



THE SPIRE

Special Dates:

- **Mom's United in Prayer**
September 7
- **Kick Off Sunday**
September 9
- **50 Hours of Prayer**
September 14-16
- **Growing FootPrints Sunday**
September 23
- **From Eden to Eternity:
The Bible in 7 Weeks**
October 7-November 18
- **Women's Retreat**
October 19-21
- **Pumpkins & Potluck**
October 24
- **Handbell/Organ Concert**
October 27

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

Fall Plans



Have you ever walked into a travel agent's office and seen the posters on the wall of far away places and famous landmarks? Seeing those pictures and names is meant to spark our imaginations, and whet the appetite for seeing something new.

As many of you know, I am currently working on a Doctorate of Ministry (DMin) degree that has a distinctive international emphasis. Each year our cohort of students takes a trip together in the Fall and the places we go sound like something out of a travel agent's office: Cape Town! Hong Kong! London!

This month, I will be away from PCLG for about three weeks while I travel through some parts of Asia. Our studies will happen in Hong Kong, where we will meet with local church leaders, as well as learning about the history, politics and business of that part of the world. What an exciting place to visit! Since we'll be in the neighborhood, my wife Lisa and I will also take the chance to visit Thailand and Cambodia, and

then I will go on to Vietnam.

This is such an exciting opportunity for me and I'm thankful to PCLG for making space for me to be away with this program. I will be here preaching for Kick-Off Sunday on September 9th, and then I will be back

again in worship on Sunday, October 7th. I am looking forward to telling you all about this trip and the things that I learn about once I am back.

In the meantime, our church is in great hands with Pastor Erica, the Elders and the Staff leading the way. All of the various programs and groups of our church will be starting up again and you can read about everything that is happening here in the pages of this newsletter. Thank you for the ways that you actively participate in the life of the church, we are stronger together because everyone plays a part.

It turns out, that going to far away places isn't the only way to find adventure. Here at PCLG, we experience the adventure of a life of faith together all the time. God is so good, and will lead us into all that is ahead.

Peace, Pastor Dave

PCLG Staff

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Get to Know Others at



Tables of Eight

Did you know that PCLG has a program that makes it easy and fun to get to know other members of our church “family”? At **Tables of Eight** we form groups of eight to ten adults, singles and couples,

who agree to share a meal together four times over a six month period. Any adult member of the congregation can join (ages 18 to 108). It’s a great way to meet new people of all ages without committing all of your precious free time.

Each group decides when they will meet and what kind of meal they will have -- pot lucks, picnics, pizza at a pizza parlor or whatever. The idea is to meet, eat, laugh, have fun and get to know one another. By meeting four times, we get beyond the “getting-to-know-you” conversations like ... Where do you live? ... How many children? ... What do you do? ... etc. We really get to communicate with each other at a personal level.

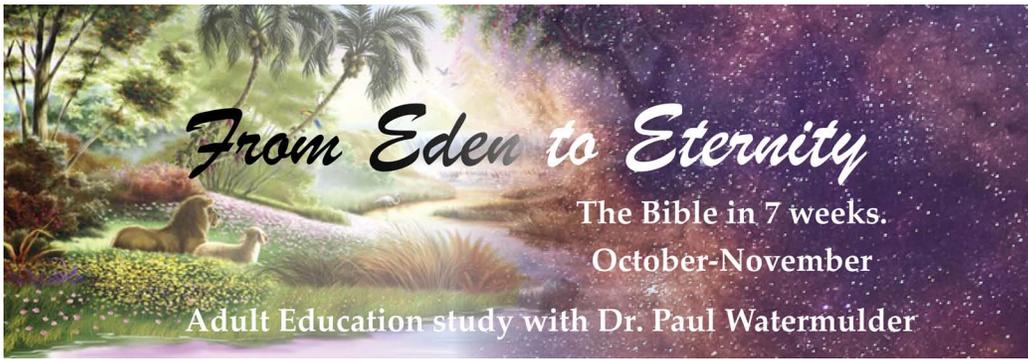
This is not a family event, although we would like to encourage parents of all ages to attend. This is a chance to interact with other adults. If you’ve participated before, an attempt will be made to group you with people that have not been in your group before. If you participate for a few sessions, you will be surprised how many people you really know when you attend Coffee Fellowship after worship on Sundays!

