



**Piedmont
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

THE MESSENGER

BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 71, NUMBER 97

November 18, 2017

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

NOV 20, 2017 (12/2 issue)

DEC 4, 2017 (12/16 issue)

Send submissions to

Abby Rose at

abby@piedmontchurch.org

Piedmont Community Church
400 Highland Avenue
Piedmont, CA 94611
510-547-5700

VISIT PCC ONLINE:
www.piedmontchurch.org

2018 Stewardship Campaign



From Alison Clayshulte: I joined PCC with my girls Anya and Mila about 2 years ago. Initially I joined because it was the one church I came to where my kids liked the nursery. It was the first church I had tried where I could leave them and go listen to the sermon and the music was always so inspiring. Now, two years later, I'm so happy our family found this gem.

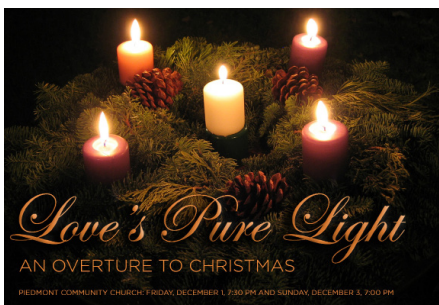
For me, Piedmont Community Church

epitomizes what the church is supposed to be – a welcoming place for all. From the sermons that encourage all of us to be better human beings and to take care of one and other to the cultural diversity supported through many programs and sister churches around the world - PCC fit exactly what I was looking for in a church and a place where both I and my girls can grow. This year they have started in Sunday School and I am starting to teach. I feel so blessed that the church gives me the opportunity to be a part of their education and teaches me how to talk to them about God in our lives. I love giving my time to the church and participating in the programs that I can with two young kids. I love that I can see my kids growing up in this community and the many options they will have to learn and grow. I am so thankful for this community and for the gentle reminder each week, "to live in such a way that when people see you, they see Christ living in you."

To make your pledge, visit PiedmontChurch.org/give/stewardship/

Love's Pure Light: An Overture to Christmas

December 1, 7:30 pm & December 3, 7 pm



Join us for a magical and inspiring beginning to the Christmas season. A concert performed by full orchestra and choir with soloists will be followed by a lovely reception featuring delicious food, drink and time to visit with friends and the musicians.

While there are many kinds of light that are part of the Christmas story, the image chosen as a symbol for this year's events is a beautiful Advent wreath with five lit candles - four red and one white. The evergreen wreath

reminds us of the fragrance that spreads through our homes in the Christmas season from trees, garlands and wreaths.

The candlelight beckons us to join with family and friends to celebrate. But, the Advent wreath also has deeply Christian meaning. The wreath is round, symbolizing God's infinite love. The evergreen foliage symbolizes the hope of eternal life. Four red candles, lit weekly during the time of waiting for the coming of Jesus Christ, represent hope, peace, joy and love. The white candle in the middle, lit on Christmas, is the Christ candle. The "son of God, love's pure light" as we sing in *Silent Night*.

General admission tickets are \$40. Reserved/patron seating is \$125. Visit PiedmontChurch.com for purchase or stop by the courtyard after Sunday worship.

SERMONS SERIES



November 19, 2017

SPIRITUAL HUNGER IN
AN AGE OF PLENTY
Part 2:

WHY MORE IS LESS:
THE PARADOX OF CHOICE
Matthew 6:25-34

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

November 26, 2017

SPIRITUAL HUNGER IN
AN AGE OF PLENTY
Part 3:

BOWLING ALONE:
THE LOSS OF COMMUNITY
Acts 2:43-47

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

December 3, 2017

SPIRITUAL HUNGER IN
AN AGE OF PLENTY
Part 4:

SELFISH REASONS FOR
BEING A BETTER PERSON
Colossians 3:12-15

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

MILESTONES



Ava Jean Gardner

was born on

October 31, 2017.

