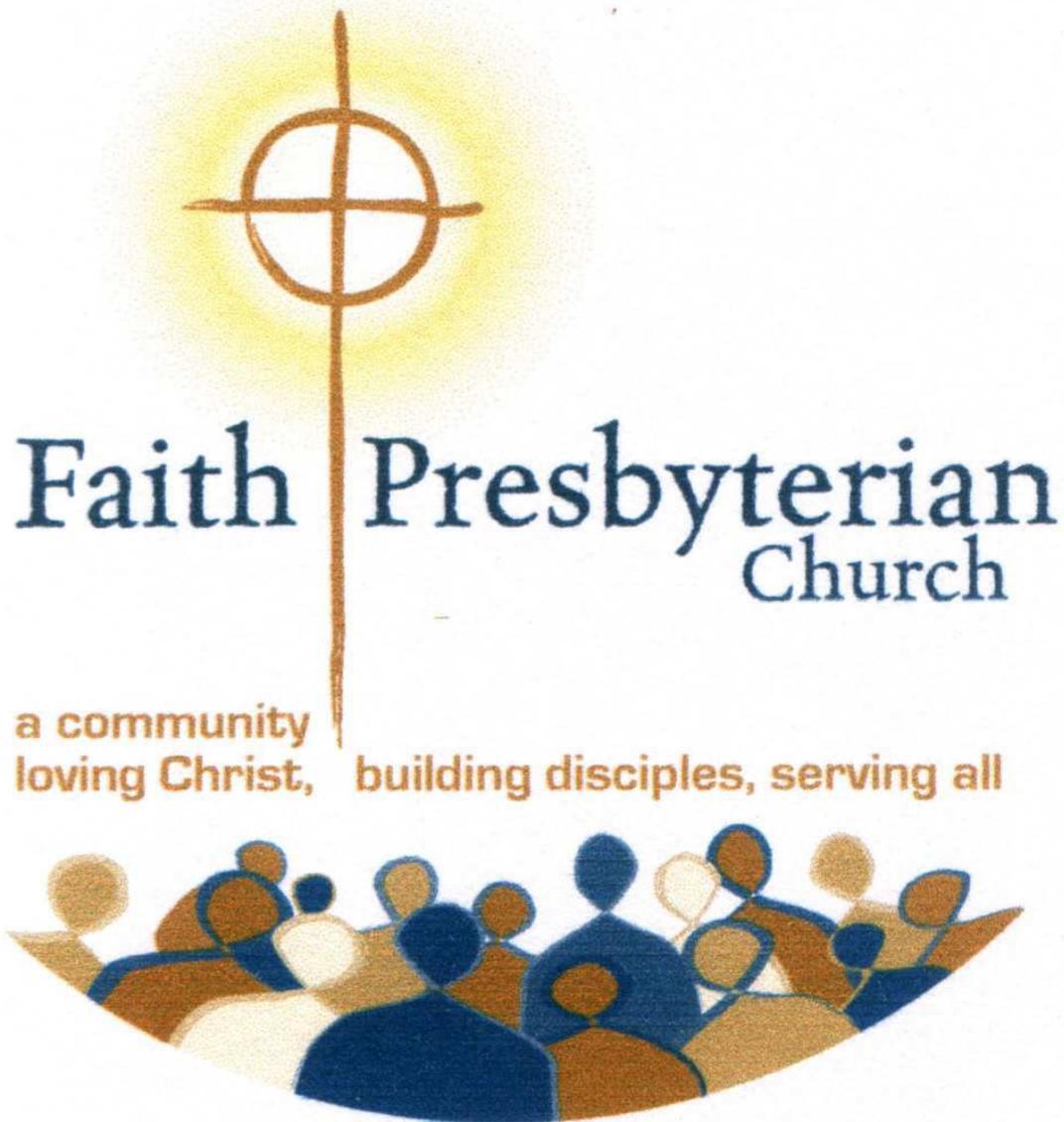


Annual Report 2013



625 Florin Road, Sacramento, CA 95831

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Meeting of the Congregation

Faith Presbyterian Church of Sacramento

Sunday, January 26, 2014

Agenda

Lunch – *Special thanks to the Fellowship Committee and those who helped provide lunch! Team effort!*

Opening Prayer and Remarks

Jeff Chapman, Moderator

Approval of Agenda

-Reminder: This is an official meeting of our congregation required by both our constitution and our by-laws – all members are welcome to vote today!

Report of the Nominating Committee

Hal Turner, Nominating Committee Chair

Review of the Distribution of Gifts

Jennifer Smith, Finance Elder

-Approval of Pastor's Terms of Call

-Giving Thanks for God's Faithfulness

Link Hall Expansion Update

Wally Smith, Building Review Committee Chair
Lee Smith, Property Maintenance Elder

Celebration of God's Work at Faith in 2013

Church Triumphant

Faith in Color – *Special Thanks to Barbara Tracy*

Closing Prayer

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Pastor & Head of Staff

Jeff Chapman

At one point this past fall I went to visit a dear member of our congregation who was in the hospital and had just learned that she likely did not have much longer to live. As I walked down the hospital corridor looking for her room number, I noticed a small crowd gathered outside the door of a room at the end of the hall. As I approached, the crowd looked more like a line waiting to get in and included several faces I immediately recognized from church. Clearly, I was not going to be the only visitor to see this particular patient that day. As it turned out, I had to wait my turn.

I have made many such visits this year. So have many others in our congregation. The sickness or death of even one of our members is difficult to bear. This year has been exceedingly difficult because we have lost so many. There is great sadness in this, sadness as we come to grips with the fact that we no longer have these dear brothers and sisters with us to share in the joy and work of this life.

In the midst of this sadness, however, I have been both humbled and encouraged by the fact that this is a congregation that takes Christ's call to love and care for one another so seriously. What happened to me that day in the hospital is not unique. When I have tried to come alongside people and families who are facing the hardest of circumstances, I often find that I am "late" to join the effort. So many others are already there, alongside those people in ways that often involve extraordinary amounts of tenderness and sacrifice.

In I Corinthians 12, Paul is writing a beautiful description of the church, comparing the church to a body. In verse 26 he writes, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it." This is true of my own physical body. When I've got a driving headache, my whole body feels lousy. This is how God intends it to work with his church, a community of people intimately knit together by the Holy Spirit. I praise God for the ways I have seen this evidenced this year at Faith. When one of our members has suffered, so many of you have come right alongside and suffered with them. This is, by definition, compassion. This is also one of the most powerful ways we share in the life of Christ, the one who came into our world to suffer with us and for us.

There are many things I could write about this year in this annual report. In many ways it has been a wonderful and joyous year. I could list many but a few come to mind:

We have at last taken steps to expand our crowded and overused building, and our congregation responded generously to the Step of Faith campaign, which has set in motion a plan that will culminate with a brand new addition this year.

Though we said goodbye to Patrick and Quinn Vaughn this year and celebrated God's new call on their lives, we have watched the seeds they and others have planted continue to bear great fruit in our youth and family ministries.

We concluded a two-year journey through the Gospel of John on Sunday mornings and in Life Groups. This journey led so many of us more deeply into an understanding of and relationship with Christ.

