



# THE SPIRE

## Special Dates:

- **Presbytery Meeting**  
Hosted by PCLG  
February 2
- **Annual Meeting**  
February 3
- **Men's Breakfast**  
February 9
- **Meet Your Deacon Sunday**  
February 10
- **Boy Scout Sunday**  
February 10
- **High School Mexico Trip**  
February 16-23
- **Mom's Morning Out**  
March 2
- **Ash Wednesday**  
March 6

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

### It's a Process



Last November, on a Tuesday evening, the Session of our church was meeting in the Fireside Room.

As we sat there, we heard a report about a plumbing problem that had been discovered in the kitchen in the Westminster Wing of the church (the kitchen that our Growing FootPrints Preschool uses everyday).

The plumbing issue led to finding other things that were wrong and it meant that "Kitchen 2" would have to be completely gutted and re-modeled. Have you ever had to do a re-model project of some kind at your home? If so, then you know, that these things tend to be messier and more complicated than you can imagine at the outset.

Many times along the way, there were problems to solve, decisions to make, and opportunities to lose patience with the process. It took much time, talent and treasure to get Kitchen 2 through the months of renovation. A number of our Elders, staff and members were closely involved to see this project

faithfully through to the end.

I wonder if the Kitchen 2 renovation is a kind of metaphor of our life together as a church. Something that we know, as the people of God, is that we are a "work in progress." Our church and

our lives are constantly under construction, being built up, torn down, remodeled and made new. Sometimes we get discouraged, sometimes we have hard decisions to make, and sometimes it seems as though this project will never end!

And yet, the good news is that God promises to be with us, even in the messy, uncertain, or unfinished parts of life. In Galatians 5, Saint Paul reminds us of the "fruit of the Spirit," or the way that we see or know that God is really here working in us. These include love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Where are the places in your life these days that are "under construction"? Where are you in the middle of growth or learning or change?

*(Continued on page 2)*

# PCLG Staff

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## **Director of Music**

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(Continued from page 1) In times where we find ourselves in the midst of a larger, ongoing project (especially one like Kitchen 2), this list from scripture is helpful to keep in mind. It reminds us of some of the Christian attributes that we need to cultivate, to receive, and to offer to others.

Love... joy... peace... patience... kindness... generosity... faithfulness... gentleness... self-control... Let these be your watchwords in the ongoing projects of your life, especially when you find yourself in the "messy middle."

This year, PCLG will take on a number of new projects as we continue to plan for and invest in our future. These include re-doing the bathrooms in the Children's Ministries wings, along with a general refresh of those spaces for our ministry. We will begin a multi-year project to re-do the plumbing on campus, which is over 30 years old. We will also fix portions of the roof on the sanctuary.

Along with those physical projects, there are other changes ahead. Carlo Panighetti will take on a new title as Director of Operations, helping to oversee and direct much of the day to day activity on the campus. Lisa McKibbin is back as our Church Administrator in the front office after being away on medical leave. We will welcome a new Financial Administrator to the church, who will join our team. We are also planning for Rev. Jack Longley to join our staff as a Parish Associate, to help with our outreach work.

There are other new ministry opportunities beginning as well. These include the Saturday Morning Men's Fellowship breakfast (beginning February 9). There's a Young Adults Ministry (initiated by Jacob Gamble), as well as re-developing a Stephen Ministry later in the year (led by Elder Mark Bodnarczuk).

At the end of January, our Session was meeting again on a Tuesday night in the Fireside Room. Partway through the meeting, we all got up and walked over to see how Kitchen 2 was looking. We were amazed! The project was nearly finished and everything looked beautiful. People ooh'ed and ahh'ed at the new countertops, cabinets, floor, appliances and all the rest.

I was reminded that night, that most of the time, we are somewhere in the messy middle of the ongoing project of life. We are always "in process" in some way. Our calling is to remember that God is with us no matter what, and to let the fruit of the Spirit show through in our lives.

What a treat it is to see Kitchen 2 finally finishing up and in great shape. May you hold fast to your faith in God, the One who has been with you through all the challenging, messy or unclear parts of your life. This same God will be faithful to the end.

