



Piedmont  
Community Church

*welcoming ~ nurturing ~ serving*



## 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH



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# AGENDA

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH  
JUNE 4, 2017  
11:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM  
MARY MARGARET SINNEMA, PRESIDENT OF THE TRUSTEES

INVOCATION  
THE REV. WILLIAM McNABB, SENIOR PASTOR

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS  
MARY MARGARET SINNEMA

TREASURER'S REPORT  
JOHN CHIANG

REVIEW OF THE BUDGET  
JOHN CHIANG

BY-LAW CHANGE VOTE  
MAGGIE SPENCER AND MANUEL MARTINEZ

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS  
MARY MARGARET SINNEMA, NOMINATING CHAIR

IN MEMORIAM  
THE REV. DR. DON ASHBURN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

MINISTER'S REMARKS  
THE REV. WILLIAM McNABB

BENEDICTION  
THE REV. WILLIAM McNABB

ADJOURNMENT



## FINANCIAL POSITION

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## TOTAL INCOME & TOTAL EXPENSE

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## 2017 OPERATING INCOME & OPERATING EXPENSE BUDGET

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The Endowment Fund Management Committee reports to the Board of Trustees and provides oversight and guidance in regards to all PCC financial instruments and via the Endowment Fund Development Sub-Committees it develops and executes communication programs encouraging members to contribute to the Endowment Fund both at the current time and in the future through planned giving.

The Endowment Fund Investment Committee members are: Chairperson-Bob Coleman and members: Bill Gisvold, Horton Shapiro, Timothy Recker and ex-officio member Reverend Bill McNabb.

The Endowment Fund Development Committee members are: Chairperson- Frank Arthur; members: Bob Coleman, Connie Hosemann, Bob Leslie, Richard Eigenbrode, Carl Anderson and ex-officio Rev. Bill McNabb.

Under the purview of the Board of Trustees and guided by the Endowment Fund Management Committee, Piedmont Community Church has approximately \$1.9 million in total investments as of April 30, 2017, which includes approximately \$1.23 million in Endowment Funds. Total investments are split between unrestricted and restricted funds, of which approximately \$1.7 million is managed by Merrill Lynch. Merrill Lynch continues to provide investment guidance to the committee so as to augment the financial return while still maintaining the safety of the principle. Over the course of 2016 our assets were split roughly 75%/25% stocks to bonds and cash. The total return for invested funds in 2016 was 4.79%. This compares to a weighted average against our blended policy benchmark of 5.66%.

This is the fifth year of the Endowment Fund Development Committee, with its purpose being to: “Establish an Endowment Fund giving program to become part of the culture of PCC so as to enhance the long term fiscal management of PCC.”

A communication program was commenced in March 2014, to encourage our church members to contribute to the Endowment Fund via cash or inclusion in one’s estate plan, and in so doing become a member of the Wallace and Mary Alexander Founders Circle. In the March – April period, a number of articles were included in the Messenger, announcements were made during the service, hand-out literature was presented during the service and a special letter with accompanying brochures was addressed to each member from Rev. McNabb.

The growth in the number of contributors to the Endowment Fund is:

2011	2	(all cash donations)
2012	12	(all cash donations)
2013	33	(22 cash donations and 11 included in estate plans)
2014	84	(71 cash donations, 30 included in estate plans, 17 both cash and estate plans)
2015	26	(All cash donations, 1 estate plan)
2016	17	(All cash donations)
2017	30	(All cash donations)

The Wallace and Mary Alexander Founder’s Circle had its official unveiling of the bricks in the Courtyard Memorial Walkway. During that ceremony, 123 bricks were unveiled with each brick representing the thoughts and best wishes of each contributor to the Endowment Fund. Joining the ceremony was Maryana Stockholm, the granddaughter of Wallace and Mary Alexander.

The Wallace and Mary Alexander Founder’s Circle continues to grow each year and new bricks were unveiled at a Ceremony on May 21, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Franklin Arthur, Chair, Endowment Development Committee  
Bob Coleman, Chair, Endowment Investment Committee





## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**T**hank you to all church members, leaders and staff for your dedication to Piedmont Community Church. This year, we ALL went into action on the Year 1 Priorities of our 3 Year Plan developed last year. After examining external and internal church commitment trends, the Trustees, Staff and Lay Leadership thoughtfully and strategically identified goals to improve Sustainability, Vibrancy and Communications so that our Church thrives into its next 100 years, continuing its Mission to welcome, nurture and serve inside and outside our church community.

With these shared goals, we accomplished much in Year 1, and Year 2 promises to be better yet with excellent leadership and focus on marketing communications and growing engagement.

It has been an honor to serve as President among such smart, dedicated and loving people.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Margaret Sinnema