Our commitment to mission expanded as we invested even more time and resources in Abaya, SSIP, Family Promise, Pocket Area Churches Together, and so many more.

I celebrate all that God has done in and through us this past year, and yet as I sit down to write this report, it is the compassionate heart of Christ which I have seen displayed in so many people this year in the midst of so much loss that I most want to celebrate. On more than one occasion a grieving family has told me that they do not know how people get through such grief without the loving support of a Christian community around them. Indeed, I don't know how anybody gets through it without a church like this one.

How great a blessing it is for me to have been called to serve among you for yet another year. Truly, I am grateful.

Jeff

Associate Pastor

Jim Zazzera

Where do we see God in life? Where do I see God in my ministry? I find myself asking these questions on a regular basis in my life. Here are a few places in my work in this congregation where I saw God this last year.

Those of us who went on the Faith Mission Trip last summer stayed at a place called Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center. While we served in any number of ways in the Little Rock, Arkansas, area, one story about Ferncliff itself has stayed with me. It is a story about how God used this camp to serve others. In 1998, two young boys, 11 and 13, opened fire at Westside Middle School, in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and killed four children and a teacher. As you might imagine, the incident caused deep pain and damage to everyone involved or connected with the school. As we rode around the camp on their solar-powered cart, somewhere near an old chapel building we were told the story of how in 1998 Ferncliff opened themselves up to these children and that school. Ferncliff, in partnership with the people of Jonesboro, put together a “Healing Camp” experience for the young people of Westside School. Counselors and artists, ministers and teachers helped to lead this event. The children played music, ate, cried, created art, wrote letters, formed friendships, hiked in the woods, shared their fears, sang, and laughed in 100-degree heat. Many of the children returned year after year (through high school) to continue the healing begun at this camp. This camp put itself in service of the needs of these children and their community. *Surely the presence of God made the healing possible.*

Over the past few years our deacons have been “extending” our communion to the entire congregation on those Sundays when we celebrate the Lord’s Supper. In the not so distant past, it was usually only the pastors, or the pastors in partnership with a deacon or an elder, who brought communion to those who were homebound. Yet in the last few years, as we have placed this ministry into the hands of our deacons, more people have received communion and consequently have been more deeply connected to Christ and this community. The deacons take this ministry with the utmost seriousness, and person after person tells me how meaningful this is for them in their relationship to Christ and our members. Whether it is at the side of a hospital bed, where Christ’s body lives

in the midst of the tubes and wires and electronic sounds; or in someone’s home, where the host has made sure to prepare a holy place to celebrate the sacrament, God “shows up” in ways we could never have expected. *The message of this practice is that God wants to be present wherever we are.*

At last year’s Men’s & Boys’ Retreat, we ended with a worship service, as we always do. The service included communion, as it always does. But this year we tried something a bit different. Part of the theme of our retreat was how fathers might “bless” and encourage their sons, and how older men can “bless” and encourage younger men. So we thought it made sense to use the ritual of anointing, where men who came forward were anointed and reminded that “you are God’s beloved son, and God is pleased with you.” However, we introduced a slight twist. Those men who came to the retreat with their sons were invited to anoint their own children, and to remind them that God sees them as “beloved.” I had the privilege of standing there as I watched men, sometimes with a bit of fear and trembling, take the oil, make a sign of the cross on the forehead of their sons, and speak holy words to them. It was as moving a moment as I have had in my life here as a pastor. I saw more than one man crying and I had tears in my own eyes as I watched fathers anoint sons and sons receive their blessing. *Surely, this too was a sacramental moment, where God broke into our ordinary lives.*

There are so many ways that God is working in the life of this church. I am just glad I have the opportunity to stand by—more often than I could ever have imagined—and witness the presence of God. All I can do is be grateful.

May we all experience Christ’s amazing peace and grace,

Jim

Clerk of Session

Glenda Arellano, Clerk of Session
 Claire Pisor, Assistant Clerk of Session

The Book of Order defines the role of Clerk of Session as follows (G-9.0203 a & b): “The clerk shall record the transactions of the governing body, keep its rolls of membership and attendance, preserve the records carefully, and furnish extracts from them when required by another governing body of the church... The clerk of the session shall be an elder elected by the session for such term as it may determine.” This year we recognize and honor Joyce Hathaway (1923-2013), who served as Faith’s Clerk for over 20 years.

Annually there is a review of the session minutes by the presbytery. The review of the year 2012 was completed in March 2013. One minor exception was noted and corrected. Following is the membership report for the year 2013:

Membership as of 12/31/2012: 500
Membership as of 12/31/2013: 483

<u>New Members</u>	<u>Losses</u>
Profession of Faith 8	Death 11
Letter of Transfer 6	Transfer 20

<u>Baptisms</u>	
Infant/Children 0	Adults 1

Deaths

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Other Members</u>
Joyce Moore Hathaway 12/11	Diane Rooker 11/08	Elizabeth Ellen Gibson 10/14
*Nancy Bohall Mitchell 12/15	Patrick Tatro 03/19	Adeline L. Johnson 11/09
James W. Park 01/23		Susan M. McWhirter 01/23
Betty Lou Payne 09/20		Dee M. Nicholas 11/01
		Charles Tetlow 08/11

.....
 *Elder and Deacon

Men	Women
187	296

Ethnicity/Race				
Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other (Mixed)
18	13	16	428	8

Estimated Age Ranges				
25 & under	26-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
56	104	105	115	103

Director of Music

Betsy Butler

“Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength...”

What an amazing gift it is to see lives touched by the Spirit through the music of worship. We need only look into the many faces and see the expressions of joy, healing, love, hope and redemption that are ours in faith.

Looking back over this last year, it was great to see that as many as 75 members and friends at Faith have served as part of the music ministry, along with several guest musicians. From the Young Faith Singers to our more veteran musicians, we have enjoyed the beauty of their music and witnessed their commitment.

Week after week, we are often surprised by the working of the Spirit in our midst. There are countless highlights over the course of the year, from the quiet beauty of a song of prayer to a combined anthem with Worship Band, Choir and Brass as we worshipped the true Heart of Christmas. From a song that included a child and an 80-plus-year-old singing together, to the joyous celebration of the resurrection at Easter, it has been a great year to worship together with music.

We continue to appreciate the countless hours of our Faith Chancel Choir as they serve through the school year. I am continually inspired by their commitment and love of the church!

With a number of singers and instrumentalists, our Worship Band continues to bring a spirit of enthusiasm into our worship as they lead our contemporary music.

Our Music Ministry is also assisted by the leadership of Melody Tactaquin, who leads the Young Faith Singers; Dennis Merwin, who leads our Faith Brass Ensemble and writes some of their

arrangements; and Jennifer Mann, our new Music Intern.

We are fortunate to have Thomas Stahl as our organist. His talent, love of music, and ability to play a variety of styles inspire us and ensure the quality and variety of music in our worship services.

What a joy it is to watch the gift of the Spirit in our midst as the people of Faith serve with heart, soul, mind and strength to inspire us all!

I look forward to another year filled with new opportunities.

Betsy Butler

Building & Property Maintenance Ministry

Lee Bush, Elder

2013 was an exciting year for Faith's Property Maintenance Ministry.

