

Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Fullerton

838 N. Euclid St. Fullerton, CA 92832-1010

Telephone: (714) 526-7701 Fax: (714) 526-2048

www.fpc-fullerton.org

## From Pastor Duncan's Desk



*From the Third Letter of John (This letter only has one chapter)*

**<sup>13</sup>I have much to write to you, ... <sup>14</sup>instead I hope to see you soon, and we will talk together face to face. <sup>15</sup>Peace to you. The friends send you their greetings. Greet the friends there, each by name.**

With the flip of the December calendar it is time again to "Greet the New Year." Our western traditions dictate that we 'survey' on the last 12 months, 'resolve' for the next, and with smiles/cheers (if we are still awake) greet/proclaim a "Happy New Year!"

"Greetings," whether to the New Year or friends are an important part of communicating. They say "Hello" as well as "goodbye." In Luke 1:28 the Angel Gabriel's "Hello" is a startling introduction, saying to Mary, "Greeting most favored one." In John's third letter, the call to greet signals the letter's close until they meet in person. Christians incorporate this habit of greeting "in the name of Christ" whether departing or arriving. It works for long established friendship and the "not yet introduced" friends who are just a *smile* and a *hand shake* away. For the New Year try incorporating these:

Start with a warm **'Hello!'** to friends both old and new

Wear your **nametags** at worship. Help out these fading memory banks.

When you discover a new friend/guest, invite them over to meet the pastors. We love it!

Pull out your personal phone book and make some calls to those you miss.

Say **'Hello!'** to visitors/guests, neighbors, coworkers etc—the Christmas season is mostly over, but for Christians, the **Good News** is here to stay: Let's live like it!!

Be warm and inviting to old and to young, to different ethnic groups and invisible others around us

Say **Hello** by joining a Small group or Bible study

say **Hello** to a shut-in or sick person--call your deacon and ask who might like a visit

say **Hello**, in the name of Jesus Christ

First Presbyterian Church has long had a rich tradition of welcoming others with special Christian warmth and openness. As we look to 2009, remember the closing words of John's letter: *Greet the friends there, each by name.* The best way we can achieve this is to start by offering ours names and asking when we don't know. Let's continue the timeless tradition and make hospitality our very first resolution!

Glory to God on the Highest!!

Pastor Duncan

# Lines from Lynn



One of my ongoing joys in life is reading the comics, and one of my favorites is “The Family Circus” by Bil Keane. He has been writing this daily strip for years, and it often has Christian overtones. Some newspapers have not been happy with the subtle Christian-world-and-life view expressed in his comics, but it so popular that the circulation hasn’t been affected. The wife and mother in the strip, Thelma, was modeled after Bil’s wife, Thelma Keane; her death a few months ago was mentioned in all the major newspapers around the country. She was a definite part of the business and ministry of “The Family Circus.” The strip involves a mom, dad, and 4 kids between infant and about age 7. Read it when you have a chance—it will brighten your day!

Here is how Billy, age 7, explains “How to be a Good Kid in Church.”

“It’s not nice to speak when there is singing or praying. Wait till there is silence, then talk loud so you can be heard.”

“Never fall asleep in church. Stay awake by squirming and wiggling a lot.”

“Honor thy Father. Tell everybody how much he put in the offering basket.”

“You are in God’s house. Ask to see his bathroom.”

“Goodness is always rewarded. Tell your mom you’re being good and want the candy that’s in her purse.”

“Understand thy neighbor. Stare at the people behind you and try to understand them.”

“Learn all you can about faith. Ask why the seats are called ‘pews.’”

A special “thank you” to everyone who contributed to our camp scholarship fund by purchasing Sees Candy over the holidays! We will use much of that money at the end of this month when we go to Alpine Conference Center in Blue Jay for our Jr. Winter Camp. Over 30 campers and counselors will leave Friday afternoon, Jan. 30 and return Sun. afternoon Feb. 1. Another way you as a part of the community of faith here in Fullerton can help our Children’s Ministry is by praying for our campers and counselors that weekend, for safe travel, that all will stay healthy, that everyone will have fun, and that each will experience God in a new way!

