



# THE SPIRE

## Special Dates:

- **Supper & Study: Loving Our Muslim Neighbors**  
March 2, 6-8 p.m.
- **Traditional Jewish Seder**  
March 13, 5-7 p.m.
- **Palm Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt**  
March 20
- **Messiah Sing**  
March 20 & 21
- **Maundy Thursday Service**  
March 24, 7:30 p.m.
- **Good Friday Service**  
March 25, 7:30 p.m.
- **Easter Sunday Services**  
March 27, 6:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m.

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*From the Pastor,  
Rev. David G.  
Watermulder*

## Step Into Lent



I have a friend who refers to Valentine's Day as "Amateur Night." He notes that all over town and in every local flower and candy shop, you will see husbands, boyfriends and wanna-be's hurrying and scurrying to make sure that this is a special and fun day.

In the evening, you can't get a parking spot downtown and all of the restaurants have lines of people waiting to get in. Instead of participating in this "amateur night," my friend advises going out a couple nights before Valentine's or a couple nights after. Either way, you won't have to wait in line, you won't get price-gauged, and you can still have a meaningful time.

So, here we are: part way through the season of Lent, I suspect, if you are like me, or, like a forgetful husband on Valentine's Day, you might be worrying that you'll miss out or mess this up. Maybe this hasn't been the season of drawing closer to God that you hoped it would be. Maybe you've given

into your need for chocolate or dessert or whatever else you had tried to give up. But, here's the good news: it's not too late! In fact, maybe the sage of St. Valentine's is right, and maybe there's something good about arriving a little bit late to the

party. As you read these words, there are still weeks of Lent ahead. And most importantly, we have a Holy Week that is full of amazing opportunities to connect with God and with your church family.

So, pat yourself on the back. You've missed the crowds, you've missed the stampede, and you are getting involved just at the right time. On Sunday, March 13th, we will enjoy a Mexico Sunday and we will be led by the vibrant youth of our church who were on mission together. On that same Sunday evening, we will host a traditional Jewish Seder meal led by our neighbor Rabbi Melanie Aron. This is not to be missed, especially as a chance to eat and learn and enjoy along with your family.

On Sunday, March 20th, we will be visited by our friend the donkey, as we celebrate  
*(continued on page 2)*

# PCLG Staff

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## **Director of Music**

Michael Taylor  
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(continued from page 1) Palm Sunday worship together. And then Palm Sunday night (and the Monday following), we are hosting a big musical outreach event: the Messiah Sing.

On Maundy Thursday (March 24th), we will have a communion service in the chapel at 7:30 p.m. And on Good Friday, we are trying something new this year. We will have a 7:30 p.m. service in the sanctuary which will feature a "7 Last Words of Christ" piece by the Chancel Choir, as well as 7 mini-sermons by preachers from within PCLG. This will include my own Father (for those who have wanted to hear him!), along with many others.

So, you see, although by this point in Lent it may feel like Valentine's Day afternoon, the truth is, you've still got plenty of time. Why not step into Lent in these next weeks ahead and allow Jesus Christ to meet you here. Join us as we seek to "do Lent together" and point toward the joy and celebration that is to come on Easter Sunday.

Peace,  
Pastor Dave

## Easter Lilies



Orders for Easter lilies are now being taken. You will be able to take your plant home after the 11 a.m. Easter service on March 27.

Plants are \$8.00 each. Please return this order form with your check to the church office or the offering plate. In order to have your dedication in the Easter bulletin, and so we know how many plants to order, please order by Monday, March 21.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of lilies: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos.