In recent years, our ability as a congregation to live out Faith's vision of loving Christ, building disciples and serving all has been challenged and at times hampered by the physical constraints of our existing facility. Sunday mornings were a consistent sold-out show, with every meeting area and classroom taken for children's classes, choir, junior high and high school groups, and adult education. Monday evenings frequently found participants in the Life Together classes meeting in the Narthex for dinner and fellowship because all the other meeting rooms were occupied. Tuesday mornings are still the best example of challenging space utilization, as Bible Study Fellowship occupies every spare room, hallway, and open space for discussion and lecture.

Given the demands of our internal and external programs, the congregation agreed that additional space was necessary. The "Step of Faith" vision includes expanded meeting rooms to accommodate teaching and spiritual growth, a larger kitchen to facilitate fellowship around shared meals, and an expanded fellowship hall to include more members and guest events.

Once the Step of Faith vision was approved, the Property Committee worked to identify the architect and contractor who could help us best meet our goals. For our team, 2013 included countless meetings with architects, contractors, and various municipal departments in an effort to bring our expansion plan to fruition.

The Building Committee has spent hundreds of hours in the preparation of this expansion, and we look forward to 2014 as the year of building.

Committee members include:

David Ainsworth
David Anders
Lee Bush
Jeff Chapman
Kryisia Falltrick
Ken Finch
Richard Matsunaga
Wally Smith
Dave Williamson

Children's Ministry

Christine Mendoza, Director of Children's Ministry

Vicky Chastain, Christian Education Elder

Children's Ministry: A Review & Introduction

Guiding Scripture: Ephesians 3:16-19 (NIV) — May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith. And may you be rooted and established in love, and have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is this love of Christ.

Our mission is to help children come to know Jesus and experience his deep and intimate love for them. Our children are surrounded by many people who love and encourage them. These people include their parents (of course) and the Children's Ministry team, which consists of several groups within the larger body: the **Nursery** – Lara Roach, Jaclyn Mendoza, Julia Latimer, Isabel Chapman, Mary Petralli, Matt Berger, Maegan Reynolds, Samantha Parillo, Shayne Tactaquin, Alison Reynolds, Lissette Arias and Lori Rapier; **Godly Play** – Christine Mendoza, Connor Hankey, Damian Thomson, Debbie Skall, Gail Alexis, Ileana Selling, Isabel Chapman, Jaclyn Mendoza, Jason Rock, Julia Latimer, Kevin Clark, Mallory Hubler, Margaux Warren, Michelle Norris, Pam Rock, Sharon Havers and Sheri Brucato; and **Kairos Quest** – Andeen Lovett, DiAnne Brown, Hazel Watson, Jeff Brown, Kathy Stern, Mary Petralli, Matt Berger, Mike Sanchez, Naomi Roberts, Rick Stern, Vicky Chastain and Zarrin Sanchez.

Nursery: Infant and Toddler Ministry

Welcome to the Nursery, where we share God's love with the youngest at Faith Presbyterian. As the children enter the nursery with their parents, familiar church nursery songs can be heard. We lead the children around the room to see what God has made. Each week we talk about a different aspect of the Creation story and include materials related to the lesson – stuffed animals, finger puppets, puzzles, pictures, and books.

The children are encouraged to explore the room and to play with the available activities. If a child is unsure about their parents leaving, we blow bubbles and ensure the child feels welcome. All the children are encouraged to add their name to our "Who is here today?" board so they know they are a part of our community.

Once the children's sermon is complete, other children will sometimes come in and join us, and then we begin our lesson time. Each child picks out a carpet circle and sits down. Even the youngest ones are

encouraged to sit and listen to the story and sing songs. After a small snack, we sing a welcoming song and welcome each child by name. We open the "Big Bible" to "see what God has made," and then we read books and sing songs related to the lesson. While the children sing, they have shakers and bells to make music with us. We finish with a short prayer, thanking God for what he has made. The children then help pick up the carpet circles, after which they can do an art project or return to exploring the room.

When the parents arrive to pick up their children, we share the lesson with them. We thank the children for coming and tell them we will see them next week. We invite you to see for yourself what God has in store for the nursery at Faith!

Godly Play: Preschool to Second Grade Ministry

The quiet voice of God is heard in Godly Play. As you walk into the classroom, you probably won't notice the simple white shelves that blend right into the walls. Instead, you'll likely be drawn to the materials on these "invisible" shelves: the different hues of the natural woods, the heft of the brass, the richness of the velvet. As you walk the perimeter of the room, you'll realize that each of the many arrays tells one of God's glorious stories: creation, Noah and the ark, Sarah and Abraham, the birth of the Baby Jesus, the road to Emmaus. The room is set up with deliberate order. All of the Old Testament stories together, the New Testament stories together, the parables together, and the lessons about worship.

When it's time for the children to arrive, the "greeter" stands at the door to welcome them. He gets down to their eye level and welcomes them by name in a quiet voice. This helps the children walk into this sacred space with reverence. The children join together in a circle in the center of the room for the Bible lesson. They are surrounded by the story of God and a candle is lit to remind them of the presence of Christ in this place. The storyteller begins to tell the story through actions, words and teaching artifacts – the story of Sarah and Abraham. She places a large sand-filled box in front of her and begins, "The desert is a dangerous place..." She does not make eye contact, allowing the children to get lost in the presentation of the lesson. All of the

Children's Ministry, *continued*

wiggles disappear, there is not a sound in the room, and not one child interrupts. As the story ends, the wondering begins and the children are drawn further into the story, guided by the storyteller: "I wonder what part of the story you liked best?" "I wonder what part of the story is most important?" "I wonder what God wants you to know about Him from this story?"

As the wondering discussion fades, the children are invited to explore their thoughts, ideas and feelings about the story through expressive art or through retelling one of God's stories. One little girl states, "I want to work with the Creation." Another child chooses to paint the story about Abraham and Sarah's journey in the desert. One young boy builds an ark out of wood tiles with his friend. Another child draws himself playing soccer. Slightly frustrated by the irrelevance to the story, the leader asks how the picture shows him God. He replies, "Sometimes I am scared to play soccer out there by myself, but then I look at the great big sky and remember that God is with me." The storyteller smiles.

Submitted by,
Christine Mendoza

Kairos Quest: Third Grade to Fifth Grade Ministry

So today is my morning to lead a dozen 3rd to 6th graders through a Kairos Quest "Sunday school" lesson, with the help of my wise and trusted co-leader Andeen (who has been helping with the Sunday morning program and VBS ever since she realized her gift with children). As always, our Children's Ministry Director Christine has done all the heavy lifting: emailing the lesson, setting up room 4, and providing any and all accessories we may need. I have gone over the lesson, read the Scripture, and planned our time together. After a quick prayer asking God to bless this hour in particular, all that remains is the arrival of the best and brightest upper elementary-school children you could ever hope to find. Talk about a challenge!

As they come bursting into the room after the Children's Message, we attempt to settle in by lighting the trio of candles (which Bereket reminds us signifies the Holy Trinity and that Christ is present in our room), a prayer and the collection of the offering.

The children know that as they pass the plate, they may offer money OR silently pledge to do something this week that will please God and help others. We are led in the Doxology by Molly (Have you heard her sing?!?), attendance is taken, and our Bibles are at the ready.

