



# THE PETALUMAN

**“PUMC WELCOMES ALL TO WALK WITH US AS WE REACH OUT TO THE COMMUNITY WITH OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS”**

**August 2023**

**The Petaluman**  
Is published monthly

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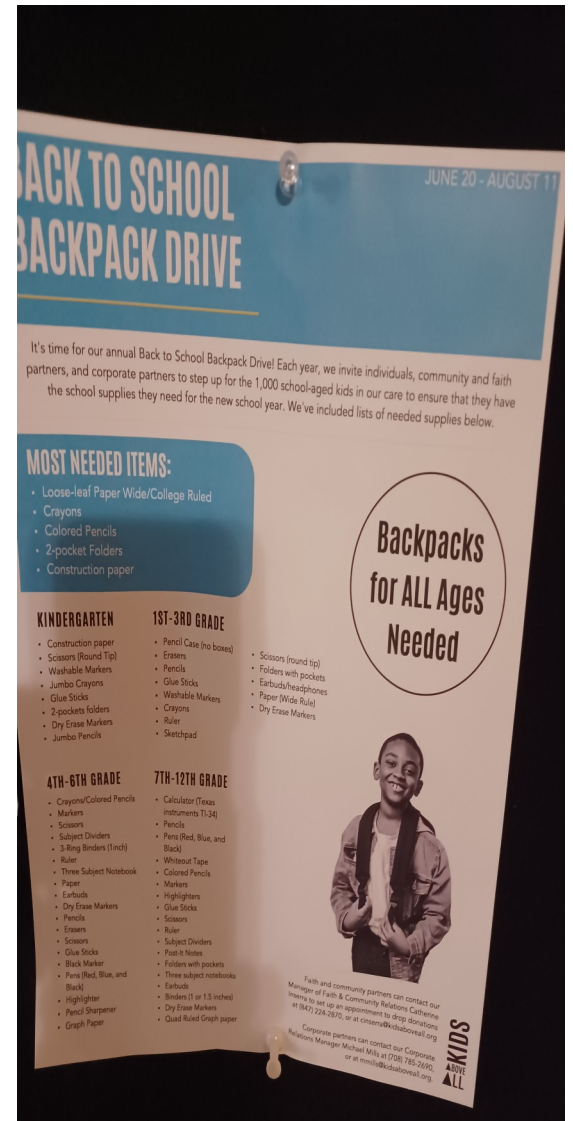
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petalumaumc.org  
Click on Worship, then Sermon links.

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## Pastor’s Reflections

Years ago, when I lived in New York I went on vacation to San Francisco. I was working at the Four Seasons Hotel at the time and was going to stay at the Four Seasons in SF. Before the trip I was sharing my excitement about it with a friend who was going through a rough time and I was suddenly struck with the great idea to invite her along. One of the things I insisted on she had to accompany me to church on the Sunday I was away. She complained a little and teased me about the vacation being a busman’s holiday. In some ways - all of my vacations are busman’s holidays. I love to visit different churches to discover and steal borrow any ideas that may work back home. Here are some pics of flyers that other churches had posted of things they are doing that we could potentially do here in Petaluma. Do any of them spark an interest? Do they trigger other ideas? Let me know!



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**Newsletter Deadline:**  
**September** Issue:  
**Deadline: August 23, 2023**



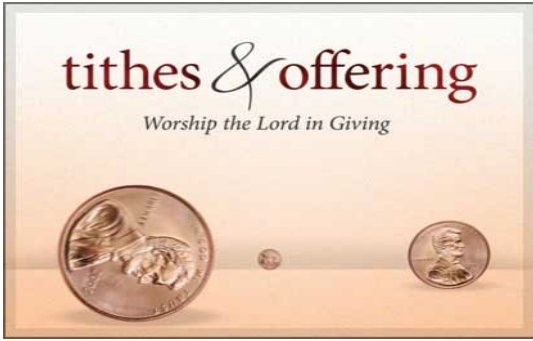
**Trustees**-Richard Hillery

Trustees did not meet this month as the Fourth of July holiday weekend was the first Sunday.

We will gather in August to discuss a new building use; how to keep the evergreen trees, bushes and plants watered while the lawn irrigation system is off; Church artifacts; floor tile efforts in the Social Hall foyer women's restroom; parking lot improvement; organizing a work party to go up into the tower to check lights and storm drain; weeds everywhere.

Richard





**You have options!  
for your pledge or offering:**

- ◇ **Bring it** Sundays when you come to service.
- ◇ **Mail your check** to the church: 410 D St.,  
◇ Petaluma, CA 94952

**Finance-Sharon Sibbet**

On August 6 Finance will be handing out **Love Offering** envelopes for **Second Mile donations** at Worship Service.

All rummage sale proceeds (\$1359) were credited to Outreach because they have purchased 21 replacement tables for our heavy and damaged 8-foot tables. The Finance Committee is very grateful to Outreach for making this offer. We have sold all 21 old tables.

Finance Committee proposed to Church Council that we increase the percentage from building use proceeds that is credited to Trustee Projects from 25% to 50%. The remaining 50% will go to the General Fund. The rationale is that we have an old building and can expect minor repairs from time to time. Our General Fund budget does not include any monies for Trustees other than a percent of building use. This proposal was approved.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 16.