# PCLG in the Season of Lent



## Sundays in Lent

*Scripture says, "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself." This Lent, we will be looking at each of these sections as we focus on love in our lives.*

**Sundays, February 14 - March 13, 10 a.m.**

## Supper & Study: Loving Our Muslim Neighbors

*Join us for supper and a program with special guest Imam Sayed Mahdi, who will share with us about his faith tradition and also engage with us around current questions and issues.*

**Wednesday, March 2. 6 p.m. supper, 7 p.m. program**

## Palm Sunday Service

*Come to church early (the donkey arrives at 9) to get a palm, meet the donkey in the courtyard, have a photo taken and join the procession into the sanctuary. After worship we will have our annual Egg Hunt. Parents, pick up your children from Sunday School and gather in the social hall in front of the stage where you will receive instructions, a scavenger hunt list and a bag for each child. Contact Lauren Froman to sign up.*

**Sunday, March 20**

## Maundy Thursday Communion Service

**March 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel**

## 24 Hours of Prayer

*Our chapel will be transformed into a space for prayer, reflection, and meditation. Sign up for a 30-60 minute slot to be part of this 24-hour event. Sign-ups will be available about 2 weeks beforehand.*

**March 25-26, noon-noon in the Chapel**

## Traditional Jewish Seder

*Led by Rabbi Melanie Aron from Shir Hadash, this is an event for all ages, including special parts for kids. This meal will be a chance to learn from our Jewish neighbors, and the food will be provided by an authentic Israeli caterer. Tickets (required for headcount) can be purchased at coffee hour the weeks leading up to the event for \$10 (\$25 maximum per family).*

**Sunday, March 13 from 5-7 p.m. in the Social Hall**

## Messiah Sing

*See more information on page 7!*

*Come to the Messiah Sing table at the fellowship hour after worship to pick up your FREE (but required) tickets, or email your request to [messiahsing@pclg.org](mailto:messiahsing@pclg.org). More information can be found online at [www.pclg.org/messiah](http://www.pclg.org/messiah).*

**Sunday, March 20 – 6:00 p.m. (the entire work!)**

**Monday, March 21 – 7:00 p.m. (popular selections!)**

## Good Friday Service

*Based on the seven last words of Jesus, this service will mark the end of Lent and usher us into the Easter weekend. Features special music from our Chancel Choir.*

**March 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

## Easter Sunday Services

*Celebrate the resurrection of Christ at one (or more!) of our Easter Sunday services!*

**Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m. in the Redwood Grove  
Twin Services at 9 & 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

*For more information on these and other events, please visit [www.pclg.org/events](http://www.pclg.org/events)*

# Children's Ministry

## What's going on in God's Place this month?

**1st – 5th Grade:** Children will be exploring Bible stories about Jesus as a Friend. This year we are studying the concept of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who came to bring salvation to all people. Through his teaching, his healing and his show of love for others, Jesus demonstrated every day of his ministry that he was the Messiah. His gifts of unconditional love and immortal life were available to all who believed. Memory verse: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life" John 3:16

**Preschool – Kindergarten:** We have created one class for children 3 years old thru Kindergarten. They are learning a new song "King Jesus Is All" and they will sing it during Time For Young Disciples on Palm Sunday.

**New check-in procedure beginning March 6th:** please pick up a set of heart tags in the Narthex, by the children's activity bags, and pin one to your child's shirt. You will keep the matching heart to present to the teacher at pickup. Children can walk back to class after Time For Young Disciples with their teachers. If your child likes you to walk back with them you may do so, but it is not required for checking them in.

## Lent & Easter Events for Families

**March 13: Traditional Jewish Seder 5-7pm:** Our neighbor, Rabbi Melanie, will lead PCLG families through a traditional Jewish Seder. The dinner will be held in the PCLG Social Hall, and the meal will be catered. Activities throughout to engage the children. Plan to be a part of this unique experience! Contact Elder Carol Smith if you would like to attend.



**March 20: Palm Sunday & Egg Hunt:** Come early before worship for a picture with the donkey and join the procession into church. Stay for the fun after church at the annual Egg Hunt. Children may bring their own Easter basket, or we will have bags for them to use. Please feel free to invite friends to attend. If you know you will be attending please

contact Lauren Froman.

*\*Palm Sunday will also be the day that children should return their One Great Hour of Sharing Fish coin box, which will be handed out on March 6th.*

**March 27: Easter Sunday:** We are offering 3 services – 6:30am, 9am, and 11am. There will be God's Place for Preschool – Kindergarten at the 9am service only. The Nursery will be available at the 9am & 11 am services. If families with children ages 3-5 are attending the 11 am service and would like to have childcare for their children, they may use the Nursery childcare.

