

Sunday Services
9:00 and 11:00

Sunday School P-5th: 9 and 11am

6th – 8th Grade: 9 am

9th – 12th Grade: 11 am

No Adult Class: December 30 or January 6

Munchies

Junior High School Fellowship)

Thursdays 7 - 8:30pm

Patrick Vaughn

Crew

High School Fellowship)

Wednesdays 7 - 8:30pm

Quinn Vaughn

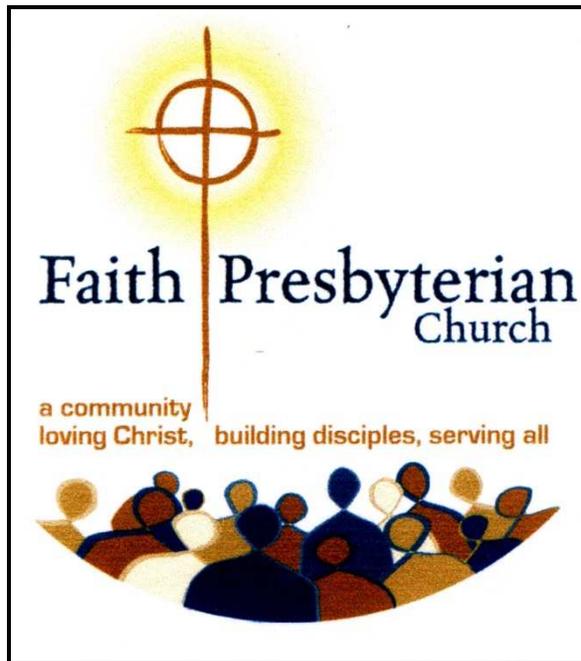
January 1 Youth Pigskin Classic

January 6th Baptism Sunday

January 8 Combined Youth Group Begins

January 26 Youth Snow Trip

January 26 Dorman & Janet Leader Retirement Celebration



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Pastors Jeff Chapman,
Jim Zazzera, Patrick
& Quinn Vaughn

Next PresbyNews
Deadlines: January 6,
January 20, February 3

Prayer Offered After Worship in the New Year!

Beginning January 6th, we will begin offering a new opportunity for prayer. After each Sunday morning worship service, a few pastors, elders and/or deacons will be located in the front pew of the sanctuary for those who have special prayer concerns. Though we often do share prayer concerns publicly in worship, we recognize that some concerns are more private in nature. Therefore, from here on out know that if you would like to have somebody else confidentially lift up a concern (or joy!) in prayer, just come forward after worship.

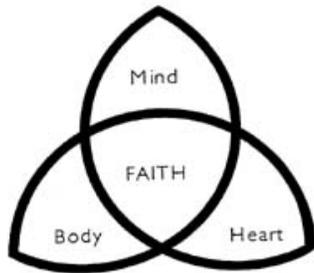
Pigskin Classic Football

Come one come all to the annual Pigskin Classic flag football game on Tuesday, January 1, 2008. Play will commence at 10:00 am and pizza will be served after the game. Everyone, anyone, any age (nobody's too old) can come out and play or if you prefer watch. Just show up at the Kennedy High School football field before 10:00 am and have a great time! Hope to see you there. Pat Tatro

Faith College Student Seeks Justice

Christina Canaday grew up here at Faith. She's now in her 3rd year at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. Among other things, Christina has been highly involved there in a student organization which is involved in pursuing peace and justice in our world. Christina cites I John 3 as part of her motivation: "We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for one another." You are invited to come **to Room 2 on Sunday, December 30th, at 10:10 (between services)** and hear Christina share some about how God has led her towards this pursuit.

Nuts To Cancer



If you're not already snacking on a handful of nuts daily to help protect your heart here's a reason that might sway you. Walnuts, almonds and pistachios contain a potent substance that may thwart cancerous tumors. Legumes are similarly loaded with the right compounds, so there's no reason to leave those peanuts at the bottom of the can of mixed nuts Nuts are chock-full of good-for-you vitamins, nutrients, and phytochemicals, along with healthy monounsaturated fats that help keep cholesterol down and arteries clear. But stick to about an ounce a day so you don't overload on calories.

Zephyr Point Leaders to Retire

After 20 years of developing Zephyr Point into a world class conference and retreat center, Dorman and Janet Leader are retiring. There will be a reception Saturday January 26th from 2 to 4:00pm at the Carmichael Presbyterian Church. 5645 Marconi Ave.

