

Local Mission Taskforce Being Formed

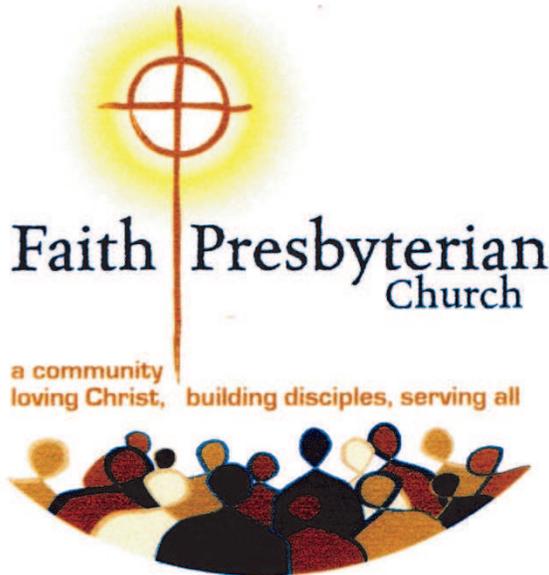
As a congregation Faith Church is focusing its local mission efforts on serving the homeless and hungry in Sacramento. To determine how to make a deeper commitment to the community in this area a local mission taskforce is being formed. An informational meeting will be held Monday night, August 23 at 7 p.m. at the church.

Over the course of three months the members of the taskforce will read and study the book *"When Helping Hurts – How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself."* They will consider current and past local mission efforts, reflect on the adult Sunday School classes held over the summer, and hear a speaker or two. By the end of January the taskforce will present recommended action steps to the Mission Team.

If you have a heart for helping the homeless and hungry in Sacramento and are interested in being a part of this short-term commitment, please contact Jim Zazzera at 428-3439 or DiAnne Brown at 395-6129.

Faith Open House

Through various ads, the community is invited to join us for Open House Sunday, September 19th! If you out in the neighborhood would like to be part of a warm, caring extended family then come to Faith Presbyterian Church, where you'll enjoy encouraging music, friendly faces and messages that will have a positive impact on your week. And, don't worry, we won't make you say, sign or give anything! Join us at 9 or 11 Worship and stay for free refreshments after service. Child care is provided, and we have Sunday School classes for children and youth. We is the congregation need to do our part in welcoming visitors.



PresbyNews

August 10 2010
Volume 35 Number 12
Published at
625 Florin Road
Sacramento CA 95831
916-428-3439
www.faithpresby.org

Pastor Jeff Chapman
Associate Pastors
Jim Zazzera,
Patrick Vaughn, Quinn
Vaughn

Next PresbyNews
Deadline August 22

LUAU, AUCTION & RAFFLE Sunday, Sept. 26th, 4:00 pm.

Save the Date! Enjoy an evening of fellowship, good food, and fundraising. Proceeds will benefit Faith's Campership Fund. Campership funds are made available to families for children's camp at Westminster Woods, Faith's Fall Retreat, the Women's Retreat, and the Men's & Boy's Retreat. Please consider donating items for the auction and raffle.

We will have games and crafts for the children and youth and entertainment for all! Tickets go on sale in mid August. Ticket Prices are \$10 for adults, \$7 for youth ages 11-17, and free for children age 10 and under.

Please consider donating items for our auction & raffle—new items only, please. Donation forms will be available at the ticket sales table. Some ideas for donations: Time/Talent - Babysitting, petsitting, yard work, handyman jobs, baking, wrapping Christmas gifts, gift baskets, home-cooked meals, group donations from life groups, whatever your talent might be. We already have some great donations including a one night stay at the Santa Cruz/Scotts Valley Hilton, tickets to some wonderful events at the Sacramento Community Center, pottery, and gift certificates to local restaurants. If at all possible, please donate early.

We are looking for decorative items to borrow--surfboards, tiki torches, etc. Please contact Lori Rapier at 267-3614 or ggl-rapier@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Friends:

Many of you have asked me about my upcoming sabbatical. Some of you may not have even heard about it. In that light, I would like to share a few of the details about it with you.

What is a sabbatical?

