

Golden Nugget

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

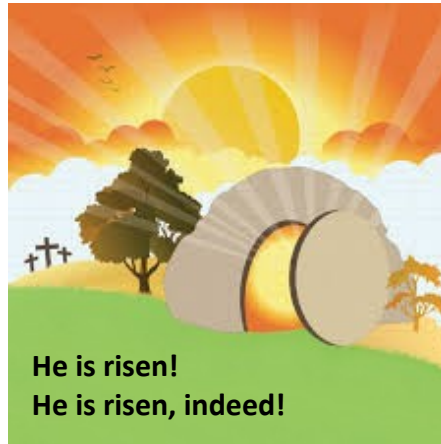
A Word from the Pastor

"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

1 Corinthians 11:26

For Lent, I gave up my Google news feed. I made that decision because I was spending too much time scrolling through it and reading article after article. It's scary how quickly Google figures out what I like to read, and gets it right to me. For instance, when I was watching *The Crown*, I used Google search to check on some of the history being presented. Guess what, my Google news feed started showing lots of articles about the British royal family. I don't think that was a coincidence!

I wonder whether it's a good thing to have news tailored specifically for me, or anyone else. If we all have our own separate news feeds, with only those things on it that we like, then how can we know what's true? For instance, I might read an article saying that eggs are good for you – no doubt because Google figured out that I like eggs. You might read an article saying that eggs are bad for you, and maybe that's because Google figured out that you don't like eggs. So which is it? We have no way to decide whether eggs are good or bad. And we can't even discuss it because we each have different information about eggs, and no way to know which information is true. We can't come to any agreement if we don't know what's true.



**He is risen!
He is risen, indeed!**

So I am very glad that God doesn't tailor the news for us! God doesn't tell us only what we want to hear, nor does he leave out what we don't want to hear. God tells us the truth, and asks us to adjust ourselves to what is true. The story of who God is and what he has done, shapes us. We don't shape God's story to our preferences. We allow God's story to shape us.

Holy Week is the best opportunity we have to immerse ourselves in God's story, and allow his story to shape us. During the four services of Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter), we read our way through the whole story as presented by one of the Gospel writers. For instance, this year we'll be reading through Luke 19 – 24, and responding to what we hear through prayer, song and sacrament.

We'll cover Luke 19 on Palm Sunday, Luke 22 on Thursday, Luke 23 on Friday, and Luke 24 on Easter Sunday. I encourage you to come to all the services, because the combined impact of the whole story is much greater than just parts of it.

I've read through the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, conflict with religious

April 2019

leaders, betrayal, arrest, torture, death, and resurrection, many times. You probably have too. Yet the story never fails to move me. It shapes me with the depth of God's love for me in Jesus. It surely has the power to move you and shape you as well, if you will allow that to happen.

God's story changed the world. How about allowing God's story – the whole story - to change you?

Yours in Christ, **Pastor Janet**

Ushers and Elders (or anyone) CPR and Defibrillator Training

We have very few ushers and elders who are trained to use our defibrillator and/or have had recent practice or training in CPR. This training and practice is very important for our church, our families and friends.

On Wednesday, May 15, from 1 to 4 pm, Dr. Don St. Clair, retired Stanford University physician, will be presenting a FREE CPR and Defibrillator course to those in our church who need to learn or practice these skills. The class will be held in the Fireside Room at Greenhorn Creek Resort in Angels Camp. Carpooling will be encouraged.

Contact Sharon Poff – at church, or call 209-736-2085 to sign up.

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

GOLDEN NUGGET

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First Presbyterian Church
"Church of the 49ers"

11155 Jackson Street
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Office Hours:
Tuesday through Friday
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Worship Service:
10:00 am Sundays

STAFF

Rev. Janet Russell, 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 February 28, 2019 (exclusive of other income/expenses)

	Budget	Actual	Difference Over/(Under)
Income	\$40,869	\$39,338	(\$1,531)
Expense	\$39,412	\$35,955	(\$3,457)

Net Ordinary Income as of February 28: **\$3,383.41**

Mortgage Balance as of February 28: **\$85,286.29**

February 2019 Mortgage Principal Payment: **\$839.99**

March Session Highlights

Highlights of the March 27th Session meeting include:

- The Finance Committee announced that even with low attendance in February because of all the snow and rain, the church's financial report for the month was "shockingly good."
- Buildings & Grounds is planning to replace the flooring in the kitchen pantries with tile. And the leaks in the Faith Hall roof appear to be abated after Kerr Roofing worked to seal them last month.
- Roger and Judy Haughton recently visited the devastation in Paradise in the hopes of setting up a mission trip. They said that gift cards to Safeway, Target, Walmart, gas stations, etc. are a very useful donation we can send for the Camp Fire victims as they try to rebuild their lives and homes.

