



THE PETALUMAN

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

September 2023

The Petaluman

Is published monthly

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Newsletter Deadline:
 October Issue:
Deadline: September 23, 2023

Pastor’s Reflections

Pastor Rob would like to pass on this information regarding *Rev. Bayen of Windsor, CA* new App.

SACRED GROUND IS NOW LIVE!

A tour on Otocast, a GPS-activated audio guide which can be downloaded for free for use on Apple or Android devices, Sacred Ground connects visitors to 17 of Sonoma County’s beautiful scenic vistas, parks and trails. Each location on the tour includes information on local challenges related to climate change, a land acknowledgment, an invitation to a faithful action we all can take to preserve and restore fragile ecosystems, and a mindful spiritual practice. It is the brainchild of Rev. Laurie Bayen of Windsor Community United Methodist Church, and has received initial funding from a grant by the Los Rios District Union of the California-Nevada Annual Conference.

Rev. Bayen enlisted a number of nature-loving church members, neighbors and colleagues to collaborate on research, writing, photography and recording of audio narrations for the project, and

hopes, now that the app is launched, to engage local mission-aligned organizations in sponsorship and publicity, so that this form of “church without walls” might reach a wider audience.

To access the app on your smartphone, search for “Otocast” on the App Store or Google Play. Once the app is downloaded, if you are located in or near Sonoma County, Sacred Ground should appear at or near the top -- or scroll down the alphabetical list to find Sonoma County, CA, click on Sacred Ground, and start exploring! If you don’t have a smartphone, you can go to [https:// app.otocast.com/preload/Sonoma_SacredGround](https://app.otocast.com/preload/Sonoma_SacredGround)

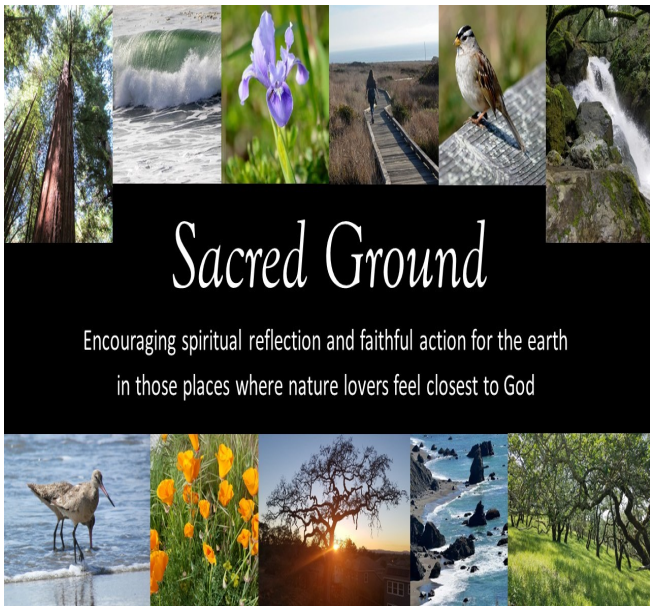
This is a version of the guide that works in a web browser (you can even use it with your phone in “airplane mode” or places where cell phone service is spotty, as it pre-loads all images, text, and audio).

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Rev. Bayen would like to expand the Sacred Ground project to include beautiful places in other regions, so if you'd like to help bring this app to your community, contact her at pastorlaurieumc@gmail.com.

For a more detailed look, check out this promotional video on the Sacred Ground YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/1yX_WGDc31A

Blessings, Pastor Rob



Trustees-Richard Hillery

Space use agreements will be studied for our next meeting to see if we are inline with other space providers.

Discussion regarding the tree in the lawn-pending contact with donor.

Parking lot-possibly add stripes to better manage this space. Machines are available to rent for striping. Area needs to be cleaned up/swept/weeded before painting the stripes. Improved signage, also. Should repave the area funding not available.

Dedicated funds will be used to have the foyer ladies room floor tiled. Pending delivery of tile ordered last month and install date.

Backflow device along 5th Street was repaired by Northwoods Backflow Services at no charge and then given an annual inspection. Paperwork sent to City of Petaluma.

A meeting with City Wide, a building maintenance service provider, was missed due to no show by them.

Water lines from our well to the lawn irrigation system need to be replaced, but funding is not available. "Hand" watering by volunteers is keeping our evergreen trees, bushes, vines and roses hydrated. It takes an hour to pull hoses around to all areas. **Thanks** to our volunteers.

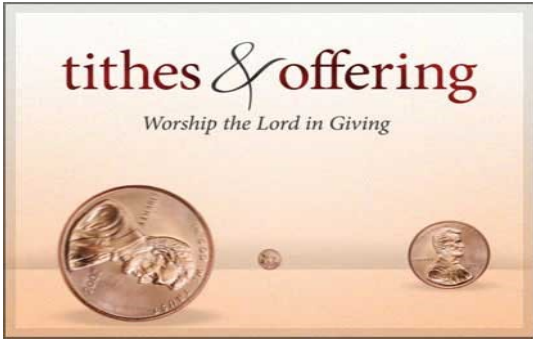
Sanctuary pew cushion replacement costs are over \$15,000.00. It is suggested that folks can bring small cushions from home if they wish.