*Congratulations to mother
Elizabeth Hill Gardner
and grandmother Susan Hill.*

Welcome New Members



David and Lois Reed

David A. Reed had a career in the automotive business and retired in 2004. He came to the church at the suggestion of Rev. Byron Williams and was impressed with our welcoming atmosphere and the quality of the preaching. Lois L. (Pete) Reed had a career in the medical field, working at UCSF, in the ICU at Kaiser SF caring for HIV patients, followed by returning to school for an MDIV and becoming

an ordained Lutheran Pastor. She received the 1972 Chancellor's Award for community involvement in desegregating SF public schools, has had a lengthy life being directed by God's love. They are delighted with the graciousness that feeds them and hope to share their gifts of God's love in their future here.



The Settlemeir Family

Weston co-owns Bigge Crane and Rigging, their 101-year-old family business. Weston, Lisa and Briggs were introduced to the church when their oldest son Hunter went on his first Mexico missions trip. They have enjoyed coming to worship, and are looking forward to becoming a part of the community.

Shared Interest Groups

Last year, our church began a new fellowship program called Shared Interest Groups. The groups include Walking, Theatre, Dinner Club, Needles and Hooks (knitting and crafts), and Restaurant outings. Times vary, except for the Needles and Hooks group, which meets regularly on the 2nd Monday at 2 pm, and the 3rd Monday at 7 pm at the church. If you have an idea for a new group, contact Rev. Don Ashburn (don@piedmontchurch.org) or 510-547-5700, ext. 105. **Walking** – Mary Heller (marybheller@yahoo.com); **Theatre** – Judy Wright (rbwright1@mac.com); **Dinner Club** – Kristi Marcelle (klmarcelle@gmail.com); **Needles & Hooks** – Sue Coffin (pinebox4@mac.com); **Food Truck/Restaurant** – Linda Rice (ljrice@sbcglobal.net)

Nursery Coordinator Needed

Our nursery coordinator cares for children ages 4 months through 3.5 years old on Sundays from about 10am to noon. For complete job description, or to send a resume, contact Leslie Quantz (leslie@piedmontchurch.org). Applicants must be over 18 years of age. This is a paid position.



Shelter for Mexico Family

Members of the Piedmont Community Church Adult Mexico Missions trip this past October stand with 11 members of our beloved Ramirez family. The home we built for them is in the background. The safe and weatherproof home will give them an 80% better chance for health, education and future.

Advent at Piedmont Community Church

Alternative Gift Market (AGM) - Sundays, December 3, 10 & 17



Make a real difference in the world this Christmas. Shop the Alternative Gift Market catalog to help alleviate the daily struggles of those in our community and abroad. The Market will be held at Piedmont Community Church after both services Sunday, December 3, 10 and 17. Your AGM catalog will arrive soon and will list the ministries selected to participate. One hundred percent of your gift will go to the ministries you choose to support. Check, cash or credit card welcomed. Orders can also be mailed to PCC and will be available online at www.piedmontchurch.org. For more information, please contact Rev. Don Ashburn (don@piedmontchurch.org) or 510-547-5700.

Christmas Caroling December 6, 7:45 pm



You are invited to Guild Hall on Wednesday, December 6 at 7:45 pm for an evening of old fashioned Christmas Caroling and hot cider. We'll gather around the fireplace after the tree lighting in Piedmont Park and sing along with the Chancel Choir under the direction of Steve Main. Great refreshments will be served. Don't miss this wonderful Piedmont Community Church tradition. Fun for the entire family!

Adult Fellowship Annual Christmas Potluck - December 8, 6:30 pm

Join us on December 8 at 6:30 pm at Highlands Country Club (110 Hiller Dr. in Hiller Highlands) for a festive evening of food, song and games. You'll enjoy meeting new folks, seeing old friends, and singing a few carols. Sign up after church or contact Jean (jean@piedmontchurch.org) and let her know what you'd like to bring (appetizer, main course of ham or turkey, salad, side dish or dessert). Admission: \$5 to cover rental. Bring a beverage of your choice.

