



ECSM News

Community Presbyterian Church, Pittsburg
Sharing Ministry with
First Congregational Church of Antioch



April 2017, Issue 4



From the CPC Pastor

From the FCCA Pastor



Dear Friends,

After church last week, after sharing my sermon on Sanctuary and Solidarity, I was talking with a couple of people about the next week being the next Continuing the Conversation Sunday (still a

special thing as we don't do it every week). Mary Burks mentioned that she thought we could use one right then to discuss what the church can do to help immigrants and others being targeted in our country.

So we started talking about the world we'd like to see and how we can do our little part.

We have the ability to do that every week, to go deeper – to ask the next, more genuine question. In fact, that's when we are talking about things that really matter. It's kind of like that Sunday when Michael invited us to take more time with our passing of the peace, and asking, "How are you – really?"

Now, let me ask you to take it one step further. What if you asked that question of at least one person you didn't know, each week? What if, after every Sunday service, you prepared yourself mentally and emotionally for whenever or wherever that moment will arrive?

Who would you choose? Would you look to have the conversation as soon as you could, perhaps even Sunday afternoon or Monday? Would you wait, to ask just the right person? How would you create enough time in your schedule to make sure you had enough time to really hear them out?

Dear Friends,

Easter is coming. Christ is risen.

There is a song that begins with the words... "I arise today." It reminds us that as Christ arose to new life, so we arise to new life.

This song, *The Deer's Cry* is attributed to St. Patrick. During my sabbatical while I lived on the island of Iona, I stayed for a time at the Catholic House of Prayer. Those of us who stayed there, gathered each morning in the chapel. The Catholic sister who ran the house led a service and each morning the service ended with a recording of this Irish song. Each morning we were invited to arise with Christ. It seemed to me to be the perfect song for an Easter people.

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Christ is risen and we arise today into the mystery of Christ's resurrection.

With Easter, we enter into the mystery of death becoming life....of crucifixion becoming resurrection.

This mystery is the very foundation of our faith. We affirm that suffering and death are not the strongest forces in our lives. We believe that love



Pastor Will continues...

It doesn't have to be a 'Forrest Gump' moment, sitting on a bus bench, telling your life story – or listening to one – as people come and go. It could be one of those in-between moments – while waiting in line at the supermarket, sitting in the doctor's office. You could go to the coffee shop or the library and just watch people until it feels right.

You could also be very direct. You could ask someone, "Do you have a minute? With all that's going on in our country right now, I'm making it my goal to get to know people I don't. Do you have a few minutes to tell me what matters to you in your life?"

There's no telling who you will meet or what stories you will hear. There may be a few rejections. That's ok. How will the stories change them? Being able to share who they are and feel more connected? How will your listening to such stories change you? How will it change our neighborhoods?

Together we serve...

Pastor Will

Pastor Christy continues...

is the strongest force. In Romans we are assured that nothing can separate us from God's love. Nothing in life, nothing in death is more powerful than love. God's love is indestructible and will hold, support and strengthen us through all of life's pain and struggle and grief and sorrow. Easter is the celebration of this truth.

In our own lives, in the lives of those we know, in the lives of strangers...in the lives of those in a beautiful time of their lives and those in a difficult time...from the most abject and miserable people to the most whole and free...the truth of God's love stands firm.

Nothing can separate anyone from God's love. *The Deer's Cry*...speaks of the presence of Christ surrounding us, protecting us, blessing us...calling us to arise today into the mystery of God's love.

May the song be an Easter blessing,

Christy

The Deer's Cry

I arise today through the strength of heaven
Light of sun, radiance of moon
Splendor of fire, speed of lightning
Swiftness of wind, depth of the sea
Stability of earth, firmness of rock

I arise today through God's strength to pilot me
God's eye to look before me
God's wisdom to guide me
God's way to lie before me
God's shield to protect me

From all who shall wish me ill
Afar and a-near
Alone and in a multitude
Against every cruel, merciless power
That may oppose my body and soul

Christ with me, Christ before me
Christ behind me, Christ in me
Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ on my right, Christ on my left
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down
Christ when I arise, Christ to shield me

Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me

I arise today.

(P.S. If you want to experience the full impact of the song, you can listen to it on YouTube. I find Rita Connolly's version especially moving. *Rita Connolly sings "The Deer's Cry" at Inauguration of Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland.*)

Pastors' schedule: Christy will be visiting her parents in SoCal from April 17-21, In case of a pastoral emergency please contact Will McGarvey at (925) 597-9797.

Christy has moved!!!

Her new address is..

Christy Parks-Ramage
P. O. Box 14
Port Costa, CA 94569

(Port Costa is so small they don't deliver mail to people's homes. Everyone in town has a P.O. box.) Christy's old phone number (510) 527-5101 has been discontinued.

