

# Golden Nugget

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

## A Word from the Pastor

*"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."*  
**Proverbs 3:9-10**

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*  
**Matthew 6:19-21**

The month of October marks the beginning of our church's annual Stewardship Campaign. This time of year sometimes seems like a difficult one, because there are certainly more important things in this world that our church should be worried about than money; in fact, in many ways it seems like the last thing that any church should be concerned with is money. However, the truth of the matter is that, even though there are most assuredly more important things than money, the church is reliant upon it in order to function and minister well. Money is, in fact, such an all-important part of society in general, and the church in particular, that God spends an ample portion of His Word discussing it; and, what we see in His Word is that Christians have a responsibility, a duty, to be generous with the money that God has given them. We see, from passages such as the one above from Proverbs,



that God doesn't expect just what we have leftover after we have spent our money on our own wants and needs; rather, He expects our "firstfruits," which means that He expects to get the best of what we have before we spend on anything else. And, in return for our generosity and tithing, we see in passages such as that from the Gospel of Matthew above, that God promises we will store up eternal treasures in heaven.

So, with these thoughts in mind, I want to discuss a little bit about our annual Stewardship Campaign. Sometime within the next couple of weeks, each one of our covenant partners will be receiving a letter directly from me regarding stewardship with a pledge card to be filled out with how much money you are planning to give the church next year. You will be given several weeks to prayerfully consider how much you will be able to give to the Church of the 49ers next year before you fill out and return the card. I want to stress to each of you how important it is for you to fill out this pledge card to let our session and our finance committee know what your plans for giving are; because it is through this campaign, and through these pledge cards specifically, that we are able to determine what our operating budget will be for 2020. If our covenant partners decide that, while they

October 2019

plan to give next year, they don't want to make any sort of pledge, then we will have no idea how to appropriately and faithfully budget

our money, and the church's operations and ministries could both suffer. It is through your pledges that we know how much money we will have to "Go and make disciples" in 2020.

I know that talking about, and asking for, money can oftentimes be an awkward and uncomfortable situation. As such, it is my goal to gently stress to our congregation how important it is to make these pledges without being overbearing about it. I want you all to know that my door is always open, you can drop by and visit or give me a call if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas regarding the Campaign. I will also be making sure that the expected operating budget for 2020 is printed in the bulletin, and readily available for all covenant partners to see, so you will know the goal that we are trying to reach through the campaign. I want this process to be as open and transparent as possible; and it is my prayer that all of our covenant partners will understand why this Campaign is so important and will embrace it as such. This Campaign time should not be a time of tension, turmoil, stress, or strife; it should be a time of joy, hope, and anticipation as we look ahead to the amazing things that God can and will do through the Church of the 49ers in 2020.

**Continued on Page 4. See "Pastor"**

First Presbyterian Church of Columbia † "Church of the 49ers"

## GOLDEN NUGGET

Published monthly by  
First Presbyterian Church  
"Church of the 49ers"  
Editor: Leslie Davis

11155 Jackson Street  
Columbia, CA 95310  
209-532-2441  
churchofthe49ers.com

Office Hours:  
Tuesday through Friday  
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Worship Service:  
10:00 am Sundays

## STAFF

\*\*\* Keith Reid, Pastor  
Rev. Lee Warford, Assistant Pastor  
Deb Johnson, Office Administrator  
Carolyn Sylva, Accompanist

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Church of the 49ers,  
where God is the gold. We serve  
and worship God in spirit and in the  
truth of the scriptures. We live by faith  
and will be known by our love  
for others and our voice of hope.

## CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY January 1 through August 31, 2019 (exclusive of other income/expenses)

	Budget	Actual	Difference Over/(Under)
Income	\$164,648	\$163,960	(\$688)
Expense	\$173,219	\$155,496	(\$17,723)

Net Ordinary Income as of August 31: **\$8,463.61**  
Mortgage Balance as of August 31: **\$80,047.61**  
August 2019 Mortgage Principal Payment: **\$835.39**

## September Session Highlights

Highlights of the September 25th  
Session meeting include:

- Pastors Keith Reid and Lee Warford attended the first **Flourishing Cohort** in Sacramento. They are studying how to have a Flourishing church. The elders will watch a couple of related videos.
- Pastor Keith is planning the worship service for his Ordination/Installation. It will be at **4:00 pm on Sunday, October 13, 2019 in the Sanctuary**. We are all looking forward to the celebration!