- Regarding the upcoming *Yard Sale of Biblical Proportions*, a Friday evening "Preview Night" on August 23rd with \$5 tickets was approved. It was also approved to use a vacant room in the Christian Education building for the purpose of storing yard sale items as they are collected.
- The Deacon liaison's report included the request for church members/friends to offer rides to our homebound members for their doctor appointments, etc.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 2:00 pm, and members are welcome to attend. Check with the Office first for the correct start time and location.

Diane Brandt
Clerk of Session

TUOLUMNE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FAIR



Visit with
**75 local Non-Profit
Organizations.**

**Make a difference
in your Community.**

**Thursday April 25th 3-6 PM
Sonora Fairgrounds**

We're participating in the Volunteer Fair!

The Helen Johnson Community Dinner Program will have a booth in the hopes of enticing a few additional volunteers to assist with cooking/serving/cleaning up after our weekly dinners. If you would like to join us in the booth, contact Suzanne Williamson or Margie Fooshee. Ideas to make our booth extra-special are much appreciated!

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

49er Family News

Pastor Janet received the following note from long-time member, **Fred White** (written down by Sandy, his caregiver), who is now living in Reno, Nevada after his wife Paulann died last August:

Janet, thanks for the newsletter. My mail goes to Sandy and she brings it to me. I hope there wasn't too much damage to the church and Faith Hall with the storm. I understand that some stores had a big problem. Are you still retiring before long? If you do, we will miss you. Sandy brings my mail and

replies to my mail for me, since I can't see to read it or write.

Love to you and the congregation, Fred.

PS - I will do my best to write.

Sandy also sent a note stating that Fred can no longer use email, but he really enjoys receiving written messages. And Pastor Janet is asking – *If folks who know Fred could write to him, that would totally make his day.*

Call the church office at 532-2441 for Fred's new address in Nevada.

The Golden Regiment Band from Sonora High School (with **Brynna Neves** playing the trumpet) was invited to Disneyland to play in a parade. They left from school at 5 am March 14 and returned on the 17th. They only marched for about 10 minutes so most of the rest of the time they enjoyed the sites, rides, attractions, etc. Brynna said she only had about 10 hours of sleep for the entire trip. This was a great experience for the kids. Thank the Lord for the dedicated staff and many chaperones who watched over our "babies"

for us. This was an example for the kids – "with hard work comes many rewards."

Nora Neves



Golden Regiment Band at Disneyland

Interfaith News

Interfaith served 462 families in February (down from January's 563 due to the shorter month). It takes a lot of volunteers to run our facility – currently we have 135 to fill all the many requests. We have a variety of areas where you could help out (11). See me at church or call to see if there is a particular volunteer job that you might be interested in.

For the pantry we need help in replenishing these food items: Pasta, tuna, peanut butter, soups, any summer garden produce, as well as canned or boxed food.

For the household area, we need towels, tarps, sleeping bags, tents, camping gear, pots/pans, can openers, and summer and winter blankets. We also need any men's clothing and socks.

As you can see, this is quite a list, but if all you can help out with one or two items, it would help. You may bring your items to church and place in Faith Hall, I'll pick them up and deliver to Interfaith. Please see or call me, I'm always available to answer your questions.

Vi Morgado, Interfaith Liaison

April Birthdays

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

April 2	Janet Russell
April 4	Janet Atkinson
April 7	Diane Brandt
April 16	Marilyn Williams
April 19	Lee Warford
April 20	Harriet Durnall
April 21	Nora Neves
April 22	Lynne Higgins
April 26	Pat Federly
April 26	Trudy Schulz
April 27	Ron Federly
April 30	Sierra Bickell

Happy Anniversary!

Jon Whited & Suzanne Williamson
6 years on April 13



Valerie McCale, Parish Nurse, will provide free Blood Pressure Checks on Sunday, April 14, following worship, right inside the door in Faith Hall.

Cut out this page and share with your family, friends, neighbors.