Please use her cell phone number (510) 847-4650.

First Congregational Church of Antioch



Community Presbyterian Church

MARCH 19 CABINET MEETING NOTES

With a quorum present, the meeting was opened with an opening prayer and check-ins.

Minutes of the January Cabinet, Annual and Special Cabinet Meetings were all approved.

We talked about Maundy Thursday, Winter Nights, a request for a lamp on the piano in the chapel, forming a music directory, and tee shirts and tote bags. We approved the formation of the East County Shared Ministry Care Team and approved the purchase of a pre-paid debit card for use by the Care Team.

The Financial Reports were received.

We discussed our three crosses and will go forward with moving them with approval from Session. We will support the upgrades to the Chapel including carpet and T Wire. We approved the expenditure of \$500.00 from the Memorial Fund for the social Hall sound system.

Work on the website continues.

FCCA Cabinet will next meet Sunday, April 23rd immediately following service.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: We meet every Tuesday at 10 am in the Camp Stoneman Room.

ECSM News!

All newsletter articles are due on the 22nd of each month. Please email to Jessica at cpcpittsburg@sbcglobal.net.

CPC Treasurer's Corner February 2017

Income: \$12,672.02

Expenses: \$12,748.11

FCC Monday Bible Study: We meet at 10:00 am every Monday in the Stoneman Room for an informal time of conversation, prayer & study. *We will not meet Monday, April 17th.*



Easter Lilies: Nora Buluran will take orders for lilies to help decorate the Sanctuary on Easter, in memory or recognition of a loved one. The cost will be \$8.00. Place your order by April 9th.

Flowers for Easter flowering cross: We will create a beautiful flowered cross again this year for Easter. Please bring flowers on Easter morning to be used for the cross. All kinds of flowers are appreciated. Bring flowers from your yard or pick some up at the grocery store or florist shop. Greenery is also welcome.

Easter Egg Hunt: Donate eggs with prizes in them or just candy/prizes to fill the eggs we have. **We specially need wrapped candy and other prizes. Bring them to the Church office by Monday, April 10th.** Thank you all for your help!



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – April 13th, we will be sharing worship with Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church with a Soup and Salad supper at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall before the worship service. The service will be at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall. CVPC are bringing salads, we will provide soup. If someone can provide a soup please let Mary know.

Good Friday Ecumenical Service – April 14th at St. Ignatius Catholic Church, 3351 Contra Loma Blvd., Antioch from noon to 1:30 pm. Pastors Will and Christy will be a part of the 7 Last Words service that day. To join the Choir, arrive at 11:15 am to rehearse, you may call or email to receive the music ahead of time 925.778.0768/ don2864@aol.com. *After the Good Friday service we are going to Celia's for a late lunch. All are invited!*

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service has been cancelled this year.

Easter Celebration will be April 16th at 10:00 am in the Camp Stoneman Chapel. Bring flowers to help flower the cross during the children's message. Easter Egg Hunt for the children to follow.

THE SHARED LIFE OF THE CHURCH

The **Joint FCCA-CPC Women's Luncheon** will next meet Wednesday, April 5th at 11:30 am at Rick's on Second (619 W 2nd Street, Antioch).

Fellowship Opportunity. Everyone is invited to join us for a late lunch after the Ecumenical Good Friday Service on Friday, April 14 at about 2:00 PM at Celia's Restaurant located at 10th and G Streets in Antioch. Please RSVP to Sandy Henry (sandy@theprintclub.com or 925 826-2225) so we can have enough seats reserved.

Fellowship Ministry: Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 5th at 1:30 pm in the Camp Stoneman Room. You are all more than welcome to join us in planning future coffee hours and other social events.

Outreach Committee: next meeting is Monday, April 10th at 3:00 pm in the Stoneman Room.

Welcome & Marketing Committee: Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 26th at 2:00 pm in the Camp Stoneman Room.

Worship Committee: Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 26th at 3:30 pm at Ann's Custer's home.

Theology Pub: Will next meet Tuesday, April 25th at 7:00 pm, location to be determined.

LGBTQ Film Night: Will next meet Tues., May 30th at 7:00 pm in the Stoneman Room. Movie – to be determined.

Shared Ministry update: Next Joint CPC/FCCA Cabinet/ Session meeting is scheduled for April 2nd, following worship in the CSR.

April 16th will be our monthly

Sparkle Sunday

*Wear something that shines to share the light of Christ. **Bring a can of food or a donation for the food banks.***

Thank You Corner

Bill Dexheimer for all of the little projects he helps with around our facility. Thanks so much for fixing the office door and taking care of the items left behind by the homeless individuals.

Happy Birthday!