### Highlights of actions this year that have made PCC stronger today and for the future:

#### SUSTAINABILITY

- **Strategic Plan** – Completed the plan to include best practices of *Growing an Engaged Church* and formed a diverse team to lead PCC's engagement growth to help improve Sustainability, Vibrancy and Communication.
- **Governance Continuity** - Approved a By-law change proposal to better ensure strength from leadership continuity with an ex-officio Past President board position.
- **Nominating Procedures** – Proposed and followed a By-law founded process for clear, fair and efficient nominating committee procedures, responsibilities and goals.
- **Finance** - Created and effectively utilized a 2-year budget for improved tracking, trending, forecasting and applying insights to strategies for funding and managing expenses aligned with church priorities. Presented monthly executive level financial reports at Trustee meetings to provide much needed context to the numbers. Clarified restricted and unrestricted church funds and reserves. Worked with Stewardship, Personnel and Buildings & Grounds committees and the Anonymous Grant representatives to help achieve priorities.
- **Stewardship** - Improved Stewardship culture, process and communication. Provided a personal voice to the campaign with increased awareness and accessibility of team to the congregation. Integrated the Sunday Stewardship Moment speakers with information in the Bulletin and the Messenger. Effectively applied campaign analysis insights and trends into campaign strategy.
- **Personnel** - Created/updated job descriptions for all ordained staff, and finalized the job description for the new Director of Communications and Marketing. Updating the 1997 Employee Manual. Optimizing the performance review process.
- **Buildings & Grounds** - Researched and responsibly executed several high priority projects to improve our church facility to best support our church life, thanks to the generous Anonymous Grant. Major projects included: New sanctuary roof, refurbished organ, stained glass window conservation, more functional & refreshed Chapel, new outdoor signage, kitchen dishwashing and ventilation improvements and optimized lay leadership meeting space.
- **Endowment** – Grew fund from 16 new bricks and 6 sustaining donations.

#### VIBRANCY

- **Worship Services** – Continued to deliver high caliber, inspiring, relevant and moving sermons, music and worship space decor.

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)

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- **Fellowship** - Fostering friendships through 7 new Special Interest Groups. Hosted 4 well-attended delicious church dinners with more children and families in attendance.
- **Mission** - Welcomed a second refugee family and initiated discussions for an Immigrant Hospitality Task Force. Opened RTF participation outside the PCC community. Led an adult Mexico Mission trip and a bigger-than-ever Youth Mexico Mission trip. Celebrated a record amount of gifting at the AGM. Continued financial support of 5 important agencies, supported The Giving Tree and Adopt-A-Family outreach programs and led Go Forth Sundays, Project Peace Sundays, Berkeley Men's Shelter meals, tutoring, and the Mexico Treasures Sale, to name some highlights. In all, over 7000 hours were devoted to serving others.
- **Christian Education** - Established a new Sunday School curriculum with about a 25% increase in attendance from last year so far.

### COMMUNICATIONS

- **PiedmontChurch.org** - Launched a new website that is easier to navigate and maintain and better reflects the PCC community to help turn a search into a visit.
- **Staffing** - Searching to hire a Director of Communications and Marketing to increase the reach, awareness and effectiveness of internal and external communications and drive PCC's Strategic Plan for improved sustainability, vibrancy and communications.
- **Financial Transparency** - Wrote and posted *Understanding PCC Finances* on our website.
- **Community Voice** - Contributing more church news and Pastor perspectives in Piedmont Post.
- **Sermon Podcasts** - Launched as a means of sharing the church with potential visitors, and accessing a missed a sermon in our busy lives.
- **PCC Logo** - Updated design to improve relevance and clarity when shared and reproduced.



## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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This year the CE Board continued with Children and Youth ministries oversight, and ran the annual church picnic, Christmas pageant, Advent dinner and Family Camp.

**Children's Ministries:** (See also Leslie Quantz's separate report)

Leslie Quantz continued her devoted support of young children in her eleventh year as Director of Children's Ministries overseeing the Nursery, Sunday School and Kidz Club program.

The Kidz Club program (grades 4-6) once again thrived under Julie Hofer's great care!

This year the Children's ministry supported:

- A child from Compassion International, Ecuadorian Ines Ulcuango.
- Christmas shoeboxes – over 75 shoeboxes were filled with donated items to send to children all over the world.

**Sunday School:** The board selected Group Publications, **DIG IN – Creating Deeper Bible Experiences for Kids!** as the curriculum and educational foundation for our new Sunday school format. Music, games, crafts, and mission projects are added to teach our children about the bible and to help them learn about making the world a better place for everyone. All children meet in the chapel each Sunday and start with games, songs and the main story. The children then move to the classroom for more discussion about the story, crafts, games/activities and snacks. The new program is interesting and rewarding to teach. Sunday school continues to be well attended (approximately 25% increased attendance vs. last year), with good feedback from students and parents about the curriculum. Kids are enjoying the crafts/fun activities that complement the Bible/religious message. We are exciting to see several non-member, new families attending. On holiday weekend Sundays, CE Board member's staffed Dig In lessons with crafts and games in the Youth Room.

**Youth Ministries:** In his fifteenth year as Student Pastor, Scott Kail continued his vital spiritual work with youth. (also see Rev. Scott Kail's separate report)

**Rock and Livewire:** These programs are functioning well and continue to be the backbone of the youth program. It is here that the vital relationships that our ministry is dependent upon are established and maintained. With a leadership team of adults in place for both Rock and Livewire, we continue to have as our first priority building relationships with students that are involved in the ministry.

**Confirmation:** 17 confirmands completed our 9 week class. The confirmands were received as PCC members with the support of their mentors on November 13th.

**Mexico Trip:** The trip was a huge success! 18 homes were built by ? attendees. We are excited about the future and a firmly believe in and support service mission opportunities for the students of PCC and Piedmont.

**Fundraisers:** A fundraiser golf tournament was held on ? at Claremont Country Club, providing good fellowship and funds for our youth program. The Treasure Sale raised more than \$37,000?.

**Fall Kick-Off Picnic:** The annual picnic was held in September at our church with the wonderful support of the CE Board, and the Welcoming Committee greeting attendees. Board members prepped the food, drink and dessert that were available in addition to the tasty taco truck tacos. Children's activities included a jumpy and piñata. Mitch Polzak and his Royal Deuces band kept everyone's toes tapping.