The idea of “sabbatical” suggests many things to many people. A time away. A period of renewal. An opportunity to rest from labors. In academic circles, instructors take sabbaticals to research and write. In the business arena, sabbaticals are sometimes given to inspire people to new creativity. All of us recognize that the root word for sabbatical has its origins in the Old Testament concept of “sabbath,” – a concept that not only speaks of rest and renewal but of revitalized commitment to the Living God. For myself, I view a sabbatical as a time of *renewal*.

Why does Faith Church grant sabbaticals to its clergy leaders?

The Presbytery of Sacramento sabbatical policy states, “A sabbatical/renewal leave will enable the minister/educator to be renewed by extended rest and time with family. The sabbatical/renewal leave may provide time for continuing education and fresh mentoring by respected teachers, but the primary purpose is to re-establish healthy rhythms so that the minister/educator can return to the responsibilities of the church with new energy, spiritual vision and effectiveness.” Our own congregation’s policy recommends a sabbatical for clergy to “renew, refresh, broaden and enlighten themselves.” It is the commitment of our denomination and congregation to grant this particular kind of opportunity to its pastors to encourage their physical, personal, mental, and spiritual health and wholeness.

How long is a sabbatical?

While sabbaticals in our congregation may vary slightly in length, my sabbatical will take place from September 13, 2010 to through January 1, 2011. It will essentially cover the Fall/Advent/Christmas season of the church year.

What will Jim do on the sabbatical?

Months ago I spent quite a bit of time writing a sabbatical proposal for session, and I was focused more on a formal “theme.” While my ideas there still remain important, the idea of “renewal” has come into clearer focus for me and become the primary reason for my sabbatical.

In my travel (Lena and I will be traveling to Istanbul and Rome), I hope to experience some *renewal of imagination*. In taking on some new practices in prayer, I hope to experience *renewal of my spirit*. In a more regular commitment to exercise, I hope to experience some *renewal in my body*. With a more regular order in my daily life, I hope to discover a *renewal of intentionality*. With at least a short reading list, I look forward to a *renewal of intellect*. By spending additional time with Lena and my children, I am looking forward to *renewal of relationships*.

I know that I could do any or all of these things at any point in my life, but a sabbatical offers me the gift and challenge of an extended period of time to grow in new ways.

Will Jim be part of the life of the church during this time?

I will not be part of the regular life of Faith Presbyterian Church during the period of my sabbatical. On Sundays I will worship in other churches around the Sacramento area and hope to make connection with other Christian communities when I travel.

How will Faith Presbyterian Church benefit?

I leave on sabbatical eager to grow. I am sure I will return to all of you with more energy, a clearer focus on the nature of my ministry, a better understanding of myself as a person, and a continued desire to serve well as one of your pastors.

Will we get to hear more about it?

There are at least three formal times for you to hear more about my sabbatical. The first will be an informal gathering on Sunday, August 29th, after the second service. The second will be at the All Church Retreat in Lake Tahoe. I will take some time there to share with any who wish to hear more. The third will be a time of reflection *after* the conclusion of my sabbatical to share my what I have learned and experienced. Outside of this, please ask me about my sabbatical at any time!

Friends, all of life comes to us as a gift. I cannot thank you enough for the gift of this time you are granting me. I pray that I will treasure it and use it joyfully and responsibly. I trust that I will use it as God calls me to.

Peace & Grace,
Jim Zazzera

Session Proposes Exciting Expansion of Our Pastoral Staff

By Rick Stern, Personnel Elder

The leadership of Faith has committed considerable time in long-range planning in recent years. This planning has led to the development of a new long-range Vision-Action Plan that describes specific actions that will be taken to live out Faith's Vision of being "A community loving Christ, building disciples, serving all." Many of you have read details of this plan in recent issues of the PresbyNews.

This planning has led us to a commitment to address hunger and homeless in Sacramento. It has led us to create a new relationship that will bring hope and holistic transformation to the people of Abaya, Ethiopia.

Earlier this year, Session created a long-range staff planning task force. This team was formed to look at our staffing requirements given Faith's exciting and ambitious plans. The task force began its work evaluating how Faith's present staffing complement compared to other local Presbyterian congregations. We also compared our present staffing complement to what Faith had in the year 2000. There were several things that surprised us.

