



# THE SPIRE

## Special Dates:

- **Family Movie Night**  
October 14
- **Women's Retreat**  
October 20-22
- **Rise Against Hunger Mission Project**  
October 28
- **Beer & Hymns**  
October 28

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



## Learn to Earn

In last month's Spire, I shared a little bit about a journey I was about to begin. And this month, I want to continue reflecting on some things that I saw while I was away.

First, a word of thanks. My time away in Zimbabwe and South Africa ended up being about 3 weeks, which is a long time for a pastor to be away from a church. It felt good to know that PCLG was humming along while I was away. Our church staff, Elders and other leaders did a great job this past month. Thank you!

One of the places that I visited in South Africa was a township called Khayelitsha (in the Western Cape region). We went to a social enterprise/vocational training center called "Learn to Earn." The mission of this place is to teach people skills that they can use to enter the marketplace, to create a business, or to get a job. The people in this community live in terrible poverty, but also within a historical framework where they did not have models for how to work in the formal economy.

The director of this program told us a story about toilet paper. He said that he visited a local school to give a talk and had to use the restroom. When he went to the bathroom, he noticed that there wasn't any toilet paper. He

asked about this, and was told that each classroom had a roll of toilet paper and if someone needed to go, they could use this roll.

He was told that they used to have toilet paper in all the bathrooms, but that people kept stealing it and taking it home. So, they had to institute a different system.

The point that he made to our group was, people were used to just having a system, or procedures that they had to follow. Having a toilet paper roll in each classroom was a format that didn't call for any trust or any mutual purpose. He explained that part of the work at Learn to Earn was not just helping people learn how to do a job, but also to instill Christian values, which go much further than simple rule following.

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## **Director of Music**

Michael Taylor  
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*(continued from page 1)*

He told us that he often speaks to high-powered business executives in South Africa, who are considering hiring the graduates of his program. He tells them that his students have practical skills and also a set of values that they practice. His message to the executives is, "make sure that you are also practicing the highest levels of ethics and interpersonal respect, because your employees will follow your lead."

Here is this challenging idea: that those in formation (whether younger or older) need not only technical skills and know-how, but also need to be formed as people, to have an internal sense of what is right or wrong. It is much easier to implement a system of keeping toilet paper rolls in the classroom. But the harder and longer-term work, is developing people who don't see taking toilet paper home as a first option.

I was thinking about this example here in our context in the Silicon Valley. It is well known that there are specific skills needed to work in technology. In fact, in any field, there are particular things that you need to know how to do. But part of the role that a church can play, is that we have ongoing influence into the values and behaviors of people who are out working.

We call this formation "discipleship," and it is the way that, week by week and month by month, the message of Christ forms us and changes us. My prayer is that being part of our church family will matter to each of us when we are out there in our various activities and work.

This is what Learn to Earn is doing in a township in South Africa. And it is what PCLG is doing here in our community. It brings to mind the old saying of the Reformation which is "ecclesia reformata semper reformanda." This means, "the church reformed and always in need of reform." It is true for every church, and it is true in our own lives as well.

Peace,  
*Pastor Dave*

## ***Ride Request***

*One of our members who lives in the Almaden area is looking for someone who is available for a few hours once a week on a regular basis to drive her to errands and appointments. This might be a great way for you to make a new friend, to help out a fellow PCLG member, and make a little money, too. If you are interested, please contact Julie Lasher for more information. julie.lasher@pclg.org or 408/ 656-8419.*



Mission Springs Conference Center in Scotts Valley  
October 20-22

We will explore deeper connections to God and one another with time for worship, learning, reflection, conversations, relaxation in the outdoors, and games.

The retreat will start with dinner on Friday night and end with breakfast and worship on Sunday, but we will gladly welcome Saturday-only attendees who can't get away for the whole weekend.

Registration is open now! Please see [pclg.org/womens-retreat](http://pclg.org/womens-retreat) for more info and to sign up!



# 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).

Saturday, October 28  
8 p.m.  
PCLG Social Hall

Join us for an evening of hymn-singing, home-brewed beer, and fellowship! The Rev. Dr. Bob Bowles will share historical context for hymns of the reformation. *This event is for people over the age of 21.*

**September**  
A Man Called Ove  
by Fredrik Backman

**October**  
TBA

**November**  
My Stroke of Insight  
by Jill Taylor

**December**  
Breakfast at Tiffany's  
by Truman Capote

**January 2018**  
Hillbilly Elegy  
by JD Vance

## Book Cart

Did you know that there is a book cart in the breezeway outside the Social Hall? These books are available to borrow, read and return. If you have a book you'd like to share, feel free to leave it there. We try to keep some of the books the book club reads there, too.