Children's Christmas Pageant & Advent Dinner - December 10, 5:30 pm



Christmas Pageant: Our children will be singing Christmas Carols and performing in Radio Station Y-U-L-E, a Christmas play about the Nativity arranged by Wayne Guidici. The Salvation Army Band will be joining us for the 47th year. This is a fun event for everyone. Come and bring your friends and family. A great way to enjoy the Christmas season. Contact Leslie Quantz (leslie@piedmontchurch.org) with any questions.

Advent Dinner (after the Pageant): Join us for the Advent Dinner in Guild Hall. Adults (18 years and older): \$15. Youth (17 years and under): \$5. Those under age 10 who would like macaroni and cheese will be free. Sign up at Sunday services or call Jean Leahy at the church office (510-547-5700). Payment at the door.



Memorial Poinsettias

The sanctuary will be adorned for Christmas with traditional poinsettias, to be designated in memory or honor of someone special. To donate a plant, please fill out this form, attach your check (\$15 per plant), and mail to: PCC, 400 Highland Ave., Piedmont, 94611, or drop off in the office. Make check payable to PCC, noting "poinsettia" in the memo.

Forms must be received by December 18th.

Enclosed is \$_____ (\$15 per plant) Donor Name _____

Donor Address _____

Give in Honor / Memory (circle one) of: _____



Outside Voice

A high school friend of mine in the '80s was yanked from his native California home to my hometown - a quiet, rural suburb of Columbus, Ohio. He

resented the move made by his parents so much that he played the Eagles' Hotel California in protest repeatedly from his bedroom at window-rattling volumes. He swore he would return to the excitement of California one day to produce movies. And he did. He's currently immersed in the world of independent film, happily cranking out low-budget pictures you and I will likely never see.

I always admired my friend for his determination, not only to return to sunny CA, but to drive his parents crazy in the process. He was fortunate to know early in life what it would take to bring him happiness and stopped at nothing to realize his dream.

Not all of us enjoy such clarity.

When making the move from First Community Church in Columbus to Piedmont, I occasionally doubted myself. Would the work I had done successfully back home be welcomed? Would I be welcomed?

Internal fears have a way of keeping us from attaining our goals and living our best lives. That uncertainty that sidelines a perfectly good plan or throws water on the flame of a great idea deserved little to no attention from me. Once I surrendered to all that was positive and good, it was time to get to work.

Piedmont Community Church is chock full of incredible people. The ministries you serve go a long way to healing a broken world. I have heard that PCC is a well-kept secret. My goal, with your help, is to change that. To lift up in story, image and sound all that is good about this place while rattling some windows in the process.

Our immediate focus will be to increase our reach in social media, enhance our website with powerful images and telling videos and to strengthen our print media - including our weekly bulletins and The Messenger.

Together, we'll use our outside voices to call our faith community to worship and serve in a way we have always dreamed - unapologetically raising the volume of our unique message for all to hear.

Michael Barber
Director of Communications & Marketing



Piedmont COMMUNITY CHURCH

Office Hours: 9 am to 4 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 23 & 24 - Closed for Thanksgiving

Nov. 25 - Berkeley Men's Shelter, 7 pm

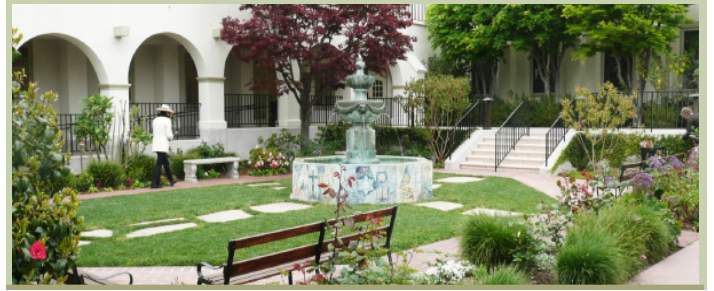
Dec. 1 & 3 - Annual Christmas Concert & Reception

Dec. 3, 10, 17 - Alternative Gift Market

Dec. 6 - Christmas Caroling, 7:45 pm

Dec. 8 - Adult Fellowship Christmas Dinner, 6:30 pm

Dec. 10 - Advent Dinner & Children's Christmas Pageant



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