

Rose Clippings

A Caring, Committed, Christian Community

VOLUME 45, No.12

DECEMBER, 2009

Celebrating the Holiday Season



The Giving Tree

November 22-December 14

Alternative Christmas

Sunday, December 6

Floracanta

Sunday, December 6, 2:00 p.m.



Church of the Roses Chancel Choir

Sunday, December 20, 10:00 a.m.

What Sweeter Music?

Words of Christmas & Carols of John Rutter

Advent Worship

Thursday, December 24, 2009

2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals

(Bring your pet)

7:00 p.m. Family Christmas Service

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Lessons and Carols





PASTOR'S CORNER

Charter of Compassion

A church member forwarded this "Charter of Compassion" to me. Written by people of many faiths, from many places, it is an attempt to crystallize common elements upon which authentic spiritually sensitive people can agree. It was uniquely appropriate for me to read in setting the tone for our Community Thanksgiving Service with the Jewish Congregation Beth Ami. I need to find out more about those who brought these ideas together.

This brief essay is Worthy of Thanksgiving. It could well be the basis for our Thanksgiving table graces this year. Let us be truly thankful as we study, share, and pray for "**A call to bring the world together.**"

The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the center of our world and put another there, and to honor the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.

It is also necessary in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others—even our enemies—is a denial of our common humanity. We acknowledge that we have failed to live compassionately and that some have even increased the sum of human misery in the name of religion.

We therefore call upon all men and women ~ to restore compassion to the center of morality and religion ~ to return to the ancient principle that any interpretation of scripture that breeds violence, hatred or disdain is illegitimate ~ to ensure that youth are given accurate and respectful information about other traditions, religions and cultures ~ to encourage a positive appreciation of cultural and religious diversity ~ to cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings—even those regarded as enemies.

We urgently need to make compassion a clear, luminous and dynamic force in our polarized world. Rooted in a principled determination to transcend selfishness, compassion can break down political, dogmatic, ideological and religious boundaries. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity. It is the path to enlightenment, and indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.

I'll add my "Amen" to that. I pray that others will too.

Dr. John Cushman
Thanksgiving, 2009

Presbyterian Church of the Roses

2500 Patio Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Office hours: 9:00 to 4:00, Monday - Friday

Office phone: 707-542-4272

Office Fax: 707-542-5109

Email: office@churchroses.org

Web Page: www.churchoftheroses.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 Informal Service

10:00 Regular Worship with Choir and Sunday School

Staff:

Dr. John H. Cushman, Pastor

Rev. Kate Clayton, Associate Pastor

Dr. Peter Maier, Pastor for Calling and Care

Barbara McElroy, Director of Music

Althea Wright, Accompanist

Cheryl Cushman, Rosebud Preschool Director

Lisa Stagnoli, Office Manager

Theresa Marcarian, Finance Manager

WE CAN HELP

THE GIVING TREE - SHARING THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS



The Giving Tree is in Bowen Hall, ready for you to select a “family ornament” for whom you would like to buy gifts. Because of your generosity, the Deacons will be able to give gifts to nearly 200 children this year. PLEASE remember to record your name and the family number of the ornament(s) you select and pick up the green sheet detailing where & when to return the gifts. If you prefer not to shop for specific gifts, a cash donation would be greatly appreciated by December 14, and used by the Deacons to purchase gifts for the remaining family ornaments.

Volunteers are also need to help the Deacons organize food and gift baskets.

We need volunteers for special assignments

Morning of Thursday, December 17 — Help organize the gifts

Morning of Friday, December 18 — Divide food into baskets

Saturday, December 19, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. — Deliver food and gifts to the families

Sign up sheets will be available at the Giving Tree.

Please contact Nancy or Jim Mason at 539- 8905, if you have any questions.

Again, thanks to all for your continued support for this cause.

Bless You.....



***We celebrate the Wondrous Gift of God's Son
with gifts of our own.***

***Church of the Roses offers ways to make our
Christmas giving benefit to
those in need around the world.***

Alternative Christmas

December 6

Honor your friends and family with a donation to Heifer Project, Doctors Without Borders, Church World Service, Habitat for Humanity or The Redwood Empire Food Bank. Attractive cards will be available to tell your honorees of your gift.

The Christmas Joy Offering

December 20

This annual offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) benefits retired church workers in need and also the ethnic schools of our church. Watch for informative inserts in your church bulletin about the people this offering helps.

*How silently, how silently
the **Wondrous Gift** is given.*

*So God imparts to human
hearts*

the blessings of his heaven.

Phillips Brooks 1868

AROUND AND ABOUT

Norman Roddick's Film Series

Thursday December 17 at 2:00 p.m.
in the Rose Room Theater

Film to be Announced

Discussion time following

Note: this is the third Thursday



Sunday, December 6, 2009

2:00 p.m. at

Church of the Roses

In the Sanctuary



Floracanta

Come see them!

Floracanta is a cappella vocal ensemble performing music of the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Their mission is to share with their audiences the beauty, diversity and fascinating history of this magical genre of music, and to have a great time doing it.



FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE

'Tis the Season

The Windjammers will decorate the sanctuary for our Christmas season on Thursday, December 3.



Winter is Soup Weather!



Save your Campbell's label barcodes to help Menaul School. Put them in the basket on the kiosk in Campbell Court

COMING IN JANUARY

Stretching Exercise Class

Friday, January 8, 22, 29, 2010

9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

In the Rose Room



This class is designed to increase your flexibility and preserve muscle tone. This class is being hosted by Ann Palmer and Peter Maier.



Beginning in January, Peter Maier's Sunday Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. will start the study on Paul's letter to the Romans. All are welcome!

AROUND AND ABOUT

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Tuesday, December 15, noon
***There will be no Bible Study
the day of the tea.***

Enjoy a pleasant retreat from the holiday rush with Presbyterian Women. The elegant tea style luncheon will be followed by Christmas caroling with Jeanne MacDonald and readings appropriate to the season:

I'm the Child of a King,

A Christmas editorial written many years ago by columnist Dorothy Thompson about her early years in a Methodist parsonage, read by Alice Crouch

Christmas Morning by Elizabeth Maddox Roberts: a poem that imagines the Nativity happening in her rural Kentucky birthplace. Read by Anita Pinney



Additional Opportunities

The Evening PW Circle meets on Monday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. for Bible Study and fellowship. They are studying the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua Lesson 3. Call Jeanette Nichols at 537-7898 for more information.

Please call the church office at 542-4272 by December 8 to make reservations.

Presbyterian Women invites friends and fellow church members to join us for this special event.

The Sewing Group is busy making quilts. You are invited to join them this month on the 2nd Tuesdays from 10:00 to 2:00. Bring a sack lunch.



This Year's Christmas Musical presented by the Crescendo Choir is

The Best Christmas Present Ever!

Thursday, December 24, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

November Session Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Session, Nov 17, 2009, submitted by clerk of Session, Deloris Dewhurst. Session approved the following request:

After prayerful consideration of all sides of a difficult issue, it was decided to support the efforts of an Ad Hoc Committee of Redwoods Presbytery to bring the following two changes in the Book of Order for discussion at the next Presbytery meeting at Garberville in February 2010. If Redwoods Presbytery agrees with these overtures, they will then be sent on to the 219th General Assembly in 2010.

We felt that this was an important response to Christ's ministry to the outcasts of society and a further step in our journey to becoming a caring and open congregation in our community.

Overture One

Shall G-6.0106b be stricken? (**Text to be deleted is shown with an underline**)

"b. Those who are called to office in the church are to lead a life in obedience to Scripture and in conformity to the historic confessional standards of the church. Among these standards is the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman (W 4.9001), or chastity in singleness. Persons refusing to repent any of self-acknowledged practice which the confessions call sin shall not be ordained and/or installed as deacons, elders, or ministers of the word and sacrament."

Overture Two

That the Directory For Worship of the Book of Order be amended in the following manner (**underline indicates portions to be deleted; italics indicate additions**).

W-4.9001 Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well-being of the entire human family. Marriage is a civil contract *covenant* between a woman and a man *two people and according to the laws of the state also constitutes a civil contract*. For Christians marriage is a covenant through which a man and a woman *two people* are called to live out together before God their lives of discipleship. In a service of Christian marriage a lifelong commitment is made by a woman and a man *between two people*, publicly witnessed and acknowledged by the community of faith.

W- 4.9002 a. In preparation for the marriage service, the minister shall provide for a discussion with the man and the woman *two people* concerning

(The remainder of this section remains the same)

W-4.9004 The service begins with the scriptural sentences and a brief statement of purpose. The man and the woman *two people* shall declare their intention to enter into Christian marriage and shall exchange vows of love and faithfulness. The service includes appropriate passages of Scripture, which may be interpreted in various forms of proclamation. Prayers shall be offered for the couple, for the communities which support them in this new dimension of discipleship, and for all who seek to live in faithfulness. In the name of the triune God the minister shall declare publicly that the woman and the man *two people* are now joined in marriage.

(The remainder of this section remains the same)

W-4.9006 A service of worship recognizing a civil marriage *or civil union* and confirming it in the community of faith may be appropriate when requested by the couple. The service will be similar to the marriage service except that the opening statement, the declaration of intention, the exchange of vows by the husband and wife *couple*, and the public declaration by the minister reflect the fact that the woman and man *two people* are already married to one another *united* according to the laws of the state.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR



**Children & Youth
Friends are always welcome**

December Children & Youth News

Throughout Advent (begins 11/19), we will rehearse the youth musical Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour and Sunday evenings at 6:30 except Sunday 12/20 evening; our final rehearsals will be 12/22 & 12/23 (1-4 p.m.), for the Christmas Eve service.

Sat. December 5 4:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling



We will be caroling to homebound church members. Please let Kate know you can come so that we will have adequate transportation, and bring your permission forms (available on our website, www.churchoftheroses.org).

