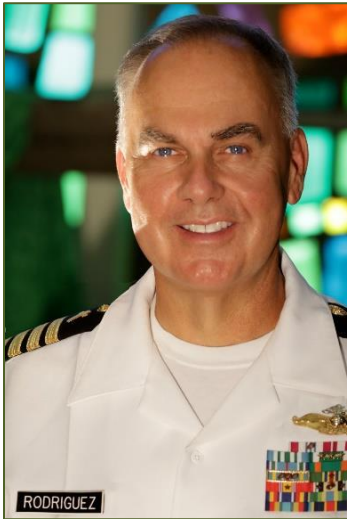




Presbeat

First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah, CA
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Editor: Denise Beckler, Volume 13, Number 9 ~ September 2019
~ October Presbeat Deadline is September 23rd ~

"Time to Pray for the USA"



"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Have you ever watched the news and wanted to curse or scream or throw something at the T.V. or all of the above? I know I have. A lot, lately. But then I came up with a better idea. Prayer.

One of the many reasons that God has put Christians in the USA is to pray for our country. And brothers and sisters, right now our country is standing in the need of prayer.

As we consider the state of our country, we can't help but notice that there is more violence and more suffering than there used to be. There is also more anger, more division, and more mistrust. The same goes for the rising levels of greed, corruption, and hatred.

These are all issues of the heart. The verse from 2 Chronicles 7:14 addresses the heart by calling us to humble ourselves, seek God's face, and turn from our wicked ways. When our hearts are changed, we will see our nation change for the better. God will forgive us and heal our land. It all starts with prayer.

I invite you to join with me in praying for our country. Our hearts need to be changed and our land needs to be healed. God will be doing miracles in our midst as we turn to Him in prayer.

In Christ ~ *Pastor David*

Happy Fall FPCU Families!



This month, we are excited to announce our complete fall lineup of events and activities for our Children and Family Ministries!

So far this year, **YOUTH GROUP** has been in full swing meeting every Wednesday night from 6 to 7:30pm. We have been busy playing games, worshipping God together, and reading through the book of John. Our students have really been enjoying our new basketball hoop and working in our thriving garden!

In addition to our Youth Ministry, we are excited that this month marks the beginning of **HANGOUT**, our mid-week ministry for kindergarten-5th graders. Hangout will be held weekly beginning on October 3rd from 5:30 to 7pm. Our kids will be treated to dinner, followed by games, arts and crafts, and singing!

In celebration of Halloween, FPCU will also be holding **TRUNK-OR-TREAT** here at church on October 31st from 5:30 to 7pm. Trunk-or-Treat is a time for our whole church community to come together to celebrate Halloween! There will be games, complementary chili, and candy GALORE for everyone to enjoy! Don't forget to come dressed in costume!

Coming up on the weekend of November 1-3 is our yearly **FALL RETREAT** for our 6-12th graders! This year, we are making a special trip out to Mendocino Redwood Retreat to spend the weekend sleeping in cabins, worshipping God, learning more about our 'calling' as young Christians, and having fun in the redwoods! To sign up for this event, please contact Alexis at alexis@fpcukiah.org or (707) 391-9460.

As usual, we are continuing to hold the **NURSERY, SUNDAY SCHOOL**, and **DONUTS & DEVOTIONALS** (a Bible study for grades 6-12) on Sunday mornings! Come this Sunday to check out our newly re-designed **PARENT RESOURCE ROOM**, located at the entrance of the nursery.

For more information about Children and Family Programs, contact Alexis at 707-391-9460 or alexis@fpcukiah.org. You can also find us on Facebook at "FPCU Youth and Family Ministries" and on Instagram at @fpcuyouth

In Christ ~ *Alexis*

Update from Personnel ~ Jerry Garcia, Elder

Ah, the Goblins will soon be upon us and along with them a reminder that October is **Pastor Appreciation Month!** So, whether it be "trick or treat" keep Pastor David in mind with a contribution to a congregation gift (drop in offering plate or give to Denise in office) or a personal treat of some sort to show your appreciation for a job well done. Speaking of jobs well done, just around the corner in April is Administrative Professionals Week where we will show our appreciation to Denise and Alexis for their dedication and hard work. So, there you have it, we have

a wonderful and hard-working group of leaders, make plans to show your appreciation in any way you like. 😊

We are still on the hunt for an assistant for Alexis and our children and family ministry. Keep us in your prayers for the right dedicated person to join our team. Applications are available in the church office.

