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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS:

JULY 31 2017 (8/12 issue)

AUG 14 2017 (8/26 issue)

Send submissions to
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abby@piedmontchurch.org

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

VISIT PCC ONLINE:
www.piedmontchurch.org

What's Ahead for PCC?



When our older son Brett was about to enter kindergarten, my father called with a question: "What are you going to do about Sunday School?" Although I like to think I would have addressed this on my own (c'mon, Dad!), his point was well taken, and the search began. The answer, of course, was Piedmont Community Church, and thus began the Spencer Family connection that continues to enrich our lives today. I feel as honored and privileged as I can possibly express to take on the role of President of the Board of Trustees for the 2017-2018 church year.

I believe this will be a significant year. As many will recall, two years ago, under Kirk Miller's leadership, the BOT enacted a three-year strategic plan that we have worked with since. The plan's objective is to grow congregational engagement and improve vibrancy, communication and sustainability through specific action steps. Mary Margaret Sinnema was President last year, and she summarized the work to date in her Annual Report. Much was accomplished, but much remains to be moved along further. Some tasks are near completion and some will take more time.

Priority number one at the moment is to hire a Communications Director. So many of our objectives to grow and thrive pointed in this direction. The job description is posted and we hope to have good news from the Personnel Committee soon.

Please keep your eye out for our Engagement Team! Led by Immediate Past President (a new BOT position) Mary Margaret, Pastors Bill and Don and a diverse group of members are charged with learning what the congregation thinks about how PCC is doing in its core missions and making recommendations. A survey and other opportunities to provide input will be coming your way soon.

A less glamorous goal is improved administration. It is not only within the purview, but is the responsibility of the BOT to ensure that church operations are run professionally, efficiently, and with the appropriate transparency. Our Finance and Personnel Committees will take the lead, but it will be all hands on deck to work collaboratively with our terrific ministers and staff.

Our treasured church home is thriving today. Your leadership wants to do all we can to ensure that continues, not only for future parents seeking education for their children, but for anyone else who seeks to walk with us. Our congregation and staff contain an amazing wealth of talent – we have so much to learn from each other. I look forward to hearing your thoughts, concerns, and hopefully kudos as well, as the journey continues this year.

Maggie Spencer
President, Board of Trustees
Piedmont Community Church

SERMONS SERIES



July 30, 2017

Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn
preaching

August 6, 2017

Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn
preaching

August 13, 2017

Rev. Dr. Don Ashburn
preaching

MILESTONES



Is there a milestone in your life that you would like to share with us: a wedding, a birth, an engagement, the passing of your dear one? Please contact Abby Rose at 547-5700 ext. 103 or abby@piedmontchurch.org

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.

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Sumer Reading - Dr. William McNabb

How to Be Here by Rob Bell

Rob Bell is one of my favorite Christian authors. He is real and down to earth and open to new ideas. This book does a good job of discussing how our faith can give us more joy and peace in life.

Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America by Michael Eric Dyson

This is one of the most powerful books about race relations in America I have read. Dyson is an African American pastor who does not pull any punches in his sermon to white America. This is not always easy to read but it is real and true and ultimately edifying.

Salt Fat Acid Heat: Mastering the Elements of Good Cooking by Samin Nosrat

I love to cook and have learned more from this book than any other single cookbook. It is not a collection of recipes but more of a cooking instruction manual creatively put together by a veteran of the Chez Panisse kitchen. It has totally changed the way I cook.

Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC by Frederick Buechner

This is an old classic I pulled of the shelf and reread recently. Buechner is one of Christianity's finest prose stylists. This slight volume is filled with winsome descriptions of a wide variety of Christian topics.

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 bug screen. Join us when you can, bring friends and \$5 for pizza. Hope to see you on these **Wednesdays 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 purpose (Adam and Eve), making jump ropes out of plastic bags (Noah's Ark, God gives us "do-overs"). I look forward to Digging into the Bible in One Year! Please contact Leslie Quantz if you have questions: leslie@piedmontchurch.org.

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**.



It's Summer!

From my 17-year old grandson: "But Grandma, school is over. We don't have to do any work or learn anything over the summer." It's a common misconception that we only learn in school. I dare

say there are young adults who believe their learning is done when they hold their baccalaureate degree in their hands. Even elderly adults balk, and many times refuse, to learn a new exercise or a new diet, or to live in new surroundings, even though those things might be desirable for their health and well-being.

I think we will all agree that education and learning is good, but we realize if we learn something new we may have to change. and change is a very scary word. But in a world that is changing, do we have any choice? If we want to be a vital part of this changing world and society, we must leave behind outmoded ways of thinking and embrace the "new," at least that which our conscience will allow.

The change that occurred in the Hebrew religion 2,000 years ago occurred because some Jews were willing to change their ideas and actions and embrace the message of Jesus. The Hebrew religion was based on God's unchanging Law (The 10 Commandments). But Jesus gives us just two laws for being spiritually right with God ("You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself"). When we turn from this world to the spiritual world we will be changed, renewed, born again. Ephesians 4:17-23 warns us: No longer live in the futility of your mind; that is not the way of Christ. Put away your old self and be renewed in the spirit of your minds.

Perhaps my grandson was partially right. During the summer months we can take a break from academic learning, and focus on spiritual learning, on renewing the spirit of our minds and bodies. Feed your spirit: watch the clouds float by; count the waves on the beach, listen to classical music or visit a museum; attend a stage play; come to Sunday worship where you'll be fed fine music, beautiful surroundings and thoughtful words. When you learn something new about your spirit, have faith to act on your knowledge and change whatever needs changing.

Peace, Blessings and Joy,

Dottie

Dottie

Rev. Dottie Hutch



Piedmont COMMUNITY CHURCH

Office Hours: 9 am to 4 pm

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 22 - Rock Pizza Lunch starts

August 23 - Livewire Kickoff

August 27 - Sunday School

August 27 - Rock Kickoff

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

September 10 - PCC Fall Picnic



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