It’s exciting that God has given us a new year, another year to experience his love, caring, and faithfulness in our individual lives and in our families. I’m always looking for good stories of God’s faithfulness; please pass them on to me whenever you see me, or send them via e-mail.



Blessings!  
Lynn Taylor

# How Shall We Worship Our God?

*Final in a 9 part series detailing our “Principles of Worship Content and Style.”\**



Above all, let our attitudes toward worship and music styles be marked by tolerance:

Love does not seek its own way, but puts the good of another first. Tolerance and charity should be practiced in church music; the unity of the Body of Christ is far more important than each person being able to completely satisfy his/her own preferences. The corporate worship experience is like the extended family Thanksgiving dinner: some may prefer to eat one thing or another, but hopefully the family does not divide or fight over such relatively minor issues; what is of far greater importance is that the whole family is present and united in spirit and love for one another.

Be assured that there is great diversity in worship and music style preferences: virtually every style imaginable will have both advocates and detractors in any given congregation. It is very important to help people understand that “everyone” does not prefer what they (and perhaps their particular group of friends) prefer.

In *The Joyful Christian*, C. S. Lewis extols the virtues of tolerance and self-sacrifice with regard to church music:

“There are two musical situations on which I think we can be confident that a blessing rests. One is where a musician of trained and delicate taste, humbly and charitably sacrifices his own (esthetically right) desires and gives the people humbler and coarser fare than he would wish, in a belief (even, as it may be, the erroneous belief) that he can thus bring them to God. The other is where the stupid and unmusical layman humbly and patiently, and above all silently, listens to music which he cannot, or cannot fully, appreciate, in the belief that it somehow glorifies God, and that if it does not edify him this must be his own defect. Neither such a High brow nor such a Low Brow can be far out of the way. To both, Church Music will have been a means of grace; not the music they have liked, but the music they have disliked. They have both offered, sacrificed, their taste in the fullest sense.

But where the opposite situation arises, where the musician is filled with pride of skill or the virus of emulation and looks with contempt on the unappreciative congregation, or where the unmusical, complacently entrenched in their own ignorance and conservatism, look with the restless and resentful hostility of an inferiority complex on all those who would try to improve their taste – there, we may be sure, all that both offer is unblessed and the spirit that moves them is not the Holy Ghost.”

Though Lewis speaks specifically of tolerance between the musicians and non-musicians of the church, the same principles apply to any individuals or factions within the congregation who conflict in music or worship tastes. Without tolerance, we become self-serving, judgmental separatists. This is not the Body of Christ, nor the Christian calling.

Tolerance is a distant virtue in the “me” society in which we live. However, it is a hallmark of Christian love.

*\*A special thanks to Dr. Hanan Yaqub, Minister of Music and Liturgy at Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Santa Ana, for her research and mentorship on this topic. Much of what is re-written here is included in her 1992 paper “How Shall We Worship Our God?”*

# Fellowship

## Women's Fellowship Circle Meetings

### COVENANT

Thursday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m.  
Name: Renette Laase  
Address: 2110 N. Domingo Rd.  
Phone: 714-526-4454

### ESTHER

Thursday, January 8 at 9:30 a.m.  
Name: Peggy Dolan  
Address: 2133 Loma Verde Dr.  
Phone: 714-879-5997

### EVENING STAR

Tuesday, January 6 at 7:00p.m.  
Name: Janet Pickering  
Address: 221 E. Country Hills  
Drive, La Habra  
Phone: 714-879-3955

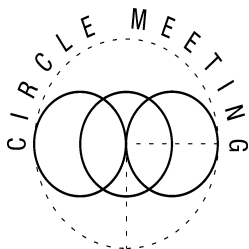
### ROSALIA

Thursday, January 8 at 9:30a.m.  
Name: Marge Simmons  
Address: 413 Las Riendas Drive  
Phone: 714-525-4849

### RUTH:

Thursday, January 8 at 9:30a.m.  
Name: Ann Lahm  
Address: 1025 Stanford Ave.  
Phone: 714-879-5207

**Please join us for  
Fellowship,  
Bible Study,  
and Prayer**



## Women's Fellowship

### Women's Fellowship Coffee

on  
Thursday, January 22nd  
at 10:00 am

in the Sanctuary.  
(note change of date)

**Come and Hear  
our  
Guest Speaker**

**Pastor Emily McColl**

Pastor Emily McColl, Interim Associate Pastor at Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church, will visit with us. She is a woman of many talents and interests as well as being the wife of Pastor Duncan. We can all look forward to getting reacquainted with Emily who served our church as an interim pastor some years ago.

