



The Midpeninsula Christian

Published the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month

Servants growing in unity and love

VOL. 63

THURSDAY, August 26, 2010

NO. 16

Sunday Schedule:

Church School: 9:30 am
Morning Worship: 10:30 am
Fellowship Time: 12:00 pm
Choir Practice: 12:30 pm

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Phone: 650-327-4188

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<http://www.pafcc.org>

Administrative Assistant

Britta Swartz

Pastor

Dr. Jon McCauley Smith

Minister of Music

Doug Hornbeck



TAIZE WORSHIP

Taizé is the name of a small village in Burgundy where a young seminary student founded a simple prayer community during the Second World War that offered hospitality, refuge and reconciliation to those seeking peace in the midst of their storm. It was so helpful that it has continued to this day to be a source of spiritual grounding for people in times of hostility or search, preparing them to enter their own communities and live their lives with a deepened sense of God's purpose.

In the Taizé worship service you can find refuge from your hectic world. Here you will find the tools to re-balance your life and find deeper joy in all your relationships. There is peace in the quiet of meditation and prayer. In the chant-style music and scripture readings, you can search your soul to grow as God would have you grow. In the candlelight you can focus on the true light that shines in the world and in your heart.

As a part of their ministry, the eldership is sponsoring the Taizé service on the first Wednesday of every month beginning on September 1st at 6:30. Those with children should drop them off at the children's center for Kid's Club before coming to the sanctuary. The sanctuary will be open a half an hour before the service for meditation, prayer, and reflection.



Taizé Service
1st Wednesday
6:30 PM

OUR STATEMENT OF CALLING

Using the gifts of our members, we seek to expand the reach of this congregation to bring the blessings of a life of faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ to an ever widening circle within our community, and – joining with other churches – to share the Church's Mission to the ends of the earth.



Saturday, September 18, 2010,

10 am—4 pm

FRIENDSHIP WALK at Lake Elizabeth, Central Park, Fremont.

The park is located at 40000 Paseo Padre Parkway. The Walk will begin at 10:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM – this will permit people to come and go as their schedules allow. Registered attendees will be supplied with water and snacks throughout the day, provided by the First Christian Church of Palo Alto.

You'll find information and registration forms at the church office and <http://thefriendshipwalk.com>

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

August 29th

Message: "Our Daily Manna from Heaven" Jon Smith
Text Exodus 16:1-5, 14-25; 31; 35
 Acolytes Micaela Leong & Rena Okamoto
 Children's Moment..... Tim Cole
 Communion Preparation Ann & Rex Garr
 Deacons Rich Prioste & Chris Taylor
 Elder Wanda Smith
 Fellowship Time Nelly & William Leong
 Scripture Reader Rich Prioste
 Usher/Greeter Genell Wadley
 Flowers Sofia & Chris Taylor

September 5th

Message: "A Labor of Love" Jon Smith
Text 2 Timothy 2:15
 Acolytes Matthew & Angela Leong
 Children's Moment..... Tim Cole
 Communion Preparation Sandy Jones & Lyn Bratton
 Deacons Nelly & Matthew Leong
 Elder William Leong
 Fellowship Time Membership Department
 Scripture Reader Jacque Boeriu
 Usher/Greeter Nelly Leong
 Flowers Janie & Harry Casler



Coming Events

Friday, 8/27 Fellowship Potluck
 Saturday, 8/28 Re-Cycle
 Saturday, 8/28 Knitting Group
 Saturday, 8/28 Senior Lunch
 August 31-September 20 Britta Vacation
 Wednesday 9/1 Taizé Service
 Wednesday 9/1 Kid's Club
 Thursday, 9/2 Executive Committee
 Thursday, 9/9 Evening Knitting Group
 Friday, 9/10 Youth Group
 Wednesday 9/15 Kid's Club
 Thursday, 9/16 Department Chairs Training
 Thursday, 9/16 General Board Meeting
 Saturday, 9/18 Disciple Men's Breakfast
 Saturday, 9/18 Friendship Walk
 Sunday, 9/19 Newsletter Articles Due
 Wednesday, 9/22 Volunteer Day
 Friday, 9/24 Contemporary Service/Youth Group
 Friday 9/24 Fellowship Potluck



September

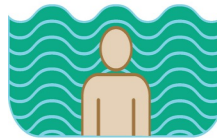


Birthdays Anniversaries

06 - Edward Oblander	15 - Itsuo & Reiko Okamoto
09 - Harry Casler	26 - William & Nelly Leong
10 - William Leong	28 - Rex & Ann Garr
14 - Evelyn Nelson	30 - David & Julie Koenig
16 - Jim Jones	
17 - Genell Wadley	
28 - Nathan Garr	
30 - Elizabeth Hornbeck	



BAPTISM THIS SUNDAY!



