

Press Bits

Newsletter of Christ Presbyterian Church in Terra Linda



ANNUAL MEETING

**Come to the
Congregational Meeting
and Brunch
after worship on
February 13, 2011.**

**In addition to eating we will
have time to chat as a
congregation about upcoming
projects and plans and to
receive congregational
feedback.
We hope you will join us.**

Members and Friends News Updates

PHONE UPDATES: Please make a note of these changes as they no longer have a LAN line.

Becky Geist: Cell
John Geist: Cell
Jerrilee Geist: Cell
**Call Church office for
new phone numbers**



CARDS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED to the following people as they are away from their church home dealing with medical and health issues.

Susan Gillen

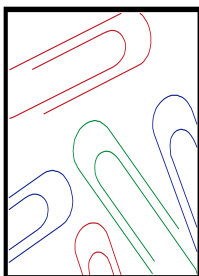
Pat Petty

**Call Church office for
contact informtion**



News from Marghy Smith, sister of **Liz Ireland**, that Liz passed away this past September 2010.

Thank you for your expression of appreciation through cards, monetary gifts, topiary, sweet treats and spa gift card. They continue to warm my heart and have helped me get through the continued waiting, trusting and resting time of each new day. I look forward to all that God will gift us with in the new year. Blessings and thanks! Judy



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday and Wednesday 12:00 Noon to 5:00p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday 8:30a.m. to 1:30p.m.
Office closed on Friday.

The Harvest is Plentiful

By Rev. Linda Lane-Bortell



At the Session meeting in January I read the following passage to start our time: “Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.’” Matthew 9:35-38

I read this to the Session because of the very full agendas we have had month after month. We are dealing with some very exciting stuff as well as some challenges.

The two biggest challenges are:

- 1) Since the recession we have been dealing with a revenue problem. Compare:

	Pledges and Offerings	All Personnel Costs
2007	\$157,163	\$189,447
2010	\$118,980	\$186,985

Personnel costs represent the largest portion of our budget. The good news is that we have done a lot with bare bones increases to our budget, maintaining our staff and accomplishing a lot. The challenge is that our current revenue makes it hard to keep even this, the barest of operational budgets.

- 2) We are also experiencing a decrease in volunteer hours. This is harder to quantify, but we do know that fewer people signed up to be ushers, communion servers, and worship leaders this year. Also people seem busier than ever and many are hesitant to take on big commitments at church.

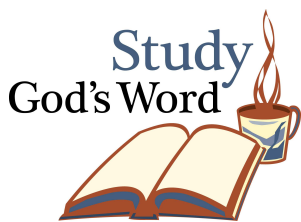
Thus we can resonate with the phrase “the laborers are few.” If we stopped there we could become discouraged. But I was drawn to this passage because it highlights also that “the harvest is plentiful.” The harvest we are called to be about is sharing the good news of God’s love with our community and world. A plentiful harvest is also about having the resources to answer this calling. While the recession has tightened everyone’s pocket book, we are in much, much better shape than many churches. The Session has been reflecting on the idea of “strategic spending.” We want to use our resources to enhance our ministry and reverse our revenue problem. Discovering how to do this takes quite a bit of effort as well. Two areas that we have been spending a lot of time on are:

- 1) Giving the sanctuary a facelift. We have more ideas than we will be able to accomplish this year, but we are planning on new carpet, paint, new chairs, and a redesigned chancel (where the pulpit is). Our congregational meeting is planned for 2/13/11 and we hope to present details of the plans then.
- 2) Negotiating a new lease with the Montessori school. Our current lease expires soon and a task force appointed by the Session has been working for over a year to put together a lease that works well for both of us. Currently the rent provides about \$90,000 to our operating budget. This rental is a valuable resource that will help us through the recession and beyond.

Other items that the Session is busy with: stewardship plans, considering a capital campaign, a mission study, providing for our youth ministry, developing mission plans, improving our visibility in the community, and reaching out to potential new members. You can see how all this has the potential to stretch our leadership pretty thin.

We have the resources to do a new thing, a vibrant thing at this time in our history. You are one of those valuable resources, one of the laborers. Let’s get excited about the harvest – the potential we have to spread the good news of God’s love to our community. *The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers few.* May God provide the energy and strength we, the laborers, need for this task.