## Upcoming Events

February 7 - Annual Congregation Meeting after church (*children will stay in their classrooms until adults are finished with the meeting*)  
February 10 - Ash Wednesday Service 7-8pm  
February 21 - Family Worship  
February 23 - Children's Committee Meeting - 11 am  
March 13 - Seder Dinner for PCLG Families  
March 20 - Church Easter Egg Hunt  
May 1 - Presentation of 3rd Grade Bibles  
May 14- Parents Night Out (more details to come)  
June 12 - PCLG Family Pool Party 1-4pm (more details to come)



# Youth News

What a wonderful mission trip! From the team effort of kitchen preparations before departure under the



stewardship and guidance from Carol Smith and friends, to the almost entirely new adult team, to the spirit of the students on the trip and their helpfulness in the kitchen and elsewhere, there were so many ways to see God's kingdom people at work. We even had a few dads take the big vehicles out upon return for a wash. Thanks to all!

As I knew I'd be working much more in the kitchen than in past

years, I asked our senior class to come up with their favorite scriptures/verses/stories and lead a Bible study each night from that choice. We hit Exodus, 1 Samuel, the Psalms, the prophets, Job & the Gospels. I couldn't have chosen a wider swath of scripture from which to learn. They did a great job and learned, among other things, how difficult it is to lead 26 other people in conversation around a campfire.



I know there will be so much to tell you about our Mexico trip, but I'll let the students tell you more on Sunday, March 13 during worship. With a "loving your neighbor" theme led by students in the morning, and a getting to know our neighbor Seder meal lead by Rabbi

Melanie from Shir Hadash in the evening, it might be one of the most memorable Sundays of the season. Don't miss it!

## Youth Group Sunday Evening Schedule

**SNiFF** - Middle School meets 5 to 6:30 p.m.

**Y.G.** - High School meets 7:30 to 9:15 p.m.



## Bookends

PCLG's Book Club meets once a month, and new folks are always welcome!

Contact Sue Hansen for more information:

[paigeturner007@hotmail.com](mailto:paigeturner007@hotmail.com).

### March 2016

Devil in the White City  
by Erik Larson

### April 2016

The Miniaturist  
by Jessie Burton

### May 2016

The Cellist of Sarajevo  
by Steven Galloway

### June 2016

The Good Earth  
by Pearl Buck

### July 2016

All the Light We Cannot See  
by Anthony Doerr

### August 2016

God's Hotel  
by Victoria Sweet

# Music Notes

## From *the* Music Director

The month of March ushers in the end of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week. We have some special events coming up that you won't want to miss.

### **Palm Sunday:**

We are going to celebrate our Lord Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem on the back of a Donkey.

"On that day, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a borrowed donkey's colt, one that had never been ridden before. The disciples spread their cloaks on the donkey for Jesus to sit on, and the multitudes came out to welcome Him, laying before Him their cloaks and the branches of palm trees. The people hailed and praised Him as the "King who comes in the name of the Lord" as He rode to the temple, where He taught the people, healed them, and drove out the money-changers and merchants who had made His Father's house a "den of robbers" (Mark 11:17).

Jesus' purpose in riding into Jerusalem was to make public His claim to be their Messiah and King of Israel in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. Matthew says that the King coming on the foal of a donkey was an exact fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9"

Be sure to come early to the courtyard to see the donkey. And if you have kids, they'll be invited to pet him, but you have to be there by 9 a.m. as our beloved donkey has other churches to get to, so he'll be heading out right after his grand entrance.

This year, along with a Maundy Thursday service in the Chapel, we will be having a special Good Friday Service at 7:30 p.m. The Good Friday service will be an opportunity to share not just in The Lord Jesus rising from the tomb, but the passion that lead up to the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus for our sins. We will have special music including readings surrounded with music of the Seven Last Words composed by Michael Taylor, sung by the choir, soloists, harp and flute.