April



5	Jon Fish
6	Forrest Brown
8	Rachel Stephens
	Stevie Burks
10	Scott Brown
11	Megan Green Sims
13	Chris Shipe
16	Russell Peck
20	Holley Kenney
24	Cherie Persing
29	Glenda Lamb
	Dennis Lamb

**Contact Jessica, the Church Secretary, to add your Birthday & Anniversary to our records today!*

Happy Anniversary!

April



13	Mike & Sandy Henry
	Roger and Lynn Lessley
15	Myrdell and Chuck Dybdal
16	Vicky and Barry Winkler
	Ginny & Kookie McGuire (Easter)
18	Lawrence and Tracy Bishop
25	Dick and Betty Pankey

Beautiful Weddings in the Camp Stoneman Chapel:

If you or someone you know is getting married, I would love to meet with them and help to plan their big day.

Lisa Hansen ~ CPC Wedding Coordinator.

Please contact our Events Coordinator, Jessica Natal for information. Private Rental rates for your friends are based on the number in attendance. CPC & FCCA members get the Church Member rates. Contact Jessica at 925.276.0960 or cpcpittsburg@sbcglobal.net

Days Grow Shorter

By
Edie Lanstrom

A few months ago, my landlady decided she was going to put the house in which I live up for sale on May 1st. Kendall and I realized it was time to move closer to Beth, my daughter and Kendall's sister, who lives in Elgin, Oklahoma. When we made that decision, the move seemed a long time away. Now I am acutely aware of the moving date (April 21). As Kendall and I prepare to make this transition, memories of the sustaining support of the people in this church tumble through my mind making me wonder how I will survive in Oklahoma without them.

Five years ago when my husband Sig was dying, Sandy Henry sat with me by Sig's hospital bed and walked the hospital hall with me. During my Sig's 35-day hospital stay, I never felt alone as people from the church and other friends upheld me when I found it hard to function. Ladies of the church arranged a bountiful luncheon. I continue to feel grateful for ministering of Christian friends as I moved through this nightmarish time.

When I decided to sell my Antioch home, Chris Persing updated my 44-year-old house so it would be more attractive to a buyer. On Saturday when the upgrade was over, Chris stood on a ladder in my garage and threw objects I did not know how to get rid of to his workmen who gladly caught them. Chris' actions took away some of the sadness of the day.

Every Christmas since Sig died Kendall and I have spent Christmas and most Thanksgivings with Beverly Peterson and her family. Beverly's actions eased our loneliness during the holiday season. (Beverly, don't be surprised if you get phone call from me at Christmas and Thanksgiving.) When my old car "died," Beverly took me to get a new car and advised me on the pros and cons of buying cars.

Since Sig's death, Pastor Christy's never failing support has helped me better handle difficult situations. If Kendall was in a hospital emergency room or in the Kaiser hospital in Redwood City, Christy was there. If I needed Christy, I knew I could call her at any time. That knowledge made it easier to handle difficult situations.

Although I will be living in Oklahoma, every Sunday morning my thoughts will be with the congregation in a small white church in Pittsburg, California. A church that really taught to love with differences, and I grateful. May God bless you all.

Equal Exchange: The coffee cart is available during Fellowship Hour in the Social Hall. You will find Fair Trade Equal Exchange coffee or tea! You can also find milk chocolate bars and dark chocolate with caramel and sea salt bars! Yum!! There are a variety of teas available along with your favorite coffee. If you haven't checked out the cart before, now is the perfect time to give it a try. The coffee always gets rave reviews! Buy a package next Sunday and you try it! Let me know what you think. There is regular and decaf and they each come in regular roast and French roast!

- Mary Burks

Little Free Library: Thank you for the donations to the library. We are well stocked at this time. But I am always looking for donations of newer edition books and children's books. If it's a few you can leave them in the little free library or let me know and I'll be sure they get into the new storage room. Thank you for your support.

- Mary Burks

Think... Youth Group! ...

30 hour Famine Fast April 7- 8th – cancelled

The lock in has been cancelled. In lieu of the lock in at the church we will go on a service project to the Concord Food Bank on April 8th. Meet at the church at 11 am to carpool, the service is from 11:30-1:30 pm. Be sure to wear athletic shoes, closed toes etc., no Flip Flops. We will go out to eat afterwards. RSVP: Contact Pastor Will @ 925-597-9797, Gayle Namanny @ 415/ 990-6196 or Judie Moore @925/354-4381.



Share Your Pictures

Many of you take photos at some of the special events in the life of our church. Please share those pictures with us for use on social media, our website and other publicity possibilities. The old proverbial saying is "one picture is worth a thousand words." That seems to be true because we get lots of activity on our Facebook page when we post pictures. Please feel free to forward them to me at elainepalmer723@gmail.com.

