

Volume 15, Issue 8

September 2014



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SAN LEANDRO

HIGHLIGHTS



THE STORY

READ THE STORY
EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE

We are beginning an exciting program called THE STORY in September, and we hope you will be a part of it! THE STORY reads like a novel, and is taken from the NIV translation of the Bible. It is almost entirely Scripture, telling the Bible story in 31 thematic chapters in chronological order. Word-for-word passages from Scripture are put together in such a way that you can practically read the entire Bible in these 31 chapters. Short paragraphs are inserted when necessary, written in italics so it is clear that these are short transitions to help the Scriptures read like a story.

This is a great way to read the Bible in nine months! We will be using THE STORY curriculum for our Sunday morning adult education class at 11:00 am, and we will also have a Monday evening class at 7:00 pm.

The Children's Sunday School class will use THE STORY curriculum as well, so you and your children will be studying the same passage each week and can have a meaningful discussion later.

The Sunday morning worship service and sermons will also coordinate with the 31 chapters of The Story. There will be an introductory sermon on September 14th, and then we will dive into the first chapter about Creation on September 21st. Be sure to stop by the table in Fellowship Hall on September 7th and 14th, to purchase your copy of The Story and the Participant's Guide for the adult education classes. The children's curriculum will also be on display at the table.

ALL CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our church will be putting together a new All-Church Directory for 2015! We have arranged with LifeTouch Photographers to have professional photographs taken on Thursday-Friday, October 16-17, and on Friday-Saturday, October 24-25. Everyone who has their portrait taken receives a free 8 x 10, and can select the photo that they would like included in the

pictorial directory.

We hope that everyone in our CHURCH FAMILY will participate, so that we will have a complete directory for the coming years! Sign-ups will begin in September, during coffee fellowship time, or you may go to our church website and sign up there.

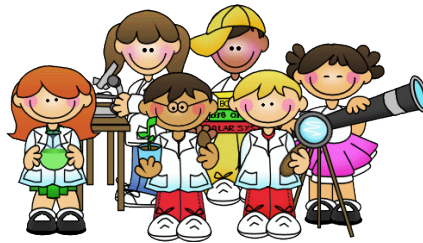


WONDERS ON WEDNESDAY KICKS OFF ON SEPTEMBER 3rd

Our Wonders on Wednesday fellowship program will be kicking off on September 3rd at 6:00 pm! The WOW program is for children and youth entering Kindergarten through Junior High. (Senior Highs will be kicking off their program on Thursday evening, September 4th this year. They will switch to Wednesday on September 17th.)

The theme for our kick-off will be MAD SCIENCE, so after a delicious dinner and root beer floats, we will be doing some science experiments around Fellowship Hall.

Don't miss it! The whole family is invited for dinner at 6:00 pm! Parents and siblings will be asked to contribute \$3 each for their dinner; the cost of dinner for WOW members will be included in their registration fee. Parents will need to register their child(ren) and sign up for their volunteer job at WOW upon arrival. Our fun will conclude at 7:30 pm.



Then on September 10th, our regular program times will begin. Children entering Kindergarten through Fifth Grades come at 4:00 p.m. for the start of their program, and Junior Highs will come at 5:15 p.m. for dinner and their program. The cost for the first semester will be \$65 for the first child in a family, and \$55 for each additional child. This covers dinner, arts/crafts supplies, and special prizes and activities. Senior highs will be asked to contribute \$40 each semester for meals. Scholarship help and payment plans are available - please see Jane Kraut or call the church office.

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th

We are having our all-church picnic on Sunday, September 14th at 11:30 a.m. at Chabot Park. We have a wonderful picnic area reserved for us at the upper portion of Lake Chabot - just take Estudillo Avenue under the freeway to get to that portion of the park. The church will provide chicken and hot dogs, buns, condiments, paper goods and beverages.



Please bring a dish to share - salad, fruit, or dessert. A great variety of games and activities for ALL AGES are being planned by Shawn Jezek and the Peak students, so we are in for a fabulous time together! Don't miss this opportunity to finish your summer in a fun way! Our fall church program, including Sunday School classes at the 11:00 hour, will begin the following Sunday (September 21st).

