



**Piedmont
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

THE MESSENGER

BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 71, NUMBER 88

July 15, 2017

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

JULY 10, 2017 (7/29 issue)

JULY 31 2017 (8/12 issue)

Send submissions to

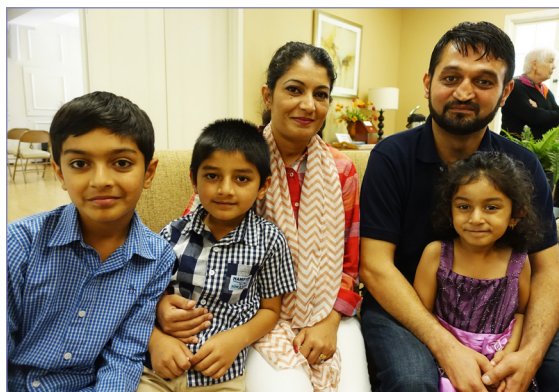
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VISIT PCC ONLINE:
www.piedmontchurch.org

Refugee Task Force: Yosufzai Family Doing Great!



It has been five months since the Yosufzai family arrived in America and they are doing great! The kids were in school for the last five months, have adjusted well, and are now in summer school. Their English skills are improving significantly. They continue to have an effervescent spirit, a twinkle in the eye and a big smile. Each have dental issues which are being addressed. They're taking the dental visits in stride.

Nargis, the mother, is spending much time learning English. She's hoping she'll be able to find a job this Fall. Nargis has an impacted wisdom tooth which had to be extracted. Our very own PCC dentist, Dr. Larry Franz, did the work as a gift to the family. Hares, the father, has a full time job at the Shell station opposite Ace Hardware. He's well respected and appreciated for his work ethic and willingness to learn, and commitment to quality work. Hares has passed the drivers license written test and is now taking driving lessons from our very own Brother Bill!

Thank you to all of you who have so graciously given of your time and talents to help the Yosufzai family.

Driving Lessons



It's been quite a few years not since I climbed into the passenger seat and endeavored to teach my teenage daughters how to drive. Even though we mostly practiced in the cemetery where we couldn't do much damage because people were already dead, I forgot about how odd it is to be giving instructions without a brake or steering wheel in front of you.

Nevertheless, I volunteered to teach Hares Yousufzai how to drive and coach him through passing the California drivers license test. We started out at the

Eastmont Mall where there is a huge parking lot with almost no cars. He mastered that in a matter of minutes and then it was on to the streets of Oakland. Foothill Blvd was a nice long road that led back to his house. Lesson number two consisted of more surface street driving and our first attempts to merge on and off freeways. Hares has already driven a bit in Afghanistan so he picked up on the skill very quickly. He is a natural! I don't think it will be too long before we will hit the DMV and try to pass the driving test. Everybody please wish him luck.

Bill McNabb

SERMONS SERIES



July 16, 2017

RICHER LIVING

John 1:17-21

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

July 23, 2017

**LEARNING HOW
TO GROW OLD**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Rev. Dr. William McNabb

MILESTONES



Isaac Gordon Homer

was baptized on July 9th.

*Congratulations to parents,
Heidi & Chris Homer.*

**Caroline Madeleine
Webster**

was baptized on July 9th.

*Congratulations to parents,
Lauren & Charles Webster.*

Tucker McAuliffe Woolard

was baptized on July 9th.

*Congratulations to parents,
Heather & John Woolard.*

The Yosufzai Children



Ibrahim, Ismail and Yusra Yosufzai are enjoying their summertime. When visitors come to the house, the children always bring fruit and water or tea to the table. They like eating mangoes, bananas and other fruits along with the guests. Yusra perches on the back of the couch, looking out the window for her big brother, Ibrahim, to come walking from the bus stop where he gets off the bus after leaving Roosevelt Middle School. He attends

a summer bridge program there to acquaint him with the Middle School experience, and will start 6th grade there in the fall. Ismail and Yusra attend Franklin Elementary School summer program. The school is located a block from their apartment. Conveniently, their mother attends ESL class there Monday through Friday from 9 am to noon. There are many immigrants from the Middle East who attend Franklin School and the Yosufzai children seem very happy there.

On Sunday, July 1st, the children came to the Doris Murdock Room with their parents to socialize and converse in English with a group from the Refugee Task Force. They played with children from our Sunday School, then joined the adults for muffins and tea. Last seen, the three of them were ensconced in two large chairs reading books a Task Force member brought for them.