We were surprised to note that today's staffing complement is essentially the same as it was ten years ago. Today we have one more staff member, but all but two are half-time or less. We also found that our total staffing complement compared to other local churches is considerably less, particularly when you base the comparison on average worship attendance. We do have more ordained staff than other churches of our size, but we operate with considerably fewer non-ordained staff members.

So where is all of this leading us? The task force unanimously recommended to Session that we make several important changes to our staffing complement and Session recently supported those recommendations unanimously. The recommended changes affect three of our ordained staff member positions.

Recommended Changes

Associate Pastor Patrick Vaughn

Effective September 1, 2010, Pastor Patrick's position would be expanded from a half-time position to a full-time position and re-titled, "Associate Pastor of Youth Mission and Discipleship." This position would provide leadership to all Junior High and Senior High Youth Ministry. This position would set the Youth Mission and Discipleship vision and direction and would recruit, equip, teach and oversee Faith's Youth Ministry. Compensation for this position would be adjusted in proportion to the expansion from a half-time position to a full-time position. The estimated cost of this change will be \$30,800 annually, including benefits. Specifically, this position would be responsible for –

- Supervise the position of Director of Children's Ministry
- Recruiting, hiring, teaching and supervising Youth Interns
- Recruiting, training, equipping and mentoring the Youth Advisory Team
- Oversee and equip "Faith in Action" Coordinators
- Serve as mentor to the Youth Elder and provide leadership training of Youth Ministry Team
- Serve as the Program Lead and Preacher at Youth Groups
- Align Youth Ministry "Faith in Action," Mission Trips and Service with Faith's global focus on Ethiopia and local focus on hunger and homelessness
- Oversee and teach Confirmation
- Oversee Youth Life Groups, including the recruitment and equipping of Life Group Leaders and Volunteers
- Continue to actively participate in Worship
- Serve as the ordained liaison to the Youth Ministry Team and the Children's Christian Education Ministry Team
- After a year, additional liaison duties may be added at the discretion of the Pastor, Head of Staff

Associate Pastor Quinn Vaughn

Effective September 1, 2010, Pastor Quinn's position would be revised to provide vision and leadership to Faith's Family and College age ministry, and re-title "Associate Pastor of Family and College Discipleship." Her position would continue to be a half-time position and there would be no additional cost associated with this change. Specifically, the position would be responsible for –

Family Ministry

- Collaborate with Children's and Youth Ministry to reach out and equip parents to disciple their children
- Oversee Faith Family Nights, collaborating with the Family Ministries Team, facilitating, gathering and teaching at Family Nights
- Create new parenting classes for families, such as "Parenting with Love and Logic"
- Create new small groups, such as a new Mom's groups that could gather with their infants and toddlers for discipleship, fellowship and faith-based support

College Ministry

- Life Group facilitation, including recruitment and equipping of leaders
- Regular correspondence with college students providing encouragement to students away at college.
- Reach out to and support college students and college age adults in Sacramento
- Provide transition care for graduating seniors
- Provide vision, leadership and oversight of an annual Summer Retreat
- Provide leadership and oversight to the annual SERRV Just Christmas table
- Continue to actively participate in Worship

Associate Pastor Jim Zazzera

Effective January 1, 2011, Pastor Jim's covenant and contract with the Session would be amended to reflect an expansion from half-time to three-quarter time. This position would be titled "Associate Pastor of Adult Christian Formation and Discipleship." This position would continue to be responsible for "leading a ministry focused on adult members of the church that is consistent with the Mission Statement of Faith Presbyterian Church, focused on growing as disciples of Jesus Christ and expressing their faith through mission and service." Compensation for this position would be adjusted in proportion to the expansion from a half-time position to a three-quarter time position. The estimated cost of this change will be \$26,000 annually, including benefits. The following responsibilities would be added to Pastor Jim's existing position description –

- Provide vision and serve as the primary leader for Faith's Life Groups
- Provide vision and leadership for adult spiritual formation, learning how we are being called to personally grow in discipleship
- Provide vision and leadership to Pathways to Discipleship, including teacher recruitment, development and training
- Provide vision and leadership to Adult and Older Adult study groups
- Continue to provide leadership and serve as liaison to Faith's Mission Ministry
- Continue to provide leadership and serve as liaison to Faith's Deacons and Pastoral Care

The changes to Pastor Patrick's, Quinn's, and Jim's positions would remove a number of program related duties from Pastor Jeff Chapman's plate, thus freeing him to devote more time to developing personal pastoral relationships.