We begin with Scripture, both reading and listening to the passage for today. We are all listening for a Kairos moment, that moment when God intersects the day of His people in an amazing and tangible way. Today this is fairly straightforward – God has sent angels to tell the shepherds of Jesus' birth. We talk a little bit about how God touches us some days with obvious messages and how, on other days, we are not really sure what He is trying to tell us. Christopher and Matthew remind us that sometimes we do not realize a Kairos moment until much later in the day or week, like when you decide to sit with a new student at school and later on realize you have made a new friend. (Have you sat next to or greeted a new church visitor lately?) Emily challenges us with a question about the Scripture passage which has us looking at the message in a slightly different way. (Do you appreciate that Life Group member who actually makes you think?)

Once we "get" God's message, do we act on it or do we keep it to ourselves? The shepherds had the right idea and wanted to spread the news. This morning we move on to an awesome activity involving Christmas stockings filled with items the shepherds might have appreciated back in the day, including a flashlight, cell phone, and the letter U (which Nathan interpreted for us as being a reminder that YOU, as in each of us, can help spread God's love). As today's acolyte, Bobby leaves to participate in the sanctuary worship service; the rest of us gather up Bibles, say a prayer, and head out to enjoy being with our larger church family during fellowship time.

As you have no doubt figured out, our children are learning to live our mission statement at a very young age: "a community loving Christ, building disciples, serving all." Whether in our Nursery with Lara and her enthusiastic team of assistants, or in the Godly Play and Kairos Quest classrooms with the many devoted rotating volunteer leaders for whom I am truly grateful, our children are not only the future of the church, they ARE the church, and we would be wise to follow their lead.

With a grateful heart for children,
Vicky Chastain

Christian Education Ministry—Adults

Walter Newport, Elder

Objectives and Purpose

Adult Formation aims to encourage and motivate members of our community to develop along a path that will make them ever more Christ-like through the study of scripture and through our communal life of faith.

The 2013-2014 Vision Team

The following people have comprised our Adult Education Vision Team for 2013-2014: Liz Gibson, Sue Hooper, Ann Johnson, Elder Walter Newport, Barbara Tracy, Rick Williams and Pastor Jim Zazzera.

Events during 2013

Opportunities in Adult Education

Classes and seminars have been offered throughout the year, typically on Sunday mornings between worship services, and during some afternoons and evenings during the week. Rev. Rick Hull taught *Right Side Up In an Upside Down World: Paul's Letter to the Colossians*, and *Lessons I Learned in Reform School: A Bible Course on Reformation Thinking* on Tuesday evenings. Pastor Zazzera also led an adult discussion group on Wednesdays to discuss the book, *Just Spirituality: How Faith Practices Fuel Social Action*. This year, the discussion is on C. S. Lewis' works, including selections from the Narnia series, *A Grief Observed*, *Mere Christianity* and *Surprised by Joy*. Alice Parente led an evening study of *Companions in Christ: The Way of Prayer*. Jim Zazzera and Walter Newport presented John Ortberg's *Jesus – Who is this Man?* In August, Rick and Kathy Stern conducted an intergenerational Sunday School class on the Gospel of Mark for families and others, and later led discussions on R. C. Sproul's video series, *Christian Worldview*, as contrasted with many other popular worldviews in our society today, such as pragmatism and relativism.

Life Groups are small groups that meet weekly for Bible study, prayer and fellowship in order to nurture participants' spiritual growth and formation. Other groups of three, called "Triads," also sometimes meet for deeper discussion and exploration of faith. Pastor Jeff Chapman has continued to offer his Life Together course, which is geared towards bringing together people who want to grow spiritually with one another in practical ways so as to become more devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

The Library

Faith's Library in room 2 is still woefully understocked, understaffed, and "underorganized." However, progress is slowly being made, in spite of the recent losses to our library crew due to Liz Gibson's death and Sam Cadeaux's impending transfer of his considerable talents to his role as deacon. We remain optimistic that others who have knowledge and experience with libraries will step up to help us out.

Annual Retreats

Dawn Roarty organized our Women's Retreat in May at the Mercy Center in Auburn; and our Men's and Boys' Retreat was enjoyed at Westminster Woods in early June with Pastor Mike Leuken as special speaker. September's All Church Retreat at Zephyr Point in Tahoe featured Scot McKnight leading us under the title, "I Love Jesus, But What About Paul?" We are looking forward to an encore with Scot McKnight at the All-Church Retreat in September 2014.

Communications Ministry

David Nash, Elder

“Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.” These are lyrics from *Go Tell it on the Mountain*, an African-American song compiled by John Wesley Work, Jr., dating back to at least 1863. These lyrics are an inspiration to those who evangelize, spreading the good news of the coming of Christ, and they are a source of inspiration for the Communications Ministry team. “Telling it on the mountain” was the way it was done in the days of the prophets, the disciples and Jesus himself. Word of mouth was the primary form of communication.



Johannes Gutenberg, first Holy Bible printing, 1454

Many things have changed through the evolution of new communication tools. In 1454, the first book printed with moveable type, The Holy Bible, was printed by Johannes Gutenberg in Mainz, Germany. That changed everything. The Bible could now be printed in quantity and distributed throughout the world. Since then many other remarkable changes have occurred affecting how we communicate. Alexander Graham Bell invented the first telephone and tested it successfully on June 2, 1875; Marconi and the radio in 1894; John Baird and television in 1926. International Business Machines (IBM) released the IBM 650, the advent of computers as we now know them, in 1954; in the 1960's, Professor Leonard Kleinrock's computer science

laboratory at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), developed the Internet and in 1982 introduced the internet protocol suite (TCP/IP). On April 1, 1976, Steve Jobs and friends invented the first Apple Macintosh in his garage, and Social Media had its breakthrough with the founding of Facebook by Mark Zuckerberg in 2004. The ways we communicate have certainly changed significantly, and the world along with them, since the advent of electronic media.

It is the Communications Ministry's goal to utilize every communications media format to evangelize the good word of the Lord and to promote Christian education, fellowship, mission, outreach and stewardship at Faith Presbyterian Church. Each week the church staff creates the bulletin that we use to guide us during worship, including announcements of upcoming fellowship events and service opportunities. Laura Anderson sends out the weekly Top 5 via email, the monthly electronic link to the PresbyNews newsletter, and other timely communications, such as news of upcoming memorial services and the pastor's Friday announcement about the upcoming sermon.

Each month, Editor Suzy Hughes gathers articles from various sources and designs the layout of the PresbyNews newsletter with the help of proofreaders Tracy Cumming, Janelle Hendricks, Mark Lushenko and Jim Tracy. This is one of our main sources for communicating with the congregation. Liz Gibson served as our proofreader for the last 3 years until her untimely passing in 2013.

DiAnne Brown attends to providing content and formatting for the faithpresby.org website, along with Christine Mendoza (Children's Ministry), David Nash (general), Pastor Jim Zazzera (Adult Education) and Greg Rapier (Youth Ministry). (We are currently seeking a volunteer to tend the Faith's List posting; if interested, please talk with me.) Steve Harper is our webmaster, ensuring all behind-the-

Communications Ministry, *continued*

scenes technology runs smoothly. Joe Parente is our Podmaster, ensuring the weekly sermon is linked to our website.

