



# THE SPIRE

## Special Dates:

- **Palm Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt**  
April 9
- **Messiah Sing**  
April 9, 7 p.m.
- **Maundy Thursday**  
April 13. Service at 7:30 p.m.
- **Good Friday**  
April 14. Service at 7:30 p.m.
- **Easter Sunday**  
April 16. Services at 6:30, 9 & 11 a.m.
- **Interfaith Panel**  
April 27. 7 p.m.

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

## Spiritual Alarm Clock



Recently our daughter Abigail asked for an alarm clock in her bedroom. It's just a simple digital clock and she has learned to set it so that she can wake up on time for school.

One of the reasons that she wanted this alarm clock is that with the time change, she wasn't waking up on time. Whenever we "spring forward" or "fall back," those changes in the time affect us, and especially affect little kids. They just aren't used to waking up (or going to bed!) at the time they are supposed to.

Spring is a time when a lot of things around us start to change, open and come alive in new ways. The trees in our yards start to bloom and blossom. The flowers in our gardens start to open up and everything comes alive again. This is the time of year for the smell of freshly cut grass on baseball fields, for "spring cleaning" in our homes and for "spring fever" in classrooms as students anticipate the coming of summer.

With all of these signs of a change of season happening around us, it is no surprise that this can be a spiritually rich season as well. We have been walking through the weeks of Lent together and we are fast approaching Holy Week.

It begins on April 9th, which is Palm Sunday, a day that has been described as a "mini-Easter." There will be palms, a processional and even a donkey to lead us! That evening, we will have our big musical outreach of the Messiah Sing-along. This will be a day of triumph and yet, the rest of the week brings out the other accents of our faith as well.

On Maundy Thursday (April 13th) we will gather in the Chapel for intimate worship and Communion. On Good Friday (April 14th) we will be in the Sanctuary, led by the choir, to be reminded of the price that Jesus pays for us on the cross.

All of this leads toward the day that defines our faith more than any other: Easter Sunday. We will have 3 worship services that day and I hope that you will come to one or more of them!  
At 6:30 a.m.,

*(continued on page 2)*

# PCLG Staff

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## **Director of Music**

Michael Taylor  
michael.taylor@pclg.org

(continued from page 1) we will worship in the gloom of early morning out in the Redwood Grove. That service will include communion and a renewal of baptismal vows.

At 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., we will hold "twin services" in the Sanctuary. Each will feature great music, an Easter message, and a full-house (come early to get your seat!).

Something that many of us already know about Easter, is that it is a day when many of our friends, family and neighbors—people who may not normally come to worship on a Sunday morning—this is a day when everybody seems to show up!

I wonder if Easter might be described as a kind of "spiritual alarm clock." There is something inside of each of us that yearns for a relationship with God. And as we get closer to Easter, a kind of alarm goes off inside of us. Something dings. Something wakes up. Something says, "now is the time to open ourselves again to the presence of Jesus in our world and in our lives."

My prayer for you these days, is that the spiritual alarm clock of Easter would be set and ready to wake you up again this year. As you read the pages of this newsletter, you will find the ways that our church is waking up to our calling and seeking to live it out together. May God bless you as something stirs in you and as you open your eyes of faith once again!

Peace,

*Pastor Dave*



# Work Day

## Saturday, April 8th

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

***As usual, we will conclude the day with Lunch at 12 noon!***

Who will win the Group Challenge this time?!

*No need to sign up! Just come ready to work on Saturday morning.*

*See you there!*



## Bookends

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

Questions/info??  
Contact Sue Hansen at

[paigetturner007@hotmail.com](mailto:paigetturner007@hotmail.com).

### **March**

The Secret Chord  
by Geraldine Brooks

### **April**

On the Move  
by Oliver Sachs

### **May**

The Wright Brothers  
by David McCullough

### **June**

Ella Minnow Pea  
by Mark Dunn



## Summer Reading Group

We have chosen two books to read together this summer, when your Bible studies at PCLG might be taking a summer break. These books are not Bible studies but they are books that are woven through with Christian values, books that will help you think and deepen your faith. Get a copy of the book and read it by the meeting date, then at the meeting we will discuss it together.