Easter will feature three services this year. A sunrise service at 6:45 a.m. in the Redwood Grove with music by the Worship Band and two mirrored services in the Sanctuary at 9 and 11 a.m. We will have the Chancel Choir, Worship band, Brass, the Bell choir, Strings and organ. The Easter celebration of our Risen Lord will be very inspirational and exciting. We hope to see you all there.

*All the best!*

*Michael Taylor*

*michaeltaylor@comcast.net*



The PCLG Worship Band invites all musicians to share their gifts in our 10 a.m. Blended worship services - singers or instrumentalists including guitar, percussion, bass, keyboard, brass, woodwinds and strings. PCLG has a fantastic music program and welcomes all interested musicians! Please contact Rita Hoegel at [rita.hoegel@pclg.org](mailto:rita.hoegel@pclg.org)



**Sunday, March 20 – 6:00 p.m.** (*the entire work!*)      **Monday, March 21 – 7:00 p.m.** (*popular selections!*)

Last year's Sing was so well received that we're having two performances this year! On **Sunday** we will perform the **entire work**, from start to finish. If you have ever wanted to sing the whole thing with orchestral accompaniment, this is your chance. On **Monday** we will perform some of the more popular **selections**. If you would like a good taste of Messiah but want a shorter evening, this is for you.

**Pastors Dave and Erica** will guide us through the evening, reminding us that every word we sing comes straight from the Bible.

**Invite a friend to join you!** People love to sing Handel's Messiah, so it's easy to invite others. Let them know that everyone gets to sing everything, including the solos!

Get ready for the Sing! Come to one, some, or all of the **four optional rehearsals, Sundays, February 21 & 28 and March 6 & 13 at 7:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. The rehearsals are completely optional, so don't feel like you have to come to them in order to come to the Sing. They're also each independent rehearsals; different songs are practiced each night, so if you can't come to all of the rehearsals, it's okay to come to as many as you can.

If you can **volunteer** to help at the rehearsals or at one of the Sings, let Chris Bollinger know ([chris@thebollingers.org](mailto:chris@thebollingers.org)).

Be a part of the **Messiah Sing!** It's an opportunity for **worship** through song, **bible study** with Pastors Dave & Erica, **outreach** to your friends, **fellowship** at the reception, and **service** by volunteering to help!

Here's the small print...

Everything is FREE.

For the rehearsals, just show up in the sanctuary.

For the Sings, come to the Messiah Sing table at the fellowship hour after worship to pick up your FREE (but required) tickets, or email your request to [messiahsing@pclg.org](mailto:messiahsing@pclg.org).



## SPRING RING

Have you ever heard hundreds or thousands of handbells at one time? Now's your chance! Members of our bell choir will venture to Valley Church in Cupertino [10885 N Stelling Rd] on Saturday April 9. We rehearse all day and present a program at 6:00 p.m. Seating is rather limited, so it's better to arrive early. Four pieces will be played by the whole group, and there will also be performances by smaller bell ensembles. At lunchtime, we will be treated to a concert in their sanctuary by bell soloist Sue Garton. The final concert will include: *Jazz Fanfare & Alleluia*, *10,000 Reasons*, *Energique* [the ringers will be divided into two groups playing different parts], and *When in Our Music God is Glorified* with brass and organ. Also on the program is a group known as the Intense Ringers. It's a fun day; please join us!

# Mission Minute

*Make room for service in your summer plans!*

## *All-Church Mexico Trip June 18-25*



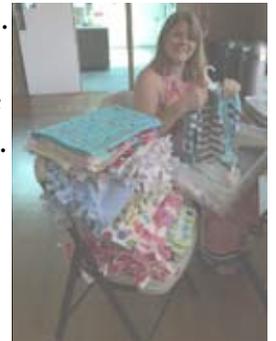
This trip to build a house for a deserving family is suitable for everyone 8 and older. We will drive to the Tijuana area, spend our days hammering and stuccoing a new house into existence, and at night camp in an enclosed area secured by our mission partner, Amor Ministries. Interested? Need more details? Attend one of these no-obligation information sessions: March 13 and April 10. The cost will be approximately \$450 per participant and scholarships are available.

