



PresbyNews

**Sunday Services
9:00 & 11:00a.m.**

**Sunday School
Pre—5th 9 & 11a.m.
6th—8th Grade 9a.m.
9th—12th Grade 9 & 11
Adult Class 10:15 to
10:55 a.m.**

**January 11
Baptism Sunday**

**January 19
Office closed for
M. L. King Day**

**February 1st
Food Closet Sunday**

**February 1st
ARCO 6pm game time**

**February 27
Faith Women's Retreat**

**February 27
ARCO 7pm game time**

Sharing and celebrating the people and events in the life of Faith Presbyterian Church
(916) 428-3439, www.faithpresby.org, 625 Florin Road, Sacramento, CA 95831

Volume 34, No. 1 Jan 6 2009

Pastors Jeff Chapman, Jim Zazzera, Patrick & Quinn Vaughn

Next PresbyNews deadlines : January 18, February 1st

An Opportunity for Learning and Growth

Consider deepening your faith and knowledge with this new class:

Understanding the Religions of Our World

Wednesday Evenings, January 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4

Walter Newport, Instructor

Too often, Christians do not know what to say to people of other religious traditions, and have little idea about how to give the reasons for the hope we have when confronted by them. Often this is the result of not knowing what others believe, so even if we know what we believe, we don't know what the world views of others are. During the two five-week segments in which the world religions class will be held, we will be focusing on questions such as the evidence for the existence of God and some of the forms that atheism, agnosticism, and animism have taken. The basic beliefs of such established world religions as Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and the common roots and differences of the three main monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam will also be topics for discussion. Also investigated will be offshoots of these established religions, such as the New Age movement and the Ba'Hai faith, in addition to popular notions associated with modernism, post-modernism, humanism, naturalism, pluralism, and relativism.

Walter Newport has been a member of Faith Church for about a year. He has a doctorate in Higher Education, and is a retired professor of international cultures and languages, having taught the Spanish and Japanese languages, as well as English as a Second Language during the last forty years. In that time, he has lived in Cuba, Spain, Japan, and several states in the U.S. He was the first non-native professor ever hired by Ishikawa Prefecture in Japan, where world religions were an integral part of his International Cultures classes.

Women's Retreat Feb 27– March 1, 2009

At Mercy Center in Auburn — The theme: **"Choices, Choices, Choices."**



Our leaders this year are Pastors Quinn Vaughn and Joan Stock. Cost is \$150 (\$80 deposit required at registration). Rooms are single occupancy; no need for a roommate. Registration will be taken Sunday, January 4 in the narthex. For more info contact Ilah Turner at 428-8716

Compassion Weekend

We're Doing It Again!

One weekend next Spring we will cancel our regular worship services, shut down all church programs, and invite everyone to worship God through service in the community. Compassion Weekend returns to Faith! So much positive feedback was received from the congregation and the community that Faith's Session and leaders approved a second Compassion Weekend for Saturday May 2 and Sunday May 3, 2009.



Our first step in planning 2009 Compassion Weekend is to come up with our service projects. We can choose to do some of the same projects we did last year or come up with new ones. But, like last year, we want these principles to guide our project choices:

- The service projects must address actual needs
- There must be ample opportunity for broad scale volunteer involvement
- Those doing the serving actively engage with those being served
- There must be activities for all age groups
- There must be opportunities for long-term support and involvement

Projects can be scheduled for a couple hours either on the morning or afternoon of May 2 (Saturday) or May 3 (Sunday), or both mornings, both afternoons, or all day on one or both days. It's up to you. The more projects we have, the more opportunities we have to serve.

So think about what you'd like to do, or how you are already volunteering your time, and if that could become a Compassion Weekend service project. Contact DiAnne Brown with your ideas at 395-6129 or Sier-raskymktg@netscape.net. And reserve time on May 2 and 3 to serve your community!

Kelsey Ingalls, a former intern at Faith, delivered a lively sermon on December 28.

In the same worship service, Kelsey and Donne were pleased to have Pastor Jeff baptize their infant son, Jordan. Kelsey is attending a theological seminary in Iowa on her way to being an ordained minister.



Taking Down the Christmas Decorations

Several people spent many hours cleaning up the sanctuary of the Christmas decorations to prepare our church for the New Year. We want to thank Jim Tracy, Lee Smith, Sheron Vollstedt, Tom Busch and Rick Crow spending their Friday taking down all of the decorations and packaging them up for the holidays next season.





Faith Session Works to Make Cuts to Balance Budget

The elders of Faith (i.e. Session) had an extensive meeting this past Sunday, January 4th, to work towards balancing the 2009 operating budget. Since our projected income does not currently match our projected expenses, we have had to work to make cuts in our projected expenses. We have also worked to eliminate any waste in our budget. Areas slated to be partially cut include property maintenance, mission, office expenses, and communications. We are also, at this point, not able to give as much of a cost of living increase to our staff as was originally proposed by our Personnel committee. All of these cuts are difficult and have not been made without significant prayer and discussion.

Session will vote to approve the finalized 2009 operating budget at their regular January meeting on January 12th. If you have not yet made a financial pledge for 2009, or are still considering increasing your pledge in light of these potential cuts, we ask that you communicate that to our Pledge Secretary, Doran McDaniel, before that date. Doran can be contacted at dorie_g@comcast.net or 226-6575. Thank you.



All Church Photo 2008 — *See if you can find yourself!*



Put Flowers in the Sanctuary!

Pick your special day and order flowers during 2009. The sign ups have just begun and there are many open Sundays available to pick during the year. The calendar is located in the hall across from the office down towards Link Hall. All you have to do is write down your special day on the calendar and you will be contacted to order the flowers or have a special arrangement made. The cost is generally about \$40.

Children's Ministry News

Family Night- Our next Family Night will be on Sunday, January 25 at 5:15. We would love to have your family join us for dinner, fellowship, and a parenting seminar. After dinner, activities will be provided for the children.



Sunday School

rian Scribble Notes into the basket. One message said, "I love God, I love God, I love God more than anything." The other message said, "I love church." (sic) Let these heartfelt words remind you what matters most when giving offerings of time, talents, or money to God.

Children's Choir- A special thank you to the children for helping us to worship not once but twice in December. Thank you to Joshua Clark, Noel Chapman, Kaylah Miller, Jacqueline Laybourn, Isabel Selling, Isabel Chapman, and Jaelyn Mendoza. Thank you for the special gift of your voices and the enthusiastic ways in which you praise God. We would also like to thank Melody Tactaquin for her leadership.

An Important Lesson from the Children- Each week we pass around an offering basket, during Godly Play and Children's Worship. The idea is for the children to give out of gratitude to God. We remind them that just showing up to worship is a gift to God. Recently, two children placed Little Presbyte-

May 2009 be a year of gratitude for you and your family! ~Ms. Melinda



Food Closet Can Use You

Come over the Bethany Presbyterian Church, Fruitridge at 24th streets, Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 10:30am and Pattie Shaw will find something for you to do. If you are really dedicated, you can learn to prepare bags of food to give out. Otherwise, you can take rice from large bags and re-bag into smaller bags to give to the families. Or take card boxes to the recycle bin. And there is always need for a substitute van driver.

Betty Park, 442-4152, can tell you all about it.