### Editor's Note:

\*\*\* As of October 13th, we can identify Pastor Keith as Reverend Keith Reid, and next month's Golden Nugget will reflect this.

- Pastor Keith as Pastor Commissioner, and Jim Brandt as Elder Commissioner, will be attending the **ECO National Gathering** in Dallas, TX, February 3-6, 2020.
- Building & Grounds is working on the grease trap in the kitchen to be more completely cleaned.
- The Inquirer' Class on October 6 will be attended by at least seven persons.

The next Session meeting will be on October 23, 2019, at 2:00 pm in the Lower Sanctuary, and members are welcome to attend. Check with the Office first for the correct start time and location.

**Diane Brandt, Clerk of Session**

## Elders and Deacons Identified

### Elders and their responsibilities:

Jim Brandt:	Finance Chair
Dean Cunningham:	Personnel Chair
Leslie Davis:	Fellowship Chair
Roger Haughton:	Missions Chair
Tom Kimura:	Welcome & Evangelism Chair
Ken Minett:	Worship Chair
Sharon Poff:	Buildings & Grounds Co-Chair
Carl Rudolph:	Buildings & Grounds Co-Chair
Jon Whited:	Christian Education Chair, and Special Projects

**Deacon Officers:** Moderator Kathi Lewis, Vice-Moderator Rosie McCarthy, Treasurer Jim Lashbrook, Assistant Treasurer Judy Nason, Secretary Denella Kimura

### Deacon Committees (chairmen underlined):

Memorial: Suzanne Williamson, Rosie McCarthy, Kathi Lewis, Marijean Davis

Communion: Marijean Davis, Susie Porte

Deacon Fund: Jim Lashbrook, Judy Nason, Susie Porte, Gwen Harris

Grief Booklet Coordinator: Jim Lashbrook, Denella Kimura

Interfaith: Vi Morgado, Rosie McCarthy

Prayer Chain (email): Rosie McCarthy

# 49er Family News

Congratulations to **Jan Atkinson**, who won first place in the "three-dimensional" category at the Mother Lode Art Association's 66th Annual Juried Art Show, held in the Sonora Opera Hall the last weekend of September. Her work is titled "Criss-Cross."



**Criss-Cross**

Another of Jan's sculptures is displayed on the second floor of the new Diana J. White Cancer Center in Sonora, known as the Pavilion. In addition to being a sculptor, Jan is a non-fiction writer of history and one fictional historical novel, and a private pilot.

## Presbyterian Women (PW)

All women are invited to the PW general meeting and potluck in Faith Hall  
Thursday, Oct. 3, 11:00 am.

## Men's Breakfast Fellowship

All men are welcome to meet for a no-host breakfast at Brooks Ranch Restaurant on Mono Way in Sonora  
Saturday, Oct. 12, 8:00 am.

## 2019 Tuolumne County Health Fair Tuesday and Wednesday, October 15 and 16, 7 am to 1 pm at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds

The Welcome & Evangelism Committee will again have a booth representing the Church of the 49ers in the Health Fair. The Health Fair is a great place to get your flu shot – then be certain to stop in and greet us at the booth.

In addition to inviting people to worship and to the Helen Johnson Community Dinners, we'll be handing out a list of health benefits a person can enjoy as a member of a church congregation. Some of the benefits include: community, accountability, personal growth, opportunities to give back, better immune system, lower blood pressure, and longer lifespan.