June 29, 10 a.m. *When the Heart Waits: Spiritual Direction for Life's Sacred Questions* by Sue Monk Kidd, led by Carol Smith

July 27, 10 am *The Road to Character* by David Brooks, led by Martha Wills.

For more information, contact Julie Lasher.



# Children's Ministry

## God's Place April 2017:

When I was growing up, Easter was one of the highlights of my year. For starters, I got to pick out a new dress, wear white gloves, and carry a purse! But that wasn't all...it meant a long weekend at my Grandmother's with my 6 cousins-all crammed in one room on our sleeping bags, family gatherings around the table with a feast before us, egg hunt in the backyard – where if you were lucky you would get the ONE egg with a dollar in it, and of course church on Sunday. My Grandmother's church was an old school, traditional Catholic church – we stood, we kneeled, we DID NOT giggle or laugh...or else! What I remember most from those Easter Sunday worships is that I left feeling so joyful.

As a child, I probably thought I was just excited about opening my Easter basket when we got back to the house. However, as an adult, looking back, I realize that the joy came from the presence of God. I can now see God in the room where we lay – me, my brother, and all the cousins laughing ourselves to sleep. I can now see God at my Grandmother's table – the love of family breaking bread together. I can now see God in the backyard egg hunt – where new grapes were growing on my Grandmother's grapevine... the newness and beauty of spring upon us. And of course, I can now see God at worship – a young child kneeling, praying, praising on that Easter morning.

**KIDS, FAMILIES...**Where have you seen God this Lent? Have you been looking? Where will you see God this Easter? Will it be in the excitement on the children's faces as they scurry to search for eggs at the Palm Sunday egg hunt? Will it be in anticipation of wearing your Easter dress or suit? Will it be in the Easter Sunrise Service – as the light permeates the darkness? Wherever it may be, wherever you may see God, may it fill you with joy, and may it refresh and renew your spirit.

### CONNECT

Questions, comments, concerns, need to connect?  
Lauren Froman – pclgl Lauren@gmail.com

### FELLOWSHIP

#### Mark your calendar!

**March 12** – Joyful Voices in Worship

**April 9** – Palm Sunday Worship +  
Egg Hunt after worship

**April 16** – Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. – Grove Service,  
9 a.m. Worship, 11a.m. Worship

*God's Place and Nursery at*

*9 and 11 a.m. services*

**April 22** – Parents Night Out 4-7 p.m.

**April 30** – Teacher Appreciation Sunday

**May 4** – Mom's Night Out (details to come)

**\*NEW: May 12** – Tacos & Trolls Movie Night 6 p.m.

**June 4** – 5th Grade Celebration at Golfland



“I see God in my Easter dress?”

That's me at about 10 years old in my brand new Easter dress and white gloves.

### ***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.





## Music Notes



### From *the* Music Director

April is going to be an exciting time at PCLG, both spiritually and musically as we worship during Holy Week.

- **Palm Sunday** we will have not one, but two donkeys to lead us to worship, palm branches waving and trumpets playing.
- **Maundy Thursday** will feature an intimate service in the Chapel with music being lead by Norita Hoegel.
- **Good Friday** will be in the Sanctuary and during the service, the choir will sing music from the Renaissance composer William Byrd and contemporary anthems by Ruth Schram and Craig Courtney, with flute.
- **Easter** will begin at 6:30 with a Sunrise service at 6:30 lead by the worship band, followed by two mirrored services at 9:00 and 11:00 with choir, worship band, brass and the bell choir. We will have our traditional "Hallelujah Chorus" where we invite you up to join the choir, bells and brass in the final song of the service.

#### Singing in the Choir:

It's not too late to join us for Holy Week to sing in the choir. We rehearse on Thursday evening, April 6th, 7:30 to 9:00pm and on Wednesday evening April 12th.

