope boxes for 2019 are now available in the Fellowship Hall. Please be sure to pick yours up, and start using them regularly. If you need a pledge card, there are some available at the table. If you want envelopes but prefer not to make a pledge, you may call the church office and speak to Helen.

PLEASE be sure to use the envelope number assigned for 2019, as some of you have received new numbers. Thank you.



HELP US BE GOOD STEWARDS OF OUR BEAUTIFUL OLD CHURCH BUILDING

The Building and Grounds Committee invites your help with identifying problems or repairs needed at our church facility. You will find 3 “Needs Attention” clipboards around the church building where you can complete a form (along with your name and contact info), letting us know about needed repairs.

The clipboards are in the Kitchen, Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Please leave the completed form on the clipboard. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

— Carol Anderson, Conrad Milner & Landon Clark (Building & Grounds Elders 2019)