**Melissa Schultz and Kathy Mastenbrook in booth last year**

## October Birthdays

*Happy birthday to you,  
Happy birthday to you.  
May the Lord bless you  
And keep you,  
Your whole life through.*

- Oct 2 Harold Hill
- Oct 3 Teresia Wilson
- Oct 4 Deborah Handy
- Oct 7 Jim Lashbrook
- Oct 15 Brian Annett
- Oct 16 June Perea
- Oct 17 Dana Avila-Youngborg
- Oct 17 Marian Cramer
- Oct 18 Peggy McConnell
- Oct 20 Stacy Lien
- Oct 23 Ella Reid
- Oct 24 Mary Wollitz
- Oct 25 Beverly Everhart
- Oct 26 Evie Harris-Fitzsimons
- Oct 26 Kim Mayer
- Oct 27 Valerie McCale
- Oct 31 Sonja Harris

## Happy Anniversary!

Jeff and Sue Warren  
15 years on October 9



**Parish Nursing**

Valerie McCale, Parish Nurse, will provide free Blood Pressure Checks on Sunday, October 20, following worship, right inside the door in Faith Hall.

**First Presbyterian Church of Columbia † "Church of the 49ers"**



## Sermons and Scripture

Pastor Keith is preaching a series of sermons that will take a closer look at 1 and 2 Timothy as well as Titus to gain a deeper understanding of the letters that Paul wrote to these young pastors. Through these sermons, we will see many of the ways that God has commanded His church, both in the first century and today, to organize themselves and to worship Him.

The title of the series is "The Pastoral Epistles: God's Advice for His Church." The Scriptures and sermon titles for the month of October are:

### October 6

Jeremiah 2:1-8; 2 Timothy 1:18  
"Loyal to a T"

### October 13

Psalm 16:1-11; 2 Timothy 2:1-13  
"A Trustworthy Saying"

### October 20

Zechariah 13:1-6; 2 Timothy 2:14-26  
"The Remedy for Spiritual Gangrene"

### October 27

Daniel 12:1-7; 2 Timothy 3:1-17  
"Evildoers and Imposters"

Visit the church website at [www.churchofthe49ers.com](http://www.churchofthe49ers.com) to listen to any past sermons. Click on "Worship" and then "Sermons" and then the small white triangle on the left underneath each sermon listed. The audio includes the Scripture verses being read and goes right into the sermon.



## The ECO Presbytery of Northern California and Nevada

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE  
THE ORDINATION OF

**Keith Reid**

WITH US!

When: Sunday, October 13, 2019

Time: 4:00 PM

Where: First Presbyterian Church  
11155 Jackson Street, Columbia

Dress: Business Casual

Dinner reception following in Faith Hall

RSVP: 532-2441 or 532-6604

## Come, Join the Choir and Ringers!



The 49er Chancel Choir and 49er Chancel Ringers are seeking additional singers and ringers. The choir, directed by Barbara Broad, sings old-fashioned anthems at worship services on the first and third Sundays of the month, plus special Advent and Lent services. New singers, especially sopranos and altos are most welcome! Rehearsals are Fridays 10:30 to noon with a refresher at 9:00 am prior to worship on first and third Sundays. Ability to read music is required.

And the handbell ensemble, led by Doreen Bass, would love to add new ringers. The Chancel Ringers play for Christmas and Easter services, and would like to ring more frequently for the worship service. Rehearsals are Fridays 3:00 to 4:30 pm. No experience with handbells is necessary, but the ability to read music is preferable.

We want to include everyone who'd like to sing, or ring, with us for the praise of God. Perhaps you have a friend who would be interested, but doesn't attend our church - that's OK. If you want to join the choir or handbell ensemble, talk to Barbara or Doreen.

## "Pastor"

### Continued from Page 1

The truth of the matter is the Church of Jesus Christ is an organization that is dependent upon generous donations in order to fulfill our mission in the world; therefore, it is of the utmost importance that we know the amount of

tithes and offerings we can expect for 2020 so we can effectively plan and strategize our missions and ministries. God commands that we return a portion to Him of what is already His in the first place; the Stewardship Campaign is simply our way to help our covenant partners fulfill this command, and to help our church fulfill the Great Com-

mission. I pray that each one of us takes this awesome responsibility with the utmost seriousness, and with joy in our hearts as we faithfully follow God's commands to give of our resources.

May the blessings of the Father and the peace of the Son be with you,

**Pastor Keith**

First Presbyterian Church of Columbia † "Church of the 49ers"

# Call for Sunday School Teachers

This is a call for teachers needed to support the Christian education needs in our church.