#### Music Program Concert – May 21 at 3:00pm

The month of April we will also feature another movement in the Schubert Mass in G. We will be performing this and other music featuring the music programs at PCLG in a concert on May 21st at 3:00pm.

I always like to include a story about one of our composers for the month. Franz Schubert wrote many pieces for piano, voice, choir and even his unfinished symphony. One story concerning a choral piece commissioned, was that Schubert was to write music for a women's chorus. Misunderstanding, Schubert sat down at a coffee house and dashed off a "Ständchen" for 'men's' chorus, having misunderstood the request. Just a short time before the concert, the mistake was discovered and one of Franz's friends ran to the local pub to get Schubert to create the correct score, which he did on the spot. He was then invited to the concert, which he promptly forgot about. The second concert, the same acquaintance fearing Schubert would forget again, returned to the establishment and escorted the composer to the concert himself. Upon hearing his new piece, having never heard it before, Schubert commented something along the lines of, "not too bad."

*Michael Taylor, director of music*  
*michaeltaylor@comcast.net*



## Youth News

Every other year, we host a confirmation class for young people to “confirm” their Christian faith and become adult members of the church. Many young people were baptized as infants on the promise and faith of their parents, and thus, they “confirm” that baptism, while others have never been baptized and we use this confirmation time as the opportunity to do so.

Many churches confirm students in middle school, but in order to have richer on-topic discussions we prefer to do this with our high school students. At PCLG, each student is paired with an adult mentor who commits to meeting with that student and with the whole class to discuss, learn and bear witness together to what God is doing in their lives.

Every month or so, adults and students meet after worship to discuss a topic in our confirmation curriculum. We gather, we break into conversations, we regroup to answer questions and have a final lesson. In between these class times, mentors and students are encouraged to meet to discuss what’s happening in their lives and to do some of the outside activities like visit another church’s worship service, attend a memorial service, or engage in a service project.

Our youth ministries volunteer team (the Youth Staff) does not typically participate in mentoring for confirmation because we want more adults to know our students. Research suggests that students who know multiple adults in their home congregations are more likely to carry their faith with them through college and into adulthood. So, we need your help!

It should go without saying that our students are bright, fun to be around, curious and goofy. They make surprisingly good friends and encouragers. They need adults who will be co-conspirators and companions on the journey of faith.

Our next confirmation class won’t begin until September 2017, but if you’ve got even the slightest interest in exploring faith through young eyes, please contact Steve Fainer to let him know you’re interested or to get more information.

Love,

Steve Fainer, Director of Youth Ministries  
fainer@gmail.com

### Youth Group Sunday Schedule

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

**Y.G.** - High School Youth Group meet 7:30 to 9:15 p.m.



Please Contact Elder Essie Asher  
seasher@comcast.net

If YOU are available to prepare a Meal for our Youth Ministry Staff on a Sunday Evening between Middle School and High School youth groups. Thank you in advance for your help!



## *Mission Minute*

### ***Mission Opportunities Coming Your Way This Summer! Save The Dates!***

#### ***Local Mission Week - Wednesday through Saturday, August 2-5***

*Join us as we seek to serve others in the Bay Area and abroad in a variety of ways. The activities will be announced later, but in the past we have served lunches at Front Door Ministry, packed 10,000 lunches for Rise Against Hunger (formerly known as Stop Hunger Now), worked in Santa Cruz at the Homeless Garden Project, participated in a prayer walk in San Francisco, and many other things!*

#### ***All-Church Mexico 2017, June 17-24***

***You're Invited!***



*Please consider joining us this summer for a one-week Mission Trip to Northern Mexico to build homes for families in need. If you are interested in the trip, please*

*e-mail us at [mexico@pclg.org](mailto:mexico@pclg.org) or call Carlo at the church office (408-356-6156) for more information. More information and trip registration forms are available in the church office or at [pclg.org/mexico](http://pclg.org/mexico).*