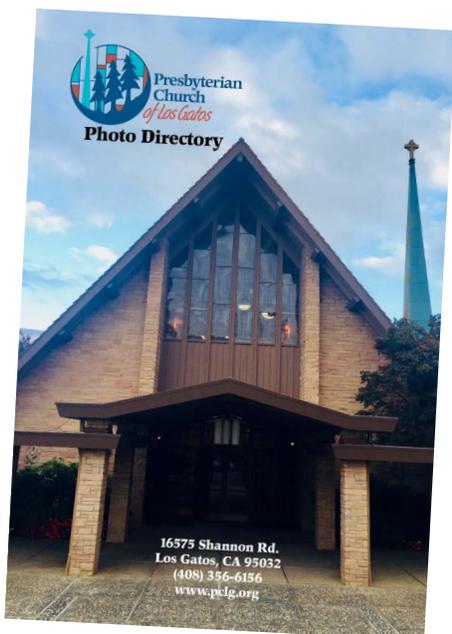
Peace, Pastor Dave



We PCLG deacons are learning to be better shepherds of you, our flocks, in 2019. On January 6, Epiphany Sunday, after church Pastor Dave gave us a lesson on how to serve home communion, and then we ventured forth in pairs to give the Eucharist to church members sick or recovering at home. Pastor Dave and the deaconate hope to make home communion a regular offering on Communion Sundays.

Despite the wind and rain, we deacons squeezed around the long table in the Fireside Room for our monthly meeting on January 15. Julie Lasher led us through the finer points of hospital and nursing home visiting. We finalized our plans for *Meet Your Deacon Sunday* on February 10 after church in the social hall. Mylar heart balloons for deacons and Valentine cookies for all our flocks!

If you would like home communion or a visit, hospital prayer shawl or meals during recuperation, we deacons are here for you. Contact either of our moderators, Mary Kay Baker ([marykay.baker@gmail.com](mailto:marykay.baker@gmail.com)) or Julie Lasher ([JHLasher01@gmail.com](mailto:JHLasher01@gmail.com)). Or better yet shout out to your very own deacon! If you do not know your deacon and miss *Meet Your Deacon Sunday*, call the church office to find us.



Our new Church Directories should be available before and after church on February 17 and in the office during the following week. One directory per household was ordered. If you didn't have your photo taken by Lifetouch for this directory, please consider getting your picture taken when we do re-takes next year.



# Children's Ministry



## UPCOMING EVENTS

-February 10,17, 24 Joyful Voices practice after worship

-February 10 AP Sunday for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade

-February 17 All Church Worship

-February 11 RSVP for Mom's Morning Out

-March 2 8-10am Mom's Morning Out

-March 3 Joyful Voices sings in worship

-March 10 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent AP Sunday for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade

-March 16 Parents Night Out 5-8pm

-March 17 One Great Hour of Sharing coin boxes handed out. All Church Worship

-March 30 Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing

## CONVERSATION HEARTS BIBLE VERSE SCAVENGER HUNT

Try this with your kids this month. Search for each verse in the Bible and read it together.

- ♥ BE MINE – John 3:16
- ♥ ALL MINE – John 10:27-30
- ♥ TRUE LOVE – Jeremiah 31:3
- ♥ LOVE ME – Luke 10:27
- ♥ I'M SURE – John 14:1-3
- ♥ SWEET TALK – Psalm 119:103
- ♥ BE GOOD – John 14:15
- ♥ CALL ME – Jeremiah 33:3

### QUESTIONS? NEED TO CONNECT?

Lauren Froman  
Director Children's Ministries  
pclglauren@gmail.com

Sharlene Thompson  
Children's Ministries Coordinator  
pclgsharlene@gmail.com



## Youth News

Shalom friends!

As you may have heard by now, we reached that once-seemingly-impossible goal of raising \$15,000 for our two Mexico mission trips through our Pancake breakfast fundraiser. As I write, we're somewhere north of \$16,000, which is just astonishing! You can read Carlo's account on page 9 of this newsletter to learn more.

Thank you, thank you for your enthusiastic and overwhelming generosity towards the students and short term missionaries of our congregation. We are so looking forward to the challenge of building a double-wide and single house this month. It's a huge undertaking to try, especially with so many first time students and days still being relatively short, but it feels like the right year to push ourselves harder for our neighbors in Northern Mexico.