All of you are familiar with Pastor Keith and Karla's precious children, and all of us know it has been some time since we have had anything other than adult Bible studies in the church. Well, now we have need of members willing to support our church children's needs and help with teaching and caring for our growing church family.

It is planned to have at least five teams of three people each (one for infant care, one for pre-school, and one for elementary) who will spend a Sunday morning teaching, caring, and/or getting to be someone special to the pastor's family. I need to have five teams to volunteer to do their part of teaching one Sunday out of five to help out. This way no one takes on a heavy or long burden, but instead can join in on the fun of being with the children we all treasure so much. Just think of how much fun it is to be with children.

The church has many retired school teachers, and many seasoned moms who know how to do this already, and would consider it a treasure to be with kids learning and being so open with their feelings of gratitude and love for those teachers. And I am not leaving out the guys either. I am sure if you feel qualified as a retired teacher, or a mom or dad who has survived the learning curves of raising a family you qualify!

For those who have done both, you are especially blessed and needed to serve. For those who want to be of service and don't feel they qualify, well just hang on because the Holy Spirit will make it all work out (and you will be the one especially blessed.)

I have been authorized by Session to purchase an on-line Christian Education

program for preschool and grade school students, called *Kids Sunday School Place* ([www.kidssundayschool.com](http://www.kidssundayschool.com)) for the church. Check it out. Anyone who teaches or is interested can participate, and with the teams sharing the load, can have up to five weeks to prepare, for what should not take more than an hour of time including gathering of materials you want to use. The lessons cover the whole Bible and it is easy to use in terms of individuals who want to teach Bible characters, topics, history, or current applications. It includes activities, crafts, games, lessons, songs, stories and teaching aids all tied together by topical index. It couldn't be easier!

We also need adult teachers who are willing to participate in adult studies. I have prepared a study of my own that stressed the Responsibility of Salvation. It starts with a quick read of James which shows how a Christian life shows itself by good works, not by merely claiming to have faith and holiness. Then the study continues by showing supporting applications throughout the New Testament. Each study then will be summarized by participants sharing individual message responsibilities.

I would like to have volunteers to take on lessons each week and I will support the men - and I need a leader who is willing to share with Judy Nason for the women. Judy is a bit busy with her life right now, so she is asking for help with the women's study. And I need someone to partner with me for the men.

To do all of this I am planning to have a meeting to discuss plans and how to get started with a most rewarding time of individual growth through being a disciple of Christ and practicing evangelism all in one activity. That meeting will be after church on October 6<sup>th</sup>. (I will be in Texas until then visiting with my sister and her family.)

So give this some thought, pray about it, ask the Holy Spirit to support you and then jump in to do your part as a member of God's flock and supporter of the Church of the 49ers. I can guarantee you the Holy Spirit will be at your side, and we all will be better off resulting from the joy and privilege of serving.

**Jon Whited**

Christian Ed Chair  
Cell #805-300-3403

## Inquirers' Class October 6

Pastor Keith and the Welcome & Evangelism Committee are preparing to conduct an Inquirers' Class on October 6th. After a short break following worship, the class begins at 11:30 in Room One of the Christian Education Building and will conclude by 2:00 pm. Lunch is included. Seven people have already signed up, and more are welcome! If you have been attending worship at the Church of the 49ers and have questions about our worship, ministries, fellowship, this is a good way to get them answered!

We will talk about what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and where our church fits in the Presbyterian family. We will also learn about the ministries of the Church of the 49ers, and reflect on where we all might fit. At the end of the 2-1/2 hour class, participants will have an opportunity to become a member of the church.

To reserve your spot in the class, call Pastor Keith at 532-2441. We want to make certain we have enough food and supplies for all.

# Announcing the Adopt-A-Room Campaign!

We have been praying for more children and families to join our worship and fellowship at the Church of the 49ers. Pastor Keith and Karla and their children are here now and we're expecting more will come. But have you taken a look lately around our campus, especially the Christian Education building? We do not have a proper room for children's Sunday School or a nursery, and other rooms on the church campus need updating too.