# Financial Report

Dear friends,

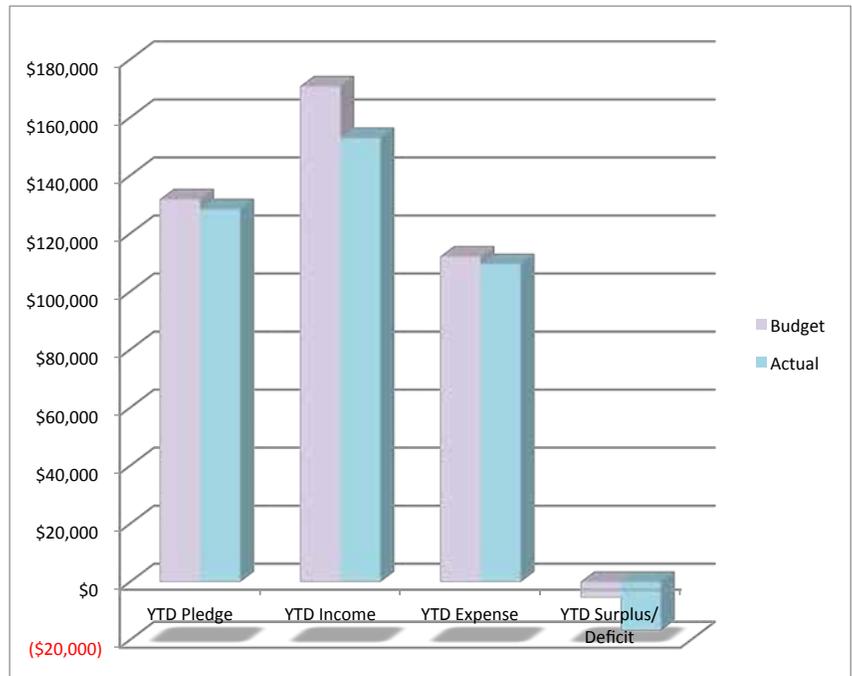
At the end of February our pledged offering was 97% of budget and our overall income was 90% of budget. On the expense side we were 96% of budget, leaving us with a budget deficit of \$16,727, compared to a budgeted deficit of \$5,362.

We currently have 191 pledges in the amount of \$829,134. It is never too late to pledge. 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.

Thank you for your generosity.

In Christ,

*Kristy Cole*, Church Administrator



## News

Congratulations to Ms. Meredith (and Robb) on the arrival of their second son, Casey Glenn Shelly, on March 2nd!

Our April Chapel will be all about Patience! As we move into the spring months, and the end of the academic school year is upon us.....we will need a reminder to use our patience with friends, in our school work and transitioning through the time change!

We will also be working on our garden, learning about the importance of caring for our earth as we celebrate earth day, and enjoying Easter activities.

Happy Spring!

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

# On the Bulletin Board

Have a short note for the next issue of *The Spire*?  
Submit your bulletin board items to  
[carlo@pclg.org](mailto:carlo@pclg.org)



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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
Senior Stretch & Movement	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  
May SPIRE  
is 2:00 p.m. Friday,  
April 21*



## *April Birthdays*

3	Heidi Rehbock	18	Mary Jane Humphrey
4	Jeanne McCann		John Findlay
5	Lydia Terrill	21	Judith Gruber
6	Amanda Daly	22	Amanda Bierly
	Jay Kruse		Daniel Thompson
7	Paul Smith		Grant Wagner
9	Doris Prince	26	Jacob Finkle
12	Robert Dale	27	Beth Hobbs
	Rick Koury	28	Tony Bayne
13	Bobbie Chambers	29	Shannon Cole
	Sarah Thompson		
15	Bart Raynaud		

## *Anniversaries*

3	Beth & Malcolm Bordelon
6	Pat & Dick Garland
10	Sally & Bill Slocum
24	Nancy & Bill Smith
28	Toneh & Jeff Thompson





RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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E A S T E R

*Services at 6:30, 9, and 11 a.m.*

*Details inside!*