Two years ago Brien Bell launched our facebook.com /FaithPresbyterianChurch Facebook page. Janelle Hendricks posts the daily scripture from our church devotional, "Seeking God's Face," each morning at 6 a.m. Esther Chapman posts the Top 5 through the week, in addition to special features and pictures. Brien Bell and David Nash also contribute content to the page. Thank you to Hazel Watson who just "retired" after 2 years of uploading posts.



Heather Ravas is taking over from David Nash the creation of posters for the Narthex and Link Hall foyer marquees. Once she creates the poster, she also saves it as a JPEG image and loads it on an SD card for the Narthex TV and for the website homepage slideshow.

Our Media Center Operators keep the sound and visuals functioning to your expectations in the Sanctuary. In 2013 we worked with Pastor Patrick Vaughn to G.E.T. (Guide, Encourage, Train) five new youth operators. Joining the team is the next generation of church leadership that includes Noel Chapman, Josh Clark, Conner Hankey, Spencer Hankey and Nick Voskes. It is encouraging to see how God is working through these youth. Filling out the roster of media center operators are Dave Anders, Kevin Clark, Jon Coupal, Sylvia Dhillon, Rick Hom, Kevin Menager, David Nash, Joe Parente and Pat Smith. Doc DaCastello lends his talents and helps out with maintenance issues. Thank you to Don Sperling who just retired after over 20 years of service.

The Communications Ministry is taking advantage of every media format given to us, from Gutenberg to Zuckerberg, to ensure the congregation

is aware of all God has blessed us with and the opportunities we have to serve and fellowship.

A sincere word of encouragement and thanks to all who volunteer as part of the ministry. Sometimes the tasks are laborious and time consuming, and it can be hard to fit them into our daily lives. Please know how grateful I am for the many ways you use every (media) means possible to continue to "go tell it on the mountain," sharing the good news that Jesus Christ is born.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." (Isaiah 52:7)

In the peace of Christ,

David A. Nash

Deacons' Ministry

Bill Kirk, Moderator

Most of us feel we have had to attend far too many memorial services this year; we have had to release too many beloved friends and family members. Memorial services are times of both grief and celebration. And in the midst of every service and reception, you will always find the deacons of this church, offering loving hospitality and support. So much goes into a memorial service – before, during and after. One deacon might partner with a pastor and meet with the family to plan the memorial service. Another deacon might bake cookies. Yet another makes sure the narthex is presentable and welcoming. Deacons create a welcoming family space in the choir room and set up Link Hall with tables, chairs, linens and flowers. We seek to serve all who come to the memorial service by ushering and handing out worship bulletins, by helping worshippers feel at home in a strange place, by attending to any particular needs of the family or guests. After everyone else has gone home, deacons do the long, unheralded work of clean-up. It is truly an amazing ministry. Deacons are the ones who provide the underlying hospitality and welcome at every memorial service, and in so doing mirror the hospitality of our Lord.

Do you know your deacon? The deacon ministry at Faith Presbyterian Church is comprised of 18 individuals who provide care, outreach and compassion to the 20 to 25 households in their respective parishes (people under their care). Every member and regular participant in the life of this church is assigned a deacon from whom to receive support in times of need. The Presbyterian Church USA *Book of Order* recognizes that *it is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.* Our deacons are committed to doing exactly this. We want you to call on us—and we will do our best to be available to you.

2013 has been a wonderful year for our Board of Deacons. As we do every year, we welcomed 6 new deacons (even as we said goodbye to those whose service was completed), and each new person brings his or her unique gifts and commitment. We have had

a particular focus this year on being more efficient and faithful as we serve families at the time of a loved one's memorial service. We have sought to continue to be good stewards of the financial resources we have been given as we manage the many things to which we are committed. We have also spent time in study and prayer and reflection. This year we have begun using a book called *A Spirituality of Caregiving* to help us understand how we can continue to be open to Christ's presence as we serve others.

We seek to serve the congregation in many other ways. We offer **communion to the homebound and hospitalized** to connect us with the presence of God and the community of the church. We offer *Care Notes*, brochures that guide people in times of difficulty. We spend time in prayer for the members of our parishes, and coordinate and participate in the church's **prayer chain**. We seek to offer people ways to use their **time and talents**, especially when someone might need a meal or a helping hand. We continue to develop our **prayer blanket** ministry (now in partnership with the Faith Crafters) as we seek to demonstrate loving support to people in times of need by the offer of a blanket that symbolizes the prayer of our community and God's presence.

At our most recent deacons' meeting, we all joined together in prayer, each touching part of one of the blankets we were sending out to those who are ill. And something in that moment reminded me that we are called to do more than just touch a blanket. We are called to touch lives. And as I listened to our prayers, I sensed that our words meant far more than we could ever know. The Spirit of God was in our midst. God promises to be with all those who call out to the Lord. It struck me that we are all—at the same time—those who are serving and those who need to be served. All of us who are deacons have discovered that.

Family Ministry

Kathy Stern, Family Ministry Coordinator

Kaitlyn Whiteman: Quick-minded, eager, joyful and bright-eyed. Her feet don't yet reach the floor when sitting in the folding chairs in Link Hall. She's robust, watchful of adult cues of behavior, wanting to please, confident to answer questions and not worried about being wrong. She can't read yet. She loves hearing Bible stories. She listens. She gets the wiggles. She's four.

Harry Lewis: Quick-minded, eager, joyful and bright-eyed. He sits solidly in those Link Hall folding chairs. He's robust, models Christ-like behavior, wants to please, is confident to answer questions and not worried about being wrong. He loves God's Word and has for many years. He listens. He's grounded. He's eighty-two.

These two Faith family members were the "bookends" of our summer experiment with Family/Intergenerational Sunday School. They were the youngest and the oldest. During the four Sundays of August, the whole church, young and old, were invited to study and share in discovering truths and lessons using just the Bible in "family groups." Kaitlyn's family consisted of her mom Kristy and her. Harry's family included his wife Norma and other "lone" adults. Every family group looked the same—huddled, heads together, and maybe even a bit uncomfortable: It was new to some families and individuals to handle Scripture, to DIG, DIG DEEPER, and then decide NOW WHAT? The goal of this experiment was twofold: first, to model for parents what family time around the Word might look like in their own homes. Check! Second, to introduce and practice a new, less age-defined model of learning about God and His plans for our lives. Check! Kaitlyn and Harry learning together. Picture it. It's perfect, isn't it?

G.E.T. Faith@Home – Guide, Encourage, Train – is the principle that guides parents and other loving adults as they share their love of Jesus Christ with their children, reminding parents of the call and responsibility they have to be the spiritual leaders in their homes. Family Ministry is fueled by this principle. Our goal is to guide, encourage and train parents through opportunities to fellowship, learn and practice authentic Christian lives in our Faith community.

2013 Fellowships: bowling, swimming, movie on the lawn, Pancakes on the Patio, caroling and pizza, snow cones

2013 Trainings: coffee dates, Family/Intergenerational Sunday School, prayer groups, email encouragement and links, family home groups, Passport2Purity

Fellowship Ministry

Sheridan Smith, Elder

Ministry Purpose

The Fellowship Ministry's purpose is to provide Christian and social opportunities for members and friends of the Faith community to come together to develop closer personal and church ties.