To accomplish projects to beautify our campus, we are beginning an "Adopt-A-Room" campaign, which now has Session approval. This means you will have the opportunity to "sponsor" a room in the Christian Education building by donating money for paint and building supplies, and/or your labor. Once each room is completed, a plaque will be located prominently to name the donor(s) – or names of loved ones you wish to honor or memorialize.

If you want to join the campaign, don't neglect your tithe or offering, however. This is a separate opportunity for you to support your church.

The first goal of this campaign is to refurbish and decorate the first two classrooms on the upper level – turning them into a nursery and a children's Sunday School room. There are also two restrooms between these classrooms which need updating. In addition, the third classroom, once updated, will make a perfect library/conference room.

Many in our church don't even know we have a library, as it's located upstairs in Faith Hall – a place many cannot reach because of the steep stairs. Now that we have a librarian again (Michelle Kidwell), we want to relocate the library to Room 3 of the Christian Education building, and add a conference table to relieve the meeting load of the Ramont Room and Lower Sanctuary.

Depending on the number and size of "adoption" donations, we can just scrub the walls and floors and paint interiors – or do more extensive renovations like replace windows, floor coverings, and add mini-split heat/air appliances to make the rooms comfortable during the winter/summer. Painting the exterior of the Christian Ed building will also make it look more presentable.

The "Holy Rollers" (church volunteers) will be called back into action to do the painting and repairs that can be accomplished by non-professionals. Note any material changes to the rooms/building must go through a "peer design review."

Contact me if you'd like to join the campaign as a laborer. To make a donation, mail it in to the church or hand to Deb Johnson in the office, or place in the offering plate – just be certain to identify it as a donation for the "Adopt A Room" campaign, and specify which room/project you'd like to support.

Let's beautify our campus – for God, our members, and our visitors! Here's a quotation by Tim Cool found on the Internet, which I think sums it up:

*"For me, stewardship is less about what we give and more about taking care of what we have been given — of all that's entrusted to us."*

**Leslie Davis**  
Project Manager  
Adopt-A-Room Campaign



## Sonora Bach Festival Concerts

Once again, our Sanctuary is the setting for two of the Sonora Bach Festival concerts: The Youth Finalists' Concert is at 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 6 (\$5), and the Locals' Concert is 3:00 pm on Sunday, October 20 (\$15). Tickets available at the door.

Two additional concerts round out the Bach Festival: The Gala Concert at St. Patrick's Catholic Church on Saturday, October 12, features an organ concert by Jason Jeffrey at 3:00 pm (\$15), or stay for a piano concert and gala dinner too (\$40 for all). Finally, Bach's Brunch is 12:30 pm, Sunday, October 27, at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Sugar Pine (\$40). Contact Jennie Moiso or Barbara Broad for tickets, or they may be purchased online at [www.sonorabach.org](http://www.sonorabach.org).

If you like classical music, the concerts are not to be missed!

## Line Dancing

Carolyn Sylva teaches a FREE Line Dancing Class once per week in Faith Hall – from 9:30 to 10:30 am every Wednesday. If you're looking for a fun way to exercise, come on down to Faith Hall and join us. And bring your friends too!



## Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser October 19

A spaghetti dinner fundraiser will be held in Faith Hall on Saturday, October 19. Doors open at 3:30 pm with dinner served at 5:00 pm. There will be musical entertainment as well as other fun activities.



Proceeds will go to help subsidize trip expenses for a group of youth from Columbia Elementary School to tour historical sites in Washington D.C. and New York City next June. A few of the sites are the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Many families in our community are financially challenged beyond the necessities of life. We want to help with this dinner. Tickets are \$25 per person. Call Nora Neves at 588-9876 or see her at church to make reservations. Make checks payable to "World Strides." See Nora with any questions.

## News from Allen Graham, Missionary

Hello Church of the 49ers family! Greetings once again from Europe.

Thank you for praying for my driving test. I PASSED on the first try! From what I understand by talking to other missionaries in Spain, that's not common. Thanks for holding me up and allowing me to start a new trend.

This month, I will participate in a partners meeting with those involved in our online Arabic media ministry. I ask for your prayers as I travel and that the Holy Spirit would guide our time together. We want to be good stewards of what God has given us in order to provide the greatest possible impact.