## Senior Singles

We are a community of single adults, ages 55 and up, seeking to become fully devoted followers of Jesus, through Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. We exhibit great care and concern for our fellow members. We gain comradeship through special outings, recognizing member's birthdays, and "Care & Share" meetings. If you are not currently on our roster and wish to be, come to our table on the patio between services or after second service. Please join us for a fellowship brunch following each service of worship on Sunday mornings.

**The schedule for January is:**

**Care & Share** – January 12 and 26 from 1:30 – 3:00 tentatively scheduled for the music room.

**Birthday Dinner** – January 31 at 5:00 p.m. We are invited to Betty Murphy's home following dinner for dessert and games.

**Special Activity** – February 15, Travelogue, "Scotland to Provence"

Those celebrating January birthdays are:

Mary Wells	January 7
Jane Watkins	January 7
Judy Waddell	January 12
Nancy Nyboer	January 17
Ann Mathews	January 21
Helen Bliss	January 23
Phyllis Wobken	January 23
Irene Budde	January 25
Robert Snyder	January 30
Ruth Smith	January 31

"And He will raise you up on eagle's wings  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of His hand."

African Song

Sue Dunlap, Singles Chairman



# Wanderings of the Director of Youth Ministries

- not all those who wander are lost -

*“For whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all for the glory of Jesus Christ.” Colossians 3:17” (NIV)*

## New Years Resolutions

With each New Year comes the sense of another beginning, of something different, of change in the air. And this January, our church and our nation is in midst of many changes. Pastor Duncan was gloriously installed in late December. The construction crews have taken down much of the old. Christmas concerts, Christmas parties, and Christmas Eve services have awoken in us a new sense of peace, hope, joy, and love. This month, a new Congress will convene and a momentous day in the history of our nation is upon us as President-elect Obama is sworn into office. With all this happening around us, many of us enter this new year with grand plans of doing something better, starting new habits and stopping bad ones, being more active, spending more time with friends, or seeking God more and in different ways in our daily life. Over the years, I have sworn myself to many of these New Year resolutions... and have failed in even more of them! Sometimes I wonder if our silly efforts that fail miserably parallel the way we live our personal relationships with Christ. I begin each day with a resolution to glorify God in everything I do and say, but undoubtedly fail within ten minutes of waking up. Yet, we continue to make new resolutions every New Year and each day despite the failures. We know we can do so and endure the failures, because God doesn't give up on us!

The Westminster Catechism begins with the question, “What is the chief end of humanity?” It answers, “Humanity’s chief end is to glorify God and enjoy God forever.” When people ask me what the purpose of my life is, can I answer them with this? Am I truly glorifying God? And am I really enjoy God...forever? Well, the word glorify is defined as “to praise and honor in worship.” My translation is, “making God look good by the way we live.” I came across Colossians 3:17 and 1 Corinthians 10:31 as a high school youth. These verses challenged me to glorify God in everything I did, “whether I eat or drink or whatever I do.” I decided I would make this my resolution. Needless to say, I have failed many times, and continue to fail, but I also continue to make the same resolution over and over. It's not easy glorifying God in even a few things, yet in everything. But, God does not leave us without help. We are promised the Holy Spirit to enlighten, renew, and enable us. Now, how do we enjoy God forever? First, there is the joy of being in God's presence. Knowing God cares for you and loves being with you. Second, there is the joy of what God has given us. Watching Southern California's breath-taking sunsets. Playing with a baby and seeing how they are wonderfully created. Enjoying fellowship with other Christians, loving and caring together. Let's think of the many ways we can enjoy God this year, and DO them! My wish for you this New Year is that you will find ways to glorify Christ, and enjoy Him forever!

All for Him!