PCC Shared Interest Groups

As you may know, PCC offers four Shared Interest Groups that meet periodically to pursue, well, interests that peoples share. There are groups for: **Hiking** (led by Mary Heller), **Theatre** (Judy Wright), **Dinner Club** (Kristi Marcelle), **Needles and Hooks** (knitting and crafts, led by Sue Coffin), and **Food Truck/Restaurant outings** (Linda Rice). If you'd like to join in the activities of one of our groups, look for upcoming events in the Sunday bulletin, The Messenger and on our website: www.piedmontchurch.org. You can also contact the group leaders individually via PCC-Connect (linked to the website). In the fall, we'll be starting even more shared interest groups. So, if you have an idea for a group to start, please let Rev. Don Ashburn know this summer. You can reach him at: don@piedmontchurch.org, or 547-5700, ext. 105.

PCC's Chancel Choir Seeking New Auditions!



The Chancel Choir is a central part of the music program at the church, singing services and concerts with instrumental ensembles throughout the program year. The Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights, and is always interested in potential new members for this unique musical experience! If you are interested or know someone who is,

please contact Steve Main at 415-902-7495, or steve@stephenmain.com, to find out more and arrange a (user-friendly!) audition.

PCC Family Camp - *Space Still Available* - September 2nd - 4th



Join us in Westminster Woods for PCC's Family Camp, taking place Labor Day weekend. The cost is \$180 per person (ages 6 and older), \$70 for ages 3-5, under age 3 is free. 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. There are many opportunities to enjoy nature and get to know other members. We'll have organized activities or you can relax on your own. There are many trails for bike rides, softball, volleyball and swimming. Or you can hike and make crafts. 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).

Summer Rock and Livewire Pizza Lunches

For whoever is in town let's give this a try! We will open the youth room to hang out, have some pizza, and put something on the big screen. Join us when you can, bring friends and \$5 for pizza. Hope to see you on these **Wednesdays from 12-2 pm: July 5th, 19th and 26th; August 2nd and 9th.**

Youth Program Dates for Your Calendar

August 15: School starts
 August 22: Rock Pizza Lunch starts
 August 23: Livewire Kickoff - *new time*: 2:30-3:30 pm on Wednesdays
 August 27: Sunday School starts (during 10:30 am service)
 August 27: Rock Kickoff

2017-18 Children's Sunday School

For the coming Sunday school year we'll be Digging into the Bible in One Year! For the first quarter we'll be learning stories from Genesis, Exodus and Numbers. Some of these stories include: God Creates Adam and Eve (Genesis 1-2:24), God Tells Noah to Build an Ark (Genesis 6:9-9:17) and God Sends Miriam to Protect Moses (Exodus 2:1-10). The stories

come with games and crafts to reinforce the message. Crafts include making dough to create something with a

Job Opening at PCC: Director Communications & Marketing



Piedmont
Community Church

We are pleased to announce that Piedmont Community Church will be adding a **Director of Communications & Marketing** to our staff team. This new position will lead all communications and marketing efforts, advise staff and lay leadership, and collaborate with volunteers on boards, ministries, committees, teams, and the congregation to increase the visibility of PCC's rich programs and services in our community and beyond. Please visit our website (under News & Upcoming Events) for a **complete job description**.



Reflections: The Goose Story

One of the most beautiful sights the eye can behold is the sight of a migrating flock of geese flying in a perfect "V" formation. Canadian geese have perfected an amazing efficiency in their travel methods. In fact, they are able to migrate from James Bay in Canada to central Louisiana in under 60 hours. My preaching professor Browne Barr wrote a book about the things we can learn from the behavior of geese.

You see, they fly that way, in a "V" formation, for a reason. It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own. (People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier, because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.)

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone, and quickly gets into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front. (If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed in the same way we are going). When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point. (It pays to take turns doing hard jobs with people or with geese flying south). The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. (What do we say when we hand from behind?)

Finally, when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gun shots and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow him down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he either able to fly or until he is dead, and then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with the group. (If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other in our hour of need like that).

We in the church need to learn to stick together, to take turns leading, to comfort each other in times of need and to always encourage each other from behind. God teaches us the lessons we need to learn in life in a variety of ways. Sometimes we learn from scripture, sometimes from our teachers or mentors and sometimes God even uses our fine feathered friends.

Keep on Honking!

Dr. William McNabb
Senior Minister



Piedmont COMMUNITY CHURCH

Office Hours: 9 am to 4 pm

Summer Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 9 am - 3 pm

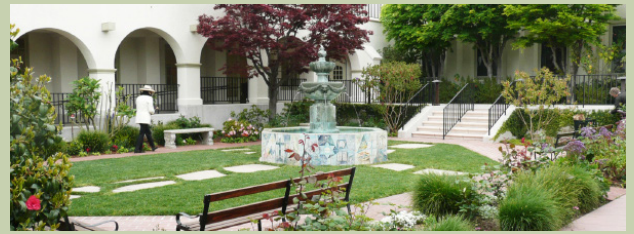
UPCOMING EVENTS

July 17 - Needles & Hooks, 7 pm (special interest group)

July 22 - Berkeley Men's Shelter, 7 pm

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

September 10 - PCC Fall Picnic



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