



## SUMMER SALAD AND FILM SERIES

Thursday, July 12, 26, Aug. 2. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. SHARP!

Sign up in the Narthex/Lobby to bring a salad, bread, or dessert for 8

Here are the movies we will see with our new film/sound system in the Sanctuary:

**July 12: Cotton Patch Gospel** - A delightful retelling of Gospel stories placed in the heart of the south during the Civil Rights movement. Accompanied by foot-stomping country music composed by Harry Chapin.

**July 26: Millions** - A funny and touching tale about two little English boys who find a million dollars in a duffel bag and their adventures learning about doing the right thing.



## San Jose Giant's game July 14, 5 p.m.

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>** to come watch the San Jose team take on the Visalia Rawhides at 5:00 p.m. We'll sit together and have some old fashion fun! **Jim Lathrop** is getting group discount tickets for us at only \$9. Let Jim know how many you want as soon as possible for the discount rate. If you want a ride, let **Judy Lococo** know before July 10<sup>th</sup> at (408) 799-4013 cell.

## VBS – ReNew! Grow in Faith. Have Fun. Change the World!

- Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1100 Shasta Ave, San Jose CA 95128
- July 16 – 20, 2012, begins with light meal at 6 pm, concludes at 8 pm each night
- \$25/family



Planning continues on this summer's Vacation Bible School, which First Presbyterian San Jose and Westminster Presbyterian Church are joining together to present. The program will last Monday through Friday evening, July 16 – 20, and will include a meal and lots of fun. It is for the whole family, and will include an adult discussion along with the more traditional kids VBS activities. *More information on page 5 of this newsletter.*



AND



## Worship and Picnic in the Park

Vasona Lake Park, Los Gatos  
Sunday, July 22, 10:30 a.m.

Sign up in the Narthex to bring part of the lunch. Help by driving others, or transporting folding chairs.

## Game Night, July 27, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Come to church Friday night July 27 and play games with other members and friends. Everyone is welcome :-). Bring your favorite games. Refreshments will be provided.



## 5th Sunday Service Worship Day, July 29

Help people in need! *More information on page 3*

## Sharings from Sharon

Dear Friends:

I'm in the midst of a 30-day silent retreat. I thought that I would rise early each day and spend two hours in silence. To my surprise, it has developed into a very different experience that I had not expected, but it has been nourishing my soul in countless ways.

God always seems to have a way of surprising us! I thought that I was in control, and I was inviting God into what I had planned. Then God surprised me and led me in a totally different direction. The joy is, I was willing to let go and let God to do the leading. What an amazing journey it is. God knew what I needed, and led me in a direction that has enabled me to experience God's presence in a new way. God answered my need to be closer to God in a way that is changing me.

We often come up with plans for God. We tell God what we want God to do. We tell God when we want God to do. We tell God how we want God to perform the task we have chosen for God to do. We rarely allow God to lead us in a way that challenges what we believe or who we are as a person. We are comfortable with the "religion" we have worked out for ourselves.

But, just maybe, God knows us better than we know ourselves. Maybe God's way is far better than anything we could conceive. Maybe our job is just to be open to God's leading and direction.

As the summer continues, I would ask each of you to continue to pray for our church. We have a unique possibility for ministry where we are in downtown San Jose. Pray that we will go where God leads and have the courage to proclaim Christ in a loving, affirming way that changes lives for the glory of God. Pray that together God will do great things through our ministry. I firmly believe that God is molding us for the future that God has planned for the First Presbyterian Church.

Joyfully, in Christ's Service,

*Pastor Sharon*

### YOU'RE WELCOME!

"You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."

~ Ephesians 2:19



## July Birthdays!

Helen Rodriguez	July 2
Lori Tierney	July 5
Greg Plant	July 9
Luana Reveles	July 9
Susan Hyatt	July 11
Randy Peterson	July 11
Helen Trujillo	July 23
Stuart Taylor	July 22
Aysan Abbasi	July 27



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### 'Ukulele and Hula Concert

FPC, Saturday August 18, 2012 from  
2:00 - 4:00 PM., FPC Sanctuary



**Pastor Sharon presching at last summer's Worship in the Park (Travis Ripperger and Rayne to the left, Travis Hyatt to the right)**

## A simple grace before eating



For food in a world where many walk in hunger;  
For faith in a world where many walk in fear;  
For friends, when many walk alone.

