

Sunday Services

9:00 and 11:00

Sunday School P-5th: 9 and 11

6th – 8th Grade: 9 am
9th – 12th Grade: 11 am
Adult Class: 10 – 11

Sunday Nov. 30
Hanging of the Greens
9am and 11am

Sunday Dec. 7
Communion Sunday
Food Closet Sunday

Sundays Dec. 7 thru 21
Praying Scriptures of Advent
Joan Stock

Dec 14 to Dec 21
Family Promise

Sunday Dec 21
Family Night and Caroling

Sunday Dec 21
Family Night and Caroling

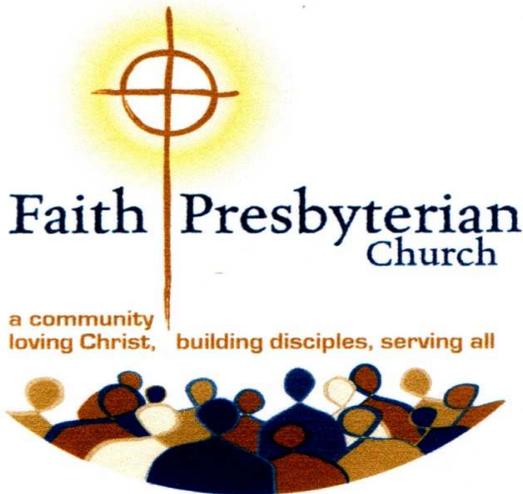
Wednesday Dec 24
Christmas eve services
Family 7pm
Candlelight service & Chancel
Choir 11pm

*The PresbyNews is published bimonthly
by a team of volunteer writers.*

*Please send your submissions to Editor
Jim Park at*

JamesPark02@comcast.net

*Or, drop off articles/photos
in the church office.*



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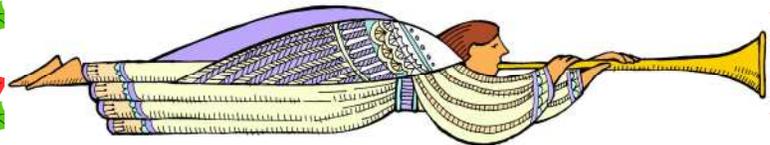
Pastors Jeff Chapman, Jim
Zazzera, Patrick & Quinn
Vaughn



Sunday, November 30th ~ —9am and 11am The Hanging of the Greens

We hope you'll make plans to join us for the wonderful Faith tradition of "greening the Sanctuary". Families bring forward decorations that transform our sanctuary as the Christmas story is told. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated at this service.

The service is very family-friendly. It's a great time to invite friends and family along. You might want to invite others along who may not already belong to a community of faith like this one. All are welcome!



Family Promise Week is 12/14-21

Come join us as we provide hospitality to our guest families. Do you like to cook, play games, chat with our families, or "camp out" at the church? Do you like to set up for the families or take down at the end of the week?

Tasks are dinner, evening activity and overnight teams, set up, take down, laundry, transporting mattresses to the next church and to be a Team Leader.

Questions? call Cynthia Crow (392-9141) or Sue Hooper (393-2633).



OF SHARING



Thanksgiving Dad by Bill Kirk

Good Morning, daughter! Is everyone up?
Have you had any coffee—at least your first cup?
Is all the stuff ready to cook the big meal?
Is the turkey thawed out? Have you broken the seal?

Remember to take out the small bag of parts;
One neck and a gizzard—I once found two hearts!
You did all your shopping; bought all on your list?
You've checked everything so nothing was missed?

There's stuffing and dinner rolls, broth and green
beans;
Potatoes and ham hocks—we'll bring the tureens.
The bird will cook best, will be nice and browned,
At three_ twenty_ five—fifteen minutes a pound.

It's sometimes quite tricky, to get the temp right.
Gas cooks a bit faster.... Oh, you learned that last night?
Before you get started, did you take out the rack?
And we've always used a brown paper sack.

You'll need lots of time to fix the big bird.
If you want any help, just give me the word.
What about onions? Is there chopping to do?
Should I bring mashed potatoes? Is there cider to brew?

Do you have the cranberries; the pickles and such?
Don't forget that good gravy, takes just the right touch!
What did you say? Don't chop, stir or pour?
I don't need to make a last run to the store?

I don't understand! You've changed the meal
plan?
There's not a meal crisis—don't need the Old Man?
“That's right, Dad,” I heard our young daughter
say.
“There's no bird or stuffing to mess with today.”

We've all eaten turkey since we were in cribs.
So, this year, instead, we're having prime ribs.”
I sat there quite stunned as I heard the sad news,
And was suddenly struck by a case of the blues.