## Children's Ministry

This October in God's Place we will continue our journey through the Bible. Our September stories focused on Creation, Adam and Eve, and Noah. Now we will learn through Abraham that God keeps his promises to us; through Jacob and Esau that God helps us make things right; and through Joseph that God has a plan and purpose for each of us. At home we hope you will take time to find these stories in the Bible with your child and revisit them beyond their Sunday lesson. -Lauren Froman, *Director of Children's Ministry*

**MOVIE NIGHT!** Please join us for a family movie night on Saturday, October 14th. We will serve dinner at 5:30 and start the movie, Disney's Moana, around 6-ish. RSVP to Lauren Froman

### **JOYFUL VOICES CHILDREN'S CHOIR** (*2nd-5th Graders*)

Music is a powerful way for us to worship. Joyful Voices offers children 2nd-5th Grade with the opportunity to work with our Music Director, Michael Taylor, and prepare a song to be shared as part of worship.

Practices will begin this month on the following dates:

**10/8, 10/15, 10/22** – Practice after worship (30 minutes)

**10/29** – Joyful Voices will sing during Time For Young Disciples

### **ACOLYTES** (*3rd -8th Graders*)

This is another way for children to be a valuable part of our worship. Acolytes assist by lighting the communion table candles at the beginning of the service. You can sign up your child on Sign Up Genius on the church website.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT**

If your 2nd-5th grader would like to be considered for a small speaking role please email Lauren Froman. Preschool – 1st grade will be learning a song in God's Place to share during the pageant. Parents of Preschoolers – 1st Graders, please let Lauren Froman know if you will be here Christmas Eve, so we know who we will have.

Practice times for 2nd-5th Graders in Pageant will be:

after worship until 12:15 – 11/19, 12/3

after worship until 12:30 – 12/10, 12/17

2:30 rehearsal for 4:00 service – 12/24

#### **CONNECT**

Questions, comments, concerns, need to connect? Lauren Froman – [pclgl Lauren@gmail.com](mailto:pclgl Lauren@gmail.com)

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

10/14 – *Movie Night - 5:30 p.m. (dinner, treats and movie)*

11/18 – *Parents Night Out/Kids Night In - 5:00-8:00pm*

12/3 – *Advent Craft Faire*

12/10 – *Cocoa & Cookies (decorating cookies after worship)*



# Adult Education

## Adult Education Committee

*Elder: Brenda Costanzo (mrscostanzo@yahoo.com)*

The PCLG Adult Ed committee provides a variety of Christian Education and fellowship opportunities for our members.

During the school year, we hold a 9 a.m. study every Sunday morning in the Fireside Room. We have just completed a study called “The Wired Word,” where a news story from the previous week was discussed from the perspective of how the scripture can guide us in our day-to-day lives. We have also hosted two potluck and movie nights. In March we joined together to watch “The Way,” a story about four characters’ spiritual journeys while travelling the El Camino de Santiago in Spain. Most recently in August, we enjoyed on another’s company and food watching “Luther,” a biographical film on Martin Luther’s life, starting out our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the reformation.

We are looking forward to the upcoming year. Our 9 a.m. study has begun, starting out with a series about the reformation, led by some of our seminarians and retired pastors. Join us to learn about the history of the reformation and the distinctives of our faith. In November we will be studying about how the scripture leads us to live a life of gratitude. As we enter the advent season, our retired clergy will again lead us in an advent-related series of studies. Starting in 2018, we also have several potential special event studies in the works which will be held after church, in addition to our 9 am studies. During Lent, we will continue our popular “Soup and Study” session on two Wednesdays.

If you are interested in planning our future PCLG adult ed programs, please contact Brenda Costanzo (mrscostanzo@yahoo.com), or drop into one of our monthly meetings on the second Sunday of the month at 11:30 (right after church) in the office building conference room.



**October 1, 8, 15, & 22:** “Key Distinctives of the Reformation” with Revs. Jeff Yergler & Paul Watermulder. Come learn more about Reformed Faith, what it is, and why it is different.

**October 29:** “Faces of the Reformation” with Rev. Dr. Bob Bowles. Learn more about the key figures of the Protestant Reformation, what they did, and why it matters.



# Music Notes



## From the Music Director

With September in the rear view mirror, we are speeding towards an exciting fall with a lot a worship opportunities.

On October 8, the choir will team up with the Worship Band with the theme centered around Grace. We will sing the inspirational song "Grace Alone" by Brown and Nelson, arranged by Joey Hoelscher.

The last Sunday of October is the 500th year observance of the beginning of the Reformation. The brass and choir will perform Craig Courtney's "One Faith, One Hope One Lord."

On October 22nd, Paul Kvamme will play the Marimba during the prelude, offertory and postlude. Paul is our ubiquitous and multi-talented teen, performing with the Bell Choir, the Youth Choir and drums, percussion and vocals with the worship band.