**5th** Service  
**Sunday** Worship  
**Day**  
**July 29, 2012**

**"Don't GO to church; BE the church!"**

On this month's Fifth Sunday, we will:

1. **Play Bingo** with the seniors who live next door at Town Park Towers
2. **Make lunches** for our Front Door Ministry
3. **Make lunches** for homeless Youth who gather at the Bill Wilson Center on Second and Margaret Streets
4. **Bring white athletic socks** for homeless adults (for our Front Door Ministry) and youth (BWC).

**Monthly Food Drive for the Hungry People Served by Sacred Heart Community Services**



**FOOD DRIVE**

In June, we gave 60 lbs. of useful canned and packaged food to **Sacred Heart Community Services**. So far this year, we have donated 279 lbs. of food, and 3,720 lbs. of food since we began our monthly food drive in June, 2009.



**Front Door Ministry**

In May we made and gave out **900 lunches** for some **270** people. So far this year, we have served **3,573** bag lunches!

"May they who love You be like the sun when it rises in its strength. ~ Judges 5:31



**CHANGE FOR CHANGE**  
**Coin Collecting this summer**

Collect your coins this summer for **Heifer International** ([www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)) in their efforts to give pairs of sheep, goats, pigs, or chickens to poor people in developing countries so they can breed them, use their wool, drink their milk, eat their eggs, etc. We will collect change until Sept. 9th.

**SO... start saving your change NOW!!**

Once we get closer to the end of the coin collecting time, we'll vote on which animals to invest in, so be thinking!



Visit Heifer's website so you can learn all about them!



**Our gardens are growing!!!**

Our gardens are healthy and happy thanks to volunteer waterers and generous donors. Walk out and see the new fruit trees on the fence line on 4th Street, the new "Rose of Sharon" plant and tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, eggplants and herbs growing well :-)



**Rich Stewart watering (a lot!)**



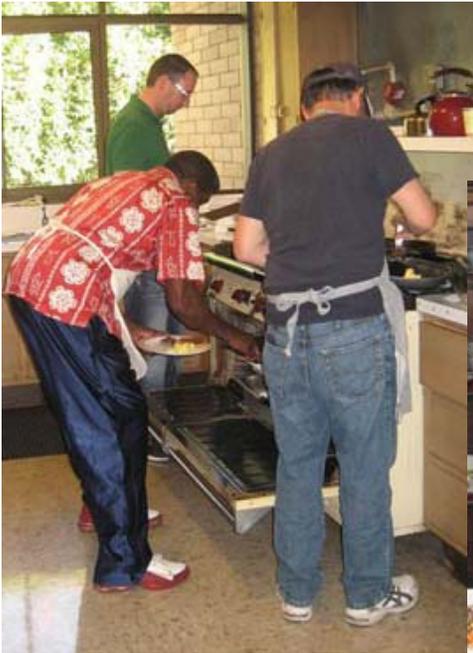
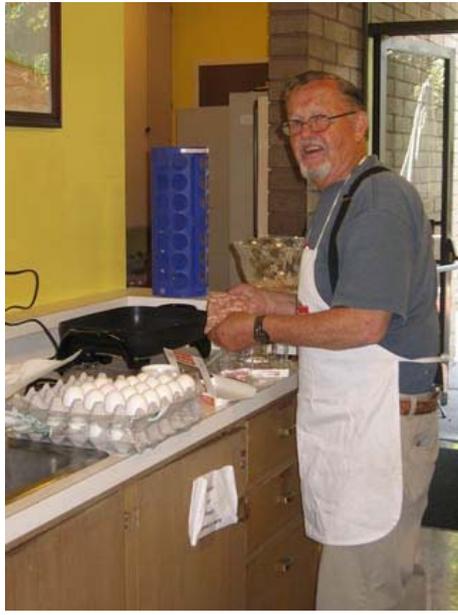
**"Rose of Sharon"**

**Many fruit trees!**

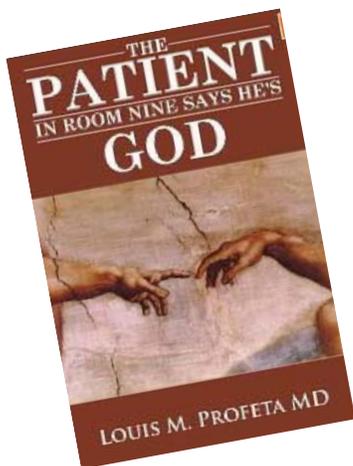


"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." ~ John 15:5

**Tim Todd  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
June 16**



## FPC Book Club



The FPC Book Club has chosen the book **“The Patient in Room Nine Says He’s God”** by **Dr. Louis Profeta** as it’s summer read.