Committee Members: I am extremely grateful for a dedicated, hard-working team comprised of Melodi Andersen, Ellie Boyce, Wilma Cornelius, Virgie Cornelius, Lesley James, Betty McClure, Nancy Nefsky and Jeff Simington. Many thanks to the many people who helped throughout the year with dinners and activities. A special thanks to the Fellowship Team members and Pastor Jeff Chapman, who kept the ministry on track during the first half of the year when the team was without official elder oversight. As we move forward, we will continue to look for more opportunities that create intergenerational fellowship.

2013 Fellowship Activities:

- Congregational meals throughout the year, including the Annual Meeting/Celebration; Ash Wednesday Dinner; Maundy Thursday Dinner; Easter Sunrise Breakfast; and Advent Dinners.

(During the first Advent dinner, attendees signed 96 Christmas cards that were mailed to our wounded troops in support of their service to us. Surplus food from the Advent Dinners was packaged for those who could not attend and distributed through coordination with the deacons.)

- Supper Club did not meet in 2013 (but sign-ups are currently underway for Supper Club 2014).
- Annual Harvest Dinner, Auction & Drawing, held in the fall, which supports the Pat Tatro Memorial Campership Fund.

- Annual Golf Tournament, held in October; planned and organized lunch for approximately 40 participants.
- Coffee Host coordination throughout the year.
- Supply maintenance: ensure the church is well stocked with paper products, coffee, and other supplies related to fellowship gatherings.
- Monthly kitchen maintenance: ensure that items accidentally left out are put away; keep kitchens cleaned and well organized.
- Provided salad for the Pocket Area Churches Together inaugural Bike to Church Day festivities.
- Assisted with Pastor Patrick's going away party in June.

Goals for 2014 and Beyond:

- Provide Christian social opportunities for members and friends of the Faith community that are inclusive of all generations.
- Assist with raising funds for the Pat Tatro Memorial Campership Fund each year.
- Provide more opportunities for members and friends of the Faith community to serve by participating in the planning of fellowship activities.
- Reach out in fellowship to the family and friends of Faith who are confined to home or serving in the military, or otherwise not able to attend worship services and the various social activities.

This is an exciting ministry as we move into the new year. There are many ways to create fellowship. If you would like to join the team on this journey, there is always a place for you. Consider being a Coffee Host, join Supper Club, assist with a meal, help us organize and maintain a kitchen one day a month ... Share your ideas with us! You may contact me, Sheridan Smith, at (916) 421-8942.

Finance Ministry

Jennifer Smith, Elder

Some years ago we had a visiting pastor speak during the Stewardship campaign. I don't remember his name, but I remember his suggestion. While he recognized that we make and pay our pledges in different ways, he suggested that for all of us, there was no better way to start the week than to write the first check to God. Although it's more efficient to write a check once a month, I've made it a habit to write that first check of the week sitting in the pew at church. It's an act that I'm sure no one but me notices and it's really not a big or unusual thing to do, but it is a small way for me to say that God comes first. Whatever your process, have you ever wondered what happens once you drop that gift into the offering plate?

Your gift becomes part of the symphony that is the body of Christ working here at FPC. After the blessing offered by one of our pastors, our offerings are handed off to the Finance Team, specifically the Tellers Team. FPC has 10 tellers who, in rotating teams of two, process the weekly offering for deposit into the bank. Additionally they prepare paper work to track our giving. No discussion of the work of the tellers can go without recognizing the dedicated work by our dear sister Joyce Hathaway. Joyce's dedication to FPC was amazing and will live on for years to come. True story: when Joyce was hospitalized in Reno last spring she called to make sure that the tellers' schedule was completed and distributed. Joyce will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

Other players in the Finance Team orchestra are our office manager Laura Anderson, our treasurer Bill Baker, and our pledge secretary Maria Rodriguez. Maria records your pledges to ensure that you get the necessary paperwork for taxes, and records income in our accounting software (LOGOS). Bill, along with lots of other things, reconciles our bank statements and makes the necessary entries into LOGOS to produce monthly financial reports. Additionally, Bill provides reports to the elders so they can track the expenses of their ministries. Laura handles our payroll and accounts payable. She wears many, many hats with amazing grace, patience, and fortunately a wonderful

sense of humor.

The Finance Team gathers periodically to review processes and procedures. In August we gathered to discuss how the work of the Finance Team harmonizes with the overall mission of FPC: *A Community Loving Christ, Building Disciples, Serving All*. For a bunch of number geeks, we discussed an amazing scope of issues from the history of the building of Link Hall to how we care for people on the other side of the world. We talked about how we use Memorial Fund donations. I learned that the stained glass window cross in the sanctuary was purchased with Memorial Fund money. This led us into a discussion of how the Finance Team can help archive our history; if we don't know our history it is difficult to have a clear vision for our future.

Looking to the future, we have exciting and busy years ahead for the Finance Team. In addition to what is already on our plate, we are preparing for breaking ground on the building expansion project. The construction loan from the Synod has been approved and we are putting processes in place to fund the construction. Stealing a line from Erin Ainsworth who will be coming on as Finance Elder in June, "these are exciting times at FPC." I will finish my term as Finance Elder in June, but I'm not going very far. There is much too much exciting work to be done here and I am finally somewhat fluent in LOGOS. I feel blessed to have been on Session for the past three years and look forward to seeing the vision of this phenomenal team of people played out in the coming years.

With gratitude,

Jennifer Smith

Lay Ministry

Sue Hooper, Elder

The Lay Ministry Team believes in bubble-ups – bubble-ups of the Holy Spirit which lead to new ministries.

Let me tell you a story about one bubble-up here at Faith. Ann Johnson and I (Sue Hooper) went to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference in July 2012 at Ghost Ranch. We met people who have been involved with peacemaking for many years and learned much. We came home not knowing what we would do with our experience.

Jim Zazzera preached a sermon after the theater shooting in Aurora, Colorado. In that sermon four statements were quoted from Matthew: love your enemies; forgive seventy-seven times (forever); if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. Later in the sermon came this: What would happen if Christian people courageously and consistently opposed a culture of violence, hatred and fear? Would fewer men and women be marched off to war? Would seeking peace among individuals and nations be viewed not as an act of cowardice or confusion, but of courage?

Hearing Jim's message, Ann and I looked at each other and said, We have our call! We started a Peace and Nonviolence Conversation here at Faith. We invited people to join us. We have read together a book called *I'd Rather Teach Peace* by Coleman McCarthy. We are now viewing and reflecting on a DVD, *A Force More Powerful*, which explores nonviolent movements in India, South Africa, Nashville, and Denmark. We invite you to join us.

Other bubble-ups of the Holy Spirit in the past year are:

- Betty McClure – the Sacramento Crisis Nursery;
- Lori Nichols – the Spruce-up Crew, who clean and make small repairs in our church;
- Lara Roach – Parents Night Out, which allows parents to enjoy a night out together while the Nursery team takes care of their children.

Lay Ministry is about assisting those in our church community to find ministries or activities that they **love to do and are passionate about**. We believe that if you find what you love to do, you have found your gifts and talents.