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CLASS BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11th

The Women's Bible Study class will be meeting on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 1:00 pm, beginning September 11th. This fall we are going to continue studying the life of David. We are using Eugene Peterson's book called Leap Over a Wall: Earthy Spirituality for Everyday Christians, which consists of

20 studies on David taken from I and II Samuel and I Kings.

David's story is the most extensively narrated story in the Bible - we know more about David than any other person in Holy Scripture. Newcomers are welcome.

If you would like to join this group but you don't have the

book and study guide, please see Anne Swanson right away.



Women's Bible Study

SEPTEMBER 2014

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|--|-----------|--|
| 31 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee | 1 | 2 7:30 PM Christian Ed, Evangelism, Group Life, Church in the World, Pastoral Care | 3  6:00 PM WOW Kick-Off Dinner | 4 6:00 PM PEAK KICK OFF 6:17 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir | 5 | 6 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Women's Fellowship Breakfast 10:00 AM Back to School Hike |
| 7 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 12:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 2:00 PM Memorial Service | 8 | 9 3:00 PM Presbytery - FPC Oakland | 10 4:00 PM WOW | 11 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM PEAK 6:17 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir | 12 | 13 |
| 14 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee 11:30 AM All Church Family Picnic  | 15 | 16 7:30 PM Session Meeting | 17 4:00 PM WOW 5:15 PM PEAK | 18 11:30 AM Young at Heart Luncheon  6:17 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir | 19 | 20 9:00 AM Choir Workshop  |
| 21 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee/Donuts 11:00 AM Sunday School Classes 11:00 AM "THE STORY" Class BEGINS  | 22  7:00 PM "THE STORY" Class BEGINS | 23  Deacons 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting | 24 4:00 PM WOW 5:15 PM PEAK | 25 1:00 PM Women's Bible Study  6:17 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir | 26 | 27 |
| 28 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee 11:00 AM Sunday School Classes 11:00 AM "THE STORY" Class | 29 7:00 PM "THE STORY" Class | 30 | 1 4:00 PM WOW 5:15 PM PEAK | 2 6:17 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir | 3 | 4 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Women's Fellowship Breakfast |

WITH HEART AND HANDS PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The prayer shawl ministry here at First Presbyterian Church is alive, well, and about to embark on our 7th year as a ministry. It is only fitting that we mark this milestone by reflecting on where we have been. One of the ways we are doing this is to focus on a project we did a few years ago involving Knit-A-Square (KAS). There are an estimated 1.9 million orphans in South Africa. Many of them have lost their parents due to HIV/AIDS or have simply been abandoned. Knit-A-Square is a program that was created to encourage knitters and crocheters around the world to send squares directly to South Africa where they are joined together into blankets for

children. The squares should be 8" x 8", in any type of yarn, any pattern, in any color. Please leave a 20" tail to be used for joining the squares later and also to use patterns that are more dense (without gaps/holes). It takes 35 squares to make one blanket, so we welcome everyone's participation.

The more squares we can make, the more children we will help keep warm. If you have questions, please see or email Michele Johnson (fpcprayershawls@gmail.com) or visit www.knit-a-square.com.

"Perhaps the most heart-warming outcome of your efforts is that the children receive a hand-made gift which not only keeps them warm but sends them a message, from the world, that their plight is known."
-KAS website

With Hearts and Hands Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the 1st Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. EVERYONE, regardless of skill level or age, is welcome.



OUR SYMPATHY

Our church family was saddened by the deaths of two long-time church members:

Harriet Engberg (June 22, 2014)

Virginia Mathisen (August 7, 2014)

There is a memorial service for Harriet Engberg on Sunday, September 7th at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary.

A memorial service for Virginia Mathisen will take place later in the year.



Jesus said,
"I am the resurrection and the life.
All who believe and trust in me
shall not die, but live in eternity
with me."

ILLUMINATE: CONFERENCE FOR SIXTH THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE GIRLS

Calling all middle school and high school girls! An exciting conference called ILLUMINATE is taking place at Redwood Chapel in Castro Valley, Friday evening, September 26 and all day Saturday, September 27. We are invited to join with girls from all over the bay area! The theme this year is "Masked: Made for More." A great speaker and worship band will lead us.

