



Faith Presbyterian Church

PRESBY NEWS

Volume 35, Number 11 July 20, 2010
625 Florin Rd., Sacramento, CA 95831 (916) 428-3439 www.faithpresby.org
Sunday Services 9 and 11 a.m.

August 1st is Hope Sunday

The leadership of Faith recently decided to make a long-term partnership through World Vision with the Abaya community in Southern Ethiopia. This is an exciting step in our growing efforts to show the compassion of Christ to the poorest of the poor in our world and, in doing so, meet Christ through those same people.

Sunday, August 1st, has been designated as Hope Sunday. That morning we will hold a grand celebration in worship to kick off this long-term partnership. This will be a Sunday morning you will not want to miss! Spread the word!



All Church Fall Retreat **@ Zephyr Point, Lake Tahoe** *September 10-12, 2010*

Don't miss one of the true highlights of the church year - three refreshing days with some of the best people you'll ever meet in one of the most gorgeous places you'll ever stay. We've got programs for children, youth, adults, and even nursery care. Pick up a registration



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.

“Presbyterian Leaders Split on Two Gay-Friendly Changes”

Come find out what happened at a July 25th Special Forum after Services

This was the headline in a recent Associated Press article in the Sacramento Bee. The article reported on recent decisions of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA (the bi-annual national leadership gathering of our denomination). Among other measures, the General Assembly (G.A.) studied and debated a measure which would re-define our ordination standards to include non-celibate gays who are in committed relationships (this measure passed by a slim margin) and a measure which would re-define marriage in our church constitution to include same-sex couples (this measure was shelved for a later date by another slim margin).

Here's where it gets confusing. While the G.A. has voted to change ordination standards, such changes cannot be included in our constitution (The Book of Order) unless ratified by

a majority vote of the presbyteries of the denomination (there are 173 nationwide). In fact, four similar votes have passed at G.A. in the last 15 years but have gone on to defeat in the presbyteries. That means that the denomination standards for ordination have continued to include an expectation that pastors, elders and deacons remain either faithful in marriage or celibate in singleness. Voting for this current measure will take place in the presbyteries,

including our own here in Sacramento, the coming two years before the next G.A. in 2012.

A special forum will be hosted by Pastor Jeff Chapman this coming Sunday, July 25th, to offer clarification about this and other actions taken by the 2010 General Assembly. If you are interested, stick around after either worship service that morning. If you want to read more about this and other measures coming out of G.A., go to:

<http://ga219.pcusa.org/news/2010/7/10/post-general-assembly-pastoral-letter-moderator-an/>

In the meantime, please continue to pray for the Presbyterian Church, especially for our leaders as they wrestle with this and other decisions. Pray for God's wisdom, compassion and guidance to be with them (and us!). Pray that we, as a denomination, would seek God's will, particularly as it is revealed to us in scripture.

As always, feel free to contact any of our pastors or elders if you have further questions.

Get to know your Deacon

This month, our featured deacon is Rick Williams (Parish 6)



Rick has been a part of the Faith community since November 2008; he is active in several ministries such as the choir, life groups, and now adds deacon to the list! He works as an Associate Planner in the municipal finance group of PMC, a municipal consulting firm.

Rick enjoys the South Yuba River, hiking, swimming, travel, and reading. When asked what a challenge he faces serving as a deacon Rick said, “Touching base with folks who haven’t been attending church for a while.”

What does being a deacon mean to Rick? It allows him to perform compassionate service within the church community as well as the community at large.

You can reach Rick at 916-392-4320, or email him at rjwnsac@sbcglobal.net

Stay tuned for more deacon updates!
God Bless!

Cell Phones and Ink Cartridges for Family Promise

Our guests from Family Promise will be arriving soon on Sunday, August 1st. We still have opportunities to serve for set-up, dinner, activities, sleepover, and take-down. Please sign-up on the white board or call Kelly Latimer 684-0811 or Cynthia Crow 392-9141.



Collection Box
Cell phones & ink cartridges

Also, Family promise is in the midst of having a couple of fundraisers. In the narthex you will notice two boxes for Family Promise that have holes on the top for you to contribute old cell phones and ink cartridges so they can be recycled. The money received for these will go to aid the Family Promise mission. Thanks for your help.

Informational Meeting For Discipleship Triads



Are you looking for an opportunity to grow more deeply in faith? Willing to meet with a group of two other people and covenant to study, pray and share together over an extended period? Then perhaps you would be interested in Discipleship Triads (see the last newsletter for more information).

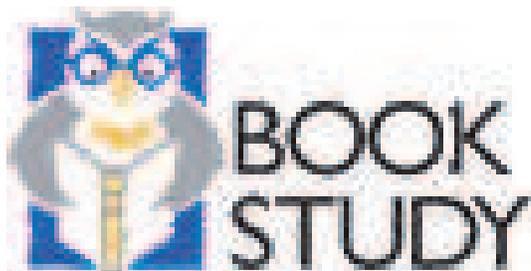
If you are interested, please join us at an informational gathering on Wednesday, August 11th at 7pm at the church. At that time we will explain the process and goals of these triads in more detail, and you will have an opportunity to talk with some of the twelve people who have participated in this practice for over that last year or so. By coming to this meeting you will not commit to being in a Triad. The meeting is simply to learn more. If you would like to know more about this, please call Pastor Jim or Pastor Jeff at the church office.

Considering Life Groups?

Life Groups are an important part of our ministry here at Faith. Each week groups of 5 -10 people gather to consider scripture and sermon, to pray for each other, and to draw support from brothers and sisters in faith.



Yet perhaps these groups are still a mystery to you and you would like to know more. If so, plan on attending one of our **Life Group Information Meetings** after either service on Sunday, August 15th. We will have a brief presentation on the Life Group approach and offer you an opportunity to talk with people in Life Groups or join one yourself. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Jim at the church office.



Adult Discussion Group Sign-Ups

The Adult Discussion group (meeting on the first Wednesday of every month at 2pm at the church) will be reading *Soul Survivor* by Philip Yancey. Books are now available from Hilde Tetlow. Sign up in the narthex.

We would love to have you!