**Christmas Pageant:** The annual Christmas pageant, a PCC tradition for over 50 years, was held in December under the leadership of the CE Board. The Advent Dinner followed immediately in Guild Hall. The Salvation Army Band performed for the 45th year and the evening's offering was given to them for their efforts. Many thanks go to the hard work of the staff, CE Board, the volunteer teachers, Russ Taylor on piano, and Wayne and Christy Guidici as pageant directors.

**Acknowledgements:** I wish to call attention to the great blessings we have in Scott Kail and Leslie Quantz as leaders and examples for our children. I am so thankful for the members of the CE board. Team members faithfully participate in our monthly meetings and work together to get great work done. Many thanks to Jeffrey Asbury, Ron Heckmann, Gwendolyn Osborn, Michael Perkocha, Beth Covin, Judy Swaby, Tina Farman, Tomas Melian and Lauren Young.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Collins, Chair, Board of Christian Education



## BOARD OF DEACONS

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I would like to thank the members of this year's Board of Deacons for all your hard work in making the responsibilities of our mission to our church this past year run smoothly. In particular, each of you pitched in to make sure we had greeters, ushers and communion servers for all the services.

### **Fellowship**

The team of Christina Miller, chair, Jay Forman and Mel Taylor did a commendable job in coordinating with the Loaves and Fishes Ministry to put on our popular Harvest, Advent, Ash Wednesday and Maundy dinners. We were especially honored to have our own Deacon, Lisa Lindsley, sing to us at the Harvest dinner. The Advent dinner set a record number of diners, some 150, which pushed Tom and Anne Lister and the kitchen detail to their maximum effort. We thank Piedmont High School a cappella Mistletones for providing background music at the Advent dinner. As the leader of our Fellowship Dinners, a special thanks to our leader, Christina Miller, who came up with innovative decorations, and to our Deacons, Mel Taylor and Steve Wuebbens who pulled double duty, helping out in the kitchen as well.

### **Mission**

As Deacon members of the broader Mission Action Team (MAT), Lynn Nelson, Deacon Chair for MAT, and liaisons Lisa Lindsley and Katrina Bergen have been involved in helping to provide opportunities for church members and their friends to serve others, locally and globally. Examples include the Alternative Gift Market, Project Peace at Piedmont Avenue Elementary School and our "Go-Forth" (Community Service Day) event, which we hope will become an annual PCC Mission tradition. The Deacons look forward to continuing our work with the Mission Action Team and we thank them for overseeing the mission activities and making mission an integral part of our identity as Christians and as a church. Also, we thank them for their diligent work in vetting agencies and making recommendations to the Deacons for projects and organizations to fund. The Mission Action Team's work is integral to the Deacons' success.

### **Outreach**

During the first half of the church year, Brad and Lynn Olander, (chairs), Jim Clarkson, and Charlie Wood focused on the collection and coordination of donations for two local organizations. With the generous support of the PCC church members we were able to donate much needed school supplies to Piedmont Avenue Elementary School through the Giving Tree Project. During the Christmas season, the team spent many hours coordinating donations for 25 families we adopted for the Adopt-a-Family program, in partnership with City Team Ministries. A special thanks to Brad and the team for a job well done.

### **Congregational Life**

Deacons Julie McDonald, (chair) Bob Leslie and Mel Taylor continued to oversee various efforts to make visitors and new members to feel welcome and engaged with our church. The Welcoming Team, headed by Charly Taylor, which brightens all our Sunday mornings for the past 10 years, and the Connecting Team, which pairs up new members with "old members" for six months; and oversees new member classes and get-togethers. The committee replaced missing bibles and installed a literature rack near the front door that enables us to reduce clutter in the pews. As the church moves forward to a more graphic image on the web and in print, we will work with the graphic designer to enhance the printed materials that are part of our worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Leslie,  
Chair, Board of Deacons



## ALTAR GUILD

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The Piedmont Community Church Altar Guild is composed of members of the church, both men and women. We are responsible for ushering in the liturgical seasons of our church calendar with decorations and beautification. We meet five to six times per church calendar year, usually between the two services on Sunday morning. At these meetings we discuss our plans and leadership for upcoming holidays or special events.

We are responsible for communion preparations and the clean up of the sanctuary following the service. We sign up into teams of two, and each team completes this service twice per year. We ensure that the altar has beautiful bouquets each Sunday. We ensure that the church is festively "greened" with wreaths and ornamentation for Christmas, that palms adorn our doors for Palm Sunday, and that the Easter lilies are in place Easter Sunday.

The AG takes sign-ups leading up to Easter Sunday for the delivery of a lily to someone who is not able to come to church, or for those who have lost a loved one during the previous year. During Lent and Easter, as well as throughout the church year, we change the altar paraments in accordance with the liturgical calendar.

Within the Altar Guild the Flower Committee arranges the beautiful bouquets placed on the altar of the church on Sundays, commemorating special celebrations of individuals and families. We also place a single rose on the altar to announce the birth or adoption of a baby into our church family.

The Altar Guild holds a bake sale annually during the Alternative Gift Market Sunday to raise funds for decorations, banners, candles and the like. The bake sale contributes to the refreshment of the supplies we use continuously throughout the year.

We wish to thank all of the Altar Guild members, and their spouses and children, for their willing and loving spirits this past year.