**Treasurer-Ron Malone**

**Our Church Financial Report  
At-A- Glance  
Month of June**

<b>Income</b>	<b>\$ 8,814.16</b>
<b>Expense</b>	<b>\$ 10,215.79</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ (1,401.63)</b>

**Year to Date**

<b>Income</b>	<b>\$ 67,006.55</b>
<b>Expense</b>	<b>\$ 89,371.82</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ (22,365.27)</b>
<b>Gen. Fund Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$ 64,084.30</b>

**Temporary Restricted Funds**

<b>Outreach Funds</b>	<b>\$ 4,700.75</b>
<b>Memorial Funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,127.36</b>
<b>Trustee Funds</b>	<b>\$ 11,337.21</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Funds</b>	<b>\$ 5,395.39</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 23,560.71</b>

**Thank You for Your Support!**

## OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

### Church Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Email:** [umc.petaluma@gmail.com](mailto:umc.petaluma@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.petalumaumc.org](http://www.petalumaumc.org)

**Phone:** 707-762-9785

Please contact the office:

- to schedule a Zoom meeting for your committee.
- to schedule an appointment with the pastor.
- to schedule meeting room use.

**Please contact the office *before* volunteering the use of our campus. We want to *avoid* conflicting events and appointments.**

Thank you

05 Sereima Laba  
19 Dave Layne  
24 Audrey Phillips  
26 Laura Wongkar  
31 Sharon Graham



~ MAKE A DIFFERENCE ~  
DONATE  
IN HONOR OF, IN MEMORY OF, IN  
CELEBRATION OF SOMEONE SPECIAL  
IN YOUR LIFE

**IN MEMORY OF:**  
**FROM:**

HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY

02 Ron & Gyann Malone  
03 Steve & Karen DeLue  
05 Rob & Elizabeth Bickmore



**Worship** - Sue Sarno/O. Wright

Resumed monthly meetings -  
1st Friday of the month at 11:00 am

Working on updating job duties for Ushers, Communion Steward, and Committee Chair(s).

We will be focused on our Fall worship services.

~~~~~  
A Big Thank You  
to Everyone that helps with Communion

- Nora Tallent and Adela Hennings usually set the communion table, and fill the individual cups.
- Olivette Wright provides the juice; and helps where needed.
- Sally Pyne bakes the bread in her handy, dandy bread machine and cuts it into bite sized pieces.
- Sally also takes the communion elements to those that are not able to come to the table.
- Sue Sarno and Gyann Malone, usually help with clean-up and unsetting the communion table.
- Sally washes, dries and puts away the cups and other items that are used.
- All will help where needed in the absences of a regular.
- Of course, Pastor Rob presides over communion.

~~~~~  
**S.P.R.C.** - Gyann Malone /June Hudnall

I think we had a very successful ordination party for Pastor Rob. I would like to thank Charlotte, June, Olivette, Elizabeth Stallinga, Sue Rice and Sally for all their work on the party that made it so successful. I would also like to thank the congregation for their generous donations to Pastor Rob's gift of frames for his ordination certificates and money that he is going to use to commission a stole.

Our committee will meet again the end of August.



**Outreach** -Judy Hillery/ Elizabeth Bickmore

Exciting news, the 8' tables we ordered for the church arrived. We now have 21 wonderful tables that can be moved around easily by our church members.

Another bit of exciting news, all of our heavy, damaged and ugly tables have found new homes.

It's time to start gathering items for the next Rummage Sale so start cleaning out your garage again and don't forget your closets. Bring things in on Sunday or call the office and make arrangements with Olivette, Sharon or Judy.

The next upcoming events are our **Dine and Donate at Don Pancho's, Oct. 4th** and the **Craft Faire Nov. 18 th** . Pass the word to all your friends that want to sell their crafts and rent a table. Give their name and number to Lamar and she'll send them the needed information.

**From: Office Manager**

. To keep our new tables looking nice we are requesting the following:

- Please leave the silver colored **table protectors** on the two rectangle tables nearest the Kitchen **at all times**.
- Please place **your** table cover/cloth **over** them. Do not use just the table protectors.
- We want our brand new tables to look great for a long time! The cost to replace a single table is close to \$500.

**Book Club**-Sharon Sibbet

The **Book Club** meets  
on the last Friday of the month  
at 10:30 a.m.

Anyone that is interested in joining or would like more information should contact:

Karen DeLue 707-774-6661 *or*  
Sharon Sibbet 707-775-4005

**Women's Discussion Group**-Sue Sarno

Meet via Zoom on *1st Monday* of the month at 7:00 p.m.

*Please contact the office for the Zoom Link.*

**Men's Group**- Don Broadbent

Meet 2nd Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m. at Henny Penny's on Petaluma Blvd. North

**Quilt Group**-Sue Rice & Nora Tallent

Meets on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

**Ladies Monthly Brunch/Lunch**

Meet monthly:

2nd Friday of the month 11:30 a.m.

