



Presbeat

First Presbyterian Church of Ukiah, CA
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 ~ October Presbeat Deadline is September 23rd ~

"ARE YOU BLESSED?"



Have you ever thought of yourself as a blessed person?

Some people think that being blessed means having a lot of money or a big home or a new car. Others think that being blessed means having a lot of kids and grandchildren. There are also those who think that being blessed means having perfect health or even just sleeping through the night.

When our Lord Jesus Christ preached about what it means to be blessed, He didn't mention any of this. In His "*Sermon on The Mount*", Jesus says that being blessed involves being comforted, receiving mercy, and seeing God. Jesus also says that we are blessed at times in our lives that many would consider a curse, such as when we're poor in spirit, mourning, and living meek lives.

For the next few weeks, I'll be preaching a series of sermons on the "*Sermon on the Mount*". We'll be considering what Jesus has to say about being blessed as we focus our attention on the part of Jesus' sermon known the "Beatitudes", found in Matthew 5:1-12.

So, are you blessed? Come and find out.

Your Pastor, *David*

(Spoiler Alert: The answer is: YES!)



Happy New School Year FPCU Families!



As the school year begins, so do a lot of amazing ministries here at First Pres Ukiah!

This year, we are excited to announce that **YOUTH GROUP** will take place for ALL 6 through 12th graders on Wednesday nights here at FPCU from 6 to 7:30pm. We have some new leaders who have volunteered to help with our students and a great new Bible Study planned, so we are getting so excited for Youth Group to swing into gear! Join us for our **Youth Group Kick-Off on Wednesday, September 4th**!

This fall we are also excited to bring back **HANGOUT**, our mid-week ministry for Kindergarten-5th Graders. This year through the generosity of our volunteers, we are hoping to turn Hangout into a weekly ministry with a variety of activities for our students to enjoy such as crafts, Bible lessons, games, and more! Stay tuned for an announcement on when the first Hangout of the year will be!

We also have a number of fun events planned for our students, including an upcoming **Fall Retreat, a Trunk-or-Treat Extravaganza, and a visit to Westminster Woods Camp!**

Please continue to check back for updates on our ministries and upcoming events! I'm excited to spend time with you and your students as the Fall season approaches. We have so much to look forward to! Don't forget, as usual we are continuing to hold the 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.

In the meantime, we are continuing to hold the **NURSERY, SUNDAY SCHOOL**, and **DONUTS & DEVOTIONALS** (a Bible study for grades 6-12) on Sunday mornings throughout the summer. Please join us for these exciting ministries. We are going to have a fabulous summer here at FPCU!

For more information about Children and Family Programs, contact me at 707-391-9460 or alexis@fpcukiah.org. You can also find us on Facebook at "First Presbyterian of Ukiah Youth Activities" and on Instagram at @fpcuyouth

In Christ ~ *Alexis*

Update from Personnel – *Jerry Garcia*, Elder

No news is good as the saying goes but, we need the news that we've hired a Children's Ministry Assistant (*rumor has is that we may have landed our helper*). Keep your prayers going that it's true! More info to come as we finalize our process.

HELP! We recently had a short-term hire to help organize and store supplies and materials, thanks Whitney Garcia! The following rooms were cleaned out and reorganized: The craft closet, the nursery room, the Junior high/meditation room, and the Sunday school room. Stop by and check them out. It would be so helpful as good stewards to help keep these room in their proper order. These rooms and supplies are used by a wide variety of people. We're blessed to have the resources we do and the ability to share them. Having been cleaned and organized, let's put an effort forth to keep them tidy. It's a simple admonition but it really works well: If you move or use something, please put it back where it goes and always return things in as good or better condition than when you found them. Should you leave before an activity is over please let your replacement know where things are to go. Being a good steward may, at times, be inconvenient but it's not hard! Let's do our part! 😊



WHAT'S NEW IN WORSHIP?

You've probably noticed by now, that our **Worship Team has expanded!** We've made some physical changes to the choir loft to accommodate more musicians.

Thank you to **LUKE** (on drums) and **DAN** (on bass, guitar, drums, piano) for joining the team!

If you haven't met them, yet, please catch them after worship and say "hello" and "welcome to FPCU".

And... a great big **THANK YOU** to our **faithful team:** Janet, Kitty, Perrine, Caroline, Denise and David, for providing such wonderful and spiritual (and sometimes spirited!) leadership in music every week throughout the year.

