



# THE SPIRE

## Special Dates:

- **New Member Class**  
May 5
- **Music Program Concert**  
May 6
- **Habitat for Humanity Work Day**  
June 2
- **Parents' Night Out**  
June 9
- **All-Church Mexico**  
June 23-30

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

## Signs of New Life



On a recent Sunday morning, in a local church, there were only 2 children present for Sunday School. The resourceful teacher took those two little kids outside the church building on a field trip around the campus. She gave each of them a bag and instructions to be on the look out for signs of "new life."

So, the kids happily tromped around picking flowers, collecting leaves and sticks and blades of grass, and then putting them into their bags. They came back to the sanctuary after worship and proudly showed their parents what they had found.

I wonder these days, if you were to look around your life, or your world, or the circles that you run in, what would the signs of "new life" be? Is there new life in a relationship in some way? Or at work or in school? Is there a sign of new life in a medical situation, or a financial concern? Do you discern new life in your walk with God, or in the ways you are thinking or speaking or acting in these days?

Being alert to signs of new life is a good practice for our faith. It helps keep us attuned to the new things that the Spirit of God is up to, to the changes happening in people's lives, and to the new possibilities for taking a risk or trying something out.

One sign of new life that is coming this summer to PCLG is something called the "Ministry Fellows Program." For 10 weeks this summer, we will have 3 of our college students, who have gifts for leadership and service, working with us at the church. The idea is to give them an opportunity to learn and grow here at their church, while we also gain from their ideas, energy, and gifts.

The Ministry Fellows will cycle through various areas of church life. Worship, Youth Ministry, Mission, Visitation, Fellowship and more (they'll even learn how to use our photocopier!). This summer, the Ministry Fellows will be Mackenzie Daly, Allie Hilliard, and Cameron Logie. Our hope is that through this experience, these young leaders will deepen their own faith in Christ, to develop their gifts and skills, and to be a

*(continued on page 2)*

# *PCLG Staff*

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## **Director of Music**

Michael Taylor  
michael.taylor@pclg.org

(continued from page 1) blessing for PCLG. Our church seeks to develop the next generation of leaders and this is one way we can do that.

A second "new thing" that is coming this summer to PCLG is a visit from a Presbyterian Pastor from Ghana, which is in West Africa. This will be a chance for a church leader from the Global South to bring a word for us here in the United States.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Acheampong is a good friend of mine and we first met in 2004 in Accra, Ghana. Joseph was also a student with me at Princeton Seminary and we graduated together in 2006. There is something so good and even transformational when Western Christians (like me and you) get to interact with our brothers and sisters in the faith from other cultural backgrounds.

Joseph will share with us about the church in Ghana and he will also learn about our ministry here. Joseph is a fun person to be around, he has a great sense of humor, is very curious, and loves to interact with new people. This will be a unique chance for us to really get to know a pastoral leader from the West Africa. Joseph will be visiting with us for about 3 weeks in the month of July and you will hear more about it as we get closer to those dates.

So, like children on a nature walk, we are out searching for the signs of "new life" that God is giving us. As a church, we seek to be open to opportunities that God brings to us and we joyfully step into the months ahead with all that they will bring.

In the pages of this newsletter, you can read more about what is happening around the church and I will see you soon!

Peace,  
*Pastor Dave*

## *Staff Update*

### **Welcome Teresa Huntley!**



We are happy to welcome our new front desk receptionist, Teresa Huntley. Please come in and introduce yourself next time you are around the church during the week. Her hours will be 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Her e-mail address is  
teresa.huntley@pclg.org

**Save the Date for the 2018 Women's Retreat**  
**"The Cultivated Life"**  
*October 19-21, 2018*



I am eagerly anticipating our Women's retreat, our third annual retreat at Mission Springs in Scotts Valley. Each retreat that I have shared with our women has added a new layer of treasured connection for me and many attendees have told me they share my experience.

I am so glad to introduce our speaker, Dr. Susan Phillips. Susan has been a friend and a source of inspiration to me for 15 years, since she taught my first seminary class. The best way I can describe Susan is that she is the kind of person that helps you observe and appreciate God's beauty in a deeply prophetic and imaginative way that keeps the focus on God, not on her intelligence and gifts. Time with Susan has always filled me with peace, which is why I happily served as her teaching assistant over several years.

Susan is a busy woman with a generous spirit for teaching and spiritual direction. She is the executive director of New College Berkeley, a spiritual director, a sociologist, a seminary adjunct professor and an author. From this perspective of a full and rich life, Susan will guide us into a more imaginative way of understanding how to cultivate our lives in the midst of hurry and demands.

The Women's retreat is one of the best ways to connect more deeply at PCLG. We are very focused on helping everyone feel welcome and known. We purposely gather in a place that is away from home, but not too far, so that any women who can only come for the day on Saturday can join us.

