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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

MAY 29, 2017 (6/10 issue)

JUNE 12, 2017 (6/24 issue)

Send submissions to

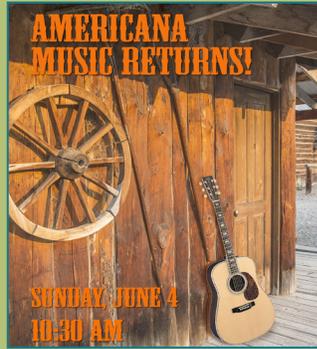
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510-547-5700

VISIT PCC ONLINE:
www.piedmontchurch.org

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR



Americana Sunday, June 4th GOIN' UP THE COUNTRY AGAIN!

We generally sing some pretty fancy music at PCC, but every spring we like to get back to our roots with a program of "Americana" tunes to enhance worship. We've assembled a crackerjack string band featuring our own home-grown wunderkind, Mitch Polzak, and a vocal ensemble starring our wonderful choir section leaders, plus Sylvia Sudat, PCC's answer to Allison Kraus. The vocalists will step out of their usual classical niche and channel their inner Allison, Dolly Parton, Emmylou Harris, Ricky Skaggs, and Johnny Cash, all backed by fiddle, mandolin, banjo, guitar, and bass. It's music of deceptive simplicity: great tunes, fabulous singing, terrific instrumentation—and a heart full of soul. It will be a joyful noise, indeed.

Choir Sunday, June 11th TWO NEW PIECES FROM STEVE MAIN

Choir Sunday features two new pieces from our own, esteemed Steve Main. Here's what he has to say about them:

"The task of composing vocal music is made infinitely easier when one starts with good texts. And what a privilege it is to set these words to music! Although very different in their historical and cultural contexts, the poets I've used for these two pieces share important similarities, including a profound conviction of God's presence throughout creation.

"The English poet William Blake (1757-1827) published 'The Tyger' in 1749. It presents a duality between aesthetic beauty and primal ferocity, as Blake believed that to see one (the Divine hand that created 'The Lamb'), one must also see the other, the hand that created the fearsome tiger. Could it be, Blake asks, that the merciful hand of God could create such a terrifying beast? ('Did he who made the Lamb make thee?') Commissioned by a PCC chorister, **The Tyger** at PCC on June 11th.

"**Where Everything is Music** was commissioned by the Contra Costa Chorale. The texts are drawn from the poetry of the Islamic mystic Jalal-ad-Din Rumi (1207-1273) whose ecstatic poems have been revered for centuries and play an important part in the spirituality of the Sufi mystics. He sees music as woven into the very fabric of reality, not just an art form that is sung or played. Music, like its sister, poetry, springs up from something deeper than words: the primal source is the divine being who plays us like instruments. I arranged the poems so that the piece would hinge on the question: 'who are we, that we should remain in being beside Thee?' For Rumi, though we are unworthy instruments for the divine, a life without music is unthinkable bleak. The climax, presented by solo soprano, is the realization that, like the ecstatic song of a bird, the task of a musician is to allow the Universal Soul to 'practice some song...through me.' According to Rumi, beyond rational thought, beyond society's rules, beyond the ups and downs of everyday life, we find 'the joy of our Music Master.'"

SERMONS SERIES



May 28, 2017

RUMORS OF GLORY

John 17: 1-11

Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn

June 4, 2017

WILL THE REAL JESUS

PLEASE STAND UP

Part 1: The Two Messiahs

Matthew 27:15-18

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

June 11, 2017

CHOIR SUNDAY

June 18, 2017

WILL THE REAL JESUS

PLEASE STAND UP

Part 2: Power vs Love

Matthew 26:50-56

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

MILESTONES



Bill Kendrick

passed from this life
on May 13th.

A memorial service will be
held at PCC on Friday,
June 2nd at 2 pm.

Hattie Church

passed from this life
on May 21st.

A memorial service will be
held in the fall.

*Our thoughts and prayers
are with their families and
friends as we thank God for
their lives.*

Adult Fellowship Barbecue - June 9th



Join us for PCC's annual Adult Fellowship Potluck BBQ on Friday, June 9th. We'll start at 6:30 pm at the home of Guy and Alison Avagliano, located at 7 Muir Avenue, Piedmont. You can sign up to attend after church or by calling Jean in the church office at 510-547-5700 or jean@piedmontchurch.org. When you sign up, please choose to bring either an hors d'oeuvre, salad, side dish or dessert. Bring your beverage of choice and \$5/person to cover the BBQ entrees. Sign up ASAP so we can all get together before we go our separate ways for the summer! All adults are invited to join us.

PCC Family Camp Registration is Open! September 2nd - 4th

Please reserve your spot by June 15th!



PCC's Family Camp takes place Labor Day weekend. We arrive at Westminster Woods on Saturday, September 2nd in time for lunch, and stay through breakfast on September 4th. The cost is \$180 per person (ages 6 and older), \$70 for ages 3-5, under age 3 is free. This includes 2 nights in a tent cabin and 6 delicious meals. **Registration forms are available in the church office, in the CE**

Building on Sundays, and online at our church website, piedmontchurch.org.

Family Camp is a magical time for making new friends and reconnecting with old ones. Every year, we take time to relax and worship in the woods. There are many opportunities to enjoy nature and get to know other church members and friends. Westminster Woods is in Occidental California. We'll have organized activities throughout the day or relax on your own. You can hike, make crafts, or just relax. There are many trails for bike rides, softball, volleyball and swimming in the afternoon. We'll have shared time together for socializing before dinner. After dinner is a campfire, singing and s'mores. After Sunday breakfast, we hold an outdoor church service and communion. There is something for everyone at Family Camp! For more information about Westminster Woods, go to their website: www.westminsterwoods.org. For questions, please contact Leslie Quantz (leslie@piedmontchurch.org).