MOMENT FOR MISSION *Mark Smith, Elder*



We are looking forward to our next **MEALS-TO-GO** fundraiser Friday, October 25. Tickets are available from Mark Smith or Kitty Sandelin and in the office from Denise. A delicious meal for two is \$35.00 a meal for four is \$60.00. Funds raised from this fundraiser are being designated for the January 2020 Uganda Mission trip. The meal includes Tri-Tip, baked potato, salad, roll and cookie (no vegetarian option or gluten-free at this time).

The **UGANDA PROJECT** has been an important undertaking for our congregation. We have sent Kevin & Shelly Mack on one trip in January of 2018. The Macks learned of the work that Pastor John was undertaking to build an orphanage for local children. As a result, our congregation, with funds from the Missions Committee fundraisers, provided sufficient funds so Pastor John could build the orphanage. We also provided money for them to repair their water well. To date, we have expended approximately \$16,000 doing God's work as part of our World Missions efforts.

Kevin & Shelly along with David & Cathy Rodriguez are planning a follow up trip in January 2020. Kevin & Shelly will be doing a lot of good work as was described in last month's Presbeat. They are also planning a trip to the Embassy to help Pastor John get his travel papers approved. David will have the chance to meet with Pastor John and other local religious leaders. The group will also be working with Pastor John to determine how we can best support them going forward. We are mindful that it is important that they not be perceived as having benefactors who provide them with overly generous gifts within the community. So far this year, we have raised \$9,250 to support this trip and the needs of the orphanage, plus the money from the October 25 Meals-To-Go Fundraiser. We will have the traveling team report out to the congregation on what they saw and how we can best contribute. There will be a Moment for Mission on Sunday, October 13th to discuss this important endeavor.

The Missions Committee is embarking on a brand-new project that will support local area construction efforts. As was discussed in last month's Presbeat, we will be partnering with local families that are looking to own a home through the **RURAL COMMUNITIES HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S** sweat-equity owner build program. This is a self-help program that requires family members to provide 60 percent of the labor and in return receive sweat equity towards the home they are building. Currently, the new project located off Lake Mendocino Drive is allowing five young families, which includes our own Seth Strader and Rebecca Sanders to obtain the fulfillment of owning a home. These families are looking forward to having our Church Family assist them for two Saturday's this Fall. In return these families are willing to partner with us to serve in Lake County, during a future mission project to assist in the rebuilding of homes lost in the Lake County fires. In the meantime, we thought we would hone up on our construction skills by serving our local community so we will be better prepared to

serve our neighboring community. If you are well versed in construction techniques, or are interested in learning by doing, we invite you to join us on November 2nd or 9th from 7am until 4pm. You will need to bring the basics: tool belt, hammer and gloves. If your talents are more in-line with preparing and serving a meal, there will be a sub-committee put together to organize the lunches and afternoon snack for the two days. Of course, prayers are always accepted. There will be a sign-up sheet in Bromley Hall after worship services or you can let Mark or Kitty know of your willingness to partner with the Mission team on this effort.

Operation Christmas Child 2019

**First Presbyterian will not be a drop off location.
We will collect boxes from our congregation only.**



New Life Community Church ("Burger King" Church) is now the central drop location for Humboldt, Lake and Mendocino Counties, meaning they will have a semi-trailer to load the cartons in (similar to Santa Rosa) to go to the Southern California processing center.

They will collect boxes from three counties, churches and individuals. This is good news because the OCC leadership anticipates having more than 5,000 shoeboxes collected and New Life has the facility/parking lot to accommodate this increase. Praise God!

Opportunities ~ New Life would appreciate First Pres and other congregations' help during their collection week November 18-25. Sign-up sheet will be available with the boxes and materials.