We thank God that our social media outreach into an extremely closed country can continue in spite of

government efforts to block or curtail Internet usage. Our primary partners for this project are excited about how God is opening doors to share about Christ using social media.

In last month's *Nugget*, I told you about having received approval for a plastic recycling project called Trash 2 Treasure. Please pray now for the transfer of funds to our Spanish entity so that we can begin purchasing the necessary equipment and prepare the location where it will be installed.

It was so good to see many of you in person in August and in September. Thanks for walking this journey with me through your prayers and financial gifts. Have a blessed October!

**Allen**



Shredder machine for Trash 2 Treasure project

# Barbara Eastman

By Dick Dyer,  
Church Historian

During the 1970s, several of us helped organize the 49er Church's and Tuolumne County Historical Society's records of Barbara Jefferson Eastman's collection. Her research is a "treasure trove" of information describing Tuolumne County's rich heritage of an early era. So, who was this lady? Our popular GOLDEN NUGGET focuses on the church pastors, ministers and committee members. None the less, friends of the church have been instrumental in furthering our spiritual message to the public. Barbara Eastman was an honored church FRIEND. Her tireless and impeccable research have enabled church ministers and writers to more fully rediscover some of those "days of old, days of gold."

Barbara and her husband George were never members of the 49er Church; however, from their home in Oakland they remained long-time friends of Old Tuolumne including the 49er church. The Eastmans were familiar visitors in Tuolumne County diligently researching the public records. Today, many researchers seem to be unaware of the Eastmans' contribution to the local Gold Rush legacy. Indeed, the Tuolumne County Historical Society and Bancroft Library (in Berkeley) have been recipients of their meticulous research over two decades, including even a few valuable corrections of earlier scholars in their publications. During Columbia College's pioneer years, I was teaching history classes; at that time the college emphasized the community, present and past, in local academic courses. I was able to further my research at the Bancroft Library during the 1970s. While en route during one trip, I visited Barbara Eastman at her home in Oakland. I, the educated

professional historian, met her, the educated investigative historian, to chat about our mutual interest: historic Columbia. My reminiscences lasted a few minutes; she provided a profound portrayal of the old mining camp for about an hour. What a visit! Barbara Eastman provided as much valuable information for my college students as did the Bancroft librarians the next day.

In fact, the Eastman story begins with Men from Maine. As we know, credit for the Columbia gold discovery goes to the Thaddeus Hildreth Party in March 1850 after a valuable gold strike at Main Gulch (today the large parking lot at the south end of Columbia State Historic Park). However, we must skip ahead to a later Man from Maine, William Osgood Sleeper, also an ambitious man with "gold fever." He was the grandfather of Barbara Eastman's husband George, who had settled in Columbia in 1852. "W.O." was not a miner; he established successful businesses and a bank (D.O. Mills Building), helping the mining camp to grow in its early decades. After 16 years, he relocated to San Francisco, later to Santa Rosa. In 1953 Barbara and George began the first of many working vacations in Tuolumne County in a genealogical

search for information about grandfather W.O. Sleeper almost 100 years after his arrival in Old Columbia. Originally, very little information was uncovered. Not to be deterred, the Eastmans continued their research discovering many records about Sleeper as well as Old Tuolumne—it was the Golden Years of their life-long adventure. Eventually Barbara Eastman wrote or was the subject of about 12 "CHISPA" publication articles for the Tuolumne County Historical Society. Through the years, their research led them to the Bancroft Library, State Museum, Columbia State Historic Park, Tuolumne County Museum and several other archives. To further their research and verify their records, they had help from Carlo de Ferrari (Tuolumne County Clerk/Historian), Ruth Ann Newport (Director of the Tuolumne County Museum), Hero G. Rensch (Curator of Columbia's Museum), and editors of local newspapers.

**Continued on Page 9**  
**See "Barbara"**



George and Barbara Eastman in their Oakland home. Unknown date.