Prayer Requests

Every Tuesday, our staff sits and prays together for our members. **If you have a special prayer request**, please call 510-547-5700 or use the prayer request ministry on our website www.piedmontchurch.org. All requests are kept in confidence.

Community Service Day - Saturday, June 3rd, 9 am to noon



PCC is partnering with Project Peace for another Community Service Day! Project Peace brings together local faith-based organizations and non-profits to serve our community. Please join together to volunteer on Saturday, June 3rd. Volunteer opportunities include leveling books at Laurel Elementary School, general maintenance and gardening at Claremont Middle School or Harbor House Oakland, and general cleaning and sorting clothes at YEAH - Berkeley (homeless shelter serving youth from 18-25 years). Additional information and sign-ups will be available in the courtyard after services or contact Selma Chin at 510-290-5732 or selmachin@yahoo.com. For additional information about Project Peace Eastbay: www.project-peaceeastbay.org.

PCC Annual Meeting - Sunday, June 4th

All members are invited to attend our annual meeting in Guild Hall after the 10:30 am service. Reports will be presented by the President, Treasurer and Senior Minister. The congregation will be voting on proposed bylaw changes, the proposed 2017-2018 budget and will elect board members. Lunch will be served; babysitting provided. The annual report will be available after worship services, in the church office, and on the website after May 21st.

The Refugee Task Force Needs Summer Volunteers

The refugee family PCC is sponsoring is settling in quite well. Hares is working as a mechanic at the Piedmont Shell station, Nargis is immersed in ESL classes, and the three children are all in school. Much has been accomplished due to the efforts of our dedicated RTF volunteers. However, during the summer months many of our volunteers will be going on vacation, and the Yosufzai children will not be in school. This will increase our need for (1)volunteers to drive family members to medical and governmental appointments, and (2) volunteers to babysit the children when the parents are away at appointments. If you can help with driving or babysitting, or if you have any questions, please contact Bob Livsey at boblivsey@gmail.com or 510-465-9824. No commitment other than we can contact you when we need help to see if you are available.

Take a Look at PCC's New Website! - <http://www.piedmontchurch.org/>



Welcome to
Piedmont Community Church!

It has risen!
Our New PiedmontChurch.org is Now Live!

We have been hard at work over the past several months to bring you a completely redesigned, simple to navigate and modern looking website.

Please **take a moment, surf around and enjoy the more modern design and intuitive navigation.**

Our new site will continuously evolve over time with new information and resources to make it easier for you to engage with PCC online.

Engaging online with PCC is easier than ever before!



The Sabbath Box

Every pastor I know can share a version of the following. Going down an aisle at Safeway the other day, I met a PCC member. And after some words of greeting, this

person said: “I feel so bad I haven’t been to church lately. But, I’ve just been so busy!” Now, it’s unfortunate that “out of context” encounters with ministers can provoke unforeseen pangs of guilt. I realize this fact of life, even if I don’t relish having this effect on people. Still, it’s happened often enough that I wonder: Is there more I can offer the “busy but guilty” soul than mere words of absolution?

The answer is “yes.” First, I have empathy for folks who find themselves having to choose between church and other weekend commitments. After all, I spent nearly a decade coaching various kid’s sports teams – though, for obvious reasons, I had to draw the line at Sunday mornings. What’s more, I know that whether you have kids or not, most of us are already busy enough during the week that – if it’s not already jam-packed – a Sunday morning can be your one moment to relax. I get that. So, what’s a person to do?

Well, aside from avoiding grocery store aisles where you might bump into a preacher, I have a suggestion. It’s an ancient practice of the Judeo-Christian tradition, that follows the command to “Remember the Sabbath.” In an excellent book called *Sabbath*, Wayne Muller calls us to begin “a quiet revolution.” He writes, “Let us, for just one day, cease our desperate striving for more, and instead take a collective breath; rest, pray, meditate, walk, sing, eat and take time to share the unhurried company of those we love.” Obviously, gathering with a community of faith has its proper place in that. But it’s not the only way to remember the Sabbath. Muller lists all sorts of practices we can try; ranging from the more traditional – lighting a candle before sharing a family-prepared meal – to creating a “Sabbath Box.” Just put your to-do list, your wallet, your keys, your cell phone – anything you don’t need in Sabbath time – into a box. Close the lid. Let it go, just for now. And see what a difference it can make. Go to church if you can. Stay connected with God and with other people. But, whatever else you do on the weekend, take some time – indeed, make some time – to just stop. Remember the Sabbath, and rediscover the sweetness of life.

Peace, Don



Piedmont COMMUNITY CHURCH

Office Hours: 9 am to 4 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 27 - Berkeley Men’s Shelter, 7 pm

May 28 - LiveWire Six Flags Trip

May 29 - PCC Office is Closed

June 3 - Community Service Day, 9 am to noon

June 4 - Americana Sunday

June 4 - Annual Meeting & Luncheon

June 9 - Adult Fellowship Barbecue

June 11 - Choir Sunday

June 15 - Family Camp Registration Due

Sept. 2-4 - PCC Family Camp in Westminster Woods

The Messenger (USPS permit # 432-100) is owned, managed, published, and circulated on a biweekly basis by Piedmont Community Church, 400 Highland Ave., Piedmont, CA 94611, Ph. (510) 547-5700. Subscriptions: \$25 a year. Periodicals postage pd. at Oakland, CA, 94615.
POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to above address.

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