This year we again edited and reissued the ***Pathways to Service*** guide and continued publishing monthly **Time and Talents** opportunities in the bulletin, which help folks connect with ministry and service opportunities that they feel called to.

We once again published ***Did You Know? Ways Our Community Loves***, which is a listing of many in our church community and how they are involved beyond the walls of Faith church. We spend the vast majority of our lives outside the church. Perhaps as time goes by we come to see our work, volunteering, family, raising children, and/or helping neighbors as ministries, as ways of loving God and loving our neighbor. Maybe we come to see ourselves on “holy ground” not only at church but everywhere we are.

The wonderfully creative folks (with a great sense of humor, too) who make up the Lay Ministry team are Dwight Beattie, Nancy Hall, Jennifer Holden, Ann Johnson, Bruce Kern, and Lara Roach.

Submitted by,

Sue Hooper

Mission Ministry

Jennifer May, Elder

Throughout this last year, our Mission Ministry has witnessed amazing things, all at the hand of God. One area that I would love to highlight is our summer mission trip to Little Rock, Arkansas. This past July, 32 team members traveled to Little Rock to spend a week serving at different organizations. We prepared food at soup kitchens, helped organize a Habitat for Humanity Re-Store, built a wheelchair ramp at a Habitat for Humanity site, inspected hygiene kits and baby packs for the Disaster Assistance Warehouse, framed and prepped work for Ferncliff's Eco Center and more. In the midst of all that we learned and were able to do in service, I have to admit that I saw God most amongst my team members. We all spent the week in one big house, rooming together, eating together and worshipping together. From the youngest to the oldest we bonded together as a team to support one another through our week. It was amazing to see two people who likely hadn't spent much time together in the past working side by side during the day and then reminiscing and laughing about it that night. During a time of team training our leader Rudy told us, "You have all been called to travel to Arkansas by God. We don't know why, but you are here for a reason." And was he right! I cannot imagine the trip without every one of the team members, and now when I see them in service on Sundays I know I have a special bond with them that could only come from serving together in the name of God's Kingdom.

Beyond our summer mission trip there are many events that occurred within the Mission Ministry throughout 2013 that should be recognized and celebrated: This summer we celebrated our commitment to Abaya, Ethiopia, on Hope Sunday; we were able to host a few speakers who came to educate us in areas of compassion and justice from around the world; many of our congregants donated food each month to SSIP; we opened our doors four times to host Family Promise; Jeff Richards was

ordained in December and continues his work with WordHouse; throughout the month of December, we highlighted and supported different local and global organizations through the Giving Tree . . . and the list could go on!

All of these efforts could not have come to fruition without the dedication of the individuals who serve on our Mission Ministry Team: Jarvis Arellano, DiAnne Brown, Sally Evey, Paul Keller, Harry Lewis, Paul Philleo, Elder of Mission Jenny Read and Pastor Jim Zazzera.

In the coming year we have many things to look forward to! This spring we will send a team of eight to Abaya, Ethiopia; we are already excited for the stories they will bring back. We also hope to work towards raising funds for the WASH program through World Vision in Abaya. Our **new** local partnership with Reading Partners has already attracted many volunteers. With all of this to look towards, we continue to keep our hearts open for whatever else God might be calling us to be a part of in 2014.

Outreach Ministry

Janet Sather, Elder

Purpose:

The Outreach Team works to equip the members of Faith Church to be more intentional and assertive in sharing the witness of Jesus Christ. By its actions and sharing of God's Word, our members reach out to the surrounding community. Our goal is to increase the number of people actively participating in a Christian church community.

Team Highlights:

The team hosted seven Look @ Faith lunches for people interested in learning more about our church, a booth at the 4th of July Pocket Parade, and the September Open House. Additionally we hosted the first Making Connections gathering of 50 people at Pastor Jeff's home for those who have not yet engaged in the activities of the church.

Committee Members:

Teri Williamson, Lori Rapier, Bill Frye, Jeff Simington. Liz Gibson was also a valued member of our team.

Team Ministry Meetings:

Fourth Tuesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., offsite

Goals and Objectives for 2014:

1. Host seven Look @ Faith luncheons
2. Host our church's Open House in September
3. Renew the practice of making personal phone calls to visitors who attended Sunday worship
4. Host two Making Connections gatherings

Dates of Major Events in 2014:

April 27-28 – Compassion Weekend
June 29 – Making Connections dinner
September 14 – Open House at church

Budget:

\$3,000, or TBD in January 2014

Personnel & Planning Ministry

Hal Turner, Elder

The Personnel Committee at Faith Presbyterian Church is responsible for the development and implementation of our employment practices to ensure that we offer a truly Christian work environment and compensate the efforts of our staff in a fair and just manner. We do this by maintaining the policies and procedures outlined in our employment manual and other documents that ensure we are following state and federal laws, as well as God's desires.

This past year we participated in the hiring of Greg Rapier as our Interim Youth Director to cover the void in our youth program while the church seeks a new Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Services. We also had the opportunity to help select Laura Anderson as our new Office Manager with the departure of Kristi Barkley this spring. We need to look no further than the wonderful staff serving in our church to see God at work here day in and day out.

This coming year will be busy for our ministry as we plan to do a complete review of our employment policies to ensure they are fair, consistent with best practices, and articulated in a clear and unambiguous manner. We will also be studying our compensation scales in relation to the current marketplace and our Christian values.

Our ministry lost a beloved and longstanding member with the passing of Joyce Hathaway this fall, and we will greatly miss her calm, reasoned approach to the challenges in dealing with personnel issues. Each of us could feel God's presence at every ministry meeting that Joyce attended. We are all better for knowing her.

Ministry members serving this past year included Rick Stern (outgoing elder), Hal Turner (incoming elder), Glenda Arellano, Rebecca Durfee, and Joyce Hathaway. All have been good and faithful servants.

Presbyterian Women

Lynn Weston, Moderator

Purpose: Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

- To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study**
- To support the mission of the church worldwide**
- To work for justice and peace**
- To build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom**

What happens when fifty women gather for their monthly Bible study, luncheon and program, but the scheduled speaker doesn't show? If that group of women is Faith's Presbyterian Women (PW), something amazingly good and generous happens.

When our speaker didn't show last winter for our monthly luncheon, we filled the program time with an open mike, inviting our members to dream out loud, looking both to our past and future as an organization. The "*remember when's*" quickly turned to "*what if's*" as women shared how they saw PW's role in the life of Faith Church. Our official purpose includes words like "nurture, support, build and work." A question arose from the floor as to how PW could support and participate in the Step of Faith building program. Ideas flew throughout the room! The women were eager for their turn at the mike, excited to share about the prospect of Faith's future and PW's part. The lively discussion ended with a commitment to pray about how God might be leading PW to participate and a promise to work out the "how, what, and how much" by the end of spring. As you might expect, the vision was just the beginning, and the work to formalize it got bogged down and difficult. Yet, Presbyterian

Women are "forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit," and we love each other, and by May we voted on a proposal to set aside \$1000 in the next three years to be able to "gift" our new kitchen with some of the extras not in the budget. What those extras will be, we are still not sure. But expect something practical, lasting and beautiful — like the women of Faith's Presbyterian Women.

Our Mission Projects for 2012/2013 included denominational and international offerings (Least Coin, Birthday Offering, Mother's Day Card) and local offerings to WIND and WEAVE.

