

The Messenger

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH SCHEDULE & EVENT GUIDE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 2021



Together Again HOMECOMING

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Mark your calendars for the official start of our new church program year. On Sunday, September 12, we'll celebrate first in worship at 10am, then move to an all-church picnic organized by our Christian Education Board. The event will be held outdoors at Piedmont Park. Casual attire recommended.

We are planning fun games for children of all ages and will be treated to music by some of our very own talented musicians.



A taco truck will provide tasty food for everyone, and the fellowship is bound to be uplifting.

Please consider attending, inviting a friend or two and spending quality time reacquainting with your friends at Piedmont Community Church.

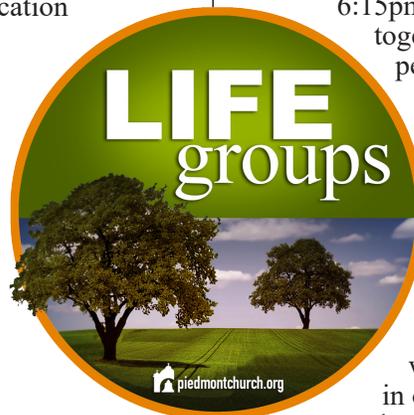
Small Groups Offer Community, Personal Growth

On Thursday, September 23, we will hold our first small group gatherings called Life Groups.

For 6 consecutive Thursday evenings, we will share a meal at church at 6:15pm. Then, we'll meet together in groups of 8-10 people in various locations on site, or in homes (or online, if necessary) for conversation, fellowship, learning and spiritual growth.

Each group will have 2 co-hosts, who will guide participants as we share what's going on in our own lives, discuss topics brought up in the previous week's sermon, and pray together.

Sign up beginning September 5 at church, or <https://bit.ly/3jNKRAO>
Contact Don@PiedmontChurch.org



KIDZ CLUB

Friendship, Service, Faith

Kidz Club is a group for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade children. It is dedicated to building friendships, helping the broader community by performing service projects and exploring and developing personal faith.

We will be meeting weekly in the Youth Room from 3:30-4:30pm starting Thursday, September 16.

Our Mission

To develop friendships within the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade community at Piedmont Church, to gain exposure to the broader community by making a difference through service projects and to continue exploration and development of personal faith.

Contact Leslie Quantz at Leslie@PiedmontChurch.org or (510) 547-5700, ext. 109 for information, or to volunteer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School has begun. This year, we will be *Digging into the Life of Jesus*. Each week we will have lessons, crafts and games. All children are welcome Kindergarten through 6th grade - older children are welcome too.

Our Nursery is available for younger children.

Digging Into the Life of Jesus leads children in walking in Jesus' footsteps from his birth to his resurrection and ascension. Children don't just learn about the historical Jesus; they get to know him personally. They'll discover that Jesus is a real person—a real friend—who makes a difference in their lives today.

Contact Leslie Quantz with questions at Leslie@PiedmontChurch.org or (510) 547-5700 ext.109



Shoeboxes Filled November 7

We will be filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child in Guild Hall after worship. Samaritan's Purse collects shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for children around the world. Since 1993, more than 188 million children in more than 170 countries and territories have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. The project delivers not only the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love.

Contact Leslie Quantz at Leslie@PiedmontChurch.org or (510) 547-5700, ext. 109

Children's Christmas Pageant December 5

Our Children's Sunday school will be presenting a Christmas program during the worship service on Sunday, December 5.

Children will be lighting the Advent Candles, participating in the Nativity story and singing Christmas Carols.



Student Ministries Ramping Up



ONGOING EVENTS

Livewire, Wednesdays at 3pm
 Rock, Sundays at 5pm
 Rock pizza lunch, Tuesdays

SPECIAL EVENTS

Confirmation will begin to meet weekly on Sunday September 19, 11:30am-1pm, and will conclude on Confirmation Sunday, November 14.

Registration for the **2022 Mexico Missions Trip** will begin November 15, and leader training will take place all throughout the fall.

