

THE BRIDGE

Between Church and Home

Longest Night 2011

December 22nd -
6:30 PM



Christmas can be a difficult season for those who are alone, grieving a loss, in ill health, or unemployed. Some people feel overwhelmed by the social demands or the materialism of the holidays. For some, the Christmas season brings painful memories or feelings of isolation.

This year's Longest Night candlelight service is intended to provide comfort and hope through prayer, readings, silence, and music. Join us in the Fireside Room at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 22. This short, ecumenical service might be especially appropriate for friends or neighbors you know are in need of God's peace this season. The service will be followed by a reception for those who wish to stay.

For more information, please contact Phoebe Antonio at dpgloom@aol.com.

Advent Calendar

December 11th

Third Sunday of Advent
Children's Christmas Bazaar after worship
Choir Performance in Kenwood - 1PM

December 18th

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Fourth @ First
Choir Concert - 6:30PM

December 22nd

Longest Night 2011 - 6:30PM

December 24th - Christmas Eve

Family Worship 5PM
Candlelighting

Late Worship 9PM
Communion & Candlelighting

Christmas Day

Worship 9:45AM

December Birthdays
See pg 2

Chrismon Tree
See pg. 2

December Calendar
See pg. 3

Newsletter of First
Presbyterian Church
Petaluma
December 2011 Issue 11



Christmas Cheer

Another Christmas when there are people in need that will be served by Christmas Cheer. If you can help they are accepting donations of food, new toys, and money at there location at 1372 D North McDowell Blvd. Call 763-8368 for more information. Donations are tax deductible.

What's My Line?

If you grew up in the 50's or 60's (sorry all you GenX, etc.) you will probably remember this program and how they handled the Secret Guest. The panelists were all blindfolded and could ask yes or no questions until they got a no. Then the next panelist would ask questions - the game ended when they were stumped or they finally guessed who it was. So in this article I want to do the same thing - give you a chance to guess who our Secret Guest is.

I will give you a clue and once you figure this out you can email me with your guess - and how many questions you took to figure who it was. The questions are on page 2.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

1. This person participates actively on two commissions.
2. This person is a deacon.
3. This person works at the Food Pantry at least once per month.
4. This person is on the Presbytery of the Redwoods Hunger Task Force.
5. This person helps with the Young At Heart group.
6. This person handles the 2 cents-per-meal donations, ensuring that it is properly distributed.
7. This person works each week with setting up the paraments and other decorations in the sanctuary, including the Chrismon Tree during Advent.

When you have identified who this is, send me an email at bridge@petalumafirst.com. I will let everyone know who it is next month and who identified our Secret Guest

Best Vitamin for a Christian: B1

December Birthdays

12/1	Haley Schrader	12/20	Jon Dietrich
12/9	Jim Trumpy	12/20	Andrew Wynkoop
12/12	Joyce Schipper	12/20	Christopher Wynkoop
12/14	Hiroto Logan	12/22	Kiyoe Logan
12/15	Cindy Ingram	12/23	Caroline Stewart
12/18	Eric Goodrich	12/24	Adriana Gutierrez
12/18	Vivian Loh	12/24	Bart Porter
12/18	Devra Stearley	12/28	Lu Hoadley
12/18	Karen Stearley	12/30	Daphne Russell
12/19	Aidan Lew	12/30	Kelsey Russell

PNC Survey Closed; Results Being Reviewed

The survey designed to provide the new Pastor Nominating Committee with information was closed on 12/1 after 88 individuals provided their feedback on a variety of issues: Worship and music style preferences, personal and professional traits of the next pastor, and feedback on how members feel about the direction of the church.

The majority of the respondents were women, over 45, and have been members for over 8 years.

Complete results and how they help to describe us a church and community will be used by the PNC when it begins its work in 2012. This information along with the comments at the two World Café programs will give a basis for the committee to move forward.

THE CHRISMON TREE

An evergreen tree, which symbolizes the eternal life, which our Savior has won for us, forms the background for tiny white and gold Chrismon designs. The lights speak of Him who is the light of the world, and the Chrismon ornaments proclaim the name, the life, and the saving acts of Jesus the Christ.

CHRISMON = CHRIS+MONogram

Some Chrismons designs are simple; copies of symbols of Christianity from its earliest days. Others are new explanations of God's constant presence in our ever-changing world and some are combinations of several elements old and new.