**First Presbyterian Church of Columbia † "Church of the 49ers"**



## “Barbara”

### Continued from Page 8

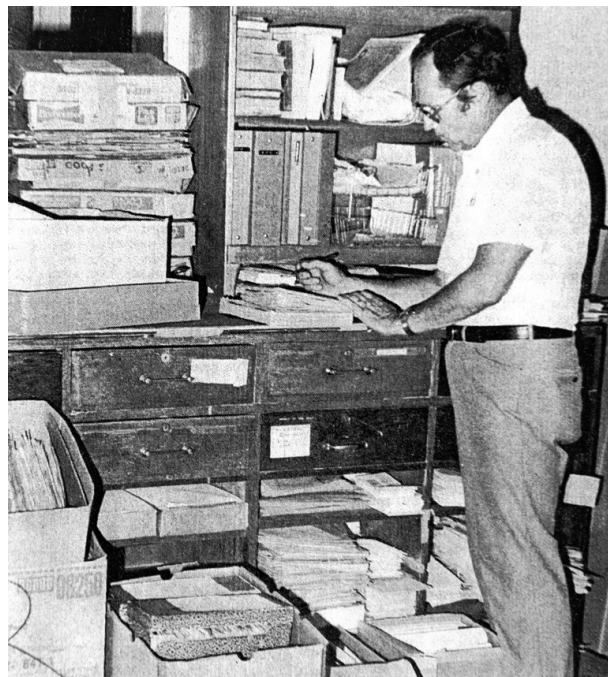
Now, I shall focus on the 49er Church's correspondence. There is no evidence that W.O. Sleeper was a member of the 49er Church- he was a “devoted Baptist” and left few records. Nevertheless, Barbara Eastman maintained an active correspondence with Pastor Joseph Hillhouse almost as soon as she and George arrived in the county in 1953. her research enabled the Eastmans to send valuable information about the early Presbyterian Church to members and several institutions. In one letter, she confirmed the selection of Rev. John Henry Brodt as the first church-sponsored pastor (September 9, 1843) - correcting several writers. Also, she was the first to discover a “picture of Rev. John Henry Brodt” which has been reproduced and is now in our archives. Additional “errors” in local publications were corrected in letters to Pastor Hillhouse and others.

Barbara Eastman's careful newspaper research provided details about the historic dedications ceremony at the New Church in 1864 from newspaper editorials by “Ludwick” and “Richmond”--original bell, church appearance, fund raising, individuals involved and much more. (I must add: ALL items were copied with pencil and paper.) Several letters included the earliest maps of Columbia, some with lot owners and businesses including the Presbyterian Church on unfinished Jackson Street near the historic Plaza. Writers have reproduced some of these maps for examination today. Additional correspondence about influential members of the early church from 1854 to the late 1850s is valuable--Pastors, Trustees, Elders, Deacons and ministers. It is obvious the Eastmans had compiled a “whose who” of pioneer church activists.

The devastating fire of 1950 destroyed the church sanctuary and many precious records, photographs and artifacts in Pastor Hillhouse's manse. He had been an enthusiastic collector of the 49er Church's official documents. In an effort to recreate some of the now lost historic past, he asked Dorothea Jones, a local history teacher, to research and write a manuscript of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbia. She agreed. In many exchanges of letters, she and Barbara Eastman worked as a team--not just the facts but also human interest events. We are entertained and informed by many revelations:

Mt. Hamilton was named after Pastor Laurentine Hamilton; Elder Pearl Peters was really a man; a member with her Easter bonnet was embarrassed when the “beautiful gay cherries” on her hat began “popping from the heat!;” school and community events; the fire of 1950. Dorothea Jones was overwhelmed; at her desk “...a pile 18 inches high of record books and pictures...” of bygone days was a challenge. Despite her anxiety, a manuscript was completed in 1959. (A copy is in our archives.)