Holy Week at the Church of the 49ers

Palm Sunday

April 14, 10:00 am

What might it be like to see your dreams starting to come true – only to find opposition? How would you feel? We'll start with celebration – Jesus is coming! But what are the scowls about?

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 7:00 pm

What might it be like to share a last meal with someone you love, not wanting to think about what happens next? We will relive the events of Thursday night, including the Lord's Supper, music and Scripture. The sanctuary will gradually get completely dark. The music will be led by the 49er Choir.

Good Friday

April 19, 12:00 noon

What might it be like for your dreams if the future died along with the person who held those dreams? We will relive the events of Friday, including Scripture and the nailing

of our own sins to a wooden cross. The music will reflect sorrow and gratitude for Jesus' suffering on our behalf.

Traditional Easter Service

April 21, 10:00 a.m.

What might it be like for the person you love to suddenly be alive again? What happens now? Now we rejoice – it's really true! Jesus really did rise from the dead! Bring a flower to decorate the Good Friday cross, celebrating his resurrection. Joy-filled music will be led by vocal and handbell choirs, and we will celebrate with all our hearts and voices!

All services will be preached by the Rev. Janet Russell. The First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, better known as the Church of the 49ers, is located at 11155 Jackson Street, Columbia. Call the church office at 532-2441 for more information, or visit churchofthe49ers.com.

Helen Johnson Community Dinners

Don't feel like cooking!!! How about you treat yourself to a fun evening on Monday nights at the Helen Johnson Community Dinner?! Spend some time getting to know the guests who attend each week, listening to guitar player Alex Kash and his wife Beth, sing some great songs **and** enjoy a good meal. It's a simple solution, and if you do come you won't be sorry...It's a wonderful way to do God's work in and around your own church and also make some new friends!

The number of guests we serve each week is not a fixed number...but it is

almost always over seventy. Some weeks we have served over 90 meals and some weeks we even have meals for our guests to take home. Most of our volunteers eat during the evening with friends, however some take a tasty meal with them to enjoy at home. Our volunteer base has been declining over the past several years, but we do have a strong core group – some who work most every week and others who work on designated nights; some who work for five hours and some who work for two hours...but we really need help to lighten the load.

Upcoming Sermons

April 7

Communion

Luke 9:51-62

"Journey or Homestead?"

Pastor Lee preaching

April 14

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 52:7-10, 53:1-6; Luke 19:28-48

"What Brings Peace"

Pastor Janet preaching

April 18

Maundy Thursday - 7 pm

Luke 22:1-65

"Healing Enemies"

Pastor Janet preaching

April 19

Good Friday - 12 noon

Luke 22:66-23:56

"Remembering Me"

Pastor Janet preaching

April 21

Easter

Psalms 118; Luke 24:1-35

"Recognizing Jesus"

Pastor Janet preaching

April 28

Luke 24:36-53; Acts 5:27-43

"Act II"

Pastor Janet preaching

*Listen to scripture readings
and sermons on our website
at churchofthe49ers.com.*

Think about making a commitment of five nights a year – that doesn't seem like much, but if 20% of our members committed to giving 10% of their Monday nights it would make a huge difference!

**Continued on Page 7
See "Community Dinners"**

Presbyterian Women General Meeting & Potluck April 4, 11 am, in Faith Hall

We are pleased to have Lynne Storm of the Tuolumne County Genealogical Society speak to the gathering at the Thursday, April 4th, PW meeting. For the society, Lynne teaches an introductory class on researching one's genealogy (family history), and she will share some of that information with the group. Perhaps you've wondered just how to begin researching your family ancestry - bring your questions to this PW meeting and get them answered. All women are invited, and bring a friend!

Calvin Crest Women's Retreat is April 5 to 7

Since it's coming up quick, call 559-772-4040 to register. Featured speaker is Jennifer Lord, who will unpack the 2019 theme, "The Road Less Traveled."