If you would like to serve at the retreat or if you have any questions, please ask me!

Grace & peace,  
Pastor Erica [erica.rader@pclg.org](mailto:erica.rader@pclg.org)

## *Help Needed!*

### **Childcare Volunteers:**

We are seeking volunteers to help care for our children during special events. We welcome youth helpers as well as adults and will give community service hours.

The requirements for our childcare volunteers are:

- 1) Completion and submission of PCLG's safe church application.
- 2) Clearance through Department of Justice fingerprinting services. (*Volunteers who are themselves under 18 are not required to be fingerprinted.*)



## Children's Ministry

# THANK YOU

## To all who serve in Children's Ministries

Sunday, May 6th is Teacher Appreciation Sunday. It has become a tradition to honor those who serve in Children's Ministries at the start of the "national teacher appreciation week" celebrated in schools. Those who serve in Children's Ministries will be recognized in worship that Sunday, and an appreciation table will be set up during coffee hour.

People serve Children's Ministries in many ways: teaching, classroom helper/youth helper, music, special events, staff support, and ministry committee. THANK YOU to everyone for your commitment, time, creativity, love, and energy. You are planting seeds and helping grow rich soil in the lives of our children.

If you have children in God's Place, please encourage them to thank their teachers on Sunday, May 6th, for the time and love they give to the ministry.

**TEACH**  
encourage  
instruct  
**MENTOR**  
**PRAISE**  
influence  
**GUIDE**  
INSPIRE

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#### PCLG MOMS OUTING:

Saturday, May 19, 5-7p.m.

-OR-

Wednesday, May 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

*\*Both events will be held at Opa Restaurant in Los Gatos. Please email [pclglauren@gmail.com](mailto:pclglauren@gmail.com) if you have not RSVPd and plan to attend.*

#### PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Saturday, June 9, 5-8 p.m.

RSVP by May 25th

#### ALL CHURCH WORSHIP

Sunday, May 27th

Nursery & Preschool class available



I love this picture of two of our God's Place friends, creating meaningful friendships at church.

### QUESTIONS? NEED TO CONNECT?

**Lauren Froman**  
Director, Children's Ministries  
[pclglauren@gmail.com](mailto:pclglauren@gmail.com)

**Sharlene Thompson**  
Children's Ministries Coordinator  
[pclgsharlene@gmail.com](mailto:pclgsharlene@gmail.com)



## Youth News

It's **MAY!** The desire for Summer is strong but the work and homework load between now and then is heavy. Here are a few things to do if you get bored this month!

**M**editate on a passage of scripture. I'm preaching again in June and Mark 4:35-42 is one of the passages. If you wanted to meditate on that passage and share your thoughts with me, I'd be ever so grateful!

**M**arinate some chicken to bbq. Here's a super easy recipe I learned from soon-to-be Princeton seminary graduate, Erik Paul Khoobyarian: Place boneless skinless chicken thighs (2 lbs, maybe) in a gallon ziplock bag. Add 1/2 a cup of brown sugar to bag. Add Yellow mustard. Squeeze and squish the contents until the mustard and brown sugar have a nice caramel look to them and cover all the chicken. Add more yellow or brown if necessary. Set in fridge for 2 hours to overnight. Eventually, grill the chicken.

**M**ention the good things you're thinking about another person to that person. Everybody loves encouragement and everybody needs it this time of year!

**M**ix 3 cups flour, 1.5 cups water, 1 packet (or about a tablespoon) instant dry yeast and 1.5 teaspoons of salt. Once mixed, cover bowl with plastic wrap, set aside for 4 hours.

**A**sk the internet to lookup "nytimes speedy no-knead bread" to finish the recipe started above!

**A**cquire a small arsenal of water squirting devices ahead of Summer. You never know when they will come in handy.

**A**maze your mom with a gift you made yourself. Try making a candle, a bracelet, hand lotion or even homemade paper. Even I can make these things and if I can, you can. Also, I might have some leftover supplies if you ask nicely.

**A**cept that every once in a while, you are going to miss out on something fun because of your commitments or because you just didn't get invited this time. It doesn't feel great, but we all get left out every once in a while and now you have time to marinate some chicken!

**A**mbush your pastor with a water squirting device. I told you they would come in handy. Outdoors only, please. Computers are expensive.

**Y**ank the chain of your pastor and tell him/her that there's no way you would ambush them with a water squirting device.