Our next session will be October, 2018 through March, 2019. We will be taking sign ups at the coffee hour during the month of September or you can contact Mary Jane Humphrey at 963-6005 or maryjhumphrey@comcast.net.

Bible Study Fellowship | BSF

BSF groups for women begin on Monday, September 10th at 7:00pm. The study for the 2018-2019 season is the People of the Promised Land I, from the time of Joshua to Solomon.

In more than 1,000 classes in 39 countries, people of all ages, races and cultures participate in BSF, whether they are discovering God’s Word for the first time or have studied the Bible over a lifetime. Bible study draws us closer to God and helps us better understand Him, His Word and His love. Through a stronger relationship with God, members have discovered how to build better and stronger relationships with others — at home, work, school and in our communities. www.bsfindernational.org



Bookends

Adult Ed has a great season planned for the Sunday morning Bible Study. Some of the classes will be just before church (9:00 – 9:50), and some of the classes will be just after church (11:30 – 12:20). All will be held in the Fireside Room. Some of the upcoming courses are below. Watch the bulletin for more details.

- 9 a.m. Sept 16-30: Reunions, Reuniting, and Gathering
- 11:30 a.m. Oct 7 – Nov 18: Eden to Eternity – The Bible in 7 Weeks! Led by Rev Dr. Paul Watermulder
- Nov 25: Thanksgiving Break – No class
- Dec: Courageous Conversations Moderated by Pastor Dave
- Jan: Forgiveness
- Lent: A Study of “The Letter from a Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King Jr.
- April/May: How the Bible Came to Be

If you have any questions or would like to join the Adult Ed committee, please contact Brenda Costanzo at 1brenda.costanzo@gmail.com

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

Questions/info?
Contact Sue Hansen at

paigetturner007@hotmail.com.

September
Mischling
by Affinity Konar

UNITED
Silicon Valley, One Heart for Prayer
Join Us
Meet women who believe in the power of praying for our children & their schools.
Many guest speakers including Sally Burke, President of Moms in Prayer.
No cost to attend
Please register online: www.tinyurl.com/pray9-7-18

moms in prayer
INTERNATIONAL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th **9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.**
Presbyterian Church | 16575 Shannon Road | Los Gatos, CA 95032



Children's Ministry

JOYFUL VOICES CHILDREN'S CHOIR

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.

This fall we invited all 2nd-5th graders to be part of Joyful Voices, lifting their voices to God. If you have a 1st grader that is especially interested in singing he/she may participate, but a parent needs to be present during the practice time.

JOYFUL VOICES PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Practices are held after worship in the choir room. Duration: about 30 minutes

Sunday, September 16th
Sunday, September 30th
Sunday, October 7th
Sing in church Sunday,
October 14th

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FALL

9/2: All Church Worship

9/7: Moms in Prayer 9am-12pm at PCLG

9/9: Kickoff Sunday

9/23: All Church Worship & GFP 25th Anniversary Celebration – festivities after worship for kids

9/30: AP Sunday for 4th & 5th Graders

10/7: 3rd Grade Bible Sunday

10/19-10/21: Women's Retreat

10/24: Pumpkins & Potluck 5-7PM

ACOLYTES

Acolytes assist by lighting the communion table candles at the beginning of the service. This is a great way for children 3rd-8th grade to participate in worship. You can sign up using Sign Up Genius on the church website.

NEW FALL EVENT!