Then, clear as a bell, I knew what to do.
My panic was gone. My doldrums were through.
“Oh, don't worry daughter, your prime rib's a
'go'!
Lucky for you, there's a trick that I know...!”

Honoring the Life of Conney Willis

As our community grieves the loss of our dear sister, Conney Willis, we also celebrate the amazing life that she lived and the many ways God touched our world through her. As a part of this celebration, the Willis family has invited the congregation to remember Conney in the following ways:

1. Make a donation to the work of mission at Faith Presbyterian Church, an area of our church's life in which Conney worked tirelessly for many years.
2. Donate photos you may have of Conney. Please include captions noting the occasion and approximate date.

Write paragraph dedicated to “Who Conney Willis was to me.”

Photos and paragraphs can be e-mailed to Alice Parente (vsas77@earthlink.net), dropped off in the church office, or placed in a basket at Conney's memorial service on December 6th.

We know that these efforts will go a long way towards supporting the Willis family and celebrating a life that was, without a doubt, well lived.

Who Needs Our Help??

This Thanksgiving as we gather together to reflect on blessings past and present, please consider those in our community who are in need of our help or our presence. Think about how we, as a congregation, can make a difference in the lives of those in our neighborhood, city, and our world.

Then pray for our next Compassion Weekend scheduled for May 2-3, 2009 and for project ideas that will be pleasing to God. If you have an idea for a project or service activity, simply fill out the form on the Welcome Center table in the narthex and place it in the basket. Or contact DiAnne Brown at 395-6129, Sierraskymktg@netscape.net.

Happy Thanksgiving!

How I Got Reminded on the Staff Field Trip



Remember field trips? I miss those days. I envy my own kids, headed off regularly to the Raptor Center, or the zoo, or the planetarium, or to Sutter's Fort. Field trips are wonderful. So recently, our staff decided to take one. Why should the kids have all the fun?

We went to a place, however, where my son's 3rd grade class has never gone, and likely will never go. We went to Loaves and Fishes. We went downtown to serve lunch to hundreds of homeless men, women and children. And it was as eye-opening a fieldtrip as I've ever taken.

Seven of us from the staff spent that Monday morning dishing food, wiping tables, re-filling drinks, helping people to their seats, and sharing in the meal ourselves. The lunch line steadily made its way through for an hour and a half, hungry person after hungry person. A few folks treated us rudely, demanding what they wanted. Most treated us graciously, with gratitude and respect. Some of the people looked like they could be members of the local PTA. Others showed clear signs of the wear and tear of life on the street. It was, to say the least, a colorful gathering.

For most of us on the staff, this was our first time going to serve a meal at Loaves and Fishes. That was the case for me. We were the rookies on the team that day. Much of the rest of the team, however, were familiar faces because they were also people from Faith. The difference was most of these folks come to serve lunch month after month after month. Many of them have been doing it for years. The staff, the guests, the routine, even the smell of the place, are all very familiar to them.

In watching them serve that morning, with grace and compassion towards those they were serving, I was reminded of something I know but sometimes forget. Our community here at Faith is filled with people like them who month after month, week after week, day after day, get up and follow Jesus out in to the world to love and serve him by loving and serving those God puts in their path. Sometimes that leads us to soup kitchens. Other times it's workplaces, or schools, or government, or PTA meetings, or neighborhoods. Sometimes it's places far from here where the need is incredibly great.

At the end of worship every Sunday one of our youngest members, an acolyte, leads us out of the sanctuary with the Light of Christ. It's a symbolic act which points to something wonderful we all need to remember. Even though the service of worship may have ended, our worship through service is just beginning again. What an encouragement it is for me to remember this, that each week there is a whole community of brothers and sisters from this church – you! – who head out into the world to share the light of Christ with people who are sometimes drowning in the darkness.

I thank God for allowing me to be a part of this community called Faith. And I look forward to worshipping with you Sunday.

Grace & Peace – Jeff

P.S. – If you would like to know how you can be a part of the Loaves and Fishes team that goes to serve lunch once a month, two really good people to talk to here at Faith would be Dick McMillian and Bob Connett. If you don't know either of these men, call us and we'll connect you.

Advent at Faith

We hope you'll plan this Christmas season to join us at Faith for the following times of worship, fellowship and service. Invite others along who may not already belong to a community of faith like this one. All are welcome!

Sunday, November 30th ~ The Hanging of the Greens

A wonderful Faith tradition in worship (both services, 9:00 & 11:00) where our sanctuary is transformed for Christmas. This is a great time to invite friends and family along. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated at this service.