Emergency Preparedness

Guest speakers for the PW March meeting were two young ladies from the Tuolumne County Public Health Department, who described the 30 programs the agency administers for the benefit of our citizens. Here's some advice they gave us for emergency preparedness:

- Sign up for Citizen Alert on your phone
- Follow the TC Health Department on *Facebook*
- Put a list of your medications in your wallet, and always keep a 7-day supply on hand
- Write down important phone numbers
- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors every month, or at least twice per year
- Meet your neighbors
- Make up emergency kits: a "shelter in place" kit for your home, a "go" kit for your home, and a kit for your vehicle
- Make a family emergency plan: Assign a contact person who lives 1-2 hours away, and tell everyone in the family to contact that person to report in after a disaster
- Purchase N95 or N100 face masks (respirator for smoky fires) - available at Lowe's

Gwen Harris, PW Moderator

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

All men are invited to meet Saturday, April 13, 8:00 a.m. at Brooks Ranch Restaurant on Mono Way in Sonora. Contact Pastor Lee Warford at 925-470-9953 for more information.



Fundraiser to benefit COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMS

Sunday April 28, 2019
In the Afternoon from 2 until 4

CHURCH OF THE 49ERS FAITH HALL
11156 JACKSON ST. COLUMBIA

Opportunity
Drawings

\$10.00 ADULTS
\$8.00 KIDS UNDER 12

Silent Auction
&
Door Prizes

Includes light refreshments
Fancy Hat & Glove Contest

Photo Booth Available

Most fashions, accessories and
decorations will be for sale after the show!

CALL 533-2647 for Tickets and Information



Columbia College Community Chorus Spring Concert

Dr. Daryl Hollinger, Conductor

Saturday, April 27, 7:30 pm

Sunday, April 28, 3:00 pm

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

13880 Joshua Way, Sonora

The spring concert features Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem* for chorus, soloists and chamber orchestra and organ; and lighter works with the theme of love are offered in the second half of the concert.

Tickets are \$10 pre-sale or \$12 at the door, and \$5 for age 12 and under. Order your tickets from members of the 49er Choir (Jim and Diane Brandt, Gary and Leslie Davis, Carl and Kathy Rudolph, Pirkko Dyer, Jennie Moiso, Deb Romberger) or from Janet Russell or Rob Clark.

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

Welcome New Members!

Three folks have recently joined our church, and were introduced during worship March 17. They are Lynne Higgins, Michelle Kidwell, and Sheri Pendleton.



Lynne Higgins

well. When she is not working with people or with dogs, she enjoys trail-riding with her two horses. Lynne's religious background is Catholic. She's delighted

Lynne is a professional caregiver who also loves to work with dogs and horses. She trains her dogs for agility competitions (an obstacle course for dogs), and trains other folks' dogs as

to join our church because she feels warmly welcomed. She is in the process of moving to a place on Rawhide Road, near where our church musician Carolyn Sylva lives.

Michelle is an author and photographer who particularly enjoys writing devotional and historical books. She loves being with her young relatives, and teaching Sunday School. Her religious background is Mormon and Pentecostal; and she's excited about becoming Presbyterian. Our church's history and warmth really appeal to her. Michelle is our church's neighbor, as she lives in the State Street apartments right nearby.



Michelle Kidwell

Sheri grew up with Pastor Lee; her father was his pastor. She was here for a few months last summer, caring for Pastor Lee as he recovered from knee surgery. Not long after she returned home to Eugene, Oregon, her husband passed away. As a new widow, Sheri remembered the friends she made while she was here, and decided to move to Sonora. She is now a neighbor of Pastor Lee, Jordan and Anthony. Sheri has been a Christian

since she was six years old. Sheri says that she is looking forward to whatever God might choose to do in this new stage of her life.



Sheri Pendleton

Hymn Festival Recap

Did you miss the Hymn Festival hosted by the 49er Choir on March 23rd? Dr. Daryl Hollinger, guest artist, led the crowd (135 singers!) in a joyous celebration of hymns - playing the organ and piano and introducing us to clapping patterns and three different interpretations of *Amazing Grace* and interesting information about the hymns.

We played the handbells and handchimes, and guests Janet Telford, on flute, and Nancy Burton, on trumpet,

joined the singers. Best of all, everyone really enjoyed singing the hymns. We raised the roof!

Here are comments from two of our guests: "Great selections! It was inspirational, joyous, and blessed to be so much a part of the experience!" "Love the history of the hymns. Not all familiar, but they stretched my appreciation to more hymns. Thank you - looking forward to the next time."

Following all the music-making, it was time for refreshments in Faith Hall to meet our guests, and almost all of them stayed. Hopefully the 49er Choir will gain singers and bell ringers as a result of this very successful community outreach event. Big thanks to Leslie Davis for putting it all together!