Boxes and materials ~ First Pres will have Gospel Opportunity ("GO") boxes, labels, rubber bands, and other materials available for our congregation. There will be no church sponsored packing party this year.

Important Dates for FCPU – OCC:

- **October 6** – Moment for Missions presentation. A table will be set up with boxes and materials. Boxes and materials will be available every Sunday. Last day is Sunday, November 24th. And, yes, someone will be wearing the Operation Christmas Shoebox during the Moment for Missions! Be there on October 6th to see "who" that someone might be – I'm not giving out hints – yet!
- **November 10** – reminder to congregation during announcements to bring filled boxes to the church on 11/17 and 11/24 before 12 noon.

If these dates don't work for you – you may take your box directly to New Life on the following days and times:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday (11/18, 11/20, 11/22): 3:30 – 5:30 PM
 - Tuesday, Thursday (11/19, 11/21): 5:00 – 7:00 PM
 - Saturday, Sunday (11/23, 11/24): 10 AM – 2:00 PM
- **Sunday 11/24 is the last day** – bring your box to FPCU.

VIP Luncheon

Wednesday, October 16th @ 11:30am

All those **Very Important People** age 70 and over are invited to a luncheon on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.



Program: “Fire Safety” (*with an emphasis on Senior safety*)

Guest: Kevin Jennings, Ukiah Fire Marshal

Menu: *Meatloaf, potato casserole, green beans, “surprise” dessert*

*Come join us as we gather around the table for good food and fellowship.
No reservations necessary. But do let us know if you need a ride.*



No Linus it is not the Great Pumpkin! It is the **Great Pumpkin Fest!**

While Linus may have been a bit confused about Halloween, he had a ready response (Luke 2:8-14) to “Isn’t there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?” We too at the Great Pumpkin Fest will have responses to theological questions posed by inquiring minds at the event. Some members have already contacted Pastor David and have committed to outreach at the event. Please consider being part of the outreach – contact Pastor David for further details.

Ready, Cauldrons, Fire!

Keeping with the Halloween theme, “Calling All Cauldrons and Chili Cooks! We will be having an In-church Chili Cook Off – October 27 to determine the winning recipe to be used in our Halloween parking lot gathering. Although Lenord will be contacting people at coffee hour also feel free to contact Lenord at albinoredwood@hotmail.com to reserve your spot.



Harvest Tea

*1st Presbyterian Church Social Hall
(Corner Perkins & Dora Sts)*

*Saturday, October 5, 2019; 2-4pm
Includes tea sandwiches & sweets, beverages,
live entertainment, raffle and door prizes*

\$15.00 (minimum donation)

*For tickets contact W. Pribyl (707) 367-1594
or church office (707) 468-9235*



Christmas Carol Singalong

It's not too early to mark your calendar for Sunday, December 22nd, 3:30 pm, for our 12th Singalong event!

A choir rehearsal schedule is available. If you are interested in participating, please contact Denise, denise@fpcukiah.org

More info to come in November.

... and something to tickle your 'funny bone'...

Sad News from Minnesota

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and trauma complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 75.

Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin.

Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies, and Captain Crunch. The grave site was piled high with many flours.

Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded.

Born and bread in Minnesota, Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes.

Despite being a little flaky at times, he still was a crusty old man and was considered a positive roll model for millions.

Doughboy is survived by his wife Play Dough, three children: John Dough, Jane Dough and Dosey Dough, plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.

If you smiled while reading this, please rise to the occasion and pass it on to someone having a crummy day and kneading a lift.

Update from Finance:

In October, we will be sending out your 3rd quarter contribution statements. The purpose is to let you know where you are in your pledge giving for 2019.

We also would like to take this opportunity to let you know where we are in our obligation for Per Capita. For 2019 our obligation is \$4463. So far we have received \$1611 from members.

Per capita is not mandated, but we are obligated to pay for all members. Therefore, we do ask that, if you haven't already, please do reimburse FPCU this amount of \$31.43 (*per member*) in addition to your regular pledge.

Thank you all for your faithful giving in order to meet the mission of First Presbyterian Ukiah.