Continued on next page

These changes create exciting new opportunities for the ministry of Faith Church. We believe that Faith is blessed with an extraordinarily talented ordained leadership team. We believe that the proposed changes are consistent with our new Vision Action Plan and will better position Faith to fulfill those goals related to all aspects of the plan, particularly those related to Youth, College age, Family, Mission, Adult Education and Life Groups. We believe that the proposed changes align well with the gifts and passions of each member of our ordained ministry team. We also believe that the proposed changes will challenge each of our ministry team members and position them for continued personal and spiritual growth.

One of the recommended actions requires congregational approval. Accordingly, we will conduct a special congregational meeting on Sunday, August 22 to vote on the recommended changes to Pastor Patrick's terms of call.

Prior to August 22 we will share more about the nature of these changes through announcements during worship. We will also conduct a special Q&A forum on August 8 for those who would like additional information about these changes. I invite all of you to become fully informed about the nature of the proposed changes in advance of the August 22 congregational meeting



Want to support Abaya and get fit at the same time?!

Join Team World Vision!

By joining Team World Vision at Faith, you can change lives in Ethiopia! Faith is looking for team members to run the California International Marathon this December, right here in Sacramento. You can choose to run the full marathon (26.2 miles) or run parts of it in relay (5-7 miles).

As part of the team you can dedicate your race to a worthy cause, fighting poverty in Ethiopia and supporting our partnership with Abaya. We will be fund raising for a water and sanitation project that is underway in Ethiopia through World Vision. This project will bring clean, healthy water and education to communities in Ethiopia and will directly benefit our friends in Abaya. So what do you say? Get fit. Raise awareness. Raise funds. Change lives. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Char at 916-425-3420.

Marriage Enrichment Workshop: A Great Opportunity for Couples



A marriage enrichment workshop is being offered for six weeks beginning on September 17th. Each session will be held on Friday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Faith and child care will be provided. The workshop will end on Friday November 5th and there will be NO workshop on Friday, October 22nd. Cost of the workshop is \$75.00 per couple, plus \$30.00 (which is paid online) for the assessment. The workshop will be limited to six couples.

The workshop is built upon PREPARE-ENRICH material which is designed to (1) increase awareness of both strength and potential growth areas in your relationship; (2) stimulate discussion concerning issues vital to the relationship; (3) prime couples for learning valuable communication and conflict resolution skills; and, (4) function as a preventive tool to help couples gain awareness of important issues before they become major concerns.

Each participant will take a customized on-line assessment which consists of the following core areas of couple functioning: Communication, conflict resolution, partner style and habits, financial management, leisure activities, sexual expectations, family and friends, relationship roles, and spiritual beliefs. Computer generated assessment results are compiled in a ten page couples report. In addition to receiving the couples report, each couple will be provided a workbook that contains more than 20 exercises covering 14 different content areas.

Steve and Carlene Mauch will be presenting the workshop. For more information on the workshop, you may contact Carlene at 421-6663.



3 TREATS THAT MAKE YOU SMARTER

Having a razor-sharp wit sure makes dinner parties more fun. And these three dinner-party treats might give your wit the edge: wine, chocolate, and tea. A study shows that indulging in them on a regular basis may help keep minds sharper over the long haul. Compared with those in the study who rarely touched treats, the participants who regularly enjoyed them had better cognitive performance on tests.

A Tenacious Trio

Of all three treats, wine delivered the most powerful memory-preserving punch in a recent study on older volunteers. The vino aficionados were 41% to 50% less likely to suffer memory loss than those who never indulged. Next was chocolate, followed by tea. And although consuming each food or drink separately helped improved memory, volunteers who regularly enjoyed all three had the keenest wits of all.

A Little Goes a Long Way

But you don't have to own a wine cellar or buy stock in Hershey's to reap rewards. A little indulgence went a long way in the study. Volunteers with the sharpest wits downed as little as 1/3 ounce of chocolate, 3 ounces of wine, or 7 ounces of tea daily. Researchers credit the high-flavonoid content of these three indulgences with fighting inflammation, protecting against free-radical assaults, and enhancing communication between brain cells.

Faith Sponsors 60 Children in Abaya, Ethiopia!