## *Summer Mission Days August 3-6*

*(Wednesday through Saturday)*



Join your church friends for a variety of local mission activities. The schedule is still TBD but possible service sites include Front Door Ministry at First Presbyterian Church San Jose, the Homeless Garden Project in Santa Cruz, and Immanuel House. At PCLG there will also be a sewing-and-assembling crew working on baby gift bags for Sophia's Layette. Most activities are suitable for ages 6 and up. Watch this space as details unfold.



*The mission committee meets (usually) the second Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. For more information on projects and programs, email Elder Martha Wills at [mtswills@gmail.com](mailto:mtswills@gmail.com).*

# Financial Report

Dear friends,

The results for January are in and we are off to a good start. Due to some 2015 pledge payments made in January and due to some annual giving in January, we have a budget surplus at this time.

Our pledged offering came in at 106% of budget and our overall income came in at 104% of budget. Our expenses came in at only 76% of budget this month, resulting in a surplus of \$38,488 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$14,696.

2015 giving statements have been mailed. Please contact me if you have any questions. Giving envelopes are available. Please call or email me if you would like them.

Rest assured that all pledge and giving information is kept confidential.

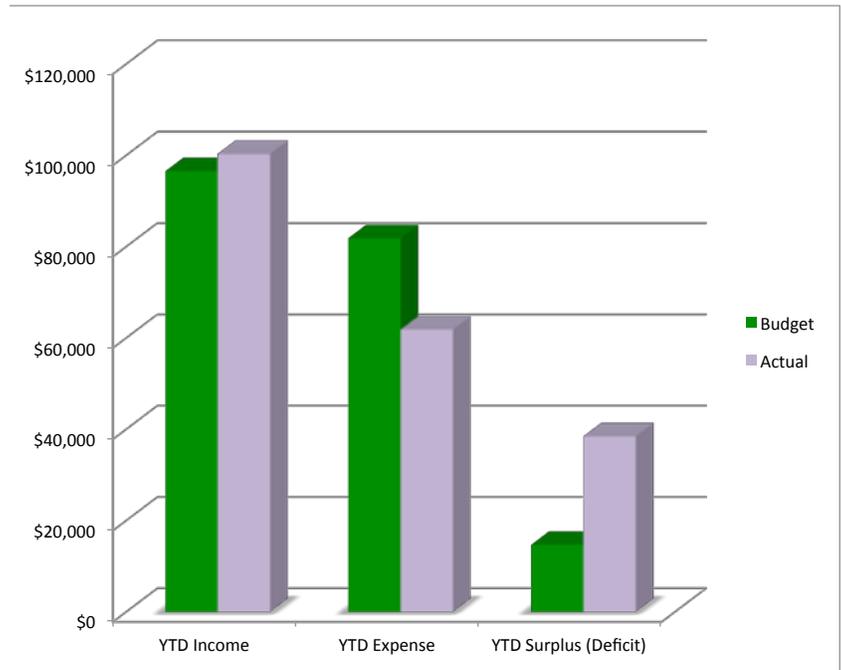
You may pledge and give online at [www.pclg.org](http://www.pclg.org). My email address is [kristy.cole@pclg.org](mailto:kristy.cole@pclg.org), should you wish to contact me.

