



THE PETALUMAN

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

February 2024

The Petaluman

Is published monthly

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Pastor's Reflections

As Lent approaches (it starts February 14 with Ash Wednesday!) Lent has traditionally been a time of preparation. In the early church baptisms frequently occurred during the Easter celebration. So those to be baptized were preparing for their entry into the community of faith.

Imagine it - these people would have heard the good news of Jesus Christ, witnessed the effects of that good news on other Christians and felt compelled to respond to God's call to enter into a life changing relationship with God in a beloved community.

They would have spent the 40 days of Lent learning about Jesus and the his life and teachings so that they could model their own lives on his. They would have learned about the spiritual practices that the community used to continually strengthen the bond between themselves and God. They would have joined with others in learning and living into a new way of life!

As we enter into this season of preparation I invite each of you to take some time to examine your level of engagement with God.

Are you actively and regularly practicing any of the Means of Grace to draw yourself closer to God? Spend some time listening for where God may be leading you through Bible study, through holy conversations, through peaceful contemplation.

I'm praying for each of you (please pray for me!) as we journey together toward the light that Christ offers us.

Blessings, Pastor Rob

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Ash Wednesday



Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

ECCLESIASTES 3:20

Ash Wednesday Services

February 14, 2024

Petaluma - 10:00 a.m.

Saint John's Rohnert Park (5150 Snyder Lane) 4:00 p.m.

Trustees— Rob Bickmore

Currently the ceiling in the kitchen is being prepped to be repainted by Spurgeon Painting Inc. Currently slated to begin work on January 31, 2024.

Lamar Shabazian

Pop-Up Sales Second Saturdays

Starting February 10th, we will be holding a pop-up sale in the Social Hall from 10-2. Tables will be rented to church members and to the public, for the sale of homemade items, rummage, plants, flowers, etc. Funds raised will go to the maintenance fund for trustees, with 10% to the general fund as usual. Come out and sup-

We will also be commencing a series of **workdays** to spruce up church grounds, with the first being held **Sunday, February 4th starting at 2 p.m.** We will be washing the exterior walls, getting down cobwebs,



WE GIVE because
GOD GAVE FIRST

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16*

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
- ◇ **Drop It off** at the office (if office closed place in the mail slot).

Finance— Adela Hennings

Last year we projected to have a deficit of \$8,000, we actually had a deficit of \$18,352. This year we have a projected deficit of \$ 22,381. So, this year we will all have to pull together to reduce this.

We have a new committee: **Adela Hennings** (chair),
Elaine Caldwell (treasurer), **Ron & Gan Malone**
(bookkeeper),
Gwen Petro (finance secretary). & last but not least **Mark Benzonnelli** (rep. from trustees).

Treasurer-Elain Caldwell

The projected Budget deficit for 2023 was: \$10,105.00
The actual Budget deficit at the end of 2023 was:
\$18,352.25
The line items/expenses that comprised the additional
\$8,247.25 deficit were:

Tithing
Copier expenses
Office Supplies
Permits
Utilities
Insurance
Organ/Piano tuning

The projected Budget deficit for 2024 is \$22,381.30.
Our pledges have not increased but our expenses have.
Consequently, our deficit increases.

Treasurer-Elaine Caldwell

Our Church Financial Report
At-A- Glance
Month of December

Income	\$ 7,702.50
Expense	\$ 14,076.86
Surplus/Deficit	\$ (6,374.36)

Year to Date

Income	\$ 104,610.13
Expense	\$ 122,962.38
Surplus/Deficit	\$ (18,352.25)
Gen. Fund Bank Balance	\$ 63,717.75

Temporary Restricted Funds

Outreach Funds	\$ 731.28
Memorial Funds	\$ 253.02
Trustee Funds	\$ 12,492.34
Miscellaneous Funds	\$ 6,482.98
TOTAL	\$ 19,959.62

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

**Happy
Birthday**

**16-Sally Pyne
17-Nora Tallent
19-Dick Sibbet
24 –Elaine Caldwell**

~ MAKE A DIFFERENCE ~

IN MEMORY OF:

FROM:

IN HONOR OF:

FROM:



happy anniversary

14 –Bob Johns & Denise Ward



Worship - Sue Sarno/O. Wright

Next meeting: Friday, Feb 2nd, at 11:00 am in the Fireside Room

Ladies Luncheon:

Friday, February 9th, 11:30 am at Mary's Pizza on N. McDowell. Please email rsvp to Sue Sarno or Elaine Caldwell. Thank you.

S.P.R.C. –June Hudnall

S/P.R.C. does not have anything to report at this time.

Quilt Tickets now on sale!

As always. tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Feel free to buy tickets from any of the members of the quilt group. Drawing will be held next September. 2024 Good luck.



Outreach -Judy Hillery/ Elizabeth Bickmore

We want to thank you all again for the support in all the Outreach Fund Raiser Events. It's these events that provide financial help to our local non-profits.

Our next event is the "Rummage Sale". We have received many donations and thank heavens they are still coming in. Now is the time to clean out that garage, the attic and all those closets. Any questions, please call Sharon, Judy or the office. Our tentative date is July 13th

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
has been combined to be part of the monthly
Ladies Brunch/Lunch

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.
PUMC in person

Ladies Monthly Brunch/Lunch Discussion
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
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Meet in Fireside Room weekly

Recap New Testament Study-Mark Benzonelli

Will start Feb 8 at 5:30 pm at PUMC
Feb 7 at 5:30 pm at St. John's in Rohnert Park



*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

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 5:30 pm-
 in person at PUMC.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

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

02/04 Trustees Mtg.	12:45	p.m.
02/02 Worship Committee	11:00	a.m.
***** Finance *	10:30	a.m.
02/18 Outreach	10:00	a.m.
02/25 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 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. in the Social Hall

A **Thank You** note from Marilyn

Pastor Rob and the congregation gave me a beautiful presentation on my last morning of being with you all. The lovely picture/plaque, cards and monetary gifts were unexpected but are truly treasured! Twenty years as your organist was a privilege and I hope brought meaning to worship. Thank you!

Marilyn

Thank
 You!

Psalm 91

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

³ Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

⁴ He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

⁵ Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

⁶ Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noon-day.

⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

⁸ Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

⁹ Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

¹⁰ There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

¹¹ For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

¹² They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

¹³ Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

¹⁴ Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

¹⁵ He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.