UPCOMING EVENTS



LINDA'S BIBLE STUDY meets every Tuesday at 1:00p.m. in Anise's Place. This Bible Study session takes a look at the weekly text for worship. Hope you can come join us . **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

TUESDAY EVENING 7:00P.M.-8:30P.M. BIBLE STUDY/WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY 10:00A.M. - 11:30A.M. meets in Anise's Place beginning January 11, 2011. We will be discussing *The Faith Club* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner. You are invited to join in this

conversation, entering into dialogue with these women and with one another as we, too, seek to articulate our faith. Books are available for purchase. Contact Margaret Veneman for more information.



FEBRUARY 2, TAIZÉ SERVICE 6:30p.m in the Sanctuary. See more information at the bottom of this page.

FEBRUARY 1, 8, 15, 22 GAHU PEOPLE DRUM GROUP meets weekly on Tuesdays at 4:00p.m. (beginners) and 5:00p.m. regular session in the Sanctuary.

FEBRUARY 7, 14, 21, 28 WOMEN'S SHELTER

FEBRUARY 9, SESSION meets at 7:00p.m. in Anise's Place.

FEBRUARY 13, SCOUTING SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 13, CPC ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND BRUNCH 11:00a.m. in the Sanctuary.

FEBRUARY 14, VALENTINE'S DAY

FEBRUARY 14, PRESS BITS DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH EDITION.



FEBRUARY 16, PERSONNEL COMMITTEE meets at 7:00p.m. in Anise's Place.

FEBRUARY 17, DEACONS meet at 7:00p.m. in Anise's Place.

FEBRUARY 20, WOMEN'S BRUNCH BUNCH meets 12:15p.m. at The House of Lee . Hostess is Margaret Veneman. Please RSVP to her as soon as possible.

FEBRUARY 21, PRESIDENT'S DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

FEBRUARY 21, CPC MOVIE GROUP Our next movie to see is *The Social Network*. Meet at 5:30p.m. in Anise's Place to view a companion DVD. Please bring dinner and the discussion will begin at 7:30p.m. Our Annual Academy Awards party will be on Sunday, February 27, (Contact Church office for address) beginning whenever the TV coverage starts.

**Wednesday Evening
Worship** **Taizé Service
on first
Wednesdays**

On Wednesday, February 2 a Taizé Service will be held at 6:30p.m. The service lasts about 30 minutes and consists of songs, readings, silence, and prayers. Anyone who can sit still for 5 minutes of silence can participate.

Sunday School Schedule

February 6 - **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**
(Children are invited to Worship for Communion)

February 13 - **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
February 20 - **SUNDAY SCHOOL**
February 27 - **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Ending time for Sunday School is 10:45a.m.

Nursery Care Providers
Sandy Mixsell & Elizabeth Hart

Sunday School Teachers welcome ALL children.

Nursery Room Policy Childcare ages 1 month to 3 years is available for young children in Room 8 during the worship service. Please feel free to make use of this service.

CPC Snow Weekend

**Friday, March 4
through
Sunday, March 6**

WHAT: A family weekend of fellowship with Intergenerational meals and activities.

WHEN: Friday, March 4
(Earliest Check in Time 3:00p.m.)
Sunday March 6 (Check out time 11am)

WHERE: Zephyr Point Conference Center.
Lakeview Lodge: Rooms with 2 Beds.
Rooms in other buildings may cost more.

HOW MUCH: Adults: \$60.00 per person for weekend lodging. Children up to 3 yrs. are free. Children 3-9: \$16.00 per child for weekend (if they sleep on the floor). (Confirmation of cost verified by Julia Coltharp in January)

Food Costs for two breakfasts and Saturday dinner are divided by the number of attendees. The cost has averaged \$10.00 per person for the weekend.

Everyone participates in food preparation and clean up.

**Deposit Required to reserve space:
50% of lodging cost (first come first serve).**

Please return registration and deposit to the church office to hold your place. Registration forms and more information please call the church office, 479-2712 or Julia Coltharp.