Now I know you've already given so much, but maybe you appreciated the carbo-loading of the pancake breakfast so much, you'd like to return the calories to the kids (they won't be returning your money, unfortunately). Each trip, we invite the congregation to send us with homemade baked goods that we serve as dessert each night around the campfire. Please consider trying out a new cookie or brownie recipe on us, or sending us with your secret family recipe...we like both.

If you are able to make something, we ask that you deliver it to the main office or the youth center on Thursday or Friday, Feb. 14 & 15. Please do so by 4 p.m. on Friday and pack your goodies in a container you do not need back. We are unable to keep track of containers, sorry.



*An unshaven Carlo Panighetti at age 15 on his first mission trip in 2003. Does he still look the same? Who of our 10 freshmen will be running the whole show in 2035? (2035?! Heavens!)*

We leave early on February 16 and return the afternoon of February 23. We appreciate your prayers and thoughts in the weeks ahead and especially as we travel together. Thank you for continuing to send us and investing in our young people.

Love, Steve  
Director of Youth Ministries

### ***Calling all cooks!***

Please Contact Elder Essie Asher (seasher@comcast.net), or signup online at the link at [www.pclg.org/signup](http://www.pclg.org/signup), 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!



## Music Notes



### From *the* Music Director

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. The choir returned after a brief hiatus the second week of January.

We are looking forward to singing for February with some of your favorites such as How Great Though Art in a wonderful arrangement by Dan Forrest and Praise Ye The Lord, a rhythmic and fresh arrangement by Hugo Distler based on the traditional hymn tune.

The Bells and Brass will also join worship in February.

The Worship Band under the leadership of Rita Hoegel continue to bring contemporary music to worship.

The choir will begin preparation for the Music Program Choir on March 10 at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We will be performing Durante's Magnificat with strings, choir and soloists. The Brass, Bells and soloists will also join us for an afternoon of delightful music.

If you have considered singing with the choir, playing with the bells or working with the worship band, please feel free to reach out if you have any questions to Michael.taylor@pclg.org.

All the best,

Michael Taylor, Music Director.

Sing it yourself accompanied by a full orchestra

# Handel's Messiah

Sunday 7:00 PM

April 14

Four Optional  
Practice Sessions!

Sundays - 7:00 PM  
Mar 17 • 24 • 31 • Apr 7



see our web site:  
[www.pclg.org/messiah](http://www.pclg.org/messiah)  
tel: (408) 356-6156

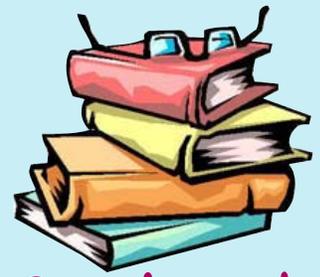
Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos  
16575 Shannon Road  
Los Gatos 95032



## Adult Education

*Adult Ed has an exciting series of classes through the end of the school year:*

- **The Gospel of Mark.** Now through March 17 (except March 3), our 9 am Bible Study will be exploring the Gospel of Mark. Come to one class or all. Join us in deepening our understanding of the Gospel and share what it says to you. Study is in the Fireside Room
- **Pastor Dave's DMin Travels.** March 3 at 11:30 in the Social Hall, Pastor Dave will tell us about what he's learned in his Doctor of Ministry studies during his travels to Africa and Asia. A light lunch and childcare will be provided.
- **The History of Baptism and the Eucharist.** March 24 - April 7: As we move towards Easter, Adult Ed will be leading a 3 week study about the History of Baptism and the Eucharist. Join us on Sundays from March 24-April 7 in the Fireside Room at 9 am to understand and discuss how some of our most sacred practices evolved.
- **Supper and Study.** From 6pm-8pm on Wednesday March 20 and April 3 in the Social Hall, we will be sharing a meal and discussing Martin Luther King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail". Come one or both Wednesday evenings. A simple dinner and childcare will be provided.
- No Sunday Morning Bible Study on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday (April 14 and 21).
- **How the Bible Came to Be.** Our school year ends with a 5-week series on How the Bible Came to Be. Join us in the Fireside Room on Sundays mornings, April 28 - May 26, from 9-9:50 to learn about and discuss the Bible's fascinating history.
- **Summer Break** (no Sunday morning Bible Study) begins on June 2.



## Bookends

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

Mark your calendar for Bookends' 10th Annual Book Sale

Sundays, February 17&24 during coffee hour.

