



THE PETALUMAN

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

JANUARY 2025

Pastor's Message

A Blessed January for Us All

As we are now moving close to the next phase of our Christmas celebration, known as the Epiphany Sunday celebration; a celebration that normally held either on the 6 or 5 Jan of every year to commemorate the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus. For the Hispanic culture, Epiphany is a great day of rejoicing and celebration. In England and some other European cultures, Epiphany is the culmination of the 12 days of Christmas feasting and partying. Some United Methodist in the United States tend to recognize Epiphany in the Sunday nearest Jan 6. In whatever ways we decide to celebrate Epiphany, remember at the heart of celebration are the Magi kneeling, worshipping and offering gifts to Jesus, the Savior of all people.

The story is so captivating and drawing much attention, as many are amazed by the way they pay homage to Jesus. They treated the King with great respect. In one translation, it says: "...they fell down and worshipped him." (Matthew 2:11-KJV). For kings who were so opulent or affluent, holding high positions of power and so astute, to lower themselves in the presence of the baby Messiah, depicts true worship- a worship ensembled in Jesus words to the Samaritan woman: "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and truth"(John 4:24). A worship that corroborates and intensify faith. Though they were not compelled to present their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, yet they give generously with big hearts. The Epiphany Sunday is a great reminder of where we should put ourselves in the presence of God. The Magi lowered themselves to a God, who first lowered Himself to be born in a manger. It also reminds us to be altruistic in our giving, in spite of odd situations we may go through in life. They offered their very exorbitant gifts to someone whose gift to mankind, was His own life. He gave His own flawless and immaculate life to be crucified for the remission of our sin. We see January, with Epiphany Sunday in it, a month of giving. We can give as much as we can to help grow His church reach a dynamic level, full of vigor and innovation. Let us make all Sundays of January, a time to fill up the offering plates in respect for the child that was born and died to take away the sin of the world. And let us make the Epiphany season an object of reminiscing the task of giving in the Petaluma United Methodist Church. Innovation is introvertive and that's why the impulse of giving will never deteriorate or vanish.

Happy new year everyone and God bless us all.

Blessings Pastor Jimcci Navacione

Trustees- Lamar Shahbazian

Trustee Meeting Minutes - December 7 2024

Approval of prior month's minutes

Old Business

Space Users

o Lamar – Una Vida contract was approved by council and is in Lynne's hands. I expect she will sign it this week. At the last Council meeting I described Lynne's plans for using the space to have a "store" that people can shop at for free. They asked to see a proposal with more specifics, so she is working on that. We will need to approve the room improvements she has planned. She has a flooring guy who plans to put in Luxury Vinyl Plank (LVP) as soon as it's approved (laying it over existing flooring) and the contract is signed and COI provided.

o Room 2 was used to store books for the LFL. I have moved them to Room 6 for now. My goal is to fit them all onto the wheeled cart and leave it in room 6, let me know if that will be a problem.

o The space use agreement is out to council to approve, then I will send to Narcotics Anonymous. They hope to start with a group of 15 on Sunday nights from 5-6:30, first in the Fireside Room and if they outgrow that, to the social hall. Al Anon is in Fireside from 7-8:30 on Sundays. I cleared it with Mereani as well.

Maintenance

Village Network has had many issues, including leaks through the windows, heating, and internet outages.

o Rob caulked the windows and will repaint the fix after the weather dries. Ultimately, we need to replace the wood around those windows. We are planning to install a new rain gutter to eliminate the water running down the outside of the windows.

o Rob repaired their thermostat, they had damaged the pins by pulling

it off and on the wall.

o Rob is investigating internet issues. The office internet is working fine, so for urgent needs they plan to use the Fireside room.

From my Dec 9 email, here are the other maintenance issues we plan to work on. We discussed scheduling a work day so let me know what works for you.

Maintenance needed asap:

Replace filters in sanctuary

Add rain gutter to outside of Room 12 (VN Office)

New light switch in men's room off social hall (stays on all the time)

Remote thermostats (will save energy and time) – Rob has priced at \$400

Door knob from Room 6 to patio needs lock replaced, won't lock

Lower priority but if were there for a work day we could also do these:

Door sweeps - need 5 (2 front doors and 2 side doors of narthex, one for door between rose patio and sanctuary)

Right toilet in social hall ladies' room - needs lock washer

New soap and paper towel dispenser

Keys for back gate and Room 8

Attach key box to wall in Room 6 - reorganize/test

Gravel back patio (Rob to measure and get quote formed size gravel)

New Business

Mark discussed use of the larger garbage can with Village Network.