The Altar Guild provides sustenance to our PCC spirit in many ways. To mark the changing beauty of the seasons via decorations and to provide communion each month is both a pleasure and an amazing grace for us all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christy Guidici, Lonnie Simonson  
Altar Guild Co-Chairs, 2016-2017



## MISSION ACTION TEAM

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The Mission Action Team (MAT) reports to the Board of Deacons and provides oversight and guidance in regards to many PCC mission activities. The goal of the MAT is to make mission an integral part of our identity as Christians and as a church. Members are invited to participate and are approved by the Deacons. Membership is limited to 12 voting members. Rev. Don Ashburn serves as staff liaison. Current members include Deacon: Lynn Nelson and Members-at-large: Judy Wright, Mary Fielder, Bob Cheatham, Rick Clark, Jeff McClain, Kristi Marcelle, John Weaver and Sunny Bostrom-Fleming.

The MAT supported the Deacon's mission activities and helped plan and implement projects such as the Alternative Gift Market (a holiday gift market in December, including 19 domestic and international agencies, resulting in almost \$47,000 in donations this year). The Opportunities to Serve Brochure was updated to inform members of the many varied service opportunities within our church. Mission service opportunities included Project Peace Days in June, November and February and Go Forth service day in June. Over 50 volunteers signed up to help out at Emerson School, clean Lake Merritt, provide lunch at People's Park, serve dinner at CityTeam Oakland, paint a Habitat Playhouse and make lunch for our volunteers who returned after their service work for some fellowship.

With funds provided from the previous Pick-A-Party (\$26,000 raised), MAT recommended Better World Fund grants totaling \$15,000 to various agencies with strong PCC member involvement. Grants were approved for Kafita Church to fund food supplies during their severe drought, The Mosaic Project to fund low income families to attend their summer outdoor program focusing on conflict resolution, and Destiny Arts Center to fund professional lighting for their stage.

MAT also held a retreat in January where Pastor McNabb shared the judgement parable from Matthew 25: Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me. MAT members viewed a TED talk on Peter Singer's book on effective altruism for another perspective as well.

MAT hopes to continue to inform and provide service mission opportunities for PCC members and to provide grant funding for worthwhile projects.

Mission Action Team: 2 Leaders (40 hrs); 10 Participants (240 hrs)	280 hours
Go Forth Day: Coordination (40 hrs), 54 Participants (216 hrs)	250 hrs
Project Peace Day: Coordination (4 hrs), 9 Participants (27 hrs)	31 hours
Faith Network: 8 Tutors (640 hrs), 2 Food Bank Baggers (160 hrs)	800 hours
Berkeley Men's Shelter: Coordinate/Cook (500 hrs), 12 Participants (60 hrs)	560 hrs
Oremi: 3 Mentors (360 hrs)	360 hrs
Treasure Sale: 5 Organizers (100 hrs), 40 Volunteers (50 hrs)	2500 hrs
AGM: 10 Participants (30 hrs)	300 hrs
Adopt A Family: Coordination (32 hrs); Participants (60 hrs)	92 hrs
Shoebox: Coordination (25 hrs); 40 Participants (40 hrs)	65 hrs
Refugee Task Force: 30 Participants (10-50 hrs)	2000 hrs
<b>Total hours:</b>	<b>7238</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Selma Chin and Jeff Asher, Co-chairs  
Mission Action Team





## MUSIC MINISTRIES

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**2016-2017** was a great year for the music program of Piedmont Community Church. In addition to the regular high-quality offerings of our Chancel Choir, there were some major highlights for me personally, including this past December, when our Chancel Choir, soloists and orchestra gathered to perform our Christmas Concert, *Away in a manger*. The instrumental ensemble was absolutely top-drawer, and once again your choir, decked in their finest evening wear, offered two bravura performances. The concert was rounded off with the entire audience singing carols with full orchestra, after which we all repaired happily to the Guild Hall for an astonishing reception and a roaring fire. Ticket sales were excellent, and this annual event is quickly gaining a reputation in the Bay Area, as we draw wider audiences. Once again, I truly think the entire experience represented Piedmont Church at its finest. We'll be doing it again!

Of course, one of the biggest accomplishments this year was the complete rebuild and rededication of the PCC organ. After fifty-plus years of faithful service, its leather and interior parts had long since begun to give way, and we were blessed and fortunate to have the funds to make a complete overhaul, including new digital components that enable our organ to command the sounds of historical European organs as well as our totally revoiced pipe-work. The rebuild project insures that our beloved organ, so central to worship at PCC, will continue to support, inspire, and comfort for another fifty years and beyond.

Other musical highlights include our increasing involvement with the musicians of our sister congregation at Imani Community Church, including a spirit-filled joint concert in the Imani sanctuary in the early spring. There were also a number of opportunities to hear small instrumental ensembles in worship throughout the year, which many of you always tell me is a special treat. At this writing, plans are being made also for an upcoming "Americana" service, with bluegrass influences.

Membership in our choirs is strong. Our section leaders continue to lead with a great variety of ideas and influences. We are lucky to have them! Our other ensembles continue to contribute as well, with the Handbell Ensemble tackling new and challenging literature, and with very good membership – and high levels of enthusiasm!

Finally, preparations are well underway at this writing for the upcoming Spring Choir Sunday, where the Chancel Choir, soloists, and instrumental ensemble will perform two new works of my own, one of which will be a premier. One of the great pleasures of composing is the occasional privilege to write for musicians with whom one is already very familiar. I've quite literally shaped these pieces to the talents of our choir and soloists. Hope to see you there!

Here comes the part I always say in these reports (and I never forget to say it either): none of this comes cheaply! Musicians, music programs, pipe organ maintenance, sound systems, orchestras, and all the rest are only possible because of the generous giving and dedicated time of our members. The direct result can be heard in our most important goal – worship services that are vivid, direct, and meaningful. If ever I forget how crucial this goal is, I need only visit another church where it isn't so; I always return to PCC feeling very fortunate.