And for our **sound team:** Kitty, Mark, Grant and Cindy (and Gay earlier in the year), who ensure everything and everyone can be heard. We also want to remind you that we do have hearing assisted devices on the back table. Please feel free to use one during the service.

If you need help, the sound team would be happy to assist you.

The **Worship Committee** meets the first Tuesday of every month. If you have ideas you would like to share, please talk to our Worship Elder, Shirley Lewis. We are always looking for new and creative ways to enhance our worship experience and engage both young and old alike.

We are very blessed to be a multi-generational congregation.

MOMENT FOR MISSION *Mark Smith, Elder*



Patty Sanders presented a Moment for Mission on Sunday August 11. She spoke about the upcoming **PEDAL-4-PROTEIN** bicycle ride coming up September 21 – 28. Monies raised by this mission are used to support area food banks. Patty brought with her a number of items for sale in Bromley Hall following the service. Patty sent us an email thanking us for the warm welcome we gave her and the whopping \$851 worth of items that you purchased. FPCU will receive \$412 from these donations for our local food bank.

Mark your calendars and tell your friends, family and coworkers that we will have our famous tri-tip **MEALS-TO-GO FUNDRAISER** on October 25. We will be getting tickets printed up soon so we can make this the most successful fundraiser yet! The money raised from this event will be used to send our Uganda Mission Team (Shelly & Kevin Mack and David & Cathy Rodriguez) to the orphanage next January. The purpose of this visit is to determine how we can best support Pastor John's work and present him with money for the orphanage's needs from our fundraisers earmarked for this mission.

The Missions Team receives a number of requests for assistance throughout the year. We can't support them all but we do consider how we can best support God's work with our available resources. One request that is of interest to us came from **HOPE CRISIS RESPONSE NETWORK**. This group provides organized faith-based disaster response in Northern California. They have been active in Lake County providing assistance to folks who have suffered losses since the Valley Fire in 2015. They have provided help to 465 Lake County community cleanup and rebuilding efforts, to date. The Missions Committee is interested in partnering with a local Ukiah community home building group to support both group's efforts over the next two years. Our plans are to work with the Ukiah group this fall and then take that team to Lake County to assist them in 2020. We will be reaching out to our congregation to volunteer our time and skills to assist in supporting this new endeavor.

Shirley Lewis will be presenting a Moment for Mission on Sunday, October 6th, to kick off **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**. This mission collects items for children that are packaged in bright boxes and sent to children in need throughout the world. The boxes will be collected on November 17 and 24 for shipment from Ukiah. Your continued support of this mission is greatly appreciated.

On December 1, Perry Crowley will be presenting a Moment for Mission to present "Birthday for Jesus". This fundraiser supports the Gideon's mission of providing bibles around the world.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our efforts doing God's work.

Africa is Calling (AGAIN!)

On Monday, January 13, 2020, Kevin & Shelly Mack will be leaving for Africa. They will be traveling with Kirk & Renee Afiman, Shelly's sister and brother-in-law. Renee is the Chief Operating Officer with the Alkare mission organization for Africa. Our church has been supporting Alkare through the mission committee. Their mission is to provide nutrition to orphans around the world. The first leg of the trip will be Zambia for one week. They will visit the orphanage (Kabwata) we connected with two years ago. Angela Miyanda continues to run the orphanage and provide loving care for the children. One of the significant changes since the Macks were there two years ago is the government no longer allows orphanages to provide care to children once they reach the age of 18. They are required to move out to

make room for younger children. As you can imagine, this creates an enormous challenge for these adolescents who are not ready to take on the responsibilities of adulthood in a very demanding environment. Angela does a heroic job of attempting to find job placements, housing and education for these adolescents but it is a huge task with few resources. We hope to get a clearer picture of the situation and determine how we might be able to help. Kevin also hopes to be able to visit a psychiatric hospital and meet with staff there to determine if there is a way to contribute to Zambia's budding growth in psychology. Lots of play, relationship building with the children and staff and openness to what God is doing will permeate all that happens while there.