Elizabeth made arrangements for the church to get a larger can. Mark will monitor usage and see if it's needed. If not, we might go back to the smaller one to save money (\$40/mo. for upgrade). Lamar to emphasize to renters that they need to take away any excess waste.

Rob is investigating a PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) to help raise funds and make use of our roof space. He estimates it can generate between \$500-\$1500 a month and/or save on our own energy costs.

□ **Other discussions include:**

- o Flooring for social hall (I received an estimate from Armando (Lynne's guy) for \$6300 to remove and dispose of the existing carpet and replace what's in the social hall plus entry). This does not include the cost of the new flooring (he recommended we get LVP at ProSource).
- o Dishwasher drain repair – plan to band aid it for now.
- o Mug program at church to help save cup waste
- o Young teen girl, Apicalli, ambassador for recycling
- o Bike Rack at church
- o Leak over back entrance to Village Network – Rob will pursue quote for new gravel and delivery.

Next meeting date

- o Rob and I discussed attending the January meeting to help transition to the new members. I have surgery scheduled January 8th so I am not sure of my plans right now.
- o Mereani plans to join as well as Sekuri and Pauliasi. At the council meeting Mereani said it's easier to move their time of service back on the 2nd and 4th Sunday. Council plans to meet on the 4th Sunday. Would it work for trustees to meet on the 2nd Sunday? That would be January 12.

Office Manager's Report-Olivette Wright

Note: It is **very important** to send me information about your meetings or events so that I can keep the Church Calendar updated. Since we have now opened our buildings for space use to the public; **we can no longer just assume that a space and time will be available.** We want to *avoid* conflicting events and folks being upset and disappointed. **Thank You in advance for your *understanding and cooperation.***

Church Office Hours:

9:30 am to 12:30 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Email: umc.petaluma@gmail.com

Website: www.petalumaumc.org

Phone: 707-762-9785

Please contact the office:

to schedule a meeting with the Pastor,

to schedule a Zoom meeting for your committees,

to schedule meeting room use,

before volunteering the use of our campus. We want to *avoid* conflicting events and disappointments.

January Birthdays



03 Gwen Petro

03 Don Broadbent

10 Olivette Wright

12 Kris Nelson

18 Rob Bickmore

23 Mereani Ikanivere

January Anniversary's

No known Wedding Anniversary's

Treasurer-Kris Nelson

Report submitted by Gyann Malone

Finance At- A- Glance
Month of November

Income	\$ 8,617.22
Expense	\$ 8,149.96
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 467.26

Year To Date

Income	\$ 108,354.76
Expense	\$ 116,117.70
Surplus/Deficit	\$ (7,762.94)
Gen. Fund Bank Balance	\$ 60,868.72

Temporary Restricted Funds

Outreach Funds	\$ 1,933.50
Memorial funds	\$ 283.89
Trustee Funds	\$ 11,607.05
Miscellaneous Funds	\$ 9,543.27
Total	\$ 23,367.71

Thank You for Your Support!



Worship – Sue Sarno

Worship Committee, will meet via Zoom for their monthly meetings.

Friday January 3, 2025 at 1:00.

Note:

We are requesting that you please email the office if you have any ideas, or suggestions for the service or the church. This way any issues/ideas can be accurately conveyed to appropriate person(s).

Note:

Please help the Worship Committee keep our sanctuary neat and tidy by **disposing** the bulletins, water bottles, used tissues, and doodles/drawing into the **recycle bin** when you are exiting the sanctuary. The bin is located in the narthex to your left as you exit out the front of the church.

Very Important Reminder:

The pipe organ and piano in our sanctuary are very expensive instruments.

In addition, they are very expensive to tune up and repair.

Only our current Organist and Pianist is to play them. If there is a need for someone else to play them you **must** contact the Office.

Olivette, will then notify the appropriate persons for permission for you to play the instruments.