Session Meeting: August 14th

Decisions/Action Items:

- Approve to serve Communion on November 17th (*Pledge / Harvest Dinner Sunday*)
- Gideon's Special Offering Dec 1st.
- PW Ticket sales for Harvest Tea, Oct 5th.

Pastor Report:

- Memorial service – Don Rones 7/27/19
- Using 4 vacation days September 8-11

Director Youth/Families Ministries Report

- **Youth Group/Choir:** Transitioning to 1 youth group, grades 6-12, meeting on Wednesday night, 6:00-7:30pm
- **Nursery/Sunday School/Donuts and Devotionals:** Will have one volunteer to be in charge of Sunday school each month until we find a new Children's Assistant.
- **Hangout:** Hangout every week during the school year depending upon the availability of volunteers.
- **Youth Camping Trip, 8-4-19 to 8-5-19:** 19 leaders and youth went to Van Damme State Park in Mendocino. Everything went smoothly until an incident in which a youth broke his leg. The insurance carrier for the church was notified.
- **Children's Ministries Assistant:** Whitney Garcia has been helping with odd jobs around the church.
- **Upcoming Events/Other:** The farm trip to *Blackbird Farm* in Philo, CA, fall of 2019; *Trunk or Treat* on Halloween, 10-31-19, 5:30-7:30 pm in the church parking lot

As of August 31st, 2019		Total \$\$
Income	\$	172,744
Expenses	\$	177,458
Difference	\$	(4,714)
Balance in Checking Account		Total \$\$
Non-Designated Funds	\$	88,356
Designated Funds (detail below)	\$	44,165
Total Balance in Checking	\$	132,521
Balance in Savings		Total \$\$
CD's	\$	44,416
Mutual Funds	\$	27,567
Other Savings	\$	75,752
Total Balance in Savings	\$	147,735
Detail of Designated Funds in Checking Account		
Missions	\$	889
Mission Trip	\$	6,459
Missions Fundraiser	\$	2,987
Centsability	\$	100
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$	-
Shoes 4 You	\$	-
Pedals 4 Protein	\$	-
Pass-Through	\$	-
Per Capita	\$	35
Deacons	\$	52
Flowers	\$	-
General Memorial	\$	28,583
Buildings & Grounds	\$	-
Compassionate Ministries	\$	1,637
Pastor Appreciation	\$	-
Singalong	\$	462
Fellowship Meals	\$	11
Adult Ministries	\$	3
Youth Activities	\$	3
Children's Activities	\$	-
Camperships	\$	160
Children's Playground	\$	2,786
Total	\$	44,165

SALVATION ARMY PRESENTATION: Using the James Room as an initial intake point to assist individuals to access programs and services available through the Salvation Army and the community. Some of the highlighted Salvation Army services were: food pantry, gasoline voucher, utilities, emergency lodging, summer and winter programs.

RESOURCE COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Finance:** Two reports were presented to Session: 1) Income for General Funds, July 2019 vs. Budget: Budgeted income was \$18,470 and received was \$17,834; Budgeted expenses were \$23,492 and actual expenses were \$20,531; Through July FPCU has received \$11,000 more than anticipated; FPCU projected 2019 shortfall to income is \$7,000 instead of budgeted \$31,467. 2) PresBeat Summary as of 7-31-19 (year-to-date): Income, \$152,212, Expenses, 150,474 (difference, \$1,738); Checking Account Balance: Total Non-Designated Funds, \$95,142; Designated Funds, \$43,750; Total, \$138,892; Savings Account Balance: CD's, \$44,416; Mutual Funds, \$27,547; Other Savings, \$75,752; Total, 147,735; Major Designated Fund line Items in Checking Account: Mission Trip, \$6,354; Mission Fundraiser, \$2,987; General Memorial, \$28,558; Compassionate Ministries, \$1,637; Children's Playground, \$2,786. There have been a number of inquiries regarding the Ramos property.
- **Personnel:** Jerry informed the Session that the free web site link that was previously available from our insurance carrier relating to safe church training/reporting was discontinued. In its place was a program that would cost \$100.00 per individual which appeared prohibitive for a small church such as FPCU. He suggested that if FPCU continued to follow its established policy/guidelines it should be OK. An in-depth discussion followed highlighting the need to assure parents volunteers are fully vetted, leading to distinguishing between old and new volunteers, background checks (just new people), 2-deep policy, Meghan's Law (sexual predator only in California). Jerry said he would research what we now have in place and other institutional practices and report back to Session.