DEMENTIA AND CAREGIVING

Teepa Snow, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA is a renowned expert on dementia. Her website is teepasnow.com and there are many resources there including audio and video clips as well as podcasts. She also offers a free iBook download of "**Dementia: A Practical Guide for Caregivers.**" There is also a mobile app for IOS and Android. It's **Dementia Assist**.

April Music Schedule

From Michael and Elaine

As you know, we will be filling the sanctuary with choral music for Easter, April 16. Our rehearsal schedule will be Sunday, April 9, at 11:45 am. Then on Easter morning, April 16, we will warm-up at 9 am. We are singing two beautiful pieces, and it's been a pleasure learning this music together.

New Way Sunday will be April 30, and we will rehearse at 9 am and again at 11:45 am.

Looking ahead to May, our schedule will again vary a bit to work around the Mother's Day and Memorial Day holidays. New Way Sunday will be May 21, and we will have rehearsals at 9 am as well as 11:45 am. Please consider joining our music ministry. You'll be glad you did.

Make a joyful noise... Psalm 100



Hospice Volunteers Needed In Your Area

Patients who are nearing end of life have a variety of needs that can be filled by volunteers. Some patients have little or no support and are in need of companionship. Volunteer visits can include reading, journaling, helping with hobbies and relieving family members and friends. Have you ever considered becoming a hospice volunteer? Volunteers must be at least 18 and have not suffered a close personal loss in the last 12 months. The commitment is usually 1-2 hours per week. Thorough training will be provided to help volunteers feel comfortable with their assignments. There are patients in your town who are awaiting volunteer assistance. If you want to volunteer or get more information, contact Laurie Herbert at Gentiva Hospice at 925 737-0203 or Laurie.Herbert@Gentiva.com.

Contact info for the women from the **Continuing the Conversation** panel on March 26, 2017:

Joanna Ceponis <metrik@aol.com>

Hina Khan-Mukhtar <hinazee@sbcglobal.net>

Fellowship (Coffee) Hour: Take advantage of the sign up calendar in the social hall so you make sure you get the date you want to celebrate, such as anniversaries or birthdays. By you signing up for a date will help us out to provide the hospitality to our friends and visitors. The dates through April are pretty much taken but summer and fall dates are wide open. But check the calendar to make sure. Or partner with who has already signed up. Or team up with your group and sign up. That is always fun to do! The CPC Session took their turn on March 12.

Thank you. - Mary Burks

Meals with Friends: The groups are starting to meet and make plans for future fun times. If you haven't heard from your group ask Joan who you are with so you can follow up. It isn't too late to be included in a group either. Again, let Joan or Mary know.

Towel Washing: Thanks to everyone has volunteered to wash towels for the Winter Nights program. March was a very slow month. Two of the weeks we didn't even have to wash towels. There are only 3 dates in May; the 5th, 12th and 19th. If you want one of those dates please let me know right away.

There are usually about 4 loads. You pick them up on Friday afternoon and return them on Monday morning. Please let me know if you are willing and able to do so.

Thank you.

Mary Burks



Spring Cleaning WORK DAY!

Saturday, April 8th
9:00 am

Our priorities are: Clean out the

(1) Children's Sunday School Room

(2) Mailroom

(3) Christian Ed Closet (*Gail*)

(4) Stairwell to upstairs

Painting priorities are:

(1) CE Hallway (take down all the posters gently)

(2) Children's Sunday School Room

(3) Stoneman Room

All are welcome to help! See you there!

Volunteer Training class for Winter Nights:

Wednesday, April 26th at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall at Community Presbyterian Church. This is a joint class with volunteers from our congregations, St. Ignatius and Clayton Valley Presbyterian.

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

April 2nd
5th Sunday in Lent
Communion Sunday

Ezek 37:1-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:6-11; John 11:1-45
Rev. Will McGarvey

April 9th
6th Sunday in Lent
Palm/Passion Sunday
Rev. Christy Parks-Ramage

April 13th
Maundy Thursday
Ex. 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14; Ps. 116: 1-2, 12-19
1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

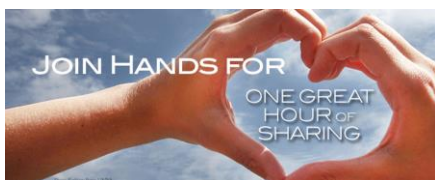
April 14th
Good Friday
Isa 52:13-53:12; Ps 22;
Heb. 10:16-25 or Heb. 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

April 15th
Holy Saturday
Job 14:1-14 or Lam 3:1-9, 19-24; Ps 31:1-4, 15-16;
1 Pet 4:1-8; Matt 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42
(no service)

April 16th
Easter
Acts 10:34-43 or Jer 31:1-6; Ps 118:1-2, 14-24;
Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matt 28:1-10
Rev. Will McGarvey

April 23rd
2nd Sunday of Easter
Rev. Christy Parks-Ramage

April 30th
3rd Sunday of Easter
New Way Sunday
Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps 116:1-4, 12-19;
1 Pet 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35
Rev. Will McGarvey



One Great Hour of Sharing donations will be received on Palm Sunday, April 9th.