I feel blessed to be part of a congregation that truly values and supports the music we make here. As always it's my continued hope that what we do in this place will continue to inspire you and honor God.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen T. Main





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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The Children's Program includes the Nursery, and Sunday School for the Pre-Kindergarten through middle schoolers. 7th and 8th graders can choose to go to the Youth Sunday school program. Sunday School classes are offered during the 10:30 service. This year, we changed curriculum to Group Publishing's "Dig In" program. We included all church members and sent over 70 shoeboxes around the world for Operation Christmas Child. We passed out Valentine's in the Sanctuary, and made flowers to pass out to all the women for Mother's Day.

**Curriculum:** After researching many options, the Board of Christian Education decided to change the Sunday School curriculum to Group Publishing's "Dig In" Curriculum. This program is flexible and allows us to teach the children Bible stories with the addition of games and crafts. We have also modified the Sunday school day. The children start by going to the chapel where they find games and drawing materials. They start with traditional children's songs and then hear the main story. Then they go into classrooms where they play a game and do a craft. The program is very engaging. I believe the children are learning many Bible stories. We continue to collect an offering to support Ines Ulcuango, our Compassion International child from Ecuador. Bibles were given to 3rd graders and new older students on Bible Sunday.

**Attendance:** We have over 100 children from Nursery through 6th grade attending Sunday School. Weekly attendance remains a bit inconsistent because the various activities have a significant effect on attendance and participation. The new program seems to be attracting more students and we have seen an increase in participation. We have quite a few new families visiting and joining the church and Sunday school. I continue to encourage everyone to bring friends to Sunday School.

**Teachers:** I want to thank all my Sunday school teachers! You make a difference in the children's lives. I appreciate all of you who step up and teach. Please consider teaching Sunday school.

**Nursery:** The Nursery is available every Sunday. We're happy to have Rachel Perillo Montezas as our Nursery Coordinator. She has a lot of experience with childcare and is making the nursery a safe, vibrant, fun place for our youngest members. Pat Ruvkun has assisted for over 19 years. We continue to see an increase in Nursery age children.

**Fellowship:** Kidz Club is for kids in 4th, 5th and 6th graders and continues to thrive under the leadership of Julie Hofer. They met monthly and did many activities, including making cards, ornaments, cookies or bookmarks for our seniors at Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter; cleaning up around town for Earth day; and collecting food and money for the Alameda County Food Bank.

**Pageant:** The Christmas pageant script was modified to include the entire Christmas story. The children continue to enjoy participating, and the pageant was well attended. Thanks to the CE Board for their leadership. Wayne Guidici arranged the script and directed the pageant, as he has done for many years. Amy MacKenzie worked with the children to make sure they the songs and Russ Taylor played the piano. The Salvation Army Band performed for the 46th year! The patience of the Sunday School teachers during pageant season is always appreciated!

**Facilities:** A special THANK YOU to the Board of Trustees and all who were involved in updating the Chapel. The space is now a well-lit, a beautiful place for children to worship in. I want to thank Shirley Prince for keeping our building and classrooms sparkling clean!

Thanks to all of you for your continued support. This program is very dependent on volunteers and I thank each of you who contribute. I want to thank the CE Board for their continued support and for spearheading the changes we've been making over the last few years. I'm very happy with our new program! I especially want to thank Julie Hofer and Tami Collins for the support they continue to give. Thanks to the staff at PCC, and thanks to my family – John, Allison and Melissa who step in to help teach and work the nursery when needed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Quantz  
Director of Children's Ministries



As the Ministry year comes to a close, it is good to sit and ponder the people, relationships, meetings, ministry, events and all that is the Student Ministries of PCC. I love and continue to be so excited about the opportunity to serve Christ and those in Piedmont. I believe the ministry and those involved have grown significantly in many ways. We continue to remind ourselves that we have not arrived but we are well on our way in a very exciting journey. It is by God's grace and leading that we conduct the ministry and also by His grace that we are on the road we now travel. With that said allow me to cover some specifics of the ministry over the past year.

## **Intern Staffing**

We have been fortunate to continue to receive two grants to staff Interns for our Student Ministries. Our home-grown Angela Guidici and Jeremy Kaetzel have been with us this year and have greatly contributed to the health and growth of ministry to students in and around Piedmont. Jeremy will return for another year with us and I am actively seeking a replacement for Angela who will be pursuing other work, but still volunteering.

**Rock and Livewire** are functioning well and continue to be the backbone of the youth program. It is here that we establish and maintain the vital relationships that our ministry is dependant upon. Over the past year, the focus has been specific and fruitful.

We continue to have as our first priority that of building relationships with students that are involved in the ministry. This is a growing number and consists of church members as well as many students whose families are of different faiths and or no faith association. We count this a huge privilege to have access and active ministry to so many. This team of leaders also assists with the weekly leadership and direction of the ministry. As a leadership team, we focused on four main areas:

- Building an atmosphere of community.
- Building an atmosphere of worship.
- Creating a proper understanding of Jesus Christ and the roll He desires to play in our lives.
- Reaching as many students in Piedmont, accepting them where they are, and exposing them to Christ and our ministry

Although this will continue to be a process I feel we are achieving these goals in fine fashion. The number of students attending and involved on a regular basis continues to grow and the "pool" of students is well over 150 for ROCK and 60+ for LIVEWIRE.

**Sunday School** continues to meet the need to go deeper with our faith and biblical teaching. It is always biblical, usually interactive and strongly applicable in the lives of the students. The attendance has been regular and tends to mirror Family attendance each Sunday. As with the flow of attendance of PCC as a whole, we experience ups and downs in attendance as the seasons of the year flow. This has left us with the decision to remain a combined group of Middle and High School. As a practice, we venture to the sanctuary for the monthly administering of Communion.