**Y**awn your way into a lawn chair of some variety and feel some shady sunshine on your skin.

**Y**ellow your water with lemon juice and sugar, and you've got a tasty drink for that lawn chair experience.

**Y**ield a day to the Spirit's leading. Maybe there's somewhere or someone to serve. Maybe you just relax.

**Y**elp yourself some ideas ahead of your next trip. What kind of places are there to eat in Kalamazoo or Timbuktu? (Disclaimer: this is not a paid ad for yelp. I also like tripadvisor.)

May your time this **May** be a blessing to you and others.

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



## 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).

### May

The Language of Flowers  
by V. Diffenbaugh

### June

Tea Girl of Hummingbird Ln.  
by Lisa See

### July

Born a Crime  
by Trevor Noah

### August

Gentleman in Moscow  
by Amor Towles

### September

Mischling  
by Affinity Konar



## Music Notes



### From the Music Director

#### Earth day

On April 22 we had an amazing Earth Day outdoors. With the choir, brass, worship band, bells and joyful voices, it was a wonderful celebration of the richness of God's green earth to the accompaniment of music.

#### Music department concert on May 6.

I hope you will all be able to attend the music program concert on May 6 at 3 PM. The concert will take place in the chancel.

At the concert we will have not only the chancel choir, but the bells, strings, worship band and special solos by our organists, keyboard players and section leaders. Our own bell choir director, Ruthanne Adams-Martinez will also break out her harp and join in this festival of music.

Proceeds from the concert will go to the Piano fund. The concert will be followed by a reception with root beer floats. I hope to see you there.

-Michael Taylor, director of music. [michaeltaylor@comcast.net](mailto:michaeltaylor@comcast.net)

## New Member Class

Please join us on Saturday, May 5 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. to get to know each other, get to know the church, and share lunch together.

Refreshments, childcare and lunch will be provided.

RSVP online at [pclg.org/signup](http://pclg.org/signup). Have questions? Send a note to [members@pclg.org](mailto:members@pclg.org) or call the front office.



# HANDBELL NEWS



Your PCLG bell ringers have been participating in the Valley Church Spring Ring in Cupertino for about 20 years. On April 14, a dozen bell choirs from all over the bay area [and as far away as Modesto & Sacramento] came together to rehearse for the day. That evening, we performed four songs; some with

a brass quartet. In between rehearsals we have classes and share a variety of bell ideas and helpful hints. Many of the choirs have banners. We proudly display our banner so lovingly handcrafted by Jean Slaght. The choir in front of us was from the east bay. They were missing a few ringers (so were we) and they invited us to fill in the blanks. When people see where we're from, they share their memories of Norma. We see old friends and make new ones. The date they've chosen for next year is May 1st, so mark your calendars. After all, where else can you go and see tone chimes that are taller than Ruth Fong!!



As 2018 commemorates our 40th anniversary, we chose a very fitting and special piece for the PCLG spring concert on May 6th. Our own Mark Anderson (currently organist at Shadyside Presbyterian in Pittsburgh, PA) wrote a hymn in honor of the 125th anniversary of PCLG and dedicated to the music ministry of Margaret Kirk, our first bell director. Mark's dad is H.R. Lad Anderson, our Pastor Emeritus. The hymn tune is Los Gatos, and the hymn is entitled "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation."

*For many years the Bell Choirs have collected and recycled aluminum cans and plastic water bottles as a way to raise funds for our activities. At the end of May we will discontinue this program. Thank you for participating in this worthwhile endeavor. Special thanks go to George Rose for his many years for collecting, sorting and bagging the items.*

# Mission Minute

*Just wanted to update you all on what's happening in Mission at PCLG! The committee meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 12:30 pm at church. Please feel free to join us.*

Here are some ways you can serve:

## **Immanuel House:**

Work day on May 5, 2018 from 9 am-noon. Several volunteers are needed. Please contact Martha Wills with any questions. (mtswills@gmail.com) July 4, 2018 BBQ

for current and former residents of Immanuel House. Visitors are welcome. 5-7 pm.

## **World Refugee Day:**

On Friday, June 15, 2018 at 5 pm at the City Hall in San Jose. All are welcome.

## **Habitat for Humanity:**

PCLG work day on June 2, 2018. Carpooling to the site in Fremont from PCLG is being arranged. 10 volunteers are needed. Please contact Chris Daly if you plan to attend. (daly.chris1@gmail.com)



## **PCLG All Church Mexico trip:**

A wonderful way to serve a family in need across the border while joining your PCLG family in great fellowship. The trip is scheduled for June 23-30, 2018. Please contact Carlo Panighetti.

## **Front Door Ministries:**

Volunteers are needed on Wednesdays to pass out bagged lunches to those in need in San Jose at the First Presbyterian Church. Contact Carol Smith if you are interested. (csmith392@aol.com)

## **Summer Mission Week:**

Scheduled for August 1-4, 2018. More details to follow.