CPC YOUTH NEWS

Youth, let's meet:

- For Fun
- For Friendship (old and new)
- For Conversation

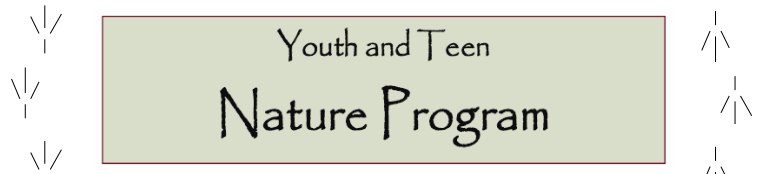
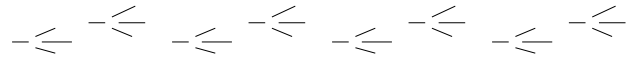
Linda Lane-Bortell will plan for fun, friendship and conversation and you are invited to join her.

When: **Sunday, February 27th**

Middle School (6th – 8th grade) 4:00-5:30p.m.
High School (9th – 12th grade) 6:00-7:30p.m.

Where: **Sanctuary**

Hope to see you there!



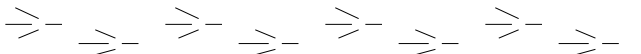
**RETURNING FOR THE
3RD YEAR TO CPC
APRIL 11 - 15, 2010**

Program: Learn to live with the Earth through the ancient arts of wilderness survival, tracking and nature awareness. Have fun, work with your hands, get dirty, connect with nature and let your spirit soar! Kids bring their own packed lunch and come prepared to be outside for the day.

Ages: The program is for youth age 7-17. (Older youth can be assistants)



**More information in
upcoming Press Bits
or call the Church
office at 479-2712.**



MUSIC AROUND CPC & BEYOND

Eric Olbekson, Music Director Phone: (415) 479-2712

If you would like to be a part of the Choir and would like to join us please let Eric know. Rehearsals are in the sanctuary and the schedule is listed below. All are welcome!

Choir Schedule

6 – Sunday – NO CHOIR
10 – Thursday – 7:30pm – Rehearsal
13 – Sunday – 8:30am – Warm-up
17 – Thursday – 7:30pm – Rehearsal
20 – Sunday – 8:30am – Warm-up
27 – Sunday – NO CHOIR

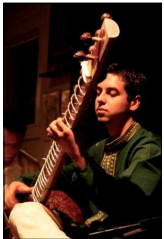


Music of the Beloved, An Interfaith Concert

Sunday, February 13, 2011, 2:00PM

Showcase Theatre, Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael

Clerestory: Clerestory is the Bay Area's acclaimed nine-man classical a cappella ensemble. Veterans of San Francisco's finest vocal groups, Clerestory's singers, from countertenor to bass, remain members of the Bay Area choral community and pride themselves on providing unparalleled performances. Clerestory is named for cathedral windows that let in daylight; we tell the "clear story" of the music we sing through sophisticated performances grounded in decades of experience singing together.



Arjun Verma: Arjun Verma has been a student of Classical Indian Music since 1990, training first under his father, sitarist Roop Verma, and then under the world-renowned maestro, Ali Akbar Khan, for 9 years. In addition to assistant teaching at the Ali Akbar College of Music in San Rafael, Arjun has performed across the United States and Europe, including at the United Nations in Geneva and PragueCastle in Prague. In 2007, Arjun was awarded a Shenson Fellowship by the San Francisco Foundation to support his continued training at the AliAkbarCollege.

Tsering Dorjee Bawa: Tsering Dorji Bawa, was born in Toe Bawa (Nyari region) in the western part of Tibet. He joined Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA), Dharamsala, India in 1986 and graduated in Tibetan Opera, music, Theater and sacred/monastic dance in 1994 with distinction. He toured worldwide to perform Tibetan folk dances and music, and acted in numerous films including the year 2000 Oscar nominated film- 'Himalaya'. He and Michael Becker worked together to create the original soundtrack for the 2009, Emmy award winning documentary, 'The Women of Tibet- A Quiet Revolution'. He has worked on numerous ensembles besides working with well known world artists and performers. He resides in the Bay Area, California and teaches Tibetan song, dance and music to the Tibetan community in the Bay Area with special focus on young kids as well as conduct arts workshops for the university students and professionals.



And just confirmed: Cantor David Margules and others from the Jewish Tradition.

Tickets are on sale at the Marin Box Office:

Mon-Fri, 11:00AM-5:00PM and Sat, 11:00AM-3:00PM Call 415-499-6800

Prices: Students \$20 Limited seats at \$25 General Admission \$30-\$50