### New Bell Choir director



Ruthanne Adams Martinez has just become our newest staff member taking the reigns of the bell choir. She brings many years of musical experience and enthusiasm to the position. Not only a wonderful director, she is also a harpist and pianist. We welcome Ruthanne to our PCLG family.

We are always looking to welcome new members to our musical team in worship. Whether you play an instrument or sing, we have a wonderful opportunity for musical mission in worship. Contact me or any of the musical staff on our website if you have any questions.

Yours In Christ,

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



### Flower Calendar

The 2018 flower calendar is available for sign-ups at coffee hour. You may also call the church office during the week to sign up. The fresh flower arrangement may be given in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or any other special occasion. There will be only one arrangement per week, so if you have an important date coming up in 2018, it would be wise to secure that date as soon as possible. You may take the arrangement home after worship, or you may leave it and the deacons will distribute the flowers to church members unable to attend worship. The cost of each arrangement is \$65.



# Youth News



Nolan, Nelson, Slasher & Sarah F joined PCLG's regular team of volunteers at the Georgia Travis house on Commercial street to serve a meal to families in the shelter. The food was delicious (nice work, Terrie Creamer), the students were super helpful, the clientele was grateful and welcoming, and the work was easy. Doing good feels great and the effort/time investment is minimal. Everyone at PCLG should join Terrie and Tim & Clemenica Hornak some Tuesday night to serve. Ethan and Lucas were there, too, so young kids are welcome!

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



## Youth Group Sunday Schedule

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

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

## Calling all cooks!



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!

Congratulations to our next L.O.G. Co-Leaders, Abby Hoektra and Sarah Lasher!



We look forward to the retreat they are planning, and know they will be a fantastic duo of leaders for and among their peers!

# What is the Synod?

Submitted by Ruth Fong



What is the Synod? I get that question often. It is a nebulous term to many members. Four years ago when I was asked to serve as a Commissioner from our San Jose Presbytery to the Synod, I was pretty clueless. I knew that the Presbytery is a gathering of church leaders in our area where one would be informed of what is happening at neighboring churches. But the Synod? What does it do?

The Synod of the Pacific, one of sixteen mid-council bodies of the Presbyterian Church USA, is comprised of portions of 5 states (Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, Northern California and a corner of Washington). Elders and ministers serve on the Synod. We also have a paid staff located in the Synod office in Petaluma.

We are unique among the synods; we have a savings and loan program to help churches in need. We also provide assistance to Presbyterian affiliates, such as Zephyr Point. Some of our services include providing a bookkeeping service to churches and medical benefit packages. We give grants for medical and mission needs.

It has been an interesting journey for me to serve at Synod. I learn of the joys and struggles of other churches. Though many of the churches are about 1/5 the size of PCLG or smaller, those elected to serve are so gracious, so optimistic, and so willing to be of service to others. It energizes me to do more for our church and denomination.

At the Synod level I have had the pleasure of working with Jane Odell, who has been the Transitional Executive Director, and John Kelso, Transitional Stated Clerk.

In October at our meeting at Mercy Center in Burlingame, I will be installed as the Moderator of the Synod of the Pacific for 2018. I am looking forward to serving the Presbyterian Church in this capacity. It will be a wonderful journey for me to be a part of this Christian body!

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Thanks to everyone to came to the church work day on October 7! See more pictures on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/pclg](https://facebook.com/pclg))

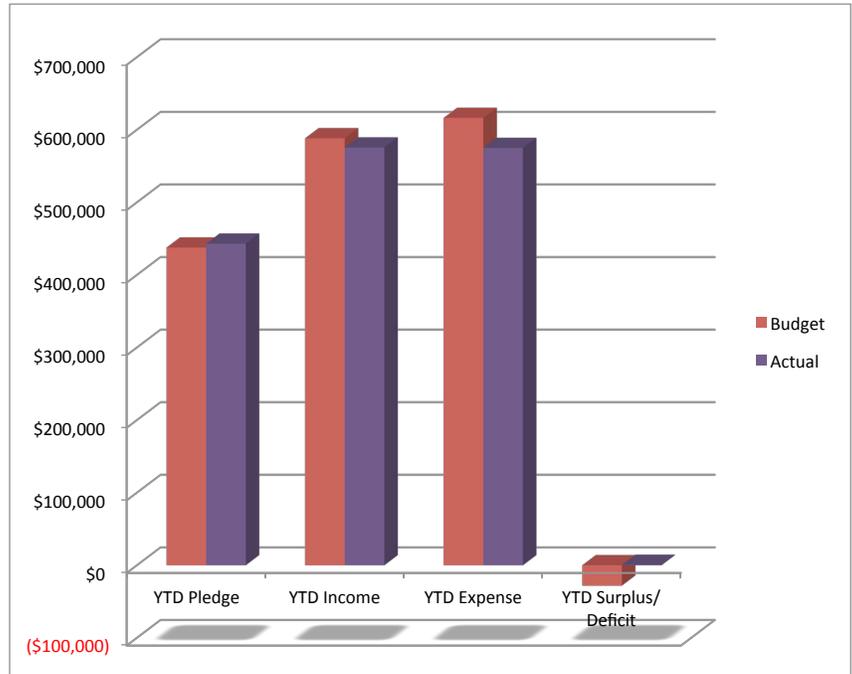


# Financial Report

Dear friends,

School has started and we've had our PCLG Kickoff. We have lots of exciting activities coming up this fall.