Following our first ever Hope Sunday on August 1st, we now have 60 children in Abaya, Ethiopia, who are sponsored through World Vision by members of Faith Presbyterian Church! What a fantastic response. And on a week when Faith sent 25 of its members to serve the hungry and homeless of Denver and also when three homeless families were welcomed to stay in our facilities through Family Promise. How exciting to see all that God is doing through the faithfulness and compassion of this congregation. If you missed Hope Sunday, below is a copy of the covenant into which we have entered with the people of Abaya through World Vision. Stay tuned!



Faith's Covenant to the People of Abaya

The people of Faith Presbyterian Church have devoted considerable prayer, exploration, reflection and discussion to discern how we are being called to serve God's people beyond the boundaries of our own nation. This process leads us now to affirm that God has called us into this covenant relationship with World Vision and the people in the Abaya region of Ethiopia.

Through this covenant relationship, the people of Faith Presbyterian Church, working with World Vision, will share God's considerable blessings by encouraging and supporting a sustained physical, social and spiritual transformation of the people of the Abaya Area Development Project (ADP). Through this relationship we are confident that God will also be at work transforming the hearts and minds of the people of Faith Church.

Our Covenant

Time Commitment: Knowing that sustainable holistic transformation takes considerable time, we are committed to a long-term relationship that that will be evaluated by Session annually.

Prayer Commitment: We will regularly pray, both corporately and individually, for the people of the Abaya region, the churches and church leadership, and the leadership of World Vision. Likewise, we will ask that the people of Abaya and World Vision regularly pray for the people and leadership of Faith Presbyterian Church.

Education Commitment: We will create regular opportunities for the people of Faith to learn about Ethiopia and the people of Abaya, their needs, their culture, and their history.

Listening Commitment: We are committed to regular communication with World Vision and the leadership of the Abaya ADP. We will participate in the roles of listener, learner, servant, sponsor and friend, leaving the project leadership and management to the community and ADP staff.

Child Sponsorship Commitment: The World Vision Child Sponsorship program is the primary basis by which the development programs in Abaya are funded. We will therefore regularly promote opportunities for the people of Faith to sponsor children living in the Abaya region.

Special Project Funding Commitment: As a part of the annual budgeting process, Session will prayerfully consider opportunities to fund special projects based on the needs identified by World Vision leadership and the priorities established for the communities of Abaya. We will also encourage the people of Faith to allow the spirit to work through them to identify new and creative ways that we may joyfully raise funds for special projects that will benefit the people of Abaya.

Vision Trip Commitment: To be in relationship with the people of Abaya requires that we establish a sustained personal connection. We are therefore committed to regularly sending vision teams to Abaya. We will also seek opportunities to host Abaya leadership visits to Sacramento.

Evaluation Commitment: Given the long-term nature of this commitment, it is essential that we regularly evaluate the results of this partnership. Of greatest importance will be to develop an understanding of how we see God at work through this relationship. We will also assess how well all parties are responding to each aspect of our covenant. The primary intent of this evaluation is to discern how God is calling us to grow the relationship with our Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Free Stuff! (It's not a scam, it's Faith's List)

If you love a great bargain – and what's better than free? – check out the Faith's List website. Church members post stuff they have to give away or loan for free. Or, they post things they need that you may have to give or loan. You can even post jobs you know are available; or, if you have a business to promote, tell us what goods or services you provide. It's a 21st century way to be a good steward of God's resources, and to offer help to others in the Faith community who may need it.



How to “shop”

Go to www.faithpresby.org, click on the “Our Community” tab, and find the Faith's list tab at the top of the page. Available items will be listed, along with contact information

How to post an item

Simply send an e-mail to faithslist@faithpresby.org describing your item to post. Please include a contact number. And don't forget to e-mail us again if the item is taken, so we can remove it from the site. Remember, Faith's List does not accept items to sell. Everything posted must be free.

Visit Faith's List today!

What's On Faith's List Today? Here's a sampling...

Currently available are a three-drawer file cabinet, a 10-gallon fish tank, a twin bed with mattress and frame, an office desk system, a portable air conditioner, a large round dining table and a twin bed with mattress. Plus, information about several members looking for work, including a reliable housesitter/pet sitter – just in time for your upcoming vacation.