Barbara Broad,
49er Choir Director



First Presbyterian Church of
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Mission Committee

Vets Helping Vets

The mission committee voted to donate \$500.00 to Vets Helping Vets. This is a local non-profit, which was established specifically for assisting our local veterans and their families who are struggling. At the facility, veterans can get information on programs and services available in Tuolumne County or be able to talk to a fellow vet. At the center is a "civilian free zone" so vets are able to discuss challenges in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Access to computers and printers are provided at no cost as well as support in finding jobs. Vets Helping Vets has a thrift store, located at 14348 Cuesta Court in Sonora (off Tuolumne Road) which accepts donations and supports their program.

Camp Fire Victims

Roger spoke to an administrator at Bidwell Presbyterian Church in Chico regarding the current needs in Paradise. He was told that gift cards to such places as Safeway, Target, Walmart and gas stations were needed. The committee voted to approve the purchase of eight \$50.00 gift cards. Roger called the Oroville Hope Center and signed up to volunteer at their warehouse on March 26. We spent three hours doing inventory on their supplies. While there, we spent time with Edward Wright, a Camp Fire survivor who lost everything. He has recently returned to the area and is working for the Hope Center and also helps with the clean up in Concow and Paradise. Edward told us that the need for each person is different as more and more people return to the area. The major distribution centered is moving from Oroville to Paradise. In the afternoon, we drove through Paradise. Most of the debris and especially the burned cars remain, although work was being done to clean up. In the downtown area, it was mind-boggling to see one building completely



Images of Paradise 4-1/2 months after the devastating Camp Fire

destroyed and the one next to it completely untouched.

We visited Bidwell Church and gave them the gift cards, which will be distributed to victims from the fire. They were extremely grateful for our contributions. We will stay in touch with the Oroville Hope Center and possibly plan another trip once they are established in Paradise.

Columbia Elementary School

Our church made a donation to Columbia Elementary School to a fund which specifically helps with student needs. Tina Cruz, a counselor at the school, told us that she recently purchased two full outfits and personal hygiene products for a young student. The clothes she was wearing didn't fit, were torn and stained. She was struggling to come to school because she was embarrassed. This simple gesture has renewed her confidence. Also, head lice treatment kits were purchased and given to some families so that their children could return to school. What a blessing your generosity has been to the children in our own neighborhood!

Our next meeting will be April 23 at 3:00 in the lower sanctuary. Chris Lytle will be at our next meeting with an update on Spiritual Roads. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**Judy and Roger Haughton,
Co-Chairs, Mission Committee**



Camp Fire Distribution Warehouse



Community Dinners

Continued from Page 4

This spring we are trying something a little different. We have asked one of our former interns, Renee, a student from Columbia College, to talk our program up in her classes, to find and schedule volunteers and to supervise these college volunteers weekly. Renee also coordinates her work with Chef Don as he gives additional credit for students working in our program. In return for her help and time, we are paying Renee a small weekly stipend, and also some gas money. So far this program is helping us and also allowing students to have some additional hours of community service and a different experience than they get at the college.

Please think about joining us during the spring, summer and fall months. Come and have dinner and just see what you are missing!! We think you'll be glad you gave it a try!

**Margie Fooshee and
Suzanne Williamson, Co-chairs**

History Committee

From the Archives: The Mariners

By Dick Dyer, Church Historian

My College Dictionary describes the word “Mariner” as one of those who is responsible for navigating a ship. However, we need to elaborate on this description to determine how it relates to our 49er Church Mariner Committee. To me, it suggests a conscientious “crew” assisting God’s ministers with spiritual guidance as they contend with the “rocks and shoals” of life, and eventually delivering them to their GLORY (Psalms 74:24).

In retrospect, miniature sailing ships were visible relics in various Protestant churches; today they are still admired in a few historic Scandinavian churches. Additionally, “Mariner” was used as part of some church names including early American fishing villages along the East Coast, and also even a few inland communities. (In the Far West, “Prairie Schooner” seems to be preferred.) A few nautical phrases come to mind when describing the Mariner sailing ships: Skipper, First Mate, Log Keeper, Look Out, Chaplain, Ship Mates (of course, Jesus Christ was the vigilant pilot). In Columbia after the 49er Church Mariners were organized in 1958, the church “ship mates” are familiar to some elders today: the Salels, Guhls, Butterfields, Critchfields, Whites and others (husbands and wives signed on as a unit).