Set up/book delivery: February 16 (time TBD)

Suggested donation: \$1/book

Proceeds this year will go to support Chicks in Crisis, a non-profit in Elk Grove, CA that helps single moms.

[www.chicksin crisis.org](http://www.chicksin crisis.org)

Questions/info?

Contact Sue Hansen at

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

### February

The Secret Life of Bees  
by Sue Monk Kidd

### March

The Little Paris Bookshop  
by Nina George

### April

Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk  
by Kathleen Rooney

### May

White Teeth  
by Zadie Smith



# MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday Morning, 10-noon  
February 9, March 9, April 6 & May 4

Join other men from PCLG for the first in a series of breakfasts, where we will enjoy food, prayer on conversation around tables. The topic for the first one is "Justice & Righteousness." Have questions? Want to help? Please contact Dave Rader (rader.dave@gmail.com).



Calling all Moms! Children's Ministries invites you for a morning of relaxation, mindfulness, and fellowship here at church. We will begin with a meditation, followed by breakfast and fellowship. Saturday, March 2nd 8:00am-10:00am. RSVP by February 17th to Lauren Froman (pclglauren@gmail.com).



**Save the date!**

Our All-Church Mexico Mission Trip will be June 22-29, 2019.

Come build homes with us while we live together for a week in community!

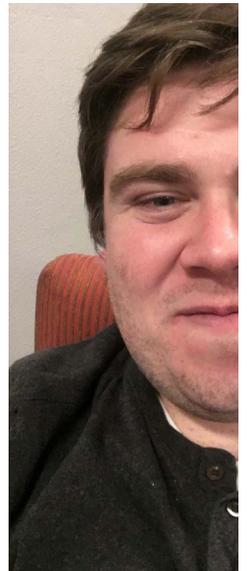
Questions? e-mail [mexico@pclg.org](mailto:mexico@pclg.org).

## *Beard-Off* by Carlo Panighetti



There are already more pictures of me in this issue of *The Spire* than I might care for, but there was some space, and I thought it might be fun to reflect on the experience of shaving off my beard, and what all lead to that Facebook live video.

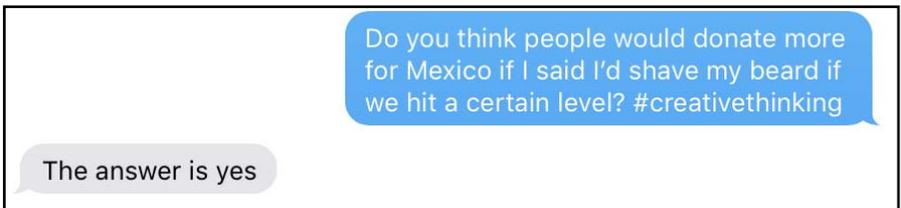
A few weeks ago, we were starting to prepare for the Pancake Breakfast. The students were decorating envelopes while some of us on the Youth Staff were coming up with which numbers they should write on them, and how we might arrange them on the bulletin boards--4 or 5 years of doing this envelope thing, you might think we would know how we were going to it; you might be wrong. After going home that evening, I was thinking about how to inspire more giving. These Mexico Mission trips shaped my life as a young person, and continue to give me purpose and recharge my batteries now (still a young person? You decide!). That is to say, this is a worthy cause; I



know people in the church love to support it, hear our stories, and see our pictures when we return.

Half-jokingly, I sent a quick text message to Pastor Dave. Mine is the blue bubble:

That was all the encouragement we needed, so we set the goal high; much higher than we had ever raised before. I figured, it would be fun to laugh about, and maybe some people



would give a little bit more, and we might raise more than our average. I knew there was a small chance I would have to shave off my beard, but figured the risk was worth it. Needless to say, I started to get nervous after the first serving of breakfast, when we had already raised over \$8,000!

It only took a few more days, and so many kind and generous donors, and we made it! We surpassed our “stretch goal” of \$15,000, even making it over \$16,000. I was shocked, impressed, and excited, all at once! Then the day came, the promised beard-shaving weighed heavily. People kept asking when it was happening, how they could watch, and what would I even look like without the facial hair I had worn for most of my adult life.

Minutes before we fired up the camera, Pastor Erica gifted me with a very thoughtful gift bag full of products one might need when exposing part of their face to the sun for the first time in recent memory (thanks, Erica!). The gathered High School youth and my friends cheered me on as I sat on a stool in the Youth Center. Next thing I knew, I was hacking large chunks of hair off my face, while over 50 people watched online.