At the end of the third quarter PCLG has a budget deficit, however it is smaller than predicted at this time. Our pledge income is at 100% of budget and our overall income is at 96% of budget. On the expense side we came in at 95% of budget, leaving us with a budget deficit of \$28,103, compared to a predicted deficit of \$38,810 at this time. Since our actual total amount of pledges is \$834,844 compared to a budget of only \$791,000, we are hopeful that this deficit will clear by year-end. In addition, PCLG raised over \$6400 in disaster relief for hurricane victims.



Our investments experienced a gain of over \$137,500 last quarter.

As we near year-end, please check on your giving to see if you are on target and start thinking about what you plan to pledge for 2018. Think about sharing your time and talents with PCLG also. What is your passion? Where do you see yourself applying your gifts? There are so many ways to get involved at PCLG and it's fun! Working together is a great way to get to know each other.

You may request a current giving statement at any time. Just e-mail me at [kristy.cole@pclg.org](mailto:kristy.cole@pclg.org) or call the office at 408-356-6156, ext. 21.

Thank you for your generosity.

In Christ,

*Kristy Cole*, Church Administrator



## News

We have a busy season ahead with our T-Shirt/Sweatshirt sale, Harvest Celebration and our Pre K Christmas program.

A BIG thanks to the GFP Board for hosting a meet and greet for the parents last month. This year we have Beth Hobbs, Dave and Lisa

Watermulder, Angelina Coates, Carolyn Rosen and Eleanor Gallmeister on our board.

Blessings,

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



*Submitted by the PCLG Emergency Crisis Team*

Being prepared means being equipped with the proper supplies you may need in the event of an emergency or disaster. Keep your supplies in an easy-to-carry Emergency Preparedness Kit that you can use at home or take with you in case you must evacuate.

At a minimum, you should have the basic supplies listed below:

- Water: one gallon per person, per day (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home)
- Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items (3-day supply for evacuation, 2-week supply for home).
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit with Whistle
- Medications (7-day supply) and medical items
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Copies of personal documents (medication list and pertinent medical information, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies)
- Cell phone with chargers and area maps
- Family and emergency contact information
- Extra cash- ATM won't be available
- Emergency blanket
- Gasoline

Consider the needs of all family members and add supplies to your kit.

- Medical supplies (hearing aids, extra batteries, glasses, contact lenses, syringes, etc.)
- Baby supplies (bottles, formula, baby food, diapers)
- Games and activities for children
- Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, carrier, and bowl)
- Extra set of car keys and house keys
- Manual can opener

Additional supplies to keep at home or in your survival kit:

- Surgical masks • Matches • Rain gear • Towels • Work gloves • Blankets • Extra clothing, hat & sturdy shoes
- Plastic sheeting • Duct tape • Scissors • Household liquid bleach • Entertainment Items/Games-Cards

Sources:

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) › Get Help › How to Prepare for Emergencies

[www.losgatosca.gov/57/Emergency-Preparedness](http://www.losgatosca.gov/57/Emergency-Preparedness)

# 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  
November SPIRE  
is 2:00 p.m. Tuesday,  
October 24*



## *October Birthdays*

2	Christina Tsatalos	17	Rebecca Rohrer
3	Joan Brown	18	Steve Daly
4	Jim Stoner	20	Tchacho Modia
	Heather Chunnick		Kim Delevett
5	Roger Heath	22	Hendrika Harris
	Margie Bowles	23	Willis Brown
6	Sinhuja Nagalingam		Pat Garland
10	Sophia Alzaidi		Damon Kvamme
11	Maurice Otto	24	David Heath
12	Frank Jones	25	Pam Bancroft
13	John Lundell	26	Jan Wilson
14	Maria Bangal		Ron Rose
16	Sue Hansen	31	Brian Heath

## *Anniversaries*

12	Bill & Kristy Cole
23	Julie & William Lasher
25	Kathy DeMerit & Jim Souther
	Peter & Kim Delevett



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**Meal-Packing Event**  
**Saturday, October 28**  
**9 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Sign up now! [pclg.org/signup](http://pclg.org/signup)**