Beginning Sunday, November 30th ~ 1% for Meeting With God

We invite you to give 1% of each day this Advent season to meeting with God in scripture, reflection and prayer. Pick up a 1% guide in the Welcome Center which will help you walk through the Gospel of Luke in preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth.

Sundays, December 7th, 14th, 21st – Praying With the Advent Stories

A special Sunday morning class taught by Pastor Joan Stock. Join us in Room 2 from 10:10-10:50 a.m.

Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th, 17th ~ Advent Dinners & Worship

Join us at 6:00 for an all-church dinner in Link Hall (food is provided, donations accepted). At 7:00, we gather for a 30-40 minute contemplative worship in the sanctuary. Our theme this year will be "Receiving Jesus." Afterwards, CREW (High School group) will have a special hang-out time in Link Hall until 8:30.

Sundays, December 7th, 14th, 21st – Advent Worship (9 and 11 a.m.)

Invite others you know to join us these Sundays for worship filled with special music and relevant messages on the power and meaning of Christmas.

Sunday, December 21 ~ Family Christmas Caroling

Faith Family Night will sponsor this event open to all. We'll eat together and travel to sing carols to others in our congregation who are typically unable to get out and join us for Christmas.

Wednesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Services

7:00 – Family Service – A celebration geared for the whole family.

11:00 – Candlelight Service - Communion will be served and the chancel choir will sing.

To help you LISTEN

to God...

We offer the following passages from God's Word in Luke for your reflection, and in preparation for Christmas. We encourage you to keep a journal at hand to write down what you hear from God. If you're new to all this, perhaps these steps will help you get started:

Invite - Find a time and space where you can have at least 15 minutes of privacy and silence. Begin by taking a moment to simply ask God to meet you. Expect God to answer your prayer and show up.

Scripture - Read slowly through the passage for the day (listed at right). Read it again, if you like. Pay attention to phrases or ideas that particularly strike you. As you read, ask God to speak. Don't feel like you have to read the whole passage. Sometimes a few verses will be enough for the day.

Listen and Reflect - Use a journal to write down what you hear God saying in these verses. What is God telling you about Himself? What is God telling you about your life? What is God telling you he wants you to do, or to do differently? What questions are raised? What promises are here? What do you need to confess? Write what you hear, whatever you hear.

Respond - Remember that God's Word isn't just meant to inform, but to, ultimately, transform. Considering what you have heard from God today, what action are you being called to take? Now speak to God about what you have heard, and about other concerns and joys which may be on your heart and mind. You might even pray through the scripture. If it helps, write your prayer.

A guide for meeting with God as we prepare for Christmas



1% - Could This Be The Best 14.4 Minutes of your day?

This Advent we invite you to commit 1% of your day, every day, to meet alone with God in scripture, reflection and prayer. Of course, we all are seeking to walk with God all 1,440 minutes of each day. But amazing things happen if we also set aside specific time to give God our total attention?

Here's what you might try: Find a quiet, private space and time each day where you can dedicate at least 15 minutes of your attention (about 1% of your day). You don't need to take much with you. Your Bible, of course (let us know if you need one and we'll give you a copy). A journal and pen to write down what you hear. A cup of coffee or tea might be a bonus.

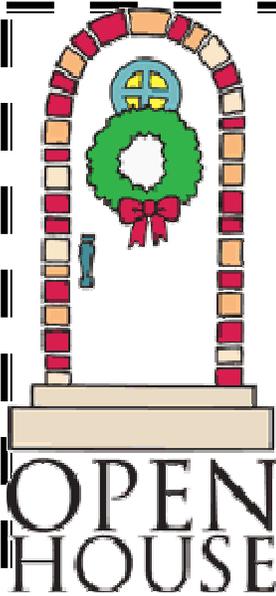
We'd like to provide a guide which will help you to read through the Gospel of Luke in preparation for Christmas. Luke, one of four Gospels in the New Testament, is the eye-witness testimony of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Listening to God in these passages is a wonderful way to prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ at Christmas and all that means for us and for the world. (Pick up a 1% Guide in the Welcome Center at Faith or e-mail us and we'll e-mail you one: jchapman@faithpresby.org)

Please, by the way, don't feel like you need to read the whole passage assigned for the day. The point is not to finish the assignment. You won't get extra credit for doing so. The point is to listen for God to speak. Some days, one verse is all you may need.