Join Children's Ministries for Pumpkins & Potluck on Wednesday, Oct. 24th from 5-7PM. Families will sign up to bring a potluck dinner item and we will decorate pumpkins together. More details will be shared in the coming months.

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

QUESTIONS? NEED TO CONNECT?
Sharlene Thompson
Children's Ministries Coordinator
pclgsharlene@gmail.com



Youth News



For most people, praying for a whole hour may sound like a major challenge. There are so many things to distract us. Yet if you consider prayer, worship, reflection, reading scripture, drawing, painting, meditating and singing as ways to enact prayer, it may turn out to be quite easy.

From 9 a.m. on Friday, September 14 to 11 a.m. on Sunday, September 16 we (youth and youth staff) invite the whole congregation to spend an hour in prayer with us in PCLG's Prayer Chapel.

We're calling this special weekend, "50 hours of Prayer." Our students have selected some of their favorite scripture stories to help guide our reflections and prayers.

Here's what we'd love for you to do: sign-up for an hour slot. Look for the link on pclg.org/signup.

When your time slot has nearly arrived, come to the Social Hall just before your hour starts, look around the walls for inspiration, enter the deliberately designed prayer space, and relieve the person or people before you. Someone else or a small group of people, will take your place at the end of the hour. Grove groups, couples, families, bible study groups, musical groups, new friends—any individual and any sort of group is welcome and encouraged to consider putting in some prayer time in the prayer room.

It may be your first time praying for an hour in the Prayer Room, you might have been at our first one way back in 2006 or at others since. Whoever you are, whatever your experience, however you pray, whenever you can come, join us. One hour with God is sooo good.

September

September 2 SRHI YG @ 7:30 p.m.

September 9 Middle School Sunday School kick-off, SNiFF returns @ 5 p.m.

Sept. 14-16 50 Hours of Prayer

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



Music Notes



From *the* Music Director

I hope you have had a wonderful Summer. We are looking forward to kicking off another season of music at PCLG. Looking ahead to the upcoming months, we start off with a bang beginning with our Fall kick-off service on September 9th. The choir will begin with a favorite from our Spring concert, "Old Church Choir" with the Worship Band taking the lead.

Joyful Voices will sing in October and we will hear from The Brass and The Bells as well. The choir will fold in a special retreat this fall to prepare for the upcoming season and sharpen their vocal and music talents. The Retreat is also an opportunity for fellowship in music.

We will look forward to bringing some wonderful music for Reformation Sunday and All Saints Sunday. Moving forward to Advent, you will hear Brass and more inspirational music from the choir in preparation for the birth of Christ.

For Christmas we are working on new ideas for the Pageant and some fresh approaches for the 4 pm Christmas Eve service. More to come on this soon. We will also have our traditional evening service as well with all of our musical components at PCLG coming together in what is always an inspirational service.

Choir Opportunities: If you've ever been part of a choir or if you just like to sing, I would like to encourage you to join the Chancel Choir at PCLG. The Choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 and sings for Sunday services from September through mid-June. We begin rehearsals this year on September 6th at 7:30pm in the choir room and our first service is Kick-off Sunday on September 9th. Your voice would be a welcome addition, so come and make some music with us. Contact Michael Taylor, the music director at Michael.taylor@pclg.org for any other questions or information you might have.

This time of year is always rich with preparation and anticipation as we look towards musically celebrating in worship.

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



Flower Calendar

The 2019 flower calendar will be available for sign-ups beginning on Kick Off Sunday, September 9 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 2019, 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.

**Notes from Rita Hoegel,
Worship Band leader**



“What a beautiful name it is... the name of Jesus”.

As our voices join together as one in worship, something really powerful happens. God is exalted and our hearts and minds become receptive to God’s word. We worship because God is a holy God, and we were created to worship and serve the Creator. What a privilege!

The Worship Band continues to grow in participation as well as song repertoire. We are grateful to the Ministry Fellows, for their fresh ideas and incredible leadership at our two Grove Worship services this past summer.