FAMILY/OUTREACH COUNCIL REPORTS

- **Worship and Music:** Working on pulpit supply for Oct 5, 13; received new mic, headset, drums, all under the \$2,000 budget; Moment for Mission (Operation Christmas Child) will be during the 10-6-19.
- **Missions:** Pedal-for-Protein raised \$851 at FPCU; FPCU received \$412 to give to the food bank; Project - Hope Crisis Response Network helping to organize and connect faith-based individuals/groups to assist in helping to rebuild after the disasters that have ravaged Northern California; Missions Committee will not be doing Pumpkinfest nor the Chili Cook-Off this year due to other commitments, resulting in a discussion emphasizing the merits of the programs. Pastor David stated he would take the lead in organizing the 2019 Pumpkinfest. An idea was put forth to have an in-house Chili Cook-Off, with the winning Chili served during the Halloween "Trunk or Treat"; however, plans are still being finalized.
- **Congregational Life:** The following will be the schedule for set-up/clean-up for upcoming events: In-House Chili Cook-Off, 10-20-19: Deacons, set up; Session clean up; Harvest Dinner, 11-17-19: Session set up; Deacons clean up.
- **Communications:** Perry Crowley and Denise Beckler are working on developing a program allowing individuals to give on-line.

NEW BUSINESS

Session committees are encouraged to develop a "prioritized wish list" as they make their 2020 budget. A concern was expressed regarding the planned 2020 mission trip to Uganda and the fact that to date only \$6,354 is in the account, which may not be enough to cover the air fare for four people plus the extra expenses. On line review of air fares during the Session meeting indicated they could be purchased for \$1,000 per ticket, round trip. Consensus was to do it right away.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 17th.

Session Members: Randy Beckler, Kevin DeVries, Jerry Garcia, Randy Huffman, Shirley Lewis, Alexis Moore, David Rodriguez (ex-officio), Roe Sandelin, Mark Smith, Lenord Swope

Did we miss your birthday???

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



Happy Birthday!

10/3 Jean Davis	10/7 Barbara Nichols	10/17 Ron Selim
Denise Beckler	10/8 Raymond Owen	10/18 Karen Golden
Ariceli Sanchez	10/14 Gayleen Desroches	10/19 Barbara Pittman
10/6 Maureen Royle	10/15 Betty Hook	10/25 Jeanne Engleman

Event Calendar ~ October



Sun weekly	10:00am	Worship Celebration
Mon weekly	6:00pm	Cub Scouts
Tue. weekly	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	8:30am	Serendipity Women's Bible Study
	5:00pm	SIPs Bible Study
	6:00pm	Spanish AA; NAHOP
Wed. weekly	1:00 pm	Knitting Group
	6:00pm	Youth Group
	7:00pm	Worship Team
Thurs. weekly	5:30pm	Hangout Kids Club
	6:00pm	Spanish AA
Mon-Fri weekly	all day	Salvation Army (James Room)

...additional events for the month

10/1	11:15am	Worship Committee	10/16	11:30am	VIP Luncheon
10/5	2:00pm	Harvest Tea	10/17	6:00pm	Session
10/6		Communion/Cents-ability	10/19	10-6	PumpkinFest
10/8	10:30am	Communications Committee	10/20	10-4	PumpkinFest
10/10	12:30pm	ABC Program		11:15am	In-house chili cookoff
	6:30pm	Scouts BSA	10/24	12:30pm	ABC Program
10/12	8:00am	Church Work Day		5:30pm	Deacons
10/13	11:15am	Missions Committee	10/25	4-6	Meals to Go pickup
	6:00pm	Young Adult Group		7:00pm	Men's Poker
10/15	11:30am	Family/Outreach Council	10/31	5:30pm	Trunk or Treat

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

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