The home berth anchorage of the 49er Church Mariners was Ramont Hall, next to the sanctuary. (Recall, this was the only “spiritual ship” serving the community from the Gold Rush to the Millennium.) When the Great Fire of 1950 destroyed the 49er Church, only the tiny Youth Center remained; it was a rough-

hewn retreat built during the Depression Years as a gathering place for church boys and girls and occasionally small groups of adults. Although far from being weather-proof, it became the forerunner of a larger hall under construction after the fire of 1950. Until 1954 when the new sanctuary was completed, the hastily constructed Ramont Hall became the 49er Church’s manse, sanctuary, business office, social hall and even a community center. It was a popular meeting place for young and old of the congregation and their friends.

Through the years, many groups scheduled their activities in Ramont Hall; this article features the 49er Church Mariners Club (original name). Most meetings began with a Ringing of the Bell (this miniature ship bell below is now in our archives).

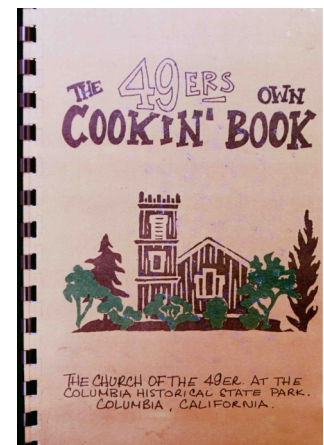


The Mariners provided financial support for others: 49er Thrift Shop in Sonora, church seminars, youngsters attending Calvin Crest’s camps, missionaries, church buildings and grounds maintenance, and selected worthy activities.



Ramont Hall

However, what usually was admired by church and community seniors was the gastronomical delicacies. At the beginning of a banquet usually organized by a “Mariner Watch,” Ramont Hall was transformed into an awesome showcase: flowers, antiques, colorful table decorations, also friendly faces and always a heavenly aroma from the nearby kitchen. During my research I discovered a slip of paper stating 300 people were served at one community festival. We do know that as many as 90 guests were in attendance in the hall on a special occasion (authorities stated the hall could safely accommodate 80; I do not know if the aging hall protested with grunts and groans but I did notice some settling of the rough flooring). The Mariner ladies and a few gents provided dishes from favorite family and historic recipes. Some are now preserved in “The 49er Cookin’ Book (published in 1968).



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See “Mariners”

News from Allen Graham, Missionary

Hello Church of the 49ers family! Thank you for praying for the work here this past month. God is answering your prayers!

Thank you so much for praying for the new legal entity. We received the required endorsement by the organization that governs all evangelical churches and ministries in Spain. Please rejoice and thank God with us! The bank account has been opened, too, so we are ready for business! We are so thankful for the Christian lawyer in Madrid who has guided each step in this process.

One more component has been added to the Ephraim Project, our Social Media outreach into several unreached

people groups. There are now a total of four components. Praise God for how He is using new technologies to reach into closed countries and cultures.

Two of our team members made a research trip into one of the creative-access countries in our region to meet with a potential local partner. Pray that God will open the doors for new media and community development work as a means of sharing Jesus with the unreached.

God is on the move! Thank you for walking this journey with me. May you have a blessed Easter season.

Allen

Mariners

Continued from Page 8



Former Mariner Fred White giving a pulpit talk in April 2012 on the history of the Mariners

After continuing my research of our records, it became evident that the Mariners were not only enriched through worship of the Lord, but also looked forward to special events as did Jesus. We have discovered that "Mariner Cruises" enticed local food connoisseurs to join friends attending full-house gatherings at the Clarks (Hawaiian Luau), Muses (Incredible Italian Spaghetti), McCleary

(Potluck Picnic), 49er Church Banquets (a Mariners idea) and other community celebrations.