As we head into the fall the Worship Band is seeking musicians who have a heart for the more contemporary worship songs. Singers or instrumentalists such as guitar, drums, bass, keyboard, Ukulele, and strings are welcome. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings, 7-8 p.m.

For more information, please feel free to contact Norita (Rita) Hoegel at rita.hoegel@pclg.org



Have you ever wanted to make music with a group of fun people? Or looked at the handbells playing on Sunday and thought it would be exciting to try? Ruthanne Adams Martinez, the director of our Los Cascabeles Handbell Choir, is always looking for those who might be interested in playing bells. If you’ve ever played an instrument or have some basic knowledge of music, you would very much enjoy making music with the Bell Choir. And this year, we’re celebrating the 40th anniversary of the bells at PCLG. What a wonderful tradition of worship and praise to be a part of!

We meet Tuesday evenings beginning September 4 and rehearse from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Chancel. Contact Ruthanne at ruthanne.adamsmartinez@pclg.org for more information or with any questions you might have.

Mark your calendars - “**For You the Bells Toll**”, A 40th Anniversary Spooktacular Handbell, Organ and Piano Concert will be held on Saturday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos, 16575 Shannon Rd., San Jose, 95032. Featuring Margaret Martin Kvamme, organ and piano; Ruthanne Adams Martinez and Los Cascabelles, handbells. Music by Chopin, Bandermann, Beethoven. Boëllmann and more! This is a free concert with optional donation to the handbell program at the Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos.

Mission Minute

*The Mission Committee meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 12:30 pm at church.
Please feel free to join us.*

I am once again reminded of what a mission centered church we are! June brought a dedicated team of builders down to Mexico to build two homes for families in need. We continued our tradition of very local service by facilitating mission week in early August. The four days of service brought opportunities to serve others by packing over 400 lunches and providing a warm meal in San Jose. We build four sheds for the fire victims in Santa Rosa. We helped with gardening and learned more about how the homeless are being supported in Santa Cruz. We donated backpacks and helped at a festive backpack distribution in San Jose with other CityTeam volunteers. In addition, we did yard work and learned more about how we can serve unwed mothers in need in San Jose. Layettees were lovingly created by a dedicated group of women.

Well done PCLG!

In the months ahead, our moments for mission will highlight our global commitment to others by highlighting the support of our missionaries and the building of a well to supply clean water to a village in Uganda. We'll also hear about two church members who served in Kenya through Amor ministries.

Looking ahead, October will bring another chance to serve globally by packing thousands of meals in our next Rise Against Hunger.

~Carol Smith, Mission Elder



Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) is an organization currently supported by PCLG. It is a faith based program dedicated to transforming lives by building sustainable medical ministries in developing countries like Haiti. PCLG is offering an opportunity to go to Haiti to provide assistance through construction projects and offering medical care. The week being considered is January 19-26, 2019. Through MBF and alongside Haitian workers, we hope to make a difference in this poverty stricken community. If you are interested in more details, please contact mission elder Carol Smith (Csmith392@aol.com).

Financial Report

Greetings, PCLG parishioners! It's hard to believe that we are now well into the third quarter of the year and before you know it, 2018 will be a memory. Just to update you on PCLG's financial progress for this year, year-to-date pledged offerings are currently less than budget by 7%—resulting in a shortfall in budgeted pledged offerings of a little over \$35,000 as of the end of July, 2018. However, total expenditures for 2018 are also less than budget—by 9%—resulting in an overall surplus for PCLG of \$11,629 through July 31, 2018.

After experiencing a decline during the first quarter of 2018, the value of PCLG's investments rebounded in the second quarter, resulting in an overall net increase in investment value of \$81,387 for the year 2018.

With a bit of an increase in pledged offerings after the usually slower summer months, PCLG should still be on track to meeting its budget targets for the year 2018.