After researching, listening to an interview about Barbara Eastman and writing several drafts of this article for the GOLDEN NUGGET, my dilemma was about the CONCLUSION. It must be more than an historical snapshot of the past; it must be a reminder that a little church in a little village long ago today continues to extend spiritual GOOD NEWS to ministers and friends. In pursuing this them, I believe that Barbara Eastman conveyed her old world hard



Minute details of Columbia's history, stored in these boxes, are being organized at the museum by Dick Dyer. Photograph printed in the *Union Democrat* on September 5, 1984.

works ethics in a MISSION-SSION statement for future generations. She must have felt that one requires a “purpose or life is motion without meaning.” Her MISSION was to uncover the “bits and pieces” which saw Columbia as the “Gem of the Southern Mines.” through persistent research during many years, she and he husband were successful in personalizing the people, the events, the features of the historic mining camps. However, my quest led me to believe her VISION pursuits have also provided us with a clearer understanding that the Gold Rush era was an important event in the emergence of MODERN CALIFORNIA--the good, the bad. And, I shall conclude with a reminder that the traditional virtues of that bygone era currently remain popular and relevant to most mature people --as does the scholarship of Barbara Jefferson Eastman.

**Dick Dyer, Church Historian**

# October Calendar

Sunday meetings begin 30 minutes after worship ends

RR = Ramont Room FH = Faith Hall CE1 and CE2 = Christian Ed Bldg  
SNR = Sadie Nicholls Room LS = Lower Sanctuary (basement)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>2 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH</p> <p>3 PW General Meeting and Potluck 11:00 am in FH</p> <p>4 49er Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR; Handbell rehearsal 3:00 pm in LS</p> <p>6 Worship 10:00 am, Communion, 49er Choir sings; Worship Committee 11:30 am in CE2; Inquirers' Class 11:30 am in CE1; Sonora Bach Festival Youth Concert 3:00 pm in Sanctuary</p> <p>7 Bible Study 5:00 pm in CE2; Community Dinner 6:00 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7:00 pm in SNR</p> <p>9 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH</p> <p>11 49er Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR, Handbell Rehearsal 3:00 pm in LS</p> <p>12 Men's Breakfast Fellowship 8:00 am at Brooks Ranch Restaurant</p> <p>13 Worship 10:00 am with 49er Chancel Ringers; Deacons meeting 11:30 am in LS; Pastor Keith Reid Ordination 4:00 pm in Sanctuary followed by a reception in FH</p> <p>14 Buildings &amp; Grounds 10:00 am in LS, Bible Study 5:00 pm in CE2, Community Dinner 6:00 pm in FH, Spiritual Roads 7:00 pm in SNR</p> | <p>15 Finance Committee 1:00 pm in Office; Missions Committee 3:00 pm in LS</p> <p>16 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH</p> <p>18 49er Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR; Handbell Rehearsal 3:00 pm in LS</p> <p>20 Worship 10:00 am, 49er Choir sings; "Just Dance" 1 to 4 pm in FH; Sonora Bach Festival Locals' Concert 3:00 pm in Sanctuary</p> <p>21 Bible Study 5:00 pm in CE2; Community Dinner 6:00 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7:00 pm in SNR</p> <p>23 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH; Session meeting 2:00 pm in LS</p> <p>25 49er Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR; Handbell Rehearsal 3:00 pm in LS</p> <p>27 Worship 10:00 am; Christian Education meeting 11:30 am in LS</p> <p>28 Bible Study 5:00 pm in CE2; Community Dinner 6:00 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7:00 pm in SNR</p> <p>30 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH</p> |
|---|--|

**Sundays 10 am** – Worship Service in Sanctuary, followed by Fellowship Time in Faith Hall. **Children's Sunday School** – Children are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Moment in worship. Nursery is available every Sunday.

## **Mondays**

6 pm — Community Dinner served in Faith Hall. All welcome.

## **Tuesdays**

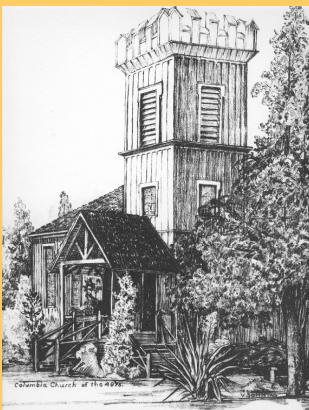
8:30 am — Intercessory Prayer in Pastor Keith's Office

## **First Presbyterian Church**

### **"Church of the 49ers"**

11155 Jackson Street

Columbia, CA 95310



## **TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL**

Address Service Requested

**Cost-cutting Measure:** For those of you who receive this newsletter through the US mail, please consider a donation of \$15 per year to cover printing and postage costs. Thanks!