In Ramont Hall on Sabbaths, weekdays and summers, volunteers provided biblical messages, treats and innovative crafts for as many as 100 enthusiastic youngsters. Scheduled worship and entertainment was enjoyed by church and community families during the year, but especially at the annual Christmas and Easter services. Vacationing church groups from the Valley arrived in historic Columbia to experience the spectacular Mother Lode. Snow groups were anxious to play in the winter wonderland. After they arrived, accommodations were provided at the 49er Church; girls used Ramont Hall as a dormitory while the boys bedded down in their sleeping bags in the basement of the nearby sanctuary. Theater Arts students from the College of the Pacific (original name) frequently used the Church of the 49ers facilities while rehearsing at Columbia's Fallon House for their always popular stage productions. (One student reminded us that he would never sleep in the ancient Fallon House – "too many ghosts and eerie sounds at night.") Mariners and others provided comfort and wholesome meals in the hall for many years. They welcomed the opportunity

Easter Sunday Activities in Columbia State Historic Park

12:30 Victorian Easter Parade
12:00 Egg Hunt for children ages 3-5
1:00 Egg Hunt for ages 6-8
1:30 Egg Hunt for ages 9-11

to present spiritual messages to the youngsters, parents and visitors. Some groups returned year after year-- even today.

Unfortunately, it must be noted that the Mariners Good Times were limited. In my conclusion, I am indebted to an anonymous writer of the 49er Church with his message about the last years. By the 21st century, the aging membership reduced the ranks of the Mariners to a remnant. The leadership decided to retire the organization in favor of more energetic young 49er Church activities who were also dedicated to church and community. The last meeting was scheduled for June 25, 2003 at the McCleary-Johnson Ranch where many memorable gatherings had occurred during the Golden Years. Long-time Mariner, Vern Butterfield's tribute is herein cited: "Hail Mariners! You have been loved! You will be missed. Your service and your leadership, and your devotion will be difficult to replace. And again we say, Hail Mariners! And God Bless!"

Dick Dyer, 49er Church Historian

April Calendar

- 1 History Committee 9:30 am in RR; Bible Study 5 pm in RR; Community Dinner 6 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7 pm in LS
- 2 Women's Bible Study 2 pm in RR
- 3 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH; Men's Bible Study 10 am at Sonora Hills clubhouse
- 4 PW General Meeting & Potluck 11 am in FH
- 5 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR
- 7 Worship 10 am, Communion, 49er Choir sings; Worship Committee 11:30 am in RR
- 8 Buildings & Grounds 10 am in RR; Bible Study 5 pm in RR; Community Dinner 6 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7 pm in LS
- 9 Women's Bible Study 2 pm in RR; Welcome & Evangelism Committee 2 pm in LS
- 10 Line Dancing 9:30 am in SNR; Men's Bible Study 10 am at Sonora Hills clubhouse
- 12 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR
- 13 Men's Breakfast Fellowship 8 am at Brooks Ranch Restaurant
- 14 **Palm Sunday** Worship 10 am, 49er Choir sings; Deacons meeting 11:30 in RR
- 15 Bible Study 5 pm in RR; Community Dinner 6 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7 pm in LS

Sunday meetings begin 30 minutes after worship ends

RR = Ramont Room FH = Faith Hall CE1 = Christian Ed Bldg

SNR = Sadie Nicholls Room LS = Lower Sanctuary (basement)

- 16 Finance Committee 1 pm in Office; Women's Bible Study 2 pm in RR
- 17 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH, Men's Bible Study 10 am at Sonora Hills clubhouse
- 18 **Maundy Thursday** Worship 7 pm, 49er Choir sings
- 19 **Good Friday** Worship 12 noon
- 21 **Easter Sunday** Worship 10 am, 49er Choir and handbells
- 22 Bible Study 5 pm in RR; Community Dinner 6 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7 pm in LS
- 23 Women's Bible Study 2 pm in RR; Mission Committee 3 pm in LS
- 24 Line Dancing 9:30 am in FH, Men's Bible Study 10 am at Sonora Hills clubhouse; Session 2 pm in RR
- 25 PW Coordinating Team 10 am in RR
- 26 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am in SNR
- 28 Worship 10 am, Country music
- 29 Bible Study 5 pm in RR; Community Dinner 6 pm in FH; Spiritual Roads 7 pm in LS
- 30 Women's Bible Study 2 pm in RR

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 (2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays). Nursery is available every Sunday.

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

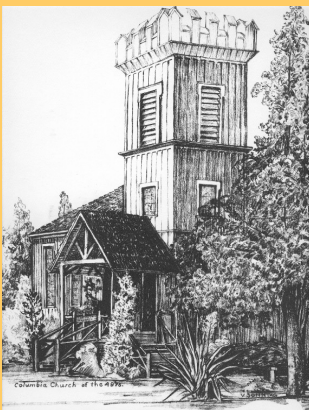
8:30 am — Intercessory Prayer in Pastor Janet's Office

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!