Isaac



### Upcoming Youth Events:

Thursday, January 8, 4:00 – 6:00pm  
Friday, January 9, 4:00-6:00pm  
Sunday, February 1, 3:00

JH Youth Group begins  
SH Youth Group begins  
Super Bowl Party

## **BUILDING PROJECT JANUARY UPDATE**

We obtained our building permits from the city in December and we began with the demolition of the restrooms in the CE Building and then the stage area in Fellowship Hall and the Board Room. The kitchen and the balance of Fellowship Hall and the Library will happen after Christmas and early January. The framing of the wall between the Youth Room and the new restrooms will also be started in late December. We hope to have the new kitchen area in the Youth Room functional by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January. This will provide us with limited kitchen activities during the balance of the construction project.

We donated our main kitchen refrigerator and freezer to the new food bank in Fullerton that Wilshire Avenue Church just opened.

The new elevator equipment has been ordered and the scheduled completion date for the elevator is the end of April. The new restrooms in the CE Building should be done by the end of February. The new Board Room / Chapel should be opened by the end of March. The balance of the project should be done by the middle of May.

Thanks to everyone for their support and interest in this project and we pledge to work very hard to keep this project on schedule and under budget.

In God's Service – FPCF Building Committee

## **“MAS MATSUNO MEMORIAL FUND”**

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW within the FPC family needs special services or equipment associated with cardiovascular or cancer-related illnesses, do not pass up this opportunity to receive some extra help! Insurance restrictions or limited financial resources may be depriving you of care which could greatly benefit you. Confidential help is available to you through the Deacons for your spiritual, physical, emotional and financial needs.

Please contact: Deacon Moderator, Betsy Azariah, (526) 865-0490, or Pastor Linda Flatley (714) 526-7701 for further confidential information. The Mas Matsuno Memorial Fund was established by Pat Matsuno and her family to honor Mas and to continue his work here at FPC.



## FPC Discovery Seminar

### Frequently Asked Questions.....

**What:**

- A half day seminar to answer questions about the Christian faith,
- A place to meet new friends
- A time to enjoy two great meals
- Find what it takes to become involved at FPC Fullerton.

**Where:** Right here at FPC.

**When:** Saturday January 10th 2009 from 8:30am until 3 p.m.

**Why:** To ask your questions about the Christian faith and make some new friends. Great food! Talk with the pastors. **Special Attraction:** Stump the Pastors session.

**How:** Several easy ways: Tell the pastor as you leave worship. Call the church office at 714 526-7701 or email us at [fpcoffice@fpc-fullerton.org](mailto:fpcoffice@fpc-fullerton.org). The Discovery Seminar is a prerequisite for church membership, but is open to anyone who would like to come.

## New Elders/Deacons

Two training sessions have been designed to help you understand the role and responsibilities of the office of Elder or Deacon. Please make it a priority to attend. The training sessions for both Elders and Deacons are scheduled for 7:00pm on Jan 5<sup>th</sup> and Jan 12<sup>th</sup> (both Mondays). These meetings will be held on campus (probably in the Music Room) and usually last until 8:30pm. Please RSVP to the church office so that we can make arrangements.

## Adult Education Seminar

### Save the Date – Monday, February 2, 2009

Wade W. Slome, CFA, CFP will present a seminar on “**Investing in Uncertain Times**”. This seminar will be presented at two times on February 2 – at 10-11:30 am and also at 7-8:30 pm.

Mr. Slome holds an MBA from Cornell University with an emphasis in Finance and a B.A. in Economics from UCLA.

Mr. Slome is a CFA charterholder (Chartered Financial Analyst), a CFP certificant (Certified Financial Planner), and a member of the CFA Institute and the FPA (Financial Planning Association). He is President & Founder of Sidoxia Capital Management and author of *How I Managed \$20,000,000.00 by Age 32*.

**This will be a very timely and interesting Adult Ed seminar– so be sure to attend.**

# A BUDDY SYSTEM??

WITHIN THE CONGREGATION?? Isn't that term more apropos of Summer Camp?? Why a buddy system at church??