The book is a collection of true stories that follows a passionate ER physician in his quest to find God, and the answers to life’s happenstance in our world today. The stories have been described as witty, funny, and at times heartbreaking.

Dr. Louis M. Profeta received his medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine and residency in Emergency Medicine from the Univ. of Pittsburgh, and currently practices Emergency Medicine at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana. He has authored numerous papers, lectures and abstracts on Emergency Medicine and is the recipient of honors and awards for his contributions to community health and community activism. He has appeared on radio and TV, and we are looking forward to his insights on life and his spiritual journey as gained through a career in emergency medicine.

Unfortunately, the book is not available through the SJ Public library. New and used copies of the book are available through Amazon.com, and one or two copies will be available to borrow from the FPC library.

Our discussion will be at our church, 49 N. 4th Street, San Jose CA, on the **Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 7 pm.**

### Join us and invite your friends!

**“The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” ~ Dr. Seuss, “I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!”**

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Each day we will focus on a different aspect of the parable of the sower. On Day 1 we will talk about planting seeds (God’s love is a seed in me), on Day 2 we will be taking root, on Day 3 we examine what we need to grow, on Day 4 we consider how to face challenges, and on Day 5 we celebrate how we can live together in God’s love. Throughout the week we also have fun learning how our faith calls us to take care of creation.

**Want to sign up to attend?** Contact Lori Tierney (971-4420) or Westminster Presbyterian Church (294-7447). If you would like to have a personal letter and flier sent to your children/grandchildren to invite them, please let Lori Tierney know (names and address). We hope also to have many of our families participate in this event (including grandchildren!).

**Want to help?** Mary Anne James, from Westminster, and Lori Tierney, from FPC are coordinating the planning with Pastor Bryan of Westminster, but they need LOTS of help. Ole is also involved, and he and Sharon will help coordinate the meals.

There are tasks large and small that you can do – from contributing to the meals, leading an activity site or game, helping “shepherd” kids through activities, etc. it will be great fun!

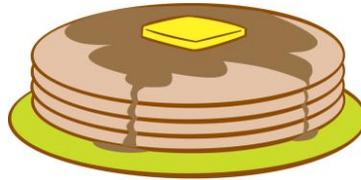
**A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex.** If you don’t know what you want to do, please contact Lori Tierney.

**We also could use contributions of supplies.** Some items are listed below. A full list is available in the narthex. Please let Lori Tierney know if you will supply something, so that we gather what we need while being conservation minded.

- Dirt (for planting)
- Plain cloth napkins or fabric squares (to make napkins)
- Birdseed
- Wildflower seeds, seed packets: tomatoes, basil, oregano, peppers
- Ball of twine
- Paper notepad in shape of feet
- To borrow (will return, put your name on it)- Frisbee, jumping rope or bungee cord
- Cereal boxes
- Two liter bottles



## Pancake Breakfast and Westminster Woods



The annual **Tim Todd Pancake Breakfast** was held again this year on the Saturday before Father's day. Twenty-nine breakfasts were served, as well as a fruit plate and several cups of coffee for our Al-anon friends attending their meeting. **Ticket sales to the breakfast, as well as additional contributions, raised \$331.**

Many thanks to our cooks **Ole Johnson, John Fukasawa, Carson Hibbard, and John Gray**, to our dining room leads **Judy Lococo and Jim Lathrop**, and to our phenomenal waiters **Michele Hare, Christopher Johnson and Trey Grey**. **Lori Tierney** collected the tickets and got to chat with all the workers and guests (the best job!).

The proceeds from the **Tim Todd Pancake Breakfast support camperships to Westminster Woods Summer Camp**. FPC has sent our children and youth to Westminster Woods summer camp in the redwoods outside of Occidental CA for years. It is a great experience – packed with fun and fellowship and the great outdoors. So many of the campers report feeling stronger in their faith after a week at The Woods. The camperships, both those funded by FPC and generous camperships from the Presbytery of San Jose, allow us to help cover the costs for children that could not afford the camp fee otherwise.

This year the campers will be heading up to Occidental on **Sunday, July 8** after the worship service. They will be returning Saturday July 14. The camp will deliver "care packages" to the campers on two days while they are gone, and letters on each camp day. **The campers LOVE mail call.** If you would like to send a note or token of encouragement to one of our campers while they are at camp, please contact Lori Tierney.



Distributing food is a unique act of love because food is the basis for life.

When the church can distribute food, it can allay one of people's most primal fears - that of going hungry - as a way of helping people come to peace.