Outreach – Judy Hillery

Our Fijian Ministries choir spread the Christmas spirit with Rev. Bob and the residents of Windsong Senior Living. A large group of 35 sang carols for an hour. It was followed by a reception of snacks, cookies and coffee. Windsong is a beautiful facility and very hospital. It was a wonderful evening for all.



Markereta, unknown person, Rev. Bob, Richard Hillery



The Choir and a Resident (seated in chair)

Christmas Letter from Rev. Bob

Please see the next page.



*O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us we pray.*

*We hear the Christmas Angels,
Their glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.*

-Phillips Brooks, 1868

It's nearly two centuries since Phillips Brooks joined a group of other Christians going to the small village of Bethlehem to celebrate Christmas Eve and the birth of the Christ. The carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" is the result.

The last stanza is Brooks', and should be our prayer at this season of the year and we see God's love of us when He sent His Son into our world and showed us how to live with one another.

-Bob

Merry Christmas!

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this finds you well and celebrating the birth of "Holy Child of Bethlehem."

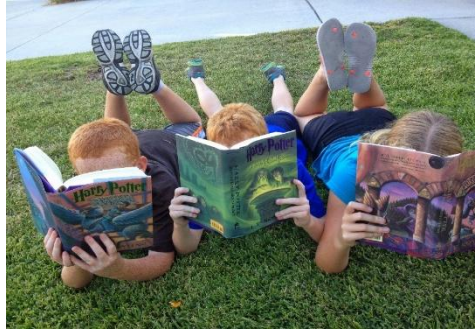
It has been quite a year. I am tempted to call it the "Year of Hospitals (5 visits!). But I'd rather think of it as "The Year of Great Grands" – Daisy Pearl Gertrude (Dave and Sarah's) 5/7/24 and Wilkes Walker Thomas (Franny/Gary) 10/28/24.

After Hospital #1, I moved into Windsong, a care facility with a nice apartment. Gary found me an electric chair for the long run to the dining room.

The decline in my eyesight has daughter DJ finding recorded books for me to (read) listen to. Old age and its limits has made its appearance. There is a whole year before us.

Happy New Year!

Paul Sisson



Book Club-Sharon Sibbet

Meet on the First Friday of the month at 10:30 am to noon.
Anyone interested in joining or would like more information:

Contact: Sharon Sibbet or Karen DeLue

Open Mic Night

Temporarily Cancelled

Ladies Monthly Brunch/Lunch

Meet 2nd Friday of the month 11:30 am at Mary's Pizza in Petaluma.

Contact: Sue Sarno

Quilt Group

Meet at 10:00 am in Room 5 at P.U.M.C.

For additional information please **contact** Nora Tallent

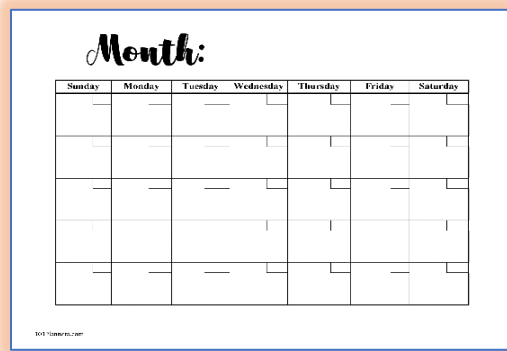
The New Quilt is Ready

Raffle tickets are now on sale for our new quilt.

\$1 for one ticket

\$5 for 6 tickets.

You can buy tickets at our upcoming craft fair or from the craft group.
Or, the office. If you have any questions, contact Nora.



Monthly Calendar for January 2025

- 01/0 **Trustees** tbd
 - 01/06 **Open Mic** canceled until further notice.
 - 01/03 **Worship** 1 pm via Zoom
 - 01/05 **Ad. Council** 1pm in Fireside Room
 - * **Finance** *
 - * **S.P.R.C.** *
- * Meetings are not open due to confidentiality issues.

The photos on the next page are of the preparation of Rose Bowl Parade floats, in Pasadena, CA taken by Lamar Shahbazian. Lamar, is working on the entry for her alma mater, California State University.





Lamar (blue hat) and a bucket of her ferns



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The Reverend Timoci Nawaciono

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Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

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February issue articles are due:

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Happy 2025!