The reaction among my friends and family has been mixed. Many have said they miss the beard; others say it is nice to see my face again. My sister keeps telling me I look weird. Lucy Fainer wouldn't speak to or even look at me for 3 days (don't worry; I think we're friends again)! But was it worth it? Yes! It was worth the cold face and the mixed reviews of what I look like to raise that money that we will use in service to our neighbors in Tijuana. This year, we will build homes (and even a community center this month!) and spread the love of Jesus, and we get to do it a little bit more, thanks to your kindness and generosity. Plus, I can always wear a scarf.



# News

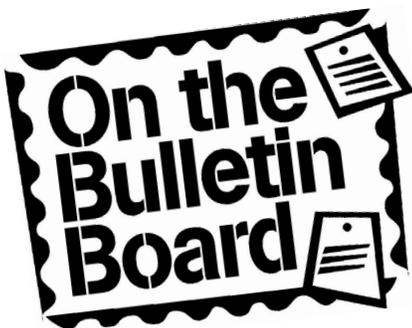
We are in the midst of tours for the 2019-2020 school year and preparing for progress report reviews. We are nearing the date for our 100th day party in the Pre K as well! Moving right along!

It's raining, it's pouring....and we look forward to recess and fresh air! Thankful for the rain as we know it will help our gardens grow but outdoor activities are a blessing when you have so many active little bodies!

As we move into mid month we will celebrate Valentine's Day and reinforce our chapel theme... Kindness. The children love having Grace the Gardener visit and enjoy our Good Fruit theme song each Wednesday!

We wish all of you a Happy Valentine's Day!

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)



*Fariba is a member of PCLG*

If you are looking for a dog walker or sitter who loves dogs, I'm your person. Dogs love me and I'm sometimes called the "dog whisperer."

Whether you need assistance for the day, for the month, or regularly, I can help you out.

**Call Fariba Samin at**

**(408) 595-1183**

*References available by request.*

# 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    |
| Happy Paint               | Thursday                          | 10:00 a.m. |
| Bookends                  | Various                           | Various    |
| CoveKnit Group            | Wednesday                         | 7 p.m.     |

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

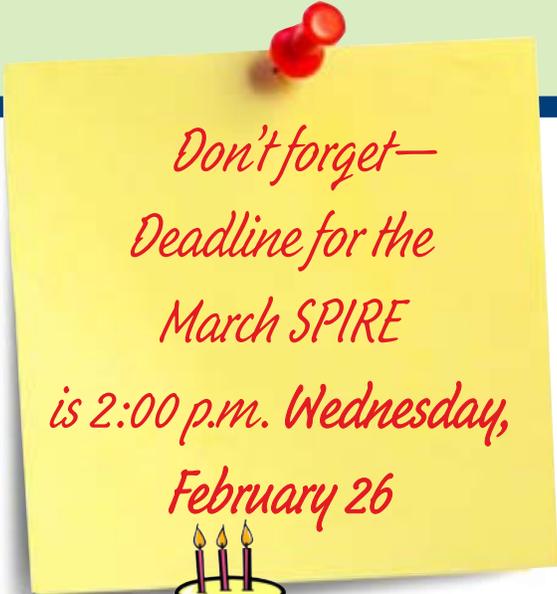
|                       |              |           |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Home AM Groups        | 3rd Thursday | 9:30 a.m. |
| PCLG AM ("WoW") Group | Thursday     | 10 a.m.   |
| PCLG Noon Group       | 2nd Thursday | 12 p.m.   |

## 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. |



## *February Birthdays*

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 4 Margaret Kvamme  | 16 Mary Raecker  |
| 7 Joyce Strandberg | Tanya Kruse      |
| Nancy Smith        | Caroline Caselli |
| 9 Don Wolf         | 23 Paula Stoner  |
| 10 Bev Wright      | 24 Martha Wills  |
| Bill Cole          | 25 Ben Fong      |
| Kathryn Smith      | 27 Sandy Alzaidi |
| 11 Jerry Ulrich    | 28 Bea Scheible  |
| Jim Snyder         |                  |
| 12 MacKenzie Daly  |                  |



## *Anniversaries*

|                        |
|------------------------|
| 4 Jerry & Betty Ulrich |
|------------------------|



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos**

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