When sources of food are close at hand, peace may be sustained.

~ **Pamela Couture**, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean, and Professor at St. Paul School of Theology



## CALLING ALL CRAFTY FOLKS! Everyone's welcome!

Craft with us on the 1st and 3rd Mondays from 4-6 p.m. Bring your "own thing" to work on, any craft is welcome, if you want to learn how to bead a bracelet or necklace we can show you how to get started! Come, relax, and chill out.

**For more information** please call Karleen at 408-297-7212.



"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me...I tell you whenever you do these things for the least important of these followers of mine, you did them for me."

~ Matthew 25:35-40

# Meet our Members



Carol and Jim Lathrop

**Carol and Jim Lathrop's** Presbyterian ties go way back – but their *ancestral* ties go back to the founding of the country.



## Were ancestral Lathrops on the Mayflower?

Jim said recently, “My family was here in the 1600’s – only reason we didn’t come over on the Mayflower was my great-great-whatever-grandfather was in jail for religious persecution.”

Both Jim and Carol study genealogy – her third-great-granddad fought in the Revolutionary War!

But now they are both Presbyterians and not fleeing from any persecution. Except going from First Presbyterians Churches, from Boulder, CO to Livermore CA (where they were for 35 years,) to now our little church in 2004!

“We moved because Carol assured me it wouldn’t be the same in San Jose,” Jim said, “and it hasn’t been – we wanted a big city.” And they enjoy strolling to San Jose Rep, the opera and symphony -- and especially jazz! They are proud of being a “mixed” marriage: Carol is an Old Blue (Cal Berkeley) and Jim is an Old Tree (Stanford).

The Lathrops served all their churches, and currently here as Deacon treasurer (Carol), and Session Clerk (Jim). “We are impressed by the mission work here,” they added.

In the near future is an August trip to Switzerland. And they will work with the League of Women Voters on the upcoming election “to educate about the propositions and their pros and cons.”



## NEW FRUIT TREES!

Thanks to **Gerry, Rich, Karleen and Pat**, we have a bunch of new fruit trees in our backyard! In the coming years, God willing, we may be growing lemons, mandarin oranges, pomegranates, passion fruit and apricots!

Rich drilled into the hard, hard, clay soil with a strong stream of water to create holes for the new trees...with much effort these are all in the ground!

While shoveling away in these holes, Rich found some historical finds! It turns out that before the church was built, there was a car repair shop and before that a stable.



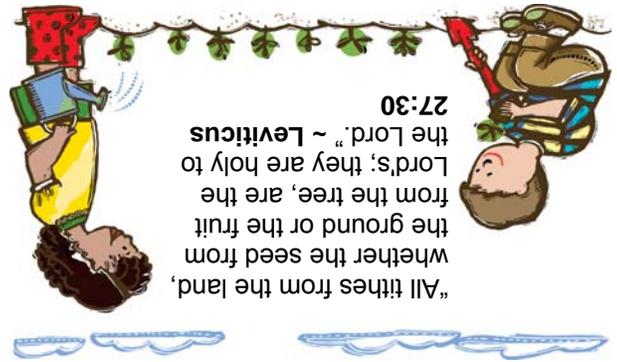
We’re not sure what these items are...**can you guess what these rusted relics were?**



“We are a  small with a **BIG**



~ A quote from Pastor Sharon



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Jose, CA 95112  
 49 North Fourth St.  
 Church of San Jose  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

**OUR MISSION:**

At **First Presbyterian Church of San Jose**, we are a Spirit-led Community of Faith where the life and love of Jesus Christ is felt and shared.

**For more information, please contact:**

- The Reverend Sharon Hare, Pastor
- Karleen Duchscherer, Administrator
- Church office (408) 297-7212
- email: [fpcsj@yahoo.com](mailto:fpcsj@yahoo.com)
- Website: [www.fpcsj.org](http://www.fpcsj.org)

**FRIENDS, VISITORS, NEWCOMERS:**

**JOIN US THIS SUNDAY!**

**Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.**

**Fellowship Time: Following Worship**

Children attend the first part of the worship service. Following the Children's Message, Sunday School is available for nursery through high school. High school – age children attend worship service on the first Sunday of the month, and a teen discussion other weeks.

**First Presbyterian Church of San Jose, 49 N. Fourth St.**



**Newsletter Submissions**

Please submit items to **Greg or Pat Plant**. Any format works (in person, church mailbox, email [gregplant@comcast.net](mailto:gregplant@comcast.net)).

Deadline for the **August, 2012** edition is **Monday, July 30, 2012**.

