



Sharon preaching at our 2013 outdoor worship and picnic

Sharings from Sharon

Dear Friends:

I can hardly believe that we are heading into September and the fall of the year. The lazy days of summer never happened. But, that means that God was busy using us to do the work of the Kingdom!!!!

As we approach fall, we will be following up the conversation we started during our Salad Supper Series. **Martha Beattie** shared with us a booklet written by Palestinian Christians, called: **Kairos Palestine, a moment of truth.** It is a confession of faith and call to action from Palestinian Christians. I believe that it is a document for our time. This booklet offers a three week guided Study that we will embark on September 14th, after worship. I have a couple of booklets and I can also download some copies from the PCUSA website that are free. Please sign up for this class so that we can have the proper amount of materials available for all who are interested.

I'm also celebrating a special day in September. **I am celebrating the 30th Anniversary of my Ordination.** Please share this special event in my career during worship and fellowship on the **21st of September.** Your presence is very important to me - it just wouldn't be the same if you weren't there!!!

This fall we are also planning on opening the new **Women's Gathering Place.** We will begin by opening our doors two afternoons a week for women who make the streets their home. Our desire is to give them a rest from the stress of living on the streets. We will give them a safe place to rest for a short time and reorganize themselves. We will have robes and slippers for every woman, food and the ability to cook dinner for one another, art projects, group discussions, social services and eventually showers and a place to wash their clothes. We will open our doors to ten women a day and if the program is successful we will expand our hours. Are you willing to be a friend to a homeless woman, share a talent, and teach how to cook a tasty meal? Will you volunteer a few hours once a month to serve those who need to be reminded of God's love and mercy? Please talk with Karleen or myself. This program is an extension of our Front Door Ministry.

**Oct.
25**

And finally, please put a **red circle** on your calendar around the **25th of October.** I'm getting married and want to invite all members and friends of this congregation. Since my parent's death last year, I have come to realize how much you have become family. **Please join David Thomas and me in this joyful celebration of God's miracle in our lives.**

Joyfully, in Christ's Service
Pastor Sharon

COMING UP ON FUTURE SUNDAYS!



⇒ Sun. Sept. 14: **Change for Change coin collection** for our new **Women's Gathering Place.**

⇒ Sun. Sept. 21: **Sharon's 30th Anniversary of her ordination!**

⇒ Sun. Oct. 5: **World Wide Communion Sunday and Peacemaking Offering**

⇒ Sun. Oct. 12: **Pet Blessing**

⇒ Sun. Nov. 9: **PC's 165th Anniversary Celebration**

⇒ Sun. Nov. 30: **Next 5th Sun-**



On Aug. 23, Patrick Tierney was awarded the Eagle Scout award, the highest award in Boy Scouting. Yea Patrick!



Congratulations Richard!

Recently, our own **Richard Stewart** was awarded the “Visionary Award” by **Our City Forest**, a group that has planted thousands of trees around our county. The award presentation highlighted how Richard has planted many trees and flowers in his Spartan Keys neighborhood, as well as inspiring others to join in the effort.



Thanks largely to Richard, we at FPC also have lovely grounds in both the front and back yard of the church.



Congratulations Ole and Sharon!

On August 3 we celebrated **Ole and Sharon Johnson’s 57th wedding anniversary** with a delicious cake. The Johnsons shared their wedding photos with us.

1957 wedding picture



2014 yummy cake



Mrs. Evans impressive demonstration of delicately blowing one’s nose

was inside each box. She pulled out a box of Kleenex and proceeded to demonstrate how to properly blow one’s nose (pictured above.) Mrs. Evans thanked us at FPC and the Kiwanis Club profusely and had us each go with a classroom and read a story to the new students.

School Supplies for Washington School

Thanks to a \$1,500 grant from **John Fukasawa’s Kiwanis Club** we were able to buy school supplies for each of the kindergarten classrooms at our partner Washington School. On August 14 a number of us went to a special assembly for the children to watch their teachers receive big boxes of school supplies. It was the new students first assembly and most of them behaved very well.

Jo Fukasawa did all the purchasing of supplies and **Patrick and John Tierney** helped to box up all the supplies.

Mrs. Evans, the school’s amazing principal, showed the children what

FPC Mission

Front Door Ministry



In August we made and gave out **2,481** lunches for the hungry people who came to our door. We are averaging 150 people at our front door each day! So far this year we have given out **16,589** lunches. [We gave out **27,810** lunches in 2013.]

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

In August we gave **40 lbs.** of useful canned and packaged food to **Sacred Heart Community Services**. So far this year, we have donated **565 lbs.** of food, and **4,805 lbs.** of food since we began our monthly food drive five years ago in June, 2009.



5th Sunday August 31



We made 20 bag lunches for the Bill Wilson Center's outreach program for homeless youth.



We played Bingo at Town Park Towers with 30 seniors and provided prizes and snacks for participants.



We bagged hundreds of bags of cat and dog food for our Front Door Ministry customers pets.

We made 200 lunches for the Front Door Ministry customers.



We bagged hundreds of bags of laundry soap for our Front Door friends.





Congratulations Rev. Don Choi!

On Sunday August 31 many of us were present for the wonderful ordination celebration of Don Choi, our former FPC Intern. The ceremony and a gala luncheon took place at Don's home church, Daesung Presbyterian Church in Sunnyvale. Now when you see him, think **Reverend Don!**

Don and his wife Sook are on their way in late October to Duta Wacana Christian University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Don will advise the University President on building international networks to strengthen the school's growing graduate program. Sook will teach English and Art. Through education they hope to equip leaders in Indonesia to address the root causes of poverty in that country.

Don's email: don_choi@yahoo.com

Don's birthday: June 27

Sook's Birthday: April 29

Anniversary: April 9

While they are away, please remember to pray for them and remember their important days!



Say CHEESE!

Happy church folks **Deborah Breitenbach**, Choir Master **Marjorie Pearson**, and **Michele Hare** strike a pose during post-worship snack time.



September Birthdays!

Sharon Johnson Sept. 10

Martha Beattie Sept. 26





Psalm 65:9

*You care for the land
and water it;
you enrich it
abundantly.*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

San Jose, CA 95112
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of San Jose

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
- Website: www.fpcsj.org

Newsletter Submissions:

Please submit items to **Pat Plant**. Any format works (in person, church mailbox, email pat.plant@gmail.com).



Deadline for the **October, 2014** edition is **Monday, September 29, 2014**.

Friends, visitors, newcomers:



Join us this Sunday!

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

(come by 10:20 a.m. and join in the praise singing preparing us for worship.)

Fellowship time and refreshments follow 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.

We're between Santa Clara and St. John Streets, "kitty-corner" from San Jose City Hall.