WORSHIP LEADERS

April 2nd
Liturgists Betsy Sullivan
Ushers Bill and Barbara Dexheimer
Greeters Roberto and Nora Buluram

April 9th
Liturgists Carol Krishnan
Ushers Dave and Letha Arms
Greeters Jim and Janie Hodges

April 16th
Liturgists Jane Fish
Ushers George and Jude Stephens
Greeters George and Jude Stephens

April 23rd
Liturgists New Way
Ushers Myrdell Dybdal and
Greeters Janie Hodges
The Hosmer Family

April 30th
Liturgists Steve Hosmer
Ushers Chris and Cherie Persing
Greeters Chris and Cherie Persing

Ushers: Please let **Janie Hodges** (new head Usher) know by the Friday before your Sunday if you cannot make it on the date/date's above. You may contact her at 925-368-5797 or njhodes@aol.com. If you have any questions or would like to become an Usher, please email or call her.

Deacons' offering

The first Sunday of each month has traditionally been Deacons' Sunday at Community Presbyterian Church.

Deacons have a special fund for persons in need who come to our church looking for emergency support. The fund has been used to provide housing, food or gasoline to help families who find themselves in difficult circumstances.

Special green envelopes are available in the pew racks for those who wish to help the Deacons provide support for those in need coming to our church seeking help.

The Deacons thank everyone for their support.

PRAYER PAGE

Prayers of Healing

Renée Moore, Virginia Devens, Reggie Washington, Starr Lieber, Dorothy Shipe, Lucille Corzine, Elaine Grothmann, Anne Cakebread, Betty LaMar, Margaret Wilcox, Paul Telfer, Betty Rexroth, Mary Vargo, Patsy Nash, and Forrest Brown. Elwin, Bev Peterson's husband. Carol Krishnan's sisters. Grace, Donald Lang's grandmother. Hanby & Greenwood Families (Betsy Sullivan's Family). Deborah Scott (with many health issues right now). Catherine Hewitt, Mary Burks cousin who is battling cancer. Kahli Davis. Pastor Will. Jerry Castleberry and Richard James. Betty Brown, Carol Czarnowski. Silver Halladay and Lois Arseneau. Lucille Brautigam.

Prayers of Concern

Those affected by the recent violence here and abroad. Those affected by the natural disasters in Nepal, Northern & Southern California, Hawaii, the Philippines, New York, New Jersey, Japan, Chile, Panama, Haiti, Cuba, Vanuatu and Washington State. Safety for all in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Egypt and Sudan. California Public Schools and teachers. The economy, and those laid off or in need of employment. Those living without shelter, experiencing any form of mental illness and those without healthcare. Betty Pankey. Family of Barbara Sellers. Family of Carolina Zamora.

Prayers For Our Mission Partners

Prayers for the ministry of Let's Feed the Kids, Friends Feeding Friends, Habitat for Humanity, the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, Loaves and Fishes, P.I.C.E.S., the Antioch Ministerial Food Bank, the Literacy Project in Pittsburg, the Presbytery of San Francisco, the Bay Association of the Northern California-Nevada Conference, UCC, Westminster Woods, Camp Cazadero, Rev. Charles Tinsley at the Juvenile Detention Center, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Winter Nights Rotating Shelter, Shelter Inc., Shepherd's Gate, Heifer International, and the Al-Basma School and Program in Beit Sahour, Palestine, Joining Hands – Bolivia, Hesperian International, the Keep Hope Alive Program, and Minar and Milad Vosqueritchean in East Jerusalem with their after school peace school and music program.



Prayer cards are located in the Narthex by the Guest Book



Prayers for Sisters & Brothers Around the World

The Conflict in the Middle East; Darfur, Sudan; East Congo, Bolivia; Colombia; Venezuela; Lebanon, Israel-Palestine, North Korea, and Mumbai, India. Long term aid to Haiyan victims; children in Hurricane areas; those affected by earthquakes, and the unrest in Pakistan. For those who serve in the Armed Forces. For those who suffer from hunger and thirst; loneliness; illness; malnutrition; ageism. For those who are excluded; homeless; friendless; the underemployed and jobless.