*The following is a partial list of recipients of our 2018 mission dollars :*

1. \$500 CROP Walk
2. \$1000 Sweaty Sheep Homeless/Special Needs Ministry in Santa Cruz
3. \$4,300 Rise Against Hunger
4. \$250 Local food pantry
5. \$100 LDS church for refugee resettlement

*Respectfully submitted, Carol Smith*

*Jesus spoke to them again,  
saying, "I am the light of the  
world. Whoever follows me  
will not walk in darkness, but  
will have the light of life."*

*(John 8:12)*

## MEET THE SEMINARIANS

*Here is a brief update on each of the Seminary students in the PCLG family!*

**Erik Khoobyarian** is graduating this month from Princeton Theological Seminary, and is seeking his first call and ordination as a minister in the Presbyterian Church. We celebrate with Erik and his parents, Jo Ann & Milt, as he reaches this milestone. Way to go, Erik!

**Steve Fainer**, our youth director, continues on his seminary journey with Fuller Seminary. He has enjoyed taking courses and studying Greek with John Koeker.

**Susan McDougall** graduated this year from Dubuque Theological Seminary with her Master of Divinity (MDiv), and has completed a year-long Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) as a chaplain. She is now finishing her ordination exams, and is prayerfully considering what comes next for her ministry.

**Taelor Kim**, a new member under care of PCLG's session, is a graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary, and is currently enrolled as a doctoral student (Doctor of Ministry or DMin), focusing on using creative arts with children in ministry. Taelor has quickly become involved with many aspects of ministry at PCLG.

**Jennifer Baham**, one of our organists, is finishing her first year of theological education at Western Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Jen is loving her coursework and is thankful to PCLG for love and support.

## Ministries & Outreach



### News

GFP Activities and Events:

Our Chapel for May is being Faithful as we end our Bee Attitude series with Betsy Bee! It was wonderful to have Beth Hobbs, our board chairman, join us in chapel in April. We are glad you enjoyed it!

During May we will nurture our outdoor garden and will look forward to the vegetables we will harvest as we move into the summer months.

Our Pre K will begin practice for their graduation ceremony in June and the staff will prepare for summer camp!

Happy Mother's Day to all of the awesome Moms! I am excited to welcome an addition to our family as our son/daughter-in-law welcome their first little one...a daughter!

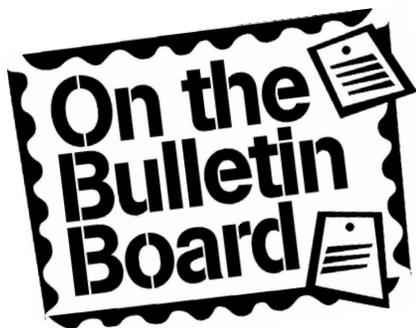
Blessings,

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



**June 23-30**

**You're Invited! Sign up today!**  
**mexico@pclg.org**



Have a short note for the next issue of *The Spire*?  
 Submit your bulletin board items to  
 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.

*Don't forget—  
Deadline for the  
Summer SPIRE  
is 2:00 p.m. Thursday,  
May 24*



## *May Birthdays*

1	ROB FIELD	17	MARCO
3	LAUREN CLIFT		BOMMARITO
	MORGAN MCKIBBIN	18	JACKSON COATES
	LOUISE SHERMAN	20	SOON LEE
6	ANGIE SMITH		TAMMY MORIARTY
8	ELLEN GRAFF	22	TATIANNNA CERUSSI
	HOWARD LOOMIS	23	BARBARA SNYDER
10	JUDY BORLASE	24	ABRAM WATTS
	MARGIE BOWLES	26	AMBER BARRETT
11	CAROLE TURNER		LISA BARRETT
12	JOHN HUMPHREY		JANE MUNSON
13	STEPHEN STANWOOD		TARYN SMITH
	KIM WATKINS	29	CHRIS DALY
15	HOLLY HUCKABY		SALLY SLOCUM
16	THOMAS	30	ALICIA BIERLY
	BODNARCZUK		COLLEEN HATTMAN
	BARBARA KOPLOS		LUCY ROMERO
		31	JANIS CRISWELL

## *Anniversaries*

6	ED & CINDY SCHULTZ	21	AMEE & BRIAN
	HOWARD & SUE THOMAS		JONES
14	CHRIS & ALLISON	23	JAKE & CAITLIN
	MCGUGAN		ROMANELLI
17	ANNIE & SAM CASTELLINO	25	DONALD & LINDA
18	STEVE & MARGARET ANN		WAGNER
	JOINER	30	ERIN & BRIAN
			HEATH

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[www.pclg.org](http://www.pclg.org)

# Facilities Spring Work Day

## Saturday, May 12

8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.  
followed by lunch.

Jobs for all ages and skills!