Uganda will occupy the second half of our trip. Pastor David & Cathy Rodriguez will join them in Uganda. Our team will meet again with Pastor John Kamulegeya and Mathias Sserugo, two leaders of the Christian community in the towns of Mityana and Jinja. Pastor John would like to organize a conference of leaders that Pastor David could speak to while in Uganda. Pastors are tremendously respected in Africa (much more so than in the U.S.). Kevin will again attempt to connect with the mental health community in Uganda to determine if he can contribute in a meaningful way. We will accompany Pastor John to the American Embassy to help with his visa to visit us in the U.S. Kevin, Kirk Afman and Pastor David may lead a series of teachings/workshops on leadership development. It could be a very busy time in Uganda.



We have learned that while we may have a specific agenda when we arrive, God may have very different plans. Our goal will be to remain open, available, patient, loving and kind through all of the challenges, unanticipated changes and different ways of approaching life that brings honor to God and reflects well on our church family at First Presbyterian Ukiah. Please pray for us as we prepare, that our team remain healthy and ready for all that lies ahead. Thank you so much for all the ways you contribute to this trip. This is YOUR mission trip as much as the Mack's and Rodriguez's. You go with us in spirit and in love.



Operation Christmas Child 2019 – Things will be a changing

First Presbyterian's congregation has been blessed by being a Drop Off Location for Ukiah and Mendocino County for almost or maybe more than 20 years. We've collected shoeboxes, had packing parties, filled cartons, transported them down to Santa Rosa all the while of praising God for allowing us to be part of this international ministry impacting so many lives with the love of Jesus. There may have been 10,000 plus boxes processed during the 20 years.

What Changes?

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 all three

counties, churches and individuals. This is good news because the OCC leadership anticipate of 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. It is always such a blessing to accept boxes from congregations, but, for me, the blessing is the children who are so excited to give these gifts to other kids internationally, spreading the good news of the Gospel.

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.

Moments for Mission during the Worship Service – OCC info

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 those dates don't work for you – you can take your box directly to New Life – dates and times to be announced.

VIP Luncheon

**VIP luncheons resume
Wednesday, September 18th @ 11:30am**

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



*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.*



Fall Bible Studies – Open to all!

We offer several Bible studies on Tuesday and Wednesday. We invite you to ‘Dig into the Word’ and enjoy fellowship around the table in one of these studies:

Men’s Bible Study – Meets every Tuesday evening @ 7am in the Kitchen



A great morning snack and coffee greets this small group of “early-bird” men for their interactive lay Bible study. They strive to confirm their faith and look for a deeper meaning through a study of the bible and/or study guides. A deep level of understanding scripture is not required.

We meet every Tuesday at 7 am in the church kitchen and utilize a free study guide. We are currently studying the Book of Acts.

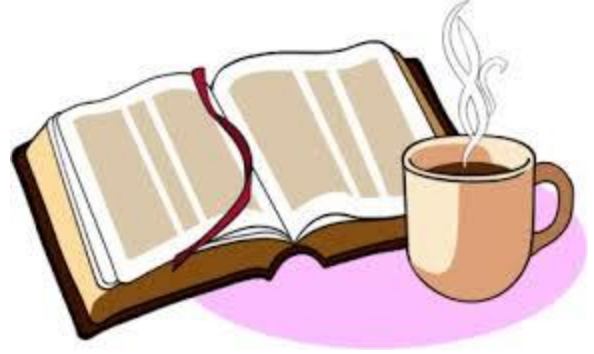
All men are welcome who would enjoy great conversation and a short bible study. Come and see how the Bible can give you guidance for your life today. *This is a drop-in Bible Study, come when you are able.*

Serendipity Women’s Bible Study – Meets Tuesdays @ 8:30am in the Library

Using the Serendipity Bible for Groups, we study a complete book, which is mutually agreed upon by the group (currently we are studying “ACTS”), reading a specified portion each week and answering the “cup” (ice breaker), “book” (about the text) and “heart” (life application) questions. Since the questions are found within the pages we’re reading, we are literally ‘all on the same page’. A deep level of understanding scripture is not required. The passages are read together during our gathering, so there is no homework. We rotate the “facilitator” each week, and spend time sharing prayer requests, praises, and a light snack. We meet at 8:30 am on Tuesday mornings for an hour and are open to anyone who may be interested in studying and fellowshiping with other women at FPCU.