April Prayer Families & Churches

April 2

Michael and Stephanie Capurro
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church – Pleasant Hill
Lois Arseneau
Community Congregational UCC – Benicia

April 9

Jerry Castleberry and Richard James
Tri-Valley Presbyterian Church – Pleasanton
Jim and Leah Becker
Chinese Community UCC – Berkeley

April 16

Joann Chalmers and Lyn Loftin
Valley Presbyterian Church – Portola Valley
Janis Bellinger Harris
First Congregational UCC – Berkeley

April 23

Clarice Chandler
First Presbyterian Church – Richmond
Anne Cakebread
New Spirit Community DOC MCC UCC – Berkeley

April 30

The Conant Family
Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church – Richmond
Doris and James Cosetti
South Berkeley Community UCC



COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Minutes for Regular Stated Meeting of Session

March 21, 2017

Called to order at 6:33 p.m. in the Camp Stoneman Room at CPC by checking in. Opening prayer was offered by moderator Rev. Will McGarvey. **Elders present:** Ruling Elders: Dave Arms, Mary Burks, Betsy Sullivan, and Teaching Elder/Moderator Rev. Will McGarvey. A quorum was present. **Elders excused:** Jim Hodges **Visitors: none.**

Mission statement was read by all and prayer was led by Will

Docket was read and approved

MSC to approve minutes of February 11 annual Deacon/Session Retreat and Session.

Consent Calendar: none.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

Clerk of Session: Mike Sullivan was ordained and installed as a Deacon and Jim Hodges was installed as a Ruling Elder February 12.

Pastor's salary information emailed to Presbytery on March 6, 2017.

MSC to approve the installation of Letha Arms and Betty Brown as Deacons and set a date for installation. (Whether or not Betty will be able to serve, she was elected at the annual congregational meeting.)

Correspondence: None

Pastor's Report: Worship and Music lunch, Ash Wed. planning with Rev. Barbara and Rev. Christy, Committee meetings, Bountiful Table, Clergy viewing of Moonlight and panel conversation at the Shattuck, More Light Board meeting in Louisville Feb. 22-25, Theology Pub, Ash Wednesday service at CVPC, Memorial for Rev. Dr. James Noel, Vacation in Utah March 9-14, Earl Lectures at PSR, Worship and Music lunch.

Presbytery Meeting report: The next regional Presbytery meeting is March 29th from 4-8pm at John Knox Presbyterian Church in Dublin. Next whole presbytery meeting will be May 9, 2017 at Trinity PC in San Carlos.

Treasurer's Report: February Treasurer's Report emailed by Cherie Persing 03-08-17. MSC

Deacons: Minutes of ECSM Care Team meeting March 12 emailed by Chuck Dybdal 03-12-17.

Event Coordinator: Updated Events Calendar emailed by Jessica 03-08-17.

Nominating Committee: No report.

Personnel Committee: 2016 reviews for Michael Miller and Elaine Palmer were completed on February 12, 2017 and emailed by Mary Burks March 4th. Due to budget constraints, no increase in pay is recommended at this time.

COMMITTEE/MINISTRY REPORTS:

Building & Grounds:

02-28-17 and 03-08-17 emails from Chris Persing-see below.

03-04-17 email from Mary Burks and 03-07-17 email from Alison Lemons-see below.

Christian Education: No report.

Fellowship: March 1, 2017 meeting minutes emailed by Mary Burks on March 4. No action items. Thanks to elders for providing Fellowship hour refreshments on 3/12, and to Mary's crew for cleanup.

Outreach: February 13, 2017 meeting minutes emailed by Betsy Sullivan 02-20-17. MSC 3 monthly donations: \$25 monthly to be paid every other month to Shepherd's Gate, Feed the Kids and Winter Nights in March 13, 2017 meeting minutes. Wednesday, April 26th at 7:00 pm the Winter Nights staff will be by to do a little training for WN volunteers.

Stewardship & Finance: No report.

Welcoming & Marketing: February 15, 2017 meeting minutes emailed by Elaine Palmer.

Worship: February 15, 2017 meeting minutes emailed by Ann Custer on 03-06-17.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Deacon and Care Team. – Per the request to formally disband the Board of Deacons, CPC Deacons are now understood to be a part of the ECSM Care Team. To be able to continue to share the ministry of home communion, Presbyterian members of the ECSM Care Team need to be ordained as Deacons or Elders. Session discerned that at our next called congregational meeting, there will be a motion to **formally merge the Board of Deacons into the ECSM Care Team**. Our ordained Deacons are approved to do their function within the joint ECSM Care Team. As the Jan. 17th minutes of Session state, session *"Approve authorizing deacons to serve home communion in 2017."* Session will receive regular reports from the ECSM Care Team. MSC.
- Westgate Park Board Incident: *Loss of tenant, status of street light on West side of church, additional security cameras needed? The only camera is by the porch and it doesn't reach that portion of the parking lot. We didn't find any film of destruction in the act.*
- Deacon and Elder Installation Certificates. *Jim has requested Jessica to order a few forms.*