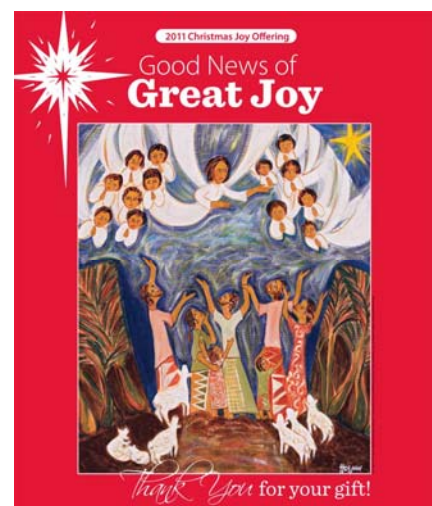
The symbols used are inter-denominational and the heritage of all Christians.

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering for this year will be taken on Christmas Eve at both services.

We will be dividing the Christmas Joy offering between PC(USA) and local mission needs. The PC(USA) portion is used by the denominations to support retired ministers and their spouses who find themselves in need.

The local mission portion will be used to help programs identified by the Mission Commission. We want your Christmas to be filled with joy and hope.





Where will you be sitting in eternity?

Smoking or non-smoking?



December 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:00 PM Worship/ Congregational Care Comm (F) 7:00 PM Personnel Commission Meeting (Office)	2	3
4 9:30 AM Fellowship Time (S) 9:45 AM Worship Service, Children's Sunday School (S) 7:00 PM Youth Group (KH, CE, KIT)	5 6:30 PM Facilities Comm Meeting 7:00 PM Youth Commission Meeting	6	7	8 7:00 PM BFSC (Office)	9	10
11 9:30 AM Fellowship Time (S) 9:45 AM Worship Service, Children's Sunday School (S) 1:00 PM Choir Concert at Kenwood Community Church 7:00 PM Youth Group (KH, CE, KIT)	12 4:00 PM Mission Commission Meeting	13	14	15 6:00 PM Joint Session & Deacon's Meeting (F, KH, Kit) 	16	17
18 9:30 AM Fellowship Time (S) 9:45 AM Worship Service, Children's Sunday School (S) 6:30 PM Fourth at First Presents The FPCP Choir (S) 7:00 PM Youth Group (KH, CE, KIT)	19 9:00 AM Visitation Team Meeting (Office) 2:00 PM Young at Heart (KH)	20	21	22 First Day of Winter 6:30 PM Longest Night Service (F)	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Services</i> <i>5:00 Family Service</i> <i>9:00 Communion</i>
25 Christmas Day 9:45 AM Christmas Service (S)	26	27	28	29	30	31

Meeting Every Week:

- | | |
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| <p>Monday
7 PM Women's Bible Study</p> <p>Tuesday
7PM Tuesday Bible Study</p> <p>Wednesday
9am Women's Bible Study
1:30PM Petaluma Kitchen Knitters
7PM Arntz Small Group
7PM Choir Rehearsal</p> | <p>Friday
5PM Bethel Fijian Fellowship (S,F)</p> <p>Sunday
8:15 AM Praise Band Rehearsal
9AM Choir Rehearsal</p> |
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Can't Sleep?

Try Counting your Blessings.

Nursery Coordinator Needed - Paid Position

Who: Adults 21+ with a strong Christian Faith

When: 2.5 hours per week (including every other Sunday in the Nursery)

Where: Our Church Nursery/ at home

Why: To manage our Nursery and to schedule and supervise Nursery volunteers

For more information, please contact Pam Sommer at pamsommer@sbcglobal.net

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

939 B STREET

PETALUMA, CA 94952

(707) 762-8269

Non-profit Organization

US Postage Paid

Petaluma, CA 94952

Permit No 164

Address Service Requested

Worship in December 2011

We worship Sundays

9:30 AM - Fellowship

9:45 AM - Worship



December 4th - 2nd Sunday of Advent
Communion - Rev. Pam Novelly

December 11th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 18th - 4th Sunday of Advent

December 24th - Christmas Eve Services

Family Service - 5PM - Candlelight

Evening Service - 9PM - Communion &
Candlelight

December 25th - Christmas Day Worship

Baby Love

Do you love snuggling little babies and playing with cute toddlers? The nursery is the place for you! We need volunteers to watch the children in the nursery on Sunday mornings. If you would like to volunteer, please see Jason Dooley or Connie Ahlman. Our little ones would love to spend time with you!