Well, here's why! Camp counselors learned a long time ago that it was hard to keep track of a whole bunch of campers. That's why they came up with the idea of a Buddy System. If everyone had a buddy, counselors reasoned, they would have a much better chance of keeping track. At First Pres Fullerton, we have some 500 members and lots of worshippers who still sign in as visitors. It's hard to keep track of everyone. To remedy that, we think the Buddy System might be just the ticket.

The **“Developing the Caring Community”** seminar is the perfect way to train to become a bonafide buddy. Offered for the second time in February, the class will help to train each of us to be the best buddies that we can be. We will role-play how to listen actively, how to respond to a buddy's needs in appropriate ways, and how to seek out newcomers who may be looking for a place to belong. A buddy can help!!

So sign up now for the class that begins February 5 and continues for 10 Thursday nights, ending on April 16. Your reward?? Why, of course, you'll not only get to BE a buddy, you'll get to HAVE a buddy and you'll be invited to join the network of buddies here at First Pres that we call The C.A.R.E.Corps. Call or email Marge McIntosh to register. She's been training buddies for 10 years now. [toshinmc@netzero.net](mailto:toshinmc@netzero.net) or call 714-526-5228.

*I'm Marge McIntosh and I approved this infomercial.*



## DOOR OF FAITH NEWS

The Door of Faith Orphanage is very grateful for the many gifts we sent down over the holidays - for birthdays, for Christmas and for Twelfth Night. The children love to get the gifts from people outside the orphanage and it is a big help to DJ and Lynette, the "mom and dad" down there.

We are planning a **bus trip to the orphanage on Saturday, April 25, 2009**. We have very good news! At last report, U.S. citizens returning from Mexico will NOT need passports until June! We got in under the wire again! Adults need a driver's license and a copy of their birth certificate, and children under 18 just need a copy of their birth certificate. If you do have a passport, of course that is acceptable, as well. We are hoping that many families will be able to go and that sponsors will be able to go down and see "their" children. People who have sent birthday gifts will see their pictures on the wall of that child's dorm in many cases. The children call the donor "their sponsor" and look for them in hopes that they will be on the bus. If you have questions, be sure to call us. We don't have a price yet as we are planning so far ahead.

Thank you so much for your constant support for this wonderful home to 125 children. Because of our support DJ and Lynette are able to care for the children the way they strive to and bring them up to be good Christian adults who think of others and do a great deal of good work in their community and for their church. If you want to sponsor a child just call us and we will arrange it for you.

God bless you all. Mimi and Bill Maginnis

## Habitat Fullerton Build - Phase Two Home Dedication

The Gomez and Vasquez families will receive the keys to their new homes on Saturday, January 10, 2009, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at 411 W Valencia, Fullerton You are invited to come for the dedication, and to tour the homes to see what our volunteer labor and financial contributions to Habitat for Humanity help built. If you are planning on attending this celebration , please RSVP to [sarahm@habitatoc.org](mailto:sarahm@habitatoc.org).

## Paper Drive

Our sincere gratitude to all of our friends who continue to support the Weekday Christian Education program, Chapel On Wheels, through the first Sat. of the month Paper Drive.

Please continue to bring your newspapers, cardboard, plastic bottles and aluminum cans to one of the three collection points from 9:00 a.m. to Noon:

**Chapman and Euclid** - next to the donut shop in the CVS shopping center.

**Sunny Hills** - behind the Bank of America, on Laguna Road.

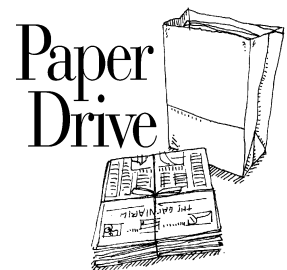
**Raymond and Chapman** - behind Walgreen's.

Also, help is needed! if you can give your time to assist at one of these locations, please call Ken Neissess at (714) 525-5035 to schedule a Saturday and, to support this local mission with a financial donation, at any time during the year, a check may be sent to:

Weekday Christian Education  
P. O. Box 5281  
Fullerton, CA 92835

Thanks, again!