Continues on page 10

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- *Progress of FCCA request to move their three crosses and bell to CPC:*
From Chris Persing emails dated 02-28-17 and 03-07-17 (condensed). "I gave a Pittsburg planning technician a scaled drawing of the three crosses. The crosses are 19' x 8'-6", 14'-6" x 6'-6" and 12' x 5'-6". The committee met and determined the crosses will be classified as ancillary structures, and will require a \$425 administrative design review fee, plus other fees not yet determined. We need to determine location on our site a minimum of 20' setback from the inside edge of the sidewalk on Leland. The configuration of the crosses must be determined and scaled drawings submitted to the City for administrative design review, which will take about a month."
The bell and location was not included in this discussion, as Session had previously thought the bell would be located in the courtyard of the church, in a location less susceptible to vandalism and theft. Let's also consider to the left of the front (west) steps where the liquid amber tree is, leading up into the chapel (where the Zollars Memorial Garden will be placed).
- *The Chapel Improvement Fund received half of the special offering from the February 19 Clay Floor concert. The total offering was \$271.00, so CPC's half is \$135.50. This will be used to fund improvements such as new carpet, painting the inside, a "hearing loop" and other projects as funds are available.*
According to George Stevens' 03/13/17 email his range of estimates for replacing sanctuary carpeting is \$4700-\$5400. He believes the \$4700 would work. Job done, clean up and gone is bid.
- *Lamp for the piano. Elaine is looking for a lamp to put on the piano.*
- *Music Library Filing. To start the filing of music and having it in a directory to more easily find it, Will will give his New Way music folder to Jessica to scan and put on-line in a 'cloud' type file. Then it could all be in one place and accessed by anyone anytime. This will be the start of building this very large library of music.*
- *Appoint 2017 session representative to the Personnel Committee (who will serve as chair) Mary Burks will continue as Chair. MSC.*
- *David & Lois Zollars Memorial Butterfly Garden. David Arms, Alison Lemons (daughter) Myrdell Dybdal and Mary Burks met on February 12. At that time they chose the best location to be to the left of the front steps into the sanctuary. The Zollars family will take it from here and do all the installation, work, etc. They are working with a landscape architect to know what kinds of plants, etc. to use. Lucas, Myrdell and Mary have agreed to keep an eye on it and maintain that space as needed that the gardener does not do.*
03-07-17 Email from Alison Lemons: "I actually have 3 Heuchera (big leafy border plant) and 6 pink Astilbe (flowering butterfly plants) started in transfer pots and planted some Milkweed seeds to get a few things going. I will keep checking to see when the rest of the colorful plants are available in nurseries. I am trying to get my family to commit to a date, hopefully soon now that we are in March, to come up and get dirt turned and plants in. I am happy that we are finally getting things going and have the spot where it will be located worked out. I thank you again for your support and the commitment to support this Memorial garden." The family will choose a date and let us know. Dave will oversee the installation of a sprinkler head on an existing outlet.
- *Joint work party with Ministerios: scheduled for April 8th. Meet on Saturday at 9:00 am. Our priorities are: Clean out the (1) Children's Sunday School Room, (2) Mailroom, (Gail) Christian Ed Closet, and the (3) Stairwell to upstairs. Painting priorities are (1) CE Hallway (take down all the posters gently), (2) Children's Sunday School Room, (3) Stoneman Room.*
- *SH Sound system: Both CPC and FCCA have approved funds for upgrading SH Speakers and wiring. MSC.*
- *Ethan Sullivan's Eagle Scout project: Ethan was invited to this meeting, he gave a history of the project and the vandalism of the pipes. He has all the components to do so except the right PVC pipes. Given the potential vandalism inside the play area, we asked Ethan to saw off the posts at the ground level. We asked Ethan to research creating a stationary bell support system to install the bell. Report back on that with a quote to remove the liquid amber trees. Then create a plan for the installation, that he can lead when we are ready to move forward. MSC.*
- *City of Pittsburg Free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training. Pittsburg classes begin Monday, March 27, 2017 from 6:30-9:30 pm. Meetings are held at the Pittsburg Library Community Room, 80 Power Ave, Pittsburg, CA. Register online at eastcountycert.webs.com. For more information call (925) 698-7533 or email eastcountycert@aol.com.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm with final prayer led by the whole group.

Next Session Meeting: April 18, 2017 hosted by Mary Burks.