Please feel free to contact me at dale.loepp@pclg.org if you have any questions about PCLG's finances.



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 women 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



News

GFP Turns 25!

This month we will celebrate 25 years as a PCLG outreach program! We hope that you can join us in the service on September 23 to acknowledge staff, board members, alumni, and those who have continued to support the program over the years.

I have been a teacher/director for 24 of those years and could not have “raised up” the children and program without the assistance of all those that I have worked with along the way. I am most appreciative of my family who have been a huge part of the journey. Greg (spouse) has created music for our programs, assisted in numerous GFP campus projects. Blake (son) created our website and has programmed numerous computers over the years as well as supported us in GFP campus projects. Leah (daughter) has been an employee for 19 years! Along the way she has taught, currently assists in the office and is an administrative lead.

During those years I have been blessed to have several staff remain with the program for an average of 5 - 20 years! I am thankful for their dedication to the field of early childhood education ...but even more so to Growing FootPrints! Their compassion, energy and enthusiasm make each day a wonderful adventure and learning experience for the children and families.

I thank all of the PCLG board members and staff for their support over the years in assuring we have a great environment and successful program to offer the community. It is such a joy to share the news that so many of our past students give back to the program (eagle scout projects, volunteering, campus upkeep) as they have such fond memories of their early years with us!

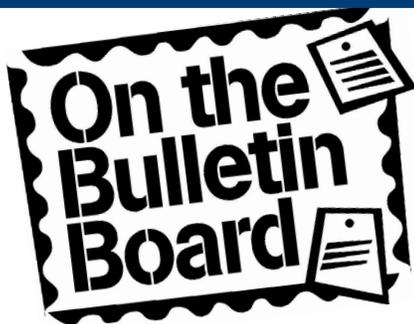
As a dedicated program to the community we would like to remind those on campus that we are a licensed entity. Visitors must check in with the GFP office, during school hours, prior to entry into the Westminster wing. Safe church training does not fulfill licensing requirements for entry and interaction. Staff have separate requirements and must be on our licensing roster. We appreciate your support in assuring we meet State Licensing requirements and provide a safe environment.

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.

1 Peter 4:10

Blessings,

Cory Mullins, Growing FootPrints Director growingfootprints@yahoo.com.



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
October SPIRE
is 2:00 p.m. Tuesday,
September 25*



September Birthdays

1	DAVID GRAFF	16	TRICIA HERZ
2	STEVE GILBERT		ALBERT CERUSSI
4	TED LUSK		JACOB GAMBLE
5	MASOUD SAAD		MARITZA VAN DER MERWE
7	CHOE HICKMAN		
8	EMILY BARRETT	19	ALAN BAKER
	TONY HERZ	21	LESLIE KENNEDY
9	DANA PARKER		JACOB FROMAN
	KIRA ROHRER		SCARLETT SMITH
10	EMILY BAYS	23	DIANE EGLI
11	ALLISON HILLIARD		ROBERT NELSON
12	RUSSELL HOSFELDT		DREW ACHABAL
13	COLLIN WENTZIEN		NORMA FRANCE
15	MARK ISFELD	26	MARTHA BEATTIE
		27	JIM TALEVICH
		29	DAVID TURNER

Anniversaries

4	ALAN & GLORIA BAKER	26	COLIN CLANCY & LYDIA TERRILL
8	ALAN & COLLEEN HATTMAN	28	BILL & JOYCE STRANDBERG
10	AL & MARDIE DAILEY		
13	TED & JEAN LUSK		
20	STEVE & LAUREL GILBERT		



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Presbyterian Church of Los Gatos

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Los Gatos, CA 95032

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www.pclg.org

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Kick-off Sunday

September 9

Celebrate the beginning of the 2018-2019 program year!

Lunch, Fun Activities for Children, Shave Ice, & More!

Questions? Contact Bill Meadows at

billmeadows13@gmail.com

Sign up to help at pclg.org/signup