Rev. Scott Kail will lead an upcoming **Life Group** beginning September 23. The focus will be on parents of Middle and High School students.

Living Room Conversations

On Sunday, September 19 we'll have another in a series of Living Room Conversations (LRC).

We'll gather on Zoom from 4 - 5:30pm to discuss the issue of "Polarization" – in our nation, in our communities, and in our lives.

In an effort to develop our ability to engage in civil discourse and find common ground even on complicated, conflicted issues, each conversation

is facilitated by a Piedmont Church member who has been trained to promote respectful listening and full participation.



Participants must pre-register to take part in a LRC. You can do so online starting on September 5 at [PiedmontChurch.org](https://bit.ly/37CONP7) or visit <https://bit.ly/37CONP7>



Christmas Concert To Feature New Performances

Our annual Christmas Concert has been a beloved tradition at Piedmont Church.

Drawing on the combined sound of our wonderful choir, soloists and orchestra, it's a magnificent way to welcome in the joys of the holiday season. Not simply a performance of holiday favorites and carols, our concert tradition takes the listener on a journey through the mystery and meaning of Christmas, often exploring various themes and characters associated with the Nativity story itself.

Last year, in spite of COVID shutdowns, we were still able to offer a rousing online presentation, through a combination of archival and brand-new footage.

This year's concert will present an ALL-NEW performance of Stephen Main's award-winning composition, *Wonder Tidings*, heard in its original scoring for chamber ensemble, choir and soloists.

An in-person performance is planned for December 11 for a limited audience, and an all-new filmed version will be presented the following week on December 19.

Please join us in anticipation of this musical celebration of Christmas!

Wednesday Bible Study



Dr. Don Ashburn
Associate Minister

Join me each Wednesday morning from 10-11am on Zoom, as we journey together through the Book of Acts.

No preparation and no previous experience studying the Bible is needed. Just join us, as we learn how the early

Christians lived their faith and spread the good news in very difficult times.



The Zoom link is <https://bit.ly/3CHdRD1> which will also appear online and in our weekly *Messenger* email.

New Member Gatherings

If you are interested in joining our church as we move forward together in faith, you're invited to join with Transitional Pastor Dr. Steve Schibsted and Dr. Don Ashburn for a gathering at church on either Saturday, September 18 or 25. You need only attend one gathering.

We'll meet from 9-11am to get to know each other and to talk about our life together as a faith community.

Contact Don Ashburn at Don@PiedmontChurch.org



Convo & Coffee

Seniors gather with others in the approximate age group to share conversation, questions, concerns regarding personal, social/cultural issues and church news.

We gather at 9:30am and end by 11am on the first and third Wednesday mornings of every month.

Caroling Set For December 1

Immediately following the annual city tree lighting ceremony at Piedmont Park on Wednesday, December 1 at 7pm, participants will be invited to cross the street to participate in caroling at the church.

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ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 7

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, Guild Hall, after worship

Wednesday, December 1

Caroling following City of Piedmont's 7pm annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony

Sunday, December 5

Children in worship for Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 11, 19

In-person Christmas Concert planned for December 11, limited audience, featuring chamber ensemble and singers, led by Dr. Stephen Main - followed by filmed concert released December 19 via website and YouTube

Christmas Eve Services

Family-friendly service at 4pm, followed by Candlelight Services at 9 and 11pm

ONGOING EVENTS

Sundays

Worship at 10am, Sanctuary
Children's Sunday School, 10am, CE Building
Rock, 5pm, Youth Room

Mondays

Spiritual Formation Group, 4:30pm on Zoom

Tuesdays

Rock Pizza Lunch, Youth Room
Small Group Bible Study, 7pm, Wright's Home
Needles and Hooks on Zoom, 2pm

Wednesdays

Livewire, 3pm, Youth Room
Seniors Coffee - 9:30-11am, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Thursdays

Walking Together - 7pm Guild Parlor
Kidz Club - 3:30pm Youth Room (Beginning Sept. 16)

Saturdays

Men's Bible Study, 7:30am, Murdock Room