New by-laws were approved at the General Meeting. New Officers were elected in May and installed for the 2013/2014 year:

Moderator, Lynn Weston
Vice Moderator, Sandi Bilbo
Secretary, Cathy Healow
Treasurer, Betty Straight (serving 2nd term)

Faith's Presbyterian Women participate in Presbytery gatherings quarterly. We also hosted the Winter Gathering in 2013, which provided education concerning the spread of human trafficking in our community.

Stewardship Ministry

Steve Mauch, Elder

This past year, as in prior years, the primary focus of the committee was the annual Stewardship Campaign. However, this year I believe the focus of the Fall Stewardship Campaign was more aligned with our church mission statement. The message of stewardship remains the same: acknowledging and responding to God's goodness to us in our lives. What has changed is that the goal of giving is not so closely tied to a specific church budget plan but to goals that align with our mission statement and vision for the ministry of Faith today and tomorrow.

A highlight that stands out for me this year was the opportunity to work with the leaders of the Vision Campaign, who were a joy to work with. As we coordinated our stewardship activities with the Vision Campaign, there was always a sense that we were all working together toward the same goal of honoring God and His ministry at Faith.

A second highlight was our participation in the Vision Forums that took place this past summer. These forums provided an inspiring and encouraging focus on the ministry that currently takes place at Faith and on ways to expand God's presence in the future at home and around the world. When we view current and future ministry opportunities, it becomes very clear that stewardship is a means through which God's love and redemptive message are conveyed.

A third highlight was the way that the members and friends of Faith responded during the Fall Stewardship Campaign. Even though there were many sacrificial pledges made during the Vision Campaign, the Faith family responded in a generous way throughout the Fall Stewardship Campaign. We are blessed as a body of believers to have such a strong commitment to sharing the resources that God has provided.

In the new year the committee is planning to explore further the role of wills, trusts and estates as a potential avenue for giving at Faith. We will also seek to provide resources and opportunities that enhance our understanding of the biblical basis for generous giving.

The great team that comprises the Stewardship Committee are Georgnia Borton, Jon Coupal, Julia King and John Rodriguez. I do appreciate their faithful service to Faith in this capacity.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Mauch

Worship Ministry

Mike Nichols, Elder

The Worship Ministry Team coordinates the Faith community's worship services and takes responsibility for all aspects of the service, including sermons, music, prayers, offerings, communion, baptisms and special observances. The overall goal is to encourage widespread participation in worship by all who attend. This leads to a deeper worship experience and a sense of being closer to God.

Worship Ministry Team members are:

Mike Nichols, Elder and Worship Assistant Coordinator;
Julia King, Usher Coordinator;
Janine Menager, Communion Server Coordinator;
Connie DaMant, Communion Preparer Coordinator;
Alison Reynolds, Acolyte Coordinator;
Tanya Anderson, Sanctuary Decoration Coordinator;
Kathy Pehrson, Choir Representative;
Betsy Butler, Director of Music;
Jeff Chapman, Pastor.

Outgoing members of the Worship Team in 2013 include Jim Tracy, Audrey Newport, Chris Cowling, Sheron Vollstedt and Liz Shahbazian. Their efforts and devotion to enhancing worship at Faith were invaluable.

Other volunteers who made regular contributions of their time and talents in worship preparation include Cynthia Crow as flower arranger, Janine and Kevin Menager as Hanging of the Greens coordinators, Melody Tactaquin as the Young Faith Singers director, and Andeen Lovett and her pew maintenance crew, including Georgina Borton, Jean Kern, Wilma Cornelius, Janeil Hogue and Kerrilee Blunt. We are blessed with many volunteers who help to enrich our

Faith family worship experiences, and we have room for many more.

Worship Ministry objectives completed during 2013 include:

- The continued expansion of Faith's music ministry including the Choir, Worship Band, Young Faith Singers, Faith Brass ensemble, several highly qualified guest musicians and singers, and Thomas Stahl's amazing piano and organ accompaniment.
- Two baptism banners, painted by Faith member and artist Raquel Lushenko, are near completion. One depicts Jesus' own baptism in the Jordan River. They will be a beautiful addition to the banners already displayed for Communion.
- Successful recruitment efforts were made to include more people as ushers and worship assistants, as well as additional volunteers to assist in worship services in a variety of ways.

In the year ahead, our Ministry objectives include:

- Continued enhancement of musical offerings in worship, including expansion of youth involvement.
- Continued exploration of new ways of making the worship of God more meaningful to congregants at Faith.
- Training of new volunteers for all aspects of worship.

If you would like to volunteer to help with any facet of worship, please contact Mike Nichols at (916) 683-5475 or at mynet60@yahoo.com. All are invited.

Youth Ministry

Greg Rapier, Interim Youth Director

The praise music was sung, the prayers were prayed, the scriptures read, the sermon preached, the children's message delivered, the offering received — all this worship leadership had been offered, but not a single adult was in sight among the worship leaders. Elaborate decorations hung throughout the sanctuary providing an unusual energy on this Pentecost Sunday. May 19, 2013, at Faith Presbyterian Church was not just any Pentecost Sunday; this was Youth Sunday, that special event once a year where the junior high and high school students work alongside each other, boldly declaring their faith and sharing God's word with the rest of the congregation. While their faith was on full display this Sunday, the youth had been working throughout the year, exploring and growing in their relationship with Christ.

The junior high students served on Youth Sunday in a variety of roles – praying and reading scripture, singing and playing instruments, ushering and greeting. Their faith had been nurtured throughout the year by their families, on Sunday mornings during Life Group, and on Tuesday nights during Munchies. Molly Bagby, Brien Bell, Kim Char, Jessica Mendoza, Kurt Pisor, Greg Rapier and Patrick Vaughn served as junior high advisors, mentoring these youth and helping to cultivate a vibrant faith within them, a faith that was on full display during Youth Sunday.

The high school students participated in many activities, both in preparation for and during the service. High school students meet in Core Group on the first and third Sundays of each month to share lunch and have a guided discussion about faith. Rudy Buehler, Kami Cadeaux, Sam Cadeaux, Carlene Mauch, Jessica Mendoza, Greg Rapier and Patrick Vaughn shared their time with the youth in Core Group over the past year. In addition to sharing lunch and discussions together, students in Core

Group participated in a variety of other activities including mini golf, service projects, and writing the prayers for Youth Sunday.

The majority of the planning and execution of Youth Sunday was performed by the Youth Team (Emily Bush, Isabel Chapman, Joey Healow, Julia Latimer, Christopher Martin, Jaclyn Mendoza and Greg Rapier). The Youth Team prepared for the service months in advance, and prayerfully constructed the entire service, discerning everything from a theme and scripture to songs and decorations.

For Pastor Patrick Vaughn, Youth Sunday held extra significance, because it was his last major Youth event at Faith Presbyterian Church. It was without a doubt a bittersweet moment for Patrick, who was responsible for crafting the youth program, as he was both grateful for the past several years and looking forward to the exciting future God has planned for him. Likewise, the youth and leaders during this transitional period are blessed by Patrick's past ministry and eagerly anticipating the future God has in store for Youth Ministry at Faith Presbyterian Church.