**Confirmation** occurred in the fall of this year and was offered to 8th and 9th grade students. This was part of a purposeful move on behalf of Student Ministries and the CE board to make the most of Confirmation and best integrate it into the total ministry experience for the Middle School students. It was very successful and culminated in "Youth Sunday" where the students led the congregation in worship. As a result, 17 students were confirmed on November 16th.

**Mexico Missions** underwent some tweaking and changes for the good this year. We added many steps in the preparation and training end as well as successfully recruited more adults that have ever attended a Mexico trip. We reached a new high with 300 participants and continue to be excited about the steady interest in the trip with the students of piedmont. The trip was a huge success, we built 18 homes, and we continue to be excited about the

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## STUDENT MINISTRIES (CONTINUED)

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future and a firm belief in service mission's opportunities for the students of PCC and Piedmont. Some small changes for this year really helped emphasize the relationships with the local families and the focus on patience and quality instead of speed in building. We will continue to evaluate and fine tune the mission's opportunities and seek to use the CE board to a greater extent in this part of the ministry.

**Rock Pizza Lunch** continued this year and was a huge success. Also, the continuation of "LiveWire Movie nights" monthly on Friday nights has been huge outreach to Middle Schoolers. This is a purely outreach ministry for the students of Piedmont. Each Tuesday the students from PHS walk over to the new youth room and enjoy Pizza and a drink as well as a really cool and welcoming atmosphere. As we started the event we offered the meal free of charge and hosted over 150 students each Tuesday. We now charge \$4, just enough to break even and average around 100 students each week. Livewire Movie night is once a Month on a Friday and has been drawing 30+ kids, many of which do not attend church at all (Yet!).

**This coming year** will look very similar in content in that we are still on the road to build and strengthen the four areas mentioned earlier. We did not have critical mass for this year but look forward very eagerly to the sixth trip to Africa this next summer and will be selecting the students who attend this December. Praise God for His guidance and blessings and we pray for the year ahead. and blessings and we pray for the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Scott Kail,  
Director of Student Ministries



## ASSOCIATE MINISTER

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It is a blessing and a privilege for me to work with the people of PCC in our shared mission and ministry. This past year has been full of exciting and fresh opportunities in our life and work together. So, along with my regular duties and activities, here are some of this year's highlights:

- ~ I continued to hold gatherings for prospective new members called "Getting to Know PCC." And this year it has been a joy to meet with and welcome more than 25 folks in the process.
- ~ I worked with the Connecting Team to help new members find their way at our church. We held another in a continuing series of New Member Reunions at the McNabb's home.
- ~ With the Marketing Team, led by Steven Thorne, and with the help of Abby Rose and Leslie Quantz, I helped design our new PCC website.
- ~ With the Refugee Task Force, I led the Furniture Delivery Team, supplying furniture and other supplies to 3 families from Afghanistan – one in Oakland and two in Hayward. I am also partnering with other congregations in San Francisco and the East Bay in refugee ministry.
- ~ I continued to work with the Adult Fellowship Team. In addition to holding our usual monthly gatherings, we have established 5 flourishing Shared Interest Groups, with more on the way.
- ~ With the Rev. Dottie Hutch, I've continued to oversee the outreach of our Parish Visitors, who stay connected with those who are unable to attend church on a regular basis.
- ~ I guided our Adult Education program. Highlights include a 5 week series of classes I taught during Lent on "Seeing Ourselves in Those Who Saw Jesus." I also continue to host our series of Forums, which this year included presentations on Islam, Orthodox Christianity and the documentary film "Facing Fear."
- ~ I continue to lead our weekly "Walking Together" group. Another reminder that we don't walk on foot, but in faith and friendship. The group is open. So, feel free to join us: Thursdays at 7pm.
- ~ I lead a weekly Bible Study at Piedmont Gardens, which is a great blessing.
- ~ I'm actively involved with the work of the Board of Deacons, the Altar Guild, the Adult Fellowship Team, the Welcoming Team and the PCC-Connect Team.
- ~ I continue to serve on the Mission Action Team. This year, after years of faithful service, team leadership passed from Judy Wright and Mary Fielder to Selma Chin and Jeff Asher. A crucial task this year was seeking ways to help our sister congregation in Malawi deal with a severe drought and food shortage. We sent them a grant, followed up by a fund-raising effort, totaling over \$10,000 for the purchase of maize. MAT held two Community Service ("Go Forth") Days, led by Selma Chin. I also staffed the Alternative Gift Market, which again this year raised over \$40,000.
- ~ I continue to be engaged in pastoral care and hospital visitation on a regular basis.
- ~ I remain active with my denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- ~ Finally, I continue to preach and lead worship with Dr. McNabb, and work with a talented and dedicated church staff. It's a joy to be able to share my ministry with all of you in Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn  
Associate Minister



## SENIOR MINISTER

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As I begin my sixteenth year of ministry I continue to enjoy greatly serving alongside the creative and energetic members of Piedmont Community Church. I feel we are truly blessed to be a part of a caring loving community dedicated to shining Christ's love into all the dark corners of our world.

With a tremendous effort from our Stewardship Committee. We were able to come within 1.5% of last year's pledge amount. In a day and time in which many churches have been experiencing severe pledge declines I salute our many generous members who have helped us keep our pledges on a fairly level plain. In addition to our stewardship campaign PCC finances benefited from the receipt of a grant of 1.5 million dollars from an anonymous foundation - a gift for which we are tremendously grateful. Those funds have helped us refurbish the chapel, rebuild the pipe organ and will soon be used to restore and repair our stained glass windows.