2008 Advent Reading Schedule

| | |
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| | Sunday, Dec. 14 Luke 14 |
| | Monday, Dec. 15 Luke 15 |
| Sunday, Nov. 30 Reading: Luke 1:1-38 Prayer: Psalm 1 | Tuesday, Dec. 16 Luke 16 |
| Monday, Dec. 1 Reading: Luke 1:39-80 Prayer: Psalm | Wednesday, Dec. 17 Luke 17 |
| Tuesday, Dec. 2 Luke 2 | Thursday, Dec. 18 Luke 18 |
| Wednesday, Dec. 3 Luke 3 | Friday, Dec. 19 Luke 19 |
| Thursday, Dec. 4 Luke 4 | Saturday, Dec. 20 Luke 20 |
| Friday, Dec. 5 Luke 5 | Sunday, Dec. 21 Luke 21 |
| Saturday, Dec. 6 Luke 6 | Monday, Dec. 22 Luke 22:1-38 |
| Sunday, Dec. 7 Luke 7 | Tuesday, Dec. 23 Luke 22:39-65 |
| Monday, Dec. 8 Luke 8 | Wednesday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Luke 23 |
| Tuesday, Dec. 9 Luke 9 | Thursday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Luke 24 |
| Wednesday, Dec. 10 Luke 10 | Friday, Dec. 26— |
| Thursday, Dec. 1 Luke 11 | <i>Wherever God may lead you next in his Word. Need some guidance? Check the Next Step guide for suggested</i> |
| Friday, Dec. 12 Luke 12 | |
| Saturday, Dec. 13 Luke 13 | |

And remember, if you miss a day, no sweat. Schedule time the next day. God is always ready and eager to meet with us. He is always gracious. Always patient. And a warning in advance, when it comes to listening for God, some days will be more difficult than others. That's true for everybody.



Steve and Colette Benson haven't been around Faith much lately

as they have been putting the finishing touches on their new home!

The house was a major undertaking as it had been empty for 2 years and needed a lot of work, but they are now finished with the large tasks and the house has become a home.

They would love to have you stop by and say hello on **December 13th from 2-4 pm** during their open house. The Benson's new address is 9211 Bromfield Ct, Elk Grove, CA 95624. New phone 916-685-5782.

Foods for Younger Looking Hair



It's one of the maddening ironies of aging: Hair gets thinner where we want it—on our heads—and starts sprouting up in places we don't.

Good trimmers and tweezers are all you need for the latter. But for the former? Try these healthy hair foods from Drs. Rosen and Oz.—they will make your locks look more like they did in your 20s.

Healthy-Hair Diet:

1. Eat more Salmon. Omega-3 rich foods like salmon and sardines help seal in the shine. Distilled fish oils or DHA supplements also work.
2. Be a bran lover. Bran is rich in vitamin B, which may slow hair loss and promote hair growth. Other B-rich foods include beans, peas, carrots, cauliflower, soy beans, nuts and eggs.



Faith Goes to See the Kings

As in the past, Kings tickets are once again available this year for three games: Sunday, January 11 with the Dallas Mavericks; Friday, February 27 with the LA Clippers; and Sunday, March 29 with the Phoenix Suns.

Our team has struggled, but their young guys can be fun to watch! You can sign up for any or all three games, and tickets are \$25.50 each. Call Barbara Tracy at 428-0311 or e-mail her at bjtracy@comcast.net to reserve your tickets.

Holiday Helper—Amanda Becker

Amanda is returning from her 10 months in South Africa and would like to earn a little money before returning to Sonoma State University in January.

If you could use a little help cleaning for a holiday party, wrapping gifts, babysitting or house sitting—consider hiring her! I'm sure she'll also be glad to share some of her travel adventures with you. She will be living with mom and dad over the holidays and can be reached at 424-5844.



Christmas Season Schedule



Presbyterian Women's News

Presbyterian
Women's Mission
for December

supports W.E.A.V.E.

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

HELPING



HANDS

This year P.W. is asking the congregation to participate. If you wish to participate P.W. is accepting new pajamas, slippers or socks for women and children of all ages and sizes, unwrapped in a Christmas bag. Please bring to the church Sunday December 7th. P.W. members will be in the Narthex between services to accept the gifts. Thank you for your support.



P.W. Christmas Buffet Luncheon will be held Wednesday December 10, 2008 at 11:30am at the Aviator Restaurant. The cost is \$16.00. Please RSVP to Kitty Tatro by December 7th. 393-4734.

Bible Study at the church before luncheon at 10:00 am.

If you would like to carpool, please meet at the church by 11:15am.

BRUNCH

Faith Women's Retreat



The Women's Retreat is scheduled for February 26, 27 and March 1. The Mercy Retreat Center in Auburn is the place and Joan Stock and Quinn Vaughn are the leaders. It's exciting to anticipate a new site and having Joan and Quinn for leaders. Please post these dates on your calendars and watch for information about registration, COMING SOON!!!!