(currently) At Mary's Pizza on the East side

**Contact: Sue Sarno or Elaine Caldwell**

**Discipleship Group**-Pastor Rob

Meets via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

*Please contact the office for the Zoom Link.*

**Recap Bible Study**-Mark Benzonelli

Read the entire bible in a year

Thursday Evenings

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Meet in Fireside Room weekly

**New Testament in Year**

Meet via Zoom



*Elaine Caldwell, Sue Sarno, Lamar Shahbazian,  
Gwen Petro, June Hudnall, Audrey Phillips,  
Adella Henning, Sharon Sibbet, Charlotte Peterson*

***PUMC Ladies Who Brunch/Lunch***



## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday Podcast:

[www.petalumaumc.org](http://www.petalumaumc.org) or [petalumaumc.podbean.com](http://petalumaumc.podbean.com)  
**Currently, Sunday Services are being taped live and will be posted later in the afternoon on the day of the service.**

**Discipleship** – Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.  
*Contact the office for the Zoom link*

**Quilt group** -Thursday mornings 10:00 a.m. in person at PUMC.

**Recap Bible Study**-Thursday evenings 6-7pm in person

## MONTHLY CALENDAR

We encourage all groups to meet: via conference call, email, Zoom, Facebook, or in person.

- **08/06 Trustees Mtg.**                      **12:45**    **p.m.**
- **08/13 Worship Committee**        **11:00**    **a.m.**
- **08/20 Finance \***                        **10:30**    **a.m.**
- **08/27 Church Council**                **1:00**     **p.m.**

\* Committee only. Due to confidential information, Finance and S.P.R.C. meetings are *Not* open to the general congregation.

**Coffee with Pastor Rob** - first Friday of the month at 10 a.m. *in the Rose Garden or Fire Side room at P.U.M.C.*

**Open Mic Nite** – the first Sunday of the month  
**7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Social Hall**

**Women’s Discussion Group** - now 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.  
*Contact the office for the Zoom link*

**Third Sunday of the month** is “Bring Your Own Lunch” Sunday. Hosted each month by a different committee or group as they choose..

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

### PUMC Lay Leader-Nora Tallent

Hello from all your brothers and sisters from Cal-Nevada Annual Conference that was held 6/17-19. I was asked to convey a special “Hello” from Rev Amy Beth and Rev Burke. This conference included over 50 churches in our district and represented a wide spectrum of cultures and nationalities. In fact, this conference has one of the most diverse memberships in the nation.

The theme of this year’s conference was:

### Witness of a New Thing

Based on Isaiah 43:19

*See I am doing a new thing. Now it springs up. Do you not perceive it?*

The first afternoon involved both clergy and Laity sessions with our Conference Lay Leader, Michele Pope opening the laity session and encouraging us all to pivot to another way of being with each other. She urged us to be open to change, work to create new pathways and embrace new ideas.

We were also honored to hear from Guest Speaker, Rev. Rebekah Simon-Peter, who spoke on Creating a culture of renewal and to “Dream Like Jesus”.

She encouraged us to help our congregation open their hearts to new ways of thinking. In subsequent sessions, she also presented on productive conflict and the need to explore and understand ourselves so that we can rise above the fray and be people who actually make a difference.

As we look at our role in faith and society, the Cal-Nevada conference has created a new vision statement.

Just as the United Methodist Church and PUMC has developed their own specific vision statements, the conference’s developed their new vision to help us in our daily living and decision making,

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## The New Vision of Cal-Nevada Conference is:

*Following Jesus, thriving in community, healing the world.*

This statement was developed from shared conference values:

### Collaborative ministry

Diversity and inclusion that invites and engages all the world in transforming actions  
 Innovation that creates new ministry expression and opportunities for transformation and  
 Renewal

Connectionism that is fruitful and faithful.

This vision is designed to help us find our bearings in the direction and momentum in this uncertain time of the church.

The denomination notes that 84% of the UMC will remain after the last disaffiliations listed by the December 2024 deadline, including 6 from our conference.

- Anderson Trinity UMC
- Battle Mountain UMC
- Firebaugh-Mendota UMC
- Montague UMC
- Riverside UMC
- Weldon UMC

2/3 of the members of these churches have voted for disaffiliation

The following churches have also closed, generally due to declining attendance

- ST Paul's UMC in Vacaville (2021 average attendance was 13)
- Lindsay UMC in Lindsay
- Kerman UMC (average attendance of 4-5 in 2021)
- Jamestown UMC (4 active members)

Although we all experience sadness for these losses, the conference continues to explore and develop new ministries. The conference is reaching and supporting new churches including Tongan, Fijian and Hispanic, Chinese and Native American populations. We are truly witnessing a new thing in the Cal-Nevada Conference and a new hope of truly sharing God's love in the world.

Of course, a highlight of the conference was the ordination of Rev Rob Herrmann. Several people from PUMC and St Johns were present to celebrate and support Pastor

Rob during this very special event. Many more were able to watch via zoom and virtual streaming. We all wish to congratulate Pastor Rob.

Thank you for allowing me to represent our church at annual conference. Please feel free to talk to me if you have any questions.