In conjunction with the members of the Endowment Committee we have launched the Wallace and Mary Alexander Circle to honor people who contribute to the PCC endowment or indicate that they have placed the church in their will or trust. The committee hosted a reception on May 21st to introduce the fourth group of new members to the Alexander Circle. In just four years, membership has grown to 165 members. PCC's total endowments are now \$2.4 million dollars.

We continue to emphasize our local mission work in the city of Oakland through the tutoring program in conjunction with Faith Network and we currently have several men and women serving as mentors to inner city youth in the Oremi Mentoring program. As a nine-year participant in the mentoring program I can testify as to its effectiveness and the strong sense of satisfaction one gets when serving as a mentor. If you are interested in the program please give me a call. We also continue to serve meals at the Berkeley Men's Shelter under the dedicated leadership of Barbara and Stuart Crawford. A wonderful new outreach ministry that has entered its second year is the Refugee Task Force under the direction of David Schmidt. Last year we accepted two refugee families from Pakistan to sponsor and help relocate. That effort has gone exceedingly well and this winter we sponsored another family from Afghanistan.

Our relationship with our sister church Kafita CCAP in Lilongwe Malawi remains strong and I am in regular contact with Rev. Tembo their pastor. Last year they celebrated the birth of a daughter church. One of their "prayer houses" has grown and developed to a size that they are ready to become their own church with their own pastor. We celebrate that accomplishment with them. Our sister church relationship with Imani Community Church in Oakland enters its ninth year and continues to grow and strengthen. We shared two pulpit/choir exchanges this year.

Assisted by the outstanding efforts of Steve Main we have worked to provide meaningful and uplifting worship services in the past year. I have preached four sermons series "The Grand Essentials", "Open and Closed Doors", "The Spiritual Life", and "Things the Bible Does Not Say" along with regular and seasonal sermons. We are happy that the sermons are now available on podcast so that people can download to listen from their personal devices or can subscribe. Once again, this year I have had the opportunity to work with a wonderful staff whose commitment and dedication to the well-being of the church is evident in all they do. We were also blessed with stability this year having no staff turnover.

I believe God is calling Piedmont Community Church to shine the light of his love to this community and the world. Maureen and I continue to feel blessed to be a part of that mission and I believe God has many more exciting things in store for this community of faith in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Rev. Dr. William H. McNabb  
Senior Minister



## IN MEMORIAM

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Members and friends of Piedmont Community Church deceased  
May 15th 2016 to May 15, 2017

Robert Leoni\*

Nancy Bates

Marion Thompson

William Seavey

William Ashton

Lucia Staib Brockhoff

Diane Benson

Martha Baker

Jean McCarter

Robert (Andy) Anderson

Virginia Foo\*

Robert Hodgson, Sr.

Ray Perman\*

Carola Ingram

Barbara Taggart

Don Campbell

Cheryl Vaughn

Sam Fleming

Bill Kendrick

\*not a church member





### PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH AT 100 YEARS

The life of “The Church in Piedmont,” as it was originally known, began as the twentieth century dawned. The drive to former church homes in Oakland had proved arduous, so several attempts to provide Sunday School for residents’ children were made between 1900 and 1905. Then in 1905 a permanent Sunday School program was organized under the leadership of Rev. Henry Mowbray, Assistant Minister of First Congregational Church, Oakland. Until the 1906 earthquake, the Sunday School met in the old Blair Mansion on Highland Avenue, then moved to the carriage house of the Mirriam home on Hillside Avenue. The Piedmont Sunday School Association was founded and raised the funds for, and in 1909 built, Mowbray Hall, a permanent home for the Piedmont Sunday School, which stood till late in the century on Vista Avenue across from Piedmont City Hall. Mowbray Hall was soon in demand for adult services!

In Fall of 1909, Dr. John Stuchell was encouraged by the Presbytery of Oakland to investigate the possibility of establishing the first church on the hill. Dr. Stuchell began conducting worship services in Mowbray Hall, and in his Easter Sunday sermon in 1910 described his vision of what would become Piedmont Community Church: “The opportunity is given of building up a church that will be the pride of the community in future years; we have the chance of showing what a church conducted on the broad lines of basic Christianity can do: if we let it slip, if we allow our enthusiasm to be chilled by the old partisan cries, if we insist that the work must be Congregational or Episcopalian or Presbyterian to be acceptable to the Almighty and helpful to mankind . . . then we prove that we are not as far beyond the Middle Ages as we had fondly imagined. But we do not take this dismal view.” This vision of an “umbrella” like ecumenical community church, while revolutionary in its day, found a willing and energetic following in this new community of Piedmont. After that Easter service, 56 charter members formally established The Church in Piedmont, which, in the spring of 1912, joined with the Piedmont Sunday School Association as one body.

It soon became evident that the growth of the church would exceed the capacity of Mowbray Hall. In November, 1913 the present site of the church was donated by its owners, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Alexander, early leaders of the church. Plans were drawn for the present building around a central courtyard, and ground was broken in 1916. On January 6, 1918, dedication services were held and Piedmont Community Church as we know it was established. There were many slow years of growth, but then the East Bay population exploded following World War II and the present Christian Education wing was built and dedicated on September 25, 1949. Later building additions included our beautiful Youth Chapel in the early 1950’s and the Lindamood Music Wing in the early 90’s.