The Dorman and Janet Leader Endowment Fund has been established. You can send items to the memory book and gifts for the Endowment Fund to Shirley Duncan, 3824 French Ave 95821 by January 9th.

Worship Committee Review

The Worship Committee is a committee composed of persons who are all hard workers in the church. Each committee member has their own individual job that keeps the worship services going each week. Their jobs include directing the sound, scheduling of worship assistants, acolytes, ushers, communion preparation, communion servers and arranging for bulletin covers. The director of music is also a member of the committee, arranging the musical presentations.

The committee is a good liaison between the congregation and the workings of the church. We are a sounding board for comments that are made about the church and the services. We meet monthly to roundtable the suggestions and concerns we hear from congregation members.

It is our job to be open to these comments, discuss them at our meetings and make suggestions for needed ongoing changes.

December is a busy month for the committee while it gets Faith ready for Christmas with the selling and getting of poinsettias and getting and decorating the Giving Tree. The Committee spent hours decorating the Sanctuary for the Christmas season prior to the Hanging of the Green service. We then will get the sanctuary ready for the New Year and the fast approaching Easter season. Rick Crow, Worship Elder

Presbyterian Women's Book Club

The next meeting of the book club will be at 7:00pm on January 21, 2008 at Melodi Andersen's home. We will be discussing "The Master Butchers Singing Club" by Louis Endrich.

For meeting notices, please contact Ilah Turner, www.ilah_turner@sbcglobal.net.

Debbie Barton has a new address

6780 Gloria Dr. #36
Sacramento CA 95831
428-7472



Pastor's Page by Jim Zazzera

Dear Friends,

It is a season of “good feeling,” but I don’t always feel so well.

It is a church where many people seem to “feel” the presence of God – and I do not always find that to be true for me. I suspect this is a problem for many folks. Secretly (or not so secretly) we hope that our life of prayer, our scripture reading, our group gatherings, and our worship will help us feel the presence of God. Unfortunately, I am not sure that is either what we should expect or what God promises us.

Remember Elijah feeling alone and sorry for himself and seeking God’s assurance? (1 Kings 19:11-12). He saw fire, wind, and earthquake – but no sign of God. His only evidence of the Holy One was a “still small voice.” Or as one translation puts it, “a gentle and quiet whisper.” What kind of God is that? Where are my “mountaintop experiences? If God is so powerful, shouldn’t I be able to hear and see God in dramatic ways?

Remember Jesus groaning in the words of the Psalmist “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” (Psalm 22:1) Can we not ask for more than this?

In a recent book about Mother Theresa called, *Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light*, we find conversations between her and her spiritual confidants. To one man she grieves over her relationship with God, “[But] as for me, the silence and the emptiness is so great, that I look and do not see, — Listen and do not hear — the tongue moves [in prayer] but does not speak ...” The author of a Time Magazine article writes, “The letters, many of them preserved against her wishes (she had requested that they be destroyed but was overruled by her church), reveal that for the last nearly half-century of her life she felt no presence of God whatsoever.” Think of that – one of the most faithful saints of our day, “felt no presence of God whatsoever.”

Can I really ask for more than that? Is “feeling God” the basis of my faith? It is not that we do not and cannot have powerful experiences of God. It is not that there should not be emotion connected to our faith. I simply question whether “feeling God” can be a prerequisite for believing in God’s work and God’s love. It wasn’t for Mother Theresa. It wasn’t for the prophet Elijah. It wasn’t for Jesus.

In writing about prayer the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer says this, “It will happen again and again that the person who is charged with offering the prayer for the fellowship will not *feel at all in the spiritual mood* to do so....” Bonhoeffer then warns his readers not to be governed by this “mood.”

Faith in God is not about being in a “spiritual mood” of any sort. It is about trusting the Lord of the universe, about seeing and affirming God’s work in the world and in our lives. Sometimes that will feel great. Sometimes that will feel empty. But God is not changed. Whether speaking in a quiet voice or in a loud roar, God is faithful and present.

Peace & Grace,
Jim

A Building Fund Update - Some Very Good News!!

We would like to happily announce that we have now paid off the mortgage on the sanctuary and adjoining rooms. For the first time in many years, Faith is debt free! Furthermore, this was accomplished about 6 months earlier than anticipated. And because of the continued generous giving, the amount that remains in the building fund is approximately \$22,000. We could not have done this without of the support of those who made building fund pledges. Because of this great news, we are planning a celebration during a future worship service. Watch for news on this special event.