PW BIBLE STUDY – Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays @ 1:30 in the Library

Are you ready for an interesting, invigorating, and intimate women-only study of God's Word? Well, come and join the Wednesday afternoon Bible study. Small group, read directly from the Word and a lively, loving, safe and compassionate discussion. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 1:30, in the Library. Nothing to bring – only yourself and a wish to be in God's Word.



We meet for a girls-only lunch at 12 noon on our study days. You are always invited. We meet in various restaurants around Ukiah; have some nice conversation, eat, and return to the church for the Bible study.

Beginning in September, we'll begin a new study in the New Testament. We read from our Bibles or use one of the many that are already in the library. Hope to see you there.

SIPs (*Sisters in Prayer*) – Meets every Tuesday evening @5pm in the Library

Beginning on September 3rd we will start a 6-week study entitled "*Breaking Free from Fear*" by Christian author, Kay Arthur. Please join us to study God's Word, fellowship together and experience personal growth. The book is available at Amazon. Please contact Diane Yanez for more information. 489-3902.

Young Adult Bible Study – Meets 2nd Sunday nights @ 6pm – location varies.

Please contact Alexis Moore for more info: 707/391-9460

Tom Desroches is turning 70!!! You're all invited to celebrate with him:

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019
Time: 3:00 to 8:00 pm (dinner served 4-7pm)
Place: Ukiah Senior Center
495 Leslie Street
RSVP: 707/462-3709, or 707/367-8651

HARVEST TEA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

PINKEY'S RAISED, it's TEA TIME and time to invite friends and purchase your tickets for all those who enjoy the pageantry and drama of festively set tables, bountiful good will and a hearty afternoon repast (tea sandwiches and yummy cookies) as well as gifted local entertainment. Ticket sales have begun! \$15 for singles; buy an entire table for \$80, a savings of \$10!

Pam Schnare and Ellen Chinn will be contacting you for cookies and tea sandwiches; Jaunita Coddington – sign-ups for baskets to raffle. Tickets for the raffle will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Best deal around.

Don't delay! Get your tickets soon! (Inside rumor – we've heard that our Pastor and other brave men may be lending a hand. Don't want to miss that, do you)?

Do you have former "TEA" photos that you would be willing to lend? We'd like to have them in a collage mode on one of the Bromley Hall bulletin boards for the October 5 Harvest Tea. Thanks!



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*

VOLUNTEER TODAY! We welcome your help.

Session Meeting: July 17th

Decisions / Action Items:

- Rescheduled August meeting to Wed., August 14th
- Letter sent to Presbytery of the Redwoods regarding sale of property in the name of Ramos Family Trust
- Create Task Force to write a Key Management Policy
- Accept Julia Rodriguez' letter of resignation, with regret
- Approve increase in compensation for Children's Ministries Assistant Position from \$12.00/ hour to \$15.00/ hour.

Pastor's Report:

- Served communion to shut-ins
- 4 Study Leave days away 7/29 – 8/1

- 1 Military Paid Leave Day away, 8-18-19
- 4 Military Telecom Days away, 9-19-19 to 9-22-19.

Director of Youth/Families Report:

- The end of year Hangout Celebration at Todd Grove Park on 6-5-19 included 15 kids plus parents
- 8 youth helped with the rummage sale on 6-7-19, earning Community Service Hours
- Girl's Books Club began 6-10-19 and will continue throughout the summer
- VBS (6-24-19 to 6-28-19): 35-44 students each night, numerous volunteers, and 4 high school volunteers.
- Westminster Woods Summer Camp: 1) 8 youth from the congregation are going to summer camp; 2) I will be attending camp with the high school youth, 7-21-19 to 7-27-19; 3) 4 camperships were given to 4 students totaling about \$1800; 4) With funds left over in campership budget, plans are being developed to send our youth to Westminster Woods' November Bash and December Bash weekends later this year.
- A camping trip is planned for 8-4-19 to 8-5-19 at Van Damme Star Park.
- Fall Youth Plans:
 - Junior and Senior High Youth: I am leaning toward combining together one night and then splitting them into gender groups for discussion (students seem to be able to focus better when split by gender).
 - Hangout: I was hoping to have Hangout on a weekly starting in the fall, then Julia resigned. Further discussions will be held regarding the programs. After discussion, the following motion was **MSA**: To accept Julia Rodriguez's letter of resignation, with regret.