As always, thank you for your generosity to PCLG

God Bless,

*Kristy Cole*

Church Administrator



## News

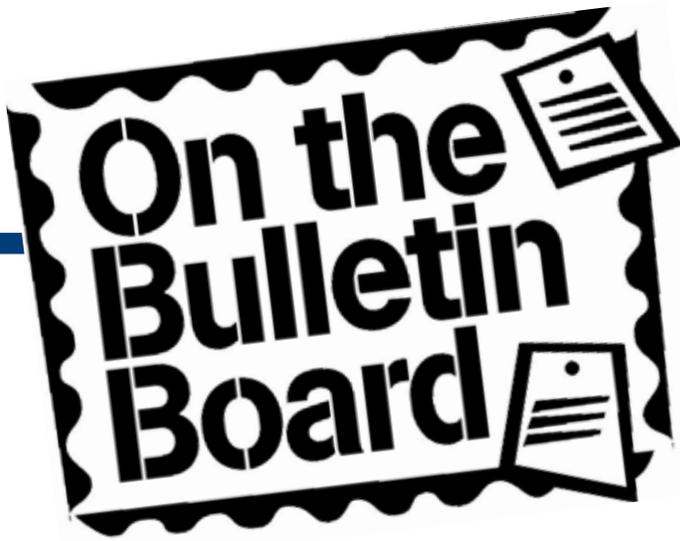
We have a busy month ahead with progress reports, picture day and spring activities.

We are excited to have Steve and Carlo visit chapel to discuss the Amor Ministries project and their trip to Mexico. GFP has donated to the backpack, bible, blanket and food fund! We have also donated a bike rack, sheets and blankets to Immanuel house! A food donation will also be made to a local agency in need. It is a blessing to be able to support local mission projects and the Amor foundation.

Easter Blessings,

*Cory Mullins*

Growing FootPrints Director [growingfootprints@yahoo.com](mailto:growingfootprints@yahoo.com).



Have a short note for the next issue of *The Spire*?

Submit your bulletin board items to [carlo@pclg.org](mailto:carlo@pclg.org)



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

Our next round of New Member Classes is coming up on Saturday April 16, 2016. Please go to [pclg.org/signup](http://pclg.org/signup) or e-mail [members@pclg.org](mailto:members@pclg.org) to sign up.



Would you like to tour Biblical lands with other Christians? The 12 day "Footsteps of Paul" cruise may be for you! Our brothers and sisters over at Saratoga Federated are planning to attend, and they have some spaces available. Please see <http://www.saratogafederated.org/uploads/1/2/0/1/12014172/brochure-new2.pdf> for more information.



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# PCLG at-a-Glance

## WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS

Adult Education	9 a.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary	10 a.m.
"God's Place" Sunday School	10:15 a.m.
Fellowship Time	11 a.m.

## BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Men's Bible Study	Wednesday	6:30 a.m.
Pastor's Bible Study	Wednesday	2:00 p.m.
Theology on Tap	1st Monday	8 p.m.

## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Friends, Food, Fellowship	2nd Saturday	6 p.m.
The Voyagers	3rd Saturday Fellowship & Service	
Buoys & Gulls	Various	Various
Mates	Various	Various
Better Bones & Balance	Wed/Fri	9:30 a.m.
Happy Paint	Thursday	10:00 a.m.
Bookends	Various	Various
CoveKnit Group	Wednesday	7 p.m.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Home AM Groups	3rd Thursday	9:30 a.m.
PCLG AM ("WoW") Group	Thursday	10 a.m.
PCLG Noon Group	2nd Thursday	12 p.m.

## COVENANT GROUPS

Baker/Attwood Covt.	Monday	10:00 a.m.
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## MUSIC MINISTRIES

Los Cascabeles	Tuesday	6 p.m.
Chancel Brass	Wednesday	7:45 p.m.
Worship Band	Thursday	7 p.m.
Chancel Choir	Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Chancel Strings	Friday	7:30 p.m.
Joyful Voices	Sunday	11:30 a.m.
Youth Choir	Sunday	6:30 p.m.

## YOUTH MINISTRIES

Middle School SNiFF	Sunday	5 p.m.
High School YG	Sunday	7:30 p.m.

*Don't forget—Deadline  
for the APRIL SPIRE  
is 2:00 P.M. Friday,  
MARCH 18.*



## *March Birthdays*

- 4 Beth Bordelon
- 5 Kathy Derby
- 9 Audrey Christianson
- 11 Amoreena Lucero
- 12 Janet Robinson
- 14 Elizabeth Nelson
- 16 Toni Koury
- 19 Marlynn Harwood
- 20 Rachel Larson
- 27 Sarah Lasher  
Joshua Thompson

## *Anniversaries*

- 29 Ron & Patricia Rose
- 30 Bob & Pat Jones



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