Sandy Henry is scheduled to prepare April 2017 communion, Jim will shadow to learn how.

Next Joint CPC/FCCA Leadership meeting scheduled for April 2 following worship

Will McGarvey
for Jim Hodges
Clerk of Session

JOINT CALENDAR OF EVENTS APRIL 2017

April 2nd 10:00 am Communion Worship Service - Chapel 11:45 am Cabinet/Session Meeting – CSR 4-7 MC - Sanctuary & classrooms	April 3 10:00 am FCC Bible Study – CSR 6:15 pm Cub Scouts – SH 6:30 pm Venture Crew - CSR 7:30 pm Boy Scouts – SH	4 10:00 am Bible Study – CSR 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm RCC Support Group – CSR	5 11:30 am Women's Fellowship @ Ricks on 2nd 1:30pm Fellowship Meeting – CSR 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano - CSR	6 6:15 pm – HOA Meeting – CSR	7 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano Sanctuary & 2 class rooms	8 9:00 am – CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY!
9  8:30 am Care team meeting - CSR 10:00 am Palm Sunday Worship Service in the Chapel 11:45 am New Way rehearsal – Sanctuary 4-7 MC - Sanctuary & classrooms	10 10:00 am FCC Bible Study – CSR 3:00 pm Outreach Meeting – CSR 6:15 pm Cub Scouts – SH 6:30 pm Venture Crew - CSR 7:30 pm Boy Scouts – SH	11 10:00 am Bible Study – CSR	12 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano - CSR	13 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Meal and Service – Social Hall	14 12:00 noon – Good Friday Service at St. Ignatius of Antioch 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano Sanctuary & 2 class rooms	15 11:30am Bountiful Table Lunch – SH
16  9:00 am Choir warm up – Sanctuary 10:00 am Easter Celebration in the Sanctuary 4-7 MC – Sanctuary & classrooms	17 NO FCC Bible Study 6:15 pm Cub Scouts – SH 6:30 pm Venture Crew - CSR 7:30 pm Boy Scouts – SH	18 10:00 am Bible Study – CSR 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm RCC Support Group – CSR	19 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano - CSR	20	21 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano Sanctuary & 2 class rooms	22 <i>*May newsletter articles Due to the Church Office today!</i> 11:00am Memorial Service – Sanctuary and SH
23 10:00 am Earth Day Celebration in the Chapel 11:45 am FCCA Cabinet Meeting – CSR 4-7 M.C. – Sanctuary & 2 class rooms	24 10:00 am FCC Bible Study – CSR 6:15 pm Cub Scouts – SH 6:30 pm Venture Crew - CSR 7:30 pm Boy Scouts – SH	25 10:00 am Bible Study – CSR 7:00 pm Theology Pub	26 2:00 pm Welcome & Marketing – CSR 3:30 pm – Worship Committee Meeting – Ann's home 7:00 pm Winter Nights Volunteer Training Class – SH 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano - CSR	27	28 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano Sanctuary & 2 class rooms	29 4:30 pm Private event –Social Hall
30 9:00 am Choir warm up – Sanctuary 10:00 am New Way Worship Service - Chapel 11:45 am New Way rehearsal – Sanctuary 4-7 MC - Sanctuary & classrooms	May 1 10:00 am FCC Bible Study – CSR 6:15 pm Cub Scouts – SH 6:30 pm Venture Crew - CSR 7:30 pm Boy Scouts – SH	May 2 10:00 am Bible Study – CSR 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm RCC Support Group – CSR	May 3 11:30 am Women's Fellowship 7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano - CSR	May 4	May 5  7:30 – 9 PM Ministerio Cristiano Sanctuary & 2 class rooms	May 6



ECSM News

April 2017
Issue 4

*A monthly newsletter of the Community Presbyterian
Church and First Congregational Church of Antioch*

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Return Service Requested

TIME DATED MATERIAL

April Events at ECSM

Maundy Thursday

April 13th, we will be sharing worship with Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church with a Soup and Salad supper at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall before the worship service. The service will be at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall. CVPC are bringing salads, we will provide soup. If someone can provide a soup please let Mary know.

Good Friday Ecumenical Service - April 14th

at St. Ignatius Catholic Church, 3351 Contra Loma Blvd., Antioch from noon to 1:30 pm. Pastors Will and Christy will be a part of the 7 Last Words service that day. To join the Choir, arrive at 11:15 am to rehearse, you may call or email to receive the music ahead of time 925.778.0768/ don2864@aol.com . *After the Good Friday service we are going to Celia's for a late lunch. All are invited!*

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service has been cancelled this year.

Easter Celebration

April 16th at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. Bring flowers to help flower the cross during the children's message. Easter Egg Hunt for the children to follow.