Piedmont Community Church has been served by 9 Senior Ministers:

Dr. John E. Stuchell, Presbyterian, 1910-1916  
Rev. Charles D. Milliken, Congregational, 1916-1927  
Rev. Ernest F. W. Swann, Methodist, 1927-1934  
Rev. Richard E. Shields, Presbyterian, 1935-1939  
Dr. Holland F. Burr, Congregational, 1941-1959  
Dr. Paul W. Yinger, Congregational, 1960-1971  
Rev. Samuel J. Lindamood, Jr., Presbyterian, 1972-1994  
Dr. Jim Davis, Presbyterian, 1994-1999  
Dr. William H. McNabb, Presbyterian, 2001-

In addition, the church has been served by 6 different Interim Senior Ministers: Rev. Francis Van Horn, 1934-35; Rev. James Muilenberg and Rev. Arthur Basham, 1939-1941; Dr. Harold Eymann, 1959-1960; Dr. Kenneth Johnson, 1971-1972; and Rev. David Sandberg, who served us in 1999-2001 and previously in 1994-1995.

These many years of proud history have proved the wisdom of the vision of our founders. The strongest chapters of that history have been written when the early ecumenical vision has been reclaimed and renewed. Today, with a broad spectrum of strong ministries in music, youth, children, fellowship, mission outreach, adult spiritual growth groups, and the historical Founding Our Future Capital Campaign, we stand on the brink of yet another strong chapter and embrace our communal mission: “*Welcoming, Nurturing, Serving.*”

In March of 2010 PCC celebrated its Centennial year. A luncheon was held with over 300 people including many past presidents of PCC and the time capsule from the 75th anniversary was opened. The following week a reception and concert was held with music from the choir and a 30 piece orchestra. A history book of the church and a CD of the concert has also been commissioned.





# CHURCH BOARDS/GUILDS

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Class of 2018

Maggie Spencer, President  
Jim Kellogg, Secretary  
Manuel Martinez  
Tim Recker, Treasurer

### Class of 2019

John Halley, Vice President  
Jim Fleser  
Charley Nooney  
Lani Taylor

### Class of 2020

Joan Chow, Personnel  
Scott Fitzgerald, Buildings & Grounds  
Mike Osborne, Finance  
Steven Thorne, Stewardship

## BOARD OF DEACONS

### Class of 2018

Jay Foreman, Co-Chair  
Julie McDonald, Co-Chair  
Jim Clarkson  
Lynn Nelson

### Class of 2019

Lisa Lindsley  
Mel Taylor  
Steve Wuebbens  
Charlie Wood

### Class of 2020

John Quantz  
Helen Steers  
Linda McClain  
Suzanne Lathan

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Class of 2018

Gwendolyn Osborn, Chair  
Jeff Asbury  
Ron Heckmann  
Michael Perkocha

### Class of 2019

Beth Covin  
Judy Swaby  
Tina Farman  
Tomas Melian  
Lauren Young, Student

### Class of 2020

Hannah Hanrahan  
Kyla Oh  
Sarah Whitfield  
Anne Connelly

## ALTAR GUILD

### Class of 2018

Alice Wong-Roth, Vice President  
Will Adams  
Sunny Bostrom-Fleming  
SweeLing Chen  
Paul Schroeder  
Paul Simonson

### Class of 2019

Zookie Todd, President  
Connie Halley  
Dani Montague  
Katie Ren

### Class of 2020

Amy MacKenzie  
Linda Smith Munyan  
Penny Robb  
Gino Roth

## 2018 NOMINATING COMMITTEE, AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Paul Gray  
Virginia Watkins  
Scott Willis

Underlined names denote persons to be elected at the Annual Meeting



## RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

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### **Board of Trustees**

John Chiang  
Wayne Marzolf  
Pat Ruffolo  
Mary Margaret Sinnema (pending vote  
for ex officio Past President)

### **Board of Deacons**

Bob Leslie  
Christina Miller  
Lynn Nelson  
Brad and Lynn Olander

### **Board of Christian Education**

Tami Collins

### **Altar Guild**

Christy Guidici  
Pricilla Joe  
Lonnie Simonson

### **Nominating Committee**

John Benson  
Christy Guidici  
Steve Senter



## CHURCH CLERK

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### STATISTICS FOR MAY 15, 2016 - June 1, 2017

#### MEMBERSHIP

**Total Membership, May 15, 2017:** 1319

**Members Received**

by Confession of Faith, Letter of

Transfer or Reaffirmation 20

Confirmands 15

*Total Members Received* 35

**Members Removed:**

Deaths 16

Letters of Transfer & Requests 1

*Total Members Removed* 17

**Total Membership, May 15, 2017** 1337

#### PASTORAL SERVICES

Baptisms 7

Marriages 9

Funerals/Memorials 13

**Total Pastoral Services** 29

#### AVERAGE WEEKLY CHURCH ATTENDANCE

**2016-2017** 232





## NEW MEMBERS & CONFIRMANDS

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### **New Members**

Janet Allen  
Nancy Bishop  
Katie Colbert  
Alex Colbert  
Anne Conneely  
Sarah DeVan  
David DeVan  
Jake Furber  
Hope Healy  
Heidi Homer  
Chris Homer  
Derek Kennedy  
Anne Lenkert  
Nona Lim  
Lindy Lowe  
Sarah Ramsey  
Lisa Fuller  
Dirk ten Grotenhuis  
Mary Tham  
Denise Top

### **Confirmands**

Madeline Ashburn  
Katie Ashton  
Samson Bhatti  
Anna Campbell  
Kaelin Campbell  
Grace Davies  
Paul Etame  
Tess Fleser  
Luke Hawkins  
Antonia Miller  
Jack Nooney  
Sam Nooney  
Catherine O'Bresly  
Nicholas Ormond  
Anjuli Turner