Cost is \$20 before September 1, so see Cheryl Perenon or Ali VanSyckle if you are interested! For more information, visit illuminateconf.com.



ALL CHURCH RETREAT 2014

Our Annual All-Church Retreat will be held at Westminster Woods beginning on Friday, October 10th at 7:00 pm and concluding on Sunday afternoon, October 12th at 1:00 pm. A great program is planned for all ages! The adult program will feature a video series called "Remembering the Forgotten God" with well-known author/speaker Francis Chan. We will see the video and then have small group discussion. There will also be programs for the children and youth.

Have you signed up yet?? You won't want to miss this weekend of fun and fellowship in the redwoods!! Watch for the registration table in Fellowship Hall during September. The cost for 5 meals and two nights of lodging for adults is \$145, for junior and senior highs \$110, for kindergarten through fifth grades \$75, and for toddlers and preschoolers, \$35.

If you need financial assistance, partial camperships are available - please see Anne Swanson. If you have reserved a space but not paid the deposit, it is due immediately. And final payments are due no later than September 21st.



All Church Retreat

YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON - SEPTEMBER 18th

The Young at Heart program will resume on Thursday, September 18th, with a delicious luncheon of barbecued chicken and potato salad, followed by a great program! We are looking forward to having Don MacInnes, who serves as a docent on the USS Potomac, share with us about President Roosevelt's Floating White House. This will be a fascinating program that you won't want to miss!

Come at 11:30 am for coffee and a time to visit, and bring along a new friend or two! Lunch will follow at 12 noon, followed by the program. Please be sure to sign up on Sunday mornings prior to September 18th, so we can plan accordingly. Everyone is asked to make a donation to cover luncheon expenses on our meeting day. All seniors who are young at heart are welcome ☺

Upcoming Programs:

September 18 - Don MacInnes
about the USS Potomac

October 16 - Steve Kendall
"What Your Handwriting
Reveals About You"

November 20 - Mary Torres
an original "Rosie the Riveter"

December 19 - "The Notables"
from San Leandro High School
returning by popular demand!

BUDGET UPDATE

Thank you for your faithful support of our church during the summer! We are pleased to report that the summer income is keeping pace with our budgeted plan.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL HIKE

Mark your calendars! We will be having a Back to School Hike on Saturday, September 6th. Meet at the church parking lot at 10 am to join the group. See Melissa Seaton if you have any questions.



S.H.A.R.E.S. CARD INCOME

The S.H.A.R.E.S. card brought in \$106.77 for second quarter of this year. Thanks to everyone for using their card at Lucky's, Food Maxx, and Save Mart. If you don't have one, please call Melody at the church office.





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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PERMIT NO. 84

PEAK KICK-OFF
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th
6:00 PM

NEW MEMBER CLASS

There will be a New Member class offered on Sunday afternoon, October 5, 1:30 – 4:00 pm. Anyone interested in joining the church, or learning more about the Christian faith and the Presbyterian reformed tradition, is welcome to attend! Childcare will be provided upon request – please phone the church office by October 1st so we can arrange for a babysitter.



New Member
Class

MEN'S BREAKFAST/ BIBLE STUDY and WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Our Men's Breakfast/Bible Study group and our Women's Fellowship Breakfast will resume

meeting on the first Saturday of September at 7:30 am at Manor Grill.

The men's group will be considering JESUS, THE CARPENTER throughout the year, with various men leading the devotional and discussion each month. The women will continue to enjoy Christian fellowship. Everyone is welcome – see you September 6th!



Bible Study, Breakfast
& Fellowship

YOUTH WEEKENDS AT WESTMINSTER WOODS

It's not too early to begin to plan for a weekend at the Woods with other young people! Mark your calendars now:

November 7-9, 2014:

NovemberBash, a weekend retreat for middle school youth in grades 6-8.

December 5-7, 2014:

DecemberFest, a weekend retreat for high school youth in grades 9-12.