Join us for the baptism
 of Greg Gates
 Sunday, August 29th.



Don't forget!

No Newsletter September 9

Next Newsletter September 23



**Aug. 31
 through
 Sept. 20**

Remember our homebound family:

Willie A; Evelyn N; Doris S; Marjorie H.



September 23rd Newsletter
 In by Sunday, September 19th
 October 14th Newsletter
 In by Sunday, October 10th

Bulletin Inserts or announcements –
 In by the **preceding Wednesday** morning at 11 a.m.

Board Packet Reports – (Next meeting: **Nov. 18th, 2010**)
 Due **two Wednesdays before** the Board Meeting

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST – IT'S MORE THAN JUST A NAME!

Being a *Disciple of Christ* is more than just taking up space on a pew.

We are called to grow in His Spirit –
 to embrace and exemplify our name
 as Christians who are *disciples* of Jesus Christ
 as the very essence of our identity and life!

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



Fall Programs begin soon!

- **Kid's Club**—K through 6 kids will get together on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings for a journey through **Bible Land Festivals** beginning September 1st at 6 pm.
- **Youth Group** for PAFCC & Sinapi Middle and High School will begin Friday Sept. 10 at 6:30.

Tim Cole



Regional News!

Christian Church in Northern California – Nevada

The Collaborative Leader: Shaping Our Future Through Conversations that Matter

- ◆ October 30, 2010, 9:30am-3:00pm location(s) to be announced.
- ◆ Cost: \$25 which includes lunch (PAFCC Scholarships available)
- ◆ This event is open to all past, current and future leaders of the church!
- ◆ Church leadership is considerably different than a business or a corporation because we are in the business of transforming people rather than selling a product! How do we lead transformation?
- ◆ Watch for more information coming soon!

Women's Fall Retreat



**Mission Springs
Sept. 17-19, 2010**

Embracing the Journey

With Rev. Kirsten Linford
The retreat starts at 7:00pm on Friday with dinner, through lunch on Sunday.

There will be an optional on-site mission opportunity with a local shelter from 10a-3p on Friday.

Men's Retreat

Hotel de Oro
Santa Nella, California
October 22-23, 2010

**"Paul: The Man,
The Message,
The Myth"**



Presenter will be
Dr. David Matson,
Associate Professor
of Biblical Studies
at Hope International University

Conflict 101:



Tools for Healthy Communication

San Lorenzo - Oct. 1-2
Starts with Friday dinner, 6pm
Ends Saturday 2:30pm

Presenter:
Rev. Dr. Beth Wheeler

Registration deadline Sept. 22.
Forms in the church office.

<http://www.cncn.org/acts.htm>

The Midpeninsula Christian

First Christian Church of Palo Alto

2890 Middlefield Road

Palo Alto, California 94306



PASTOR'S LIFE – August 26, 2010

As the story goes, a woman came to Thomas Edison after he had told of the 1500 times he had failed in his experiments to invent the electric light bulb. She said: "Wasn't it awful that you had to fail all those times?"

His reply is important. "Madam, I never failed. I simply learned 1500 ways that it would not work!"

If it is anything at all, life is surely a learning process. The person who is afraid of failing is already beaten.

This is certainly true of the church. The task God gives us is straight forward: build My Kingdom here on earth. But the ways we go about that are constantly changing. If we just keep doing things the way we've always done them even though they aren't growing the Kingdom, then we are beaten before we even begin.

Of course, not every idea and program will be an "instant success," but as Edison taught us, learning is as much finding out what is NOT right as it is about finding something that is right. Life is discovery, and the only way to prevent the wonders of discovery is not to believe it is possible for you.

We at First Christian are embarking on an exciting and breathtaking adventure in Kingdom Building! We are starting new weekday children's and kids groups with Sinapi Fellowship. We are starting a monthly Taizé service. We are re-thinking our Sunday children's programs. We have just witnessed a successful all day Vacation Bible Camp. We have had leadership training for our groups and the elders are planning a retreat in September. We are enjoying monthly lunches each first Sunday after services. We are trimming our order of worship and will be starting a contemporary service on Friday nights beginning September 24. We are planning an Advent season focused on "A Charlie Brown Christmas" complete with a children's pageant.

Wow!!! Maybe all of these ideas will shine as brightly as Edison's Light Bulb! Maybe only some of them will. But with your prayers and your support, we will learn more about how to do God's work in this corner of His Kingdom in this day no matter what. The Blessing is in being together working toward the goal!

Jon