PRESBYTERY MEETING: Travis Air Force Base on 5-17-19. The Moderator to the 223rd General Assembly, the Rev. Cindy Kohlmann preached during the worship service. Elder Ariel Mink was elected to serve as the Associate Stated Clerk for a three-year term, a volunteer position. The by-laws were changed to state that the presbytery will meet no fewer than 3 times per year as opposed to no fewer than 4 times per year. The presbytery approved all of the proposed amendments, with the exception of 18-C, Officers.

Resource Council

- **Finance:** 1) The General Fund Income for the year, noting the following June 2019 highlights: income was \$27,317 (budget \$23,502); total expenses \$19,163 (budget \$20,686); through June \$12,000 was received above expectations; 2019 shortfall to income anticipated to be \$8,793 (budgeted \$31,467). 2) The Designated Funds Income-Expenses noted income of \$14,412 and expenses of \$10,703. Income centered on Missions Tri-Tip dinner, fundraiser garage sale, youth bake sale, as well as \$1,577 of the annual per capita budget. Expenses focused on Missions fundraiser, compassionate ministries, and per capita. 3) The Presbeat Summary as of 5-30-19 showed an income of \$106,968 and expenses of \$100,581 (-\$3,613). Additionally, total balance in checking is \$133,537, while total savings balance is \$149,884. The final section is the listing of the Designated Funds in the checking account which, on 5-30-19, totaled \$42,948.
- **Buildings and Grounds:** The next meeting is 8-1-19. The next workday is 8-3-19. The committee has been alerted to the problem of vermin in the kitchen and is addressing the issue.

Family / Outreach Council

- **Worship and Music:** In the coming months and in developing the 2020 budget consideration needs to be given to upgrading the sound and video systems (computer, programs, headsets, mics). Family Council will continue to meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
- **Missions:** The **rummage sale** earned \$3,100. The route for **Pedal for Protein** this year is Highway 1. 8-18-19, Patty Sanders will present a program to the congregation. **Meals-to-Go** fundraiser is planned to take place after the grape harvest when Len B. is more likely to be available. Shirley indicated that New Life Community Church may become the central drop off point for Operation Christmas Child for Humboldt, Mendocino, and Lake Counties instead of Santa Rosa. As such, there would not be a need for FPCU to be a drop off point. Instead, we might help man the New Life center. Plans are still in fluid.
- **Congregational Life:** The questions are being prepared for the initial interview for the Presbeat. VIP'S start again in September.

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!

9/2 Jack Sweeley	9/13 Kitty Sandelin	9/19 Mark Smith
9/9 Marie Pera	9/15 Myra Drury	9/22 Caroline Crowley
Tom Desroches	9/16 Donna Squires	9/23 Pam Schnare
9/11 Alice Oakley	Don Pera	9/25 Shirley Lewis
Kim Huffman	9/18 Mary Vickers	9/27 Terri Grass
9/12 Sammie Davies		9/29 McKaylie Young
Warren Pribyl		

Event Calendar ~ September



Sun weekly	10:00am	Worship Celebration
Mon weekly	6:00pm	Girls' Book Club
		Cub Scouts
Tue. weekly	7:00am	Men's Bible Study
	8:30am	Serendipity Women's Bible Study
	6:00pm	Spanish AA; NAHOP
Wed. weekly	1:00 pm	Knitting Group
	6:00pm	Youth Group
	7:00pm	Worship Team
Thurs. weekly	6:00pm	Spanish AA
Mon-Fri weekly	9:00am-4:30pm	Salvation Army (James Room)

...additional events for the month

9/1	10:00am	Cents-ability / Communion	9/14	9:00am	Stitches from the Heart
9/2		Labor Day Holiday – Office closed	9/15	11:15am	Tea planning
9/3	11:15am	Worship Committee	9/17	11:30am	Family / Outreach Council
	5:30pm	Christian Ed Committee	9/18	11:30am	VIP luncheon
9/8	11:15am	Missions Committee	9/19	10:00am	Pastor Cohort
	6:00pm	Young Adult Group		6:00pm	Session
9/11	1:30pm	PW Bible Study	9/25	1:30pm	PW Bible Study
9/12	12:30pm	ABC Program	9/26	5:30pm	Deacons
	6:30pm	Scouts BSA	9/27	7:00pm	Men's Poker / Women's Bunko

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

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