Church relics update (proper name for these items is antiquities, as they are from the Middle Ages, a time before the birth of Christ). Contact was made with Glenn Illian, the original donor of the antiquities to our church to learn when PUMC acquired them. Glenn was working for a company that did appraisals of antiquities and purchased them for future value. At the time the market for antiquities was flat, so he donated them to the church. Trustees wanted to learn if the value has eased, so two companies that deal with such things were contacted. Of course, there would be a fee for appraisals.

A work party is scheduled for Saturday August 26. A group will go up into the church tower inspecting the lights and storm drain. There will be some weeding, pruning and sweeping to be done.

Trustees will not meet in September.

(See page 8 for more Trustee news)



**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

So often we are focused on fundraising for our own General Fund to stabilize our in-house budget. Recently we have encouraged supporting people who need help beyond our own little corner of the world. It's not too late to donate through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) for the Maui fire victims or for the support of our missionary, Katharine Parker, who is serving through our California-Nevada Conference in Nepal.

To donate to either through UMCOR, please submit a check written out to PUMC or cash and be sure the memo line of the check or the envelope the cash is in says "Maui" or "Nepal Missionary".

Ron Malone, our Treasurer, will see that the donation gets to UMCOR. Remember that 100% of your donation goes directly to the cause you have identified. No administration fees are taken out. Thank you to all who donate!

Treasurer-Ron Malone

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

Income	\$ 8,028.89
Expense	\$ 9,166.57
Surplus/Deficit	(\$ 1,137.68)

Year to Date

Income	\$ 108,585.00
Expense	\$ 118,690.00
Surplus/Deficit	(\$ 10,105.00)
Gen. Fund Bank Balance	\$ 64,084.30

Temporary Restricted Funds

Outreach Funds	\$ 1,386.45
Memorial Funds	\$ 2,030.04
Trustee Funds	\$ 11,002.33
Miscellaneous Funds	\$ 5,447.89
TOTAL	\$ 19,866.71

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

Website: 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



04 June Hudnall
07 Sue Rice
22 Jim Phillips
26 Rob Herrmann
27 Dorothy Pazamickas

~ MAKE A DIFFERENCE ~

IN MEMORY OF:

RON LIPORI

FROM: **SUE SARNO**

IN MEMORY OF:

JOAN WHITEHORN

FROM: **SUE SARNO**

IN HONOR OF:

RON & GYANN MALONE

FROM: **DOROTHY PAZAMICKAS**



05 Jim & Audrey Phillips
23 Michael & Nora Tallent



Worship - Sue Sarno/O. Wright

.Our Committee will host social hour following service during the month of September.
A new "singing" version for communion was introduced in August & was well received by our congregation. We hope to share this communion experience once a month. We so enjoy our Fijian Choir on the first Sunday of each month, and are looking forward to some special music during upcoming worship service by some of our congregants. Thank you to all Worship Committee members who work so well together & pitch in where needed.

A Big Thank You



To Ron and Gyann Malone and Don Broadbent

Each Sunday our dedicated Greeters and Ushers faithfully welcome all that enter the narthex. They hand out the bulletins. Direct and escort attendees. Keep count of attendees for the yearly Statistical report.
Ron and Gyann also collect the offerings during Offertory. Take a moment to thank them for their faithful service.

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

S.P.R.C. did not have a report for the month of September.



Outreach -Judy Hillery/ Elizabeth Bickmore

Mark Your Calendars!

Oct. 4th, *Dine and Donate* at Don Pancho's. Come, socialize and eat. A great combination. See you there.

Nov. 18th is our annual *Craft Faire*. Tell all your crafty friends. It's a great way to make extra money for themselves while advertising their crafts. It's also a great way to do your Christmas shopping.

Outreach enjoyed hosting Social Hour during the month of August. The congregation appeared to enjoy the opportunity to visit, chat and snack with all.

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 Tuesday* 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.
At PUMC, room 5

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 at PUMC

New Testament in a Year

Meet via Zoom
contact the office for the link



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

PUMC Ladies Who Brunch/Lunch



WEEKLY CALENDAR

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 in room 5.

Recap Bible Study-Thursday evenings 6-7pm in Person at PUMC in the Fireside Room

MONTHLY CALENDAR

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

- **09/03 Trustees Mtg.** 12:45 p.m.
- **09/10 Worship Committee** 11:00 a.m.
- ******* Finance *** 10:30 a.m.
- **09/24 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 Monday of the month 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at PUMC in Social Hall

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



The first day of fall is:

September 23, 2023



The Office now has drinkable hot or cold water.! Hot tea, coffee, or cold water are also available.

Isaiah 55:1- "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;

8 Update from Trustees– Richard Hillery

Friends, today (8/26/23) a crew (Bob Johns, Dave Jackson, & Richard Hillery) went up into the tower to inspect the lights and the storms drains. There is significant deterioration of the electrical conduit for the up lights around the upper tower. The front section is completely rusted through and may not survive the next winter rain as the electrical wires are sitting directly in the gutter. The current lamp holders are not compatible with newer LED spot lights, causing them to fail much faster. We will have at least the four corners illuminated at night, but it is unknown for how long they will work.

To do this right, there will need to be work from a certified electrician. It will be expensive and tedious working in the tight quarters of the bell tower, and the narrow catwalk is where the electrical conduit needs replacing, 45 feet up from the ground. There could be a way to light up the tower with fewer lamps, but even that would be cost prohibitive.

It is possible that PUMC may have to have the tower lights go dark for now.