Sheryl Fowler,  
Rep for WCE



## Our new president is coming.....

LOUISVILLE – New Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly Stated Clerk Gradye Parsons has written to new U.S. President Barack Obama assuring him that Presbyterians are praying for him and urging him not to let the current economic crisis overshadow “the issues of ordinary people.”

In his Dec. 1 letter, Parsons told Obama that “offering encouragement is something that Presbyterians have done to each of the forty-three Presidents who preceded you.”

The full text of Parsons letter to Obama:

*December 1, 2008*

*Dear President-Elect Obama,*

*On behalf of the 2.3 million members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), I want to convey our hopes and prayers for you as the 44th President of the United States of America.*

*We are approaching Advent in the life of the church – a season of expectancy and hope as we prepare, once again, for the new King. As you know, this King did not come in any of the worldly ways, but as a very vulnerable baby born to very ordinary people. Even in his birth, Christ was showing us that the first shall be last and last shall be first.*

*As a country, we are in the midst of crises large and small. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has lifted up concerns about war, immigration, health care, globalization, care for the planet, racism, the Middle East and justice in our courts. Now, it is an economic crisis that demands our attention. Our hope is that this current crisis does not become king, consuming us entirely and overshadowing the issues of ordinary people.*

*I have been told that every crisis holds a message. In my humble opinion, the message for this particular crisis is that our country and its economy cannot be built just on selling goods or even manufacturing goods. Our country's economy must be built on achieving good.*

*We are prepared to help you and your administration achieve that good. We will add feet, hands, and voices to our prayers to seek justice for the least of these. We will seek the Spirit's aid as we learn to sacrifice our own material wants for a society that makes its royal calling the well-being of every woman, man and child.*

*Offering encouragement is something that Presbyterians have done to each of the forty-three Presidents who preceded you. Please know always that your faith and spirit are being supported with the individual and congregational prayers of the church all across the nation. Your job as President is lonely, but you are not alone.*

*I have enclosed a prayer attributed to Augustine of Hippo over 1600 hundred years ago. May you find comfort and courage in it as you approach your presidency.*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Gradye Parsons Stated Clerk of the General Assembly*

*God of life, there are days when the burdens we carry are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down, when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening, when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light, turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road of life, to your honor and glory. Amen.*

Production Note:  
Insert printed original black/white calendar from the website in  
place of this page

First Presbyterian Church of Fullerton  
838 N. Euclid St.  
Fullerton, CA 92832-1010  
  
www.fpc-fullerton.org

**Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage Paid  
Fullerton, CA  
Permit No. 172**

Change Service Requested

**Time Dated Material**



## **WHAT FPC MEMBERS BELIEVE AND PRACTICE**

First Presbyterian Church of Fullerton is being called by God to invite all people into a growing and transforming relationship with Jesus Christ, through:

**inspiring and biblically-based worship and education;  
loving and caring fellowship; and  
spiritual gift-based ministry and service,  
so that all may become His committed disciples!**

### **STAFF**

**Pastor:**

Duncan McColl, M. Div.  
dmccoll@fpc-fullerton.org

**Director/Music**

Christopher Gravis  
cgravis@fpc-fullerton.org

**Financial Assistant:**

Fran Hardie  
fhardie@fpc-fullerton.org

**Interim Associate Pastor:**

Linda Flatley, M. Div.  
lflatley@fpc-fullerton.org

**Organist:**

Lynnette McGee  
lmcgee@fpc-fullerton.org

**Admin Assistant:**

Robin Covarrubias  
fpcoffice@fpc-fullerton.org

**Director/Children's Ministries:**

Lynn Taylor  
ltaylor@fpc-fullerton.org

**Director/Kids' Place Tutoring &  
Kid's Connection:**

Pam Torres  
ptorres@fpc-fullerton.org

**Custodian:**

Vasile Pop

**Director/Youth & Young Adult  
Ministries:**

Isaac Chung, M. Div.  
ichung@fpc-fullerton.org

**Admin. Assistant/Children &  
Nursery Ministries:**

Debbie Miramontes  
dmiramontes@fpc-fullerton.org

### **Volunteer Staff**

**Parish Visitors:**

Pat Matsuno, Nancy Regitz

**Singles' Chairman:**

Sue Dunlap