At this time, the Session is asking everyone who pledged to the building fund to complete their pledge until the three-year period ends on March 31, 2008. Why continue your pledge? Well, as many of you know, our sanctuary needs significant improvements in its acoustics and sound system. A committee is currently working to develop plans (prepared by professionals) to address these needed improvements.

The cost of these improvements will be greater than the \$22,000 in reserve, as much as even three times that much. Therefore, both the residual in the building fund and future funds from completed pledges have been designated to meet these needs. Because of this, we prayerfully ask you to consider completing your pledge, or even making a new one-time pledge towards this end.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about changes to the sound system or acoustics please contact Wally Smith, the chair of the Acoustics Improvements Committee.



Time & Talents Offering December, 2007 ~ Ministry Opportunities



Min	Date(s) Needed	Approx. Time Commitment	Committee/Coordinator
<p>Remove Christmas Decorations People needed to take down and box up the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary and Narthex</p>	<p>Thursday 1/3 or Friday 1/4 (date to be determined)</p>	<p>3hrs in the afternoon of the date determined</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Worship</u> Rick Crow 916-392-9141</p>

Gloria
IN EXCELSIS DEO

A Visit by Family Promise

Twas 2 weeks before
Christmas
and all through our church,
Volunteers were working
to celebrate the birth.

Our doors were wide open
Team Leaders inside
To welcome our guests
With arms open wide.

Our meals were delicious
Link Hall was a glow
The food was prepared
By those listed below.

Our fellowship time
was a simple affair
While volunteers spread
Love and joy in the air.

The guests were all snuggled
Safe in their beds
While sleep over teams
Made sure they were fed.

The rooms were cleaned
the linen was done
By more volunteers
Who joined in the fun.

The mats were stacked up
Quite high in their sleigh
Bert and Barbara Brown
Whisked them all away.

Faith church has provided
God's love one more time
Our Leaders thank you
with this little rhyme!
(by Cynthia Crow)

Leadership Team: Cynthia Crow, Sue Hooper, Jeff Brown, Roy Bagby, Thommens, Glenda Arellano, Tanya Anderson and Rhonda Hankey.

Team Leaders: Mary Masterson, Donna Touros
Jane Owen, Sue Hooper and Kent Kim.

Dinners: Ilah Turner, Tanya and Bob Anderson
Shari Reyes, Vickie Chastain, Debbie Barton, Marlene Calbo, Audrey Sherfy, Donna Touros, Dallas Love, Laura Zarembski, Sally Ravas, Kristi Kampel, Jessica Johnson, Virgie Cornelius, Wilma Cornelius, Mary Nabers, Maria Rodrigues, Tom Bush
Sally Evey, Rick Evey, Paul and Betty Keller.

Fellowship: Popham, Peifer, McAllister, Tracy, Ainsworth,
Bilbo, Morris and Reynolds Families

Sleep Over: Thommens, Chuck Bell, Margi Willey, Glenda Arellano, Nancy Arkelian, Jane Owen, Debbie Larson, Gary Cash, Reynolds, and Willis'

Set Up/Take Down: Helmich family, Bagby Family, Cathy Healow, John Warren, Kincaid family and Bert and Barbara Brown.

A special thank you to Alice Parent and Shirley Burbank for donating furniture to a graduating family.



LOVING, caring, dedicated

Is the perfect description of an elite group of people at Faith who choose to take time to help those who have special transportation needs get to church on Sunday morning and provide opportunities for the youth to experience group activities while riding on the Faith Shuttle.

When the shuttle project began a little over a year ago, we had three people who fulfilled those needs, Frank Foder and Bill Welch were Driver/Trainers and Chuck Beal was Escort. Frank moved to Texas and Bill Welch stepped up to cover until Jack Reefer volunteered. Jack was our regular driver for 4 months with Bill as backup. Then Deanna Bearor and David Potter took the necessary time and energy to secure their Class B Driver's license.

Everyone connected with the shuttle would like you to know that they look forward to serving as many people as possible. So, if you know of anyone who needs a ride, please let your Deacon know and they can pass along the information.

With so many choices available in today's world and their own family obligations, Faith Church is grateful and offers a special thank you to Bill, Jack, Deanna, David and Chuck for their love and dedication.

Faith had a Great Advent Program!

With tasty dinners every Wednesday on tables decorated with Advent carolling eggs filled with candy, prepared by dedicated Fellowship Folk such as Pat Taro and Debbie Barton with Kitty Tatro and lots of other hardworking Fellowship Committee members. And others, like Suzie Hughes, were dramatizing the Christmas Story for all to understand while Betsy Butler prepares the Chancel Choir for their usual great performance.