December 12 4:00 p.m. Music Instruction and Set Construction for *The Best Christmas Present Ever!*



December 15-16 Giving Tree gift wrapping
December 17-18 Giving Tree gift assembly
December 19 Giving Tree deliveries of gifts and food!!!!

December 22 1-4 p.m. Rehearsal: *The Best Christmas Present Ever!*

December 23 1-4 p.m. Rehearsal: *The Best Christmas Present Ever!*

December 24 Christmas Eve!
2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals
7:00 p.m. Family Service:
The Best Christmas Present Ever!
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
Lessons & Carols

December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

LOOKING AHEAD: BROOMBALL!!



Friday, January 8 at 10:15 p.m. to 12 midnight: Invite your friends for this most popular event! Many forms are needed if you're under 18; 18 & over only need the Snoopy's Home Ice waiver signed.

Thank You's



Since my fall 7 weeks ago, I have been very housebound and have been unable to thank the many people who have, in person, by phone, or by cards, wished me well and have offered help in whatever ways I might need it. This is one more reason that I know I am blessed to be part of this loving and caring community. Thank you!

Shalom,

Margery Baur

Andy and I have been on the disabled list for awhile. We've appreciated the calls, cards, and expressions of concern for us. What amazed us is the willingness of the members of our church family to step up to the plate and go to bat for us. We've had substitute work as ushers, and we've had substitutes get up at the crack of dawn to be part of the Montgomery Breakfast team for us. The dedicated members of the Membership Committee went above and beyond to provide for the Bereavement Luncheon and the kind ladies who took care of the reception desk when I was unable to do so. All these pinch hitters (can you tell we are from a baseball family??), are appreciated so very much. We are both much better now and look forward to resuming our duties.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

Sharon and Andy Bressoud

Church of the Roses Pastoral Staff,

I want to thank you for the ministry you provide in the morning to the Montgomery High School kids. My son, who is a football player, has taken advantage of this breakfast many times. This outward extension to the community in a real and practical way shows God's extending hand and love for others. I pray this ministry brings kids to know Jesus and want to get to know him more and follow him.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lopez

I am so grateful for your healing prayers, your kind thoughts, cards, calls. Thank you and god bless.

-Marilyn Petty



Another 1st! Last Sunday, a request from a Deacon Lay Leader for funds for the Redwood Empire Food Bank amounted to \$196.00 We came through again. Thanks!

-Helen Burns

CHURCH NEWS

Worship Attendance

8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

10/11 157 10/25 141
10/18 161 11/1 161

Finance Report As of October 31, 2009

Fund	Annual Budget	YTD Income	YTD Expenses	YTD Over/Deficit
Operating Fund	\$442,867.00	\$323,449.08	\$361,600.17	(\$38,151.09)
Church & World	\$26,235.00	\$18,861.23	\$15,389.77	\$3,471.46
Total	\$469,102.00	\$342,310.31	\$376,989.94	(\$34,679.63)
Preschool	\$149,992.00	\$120,451.19	\$113,821.64	\$6,629.55

OUR PRAYER LIST

“Pray for one another and thus fulfill the law of Christ”

PRAYERS FOR THE HOMEBOUND:

Joyce Blinn
Margaret Brittle
Julia Cadwell

Jack Gaffney
Sally Henderson
Neil Peterson

Lyman Pinney
Otto Walker
Wata Williams



PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

Edna Anderson
Donna Barnette
Eric Bell
Jordan Bernd
Barbara Blinn
Linda Burille and family
Joyce Cairns
Randy & Bill Cadwell
James Chu and family
Lindsey Consoli
Anthony Cooper

Winifred Davis
Mary Jane Deems
Lucas Drenth
Sara Dorsey
Brad Dreyer
Ian Elliott
Jim Fenner
Lenore “Scotty” Foster
Winnie & Del Glaesmann
Kevin Imbimbo
Monte Keleher

Jennifer Kish
Hanni Lang
Marie and Ray Matheny
Jeanna Menze
Baby Ethan Meyer &
Family
Michael Miller
Drs. Les & Cynthia Morgan
Denise Neely
Wendy Ramage
Bobby Rude

Marge Sorensen
Dave Snetsinger
Craig Steele
Ianthe Brautigan Swensen
Betty Thornton
Kim Vigil
Betty Witchey-Ryder

PRAYERS FOR SERVICE PEOPLE STATIONED IN THE WAR AREAD FROM OUR CHURCH FAMILIES:

Timothy Cadwell (Julia Cadwell’s grandson)
Jason Imbimbo (Sam & Chris Imbimbo’s grandson)
Scott Baker (Brian and Val Baker’s son)
Nicholas Tayler (Marilyn Hilen’s grandson)



Our deepest sympathy to those of us who have recently lost loved ones:

☩ Carol Hull who died November 11, 2009.
Memorial services November 29, 2009 at Church of the Roses.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>December</h1> 		1 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:00 Sexton Mtg. <i>Ad Ed</i> 10:00 B & G <i>Bowen</i> 10:00 PW Coordinating Meeting <i>Ad Ed</i> No Membership Meeting 2-5:45 Judy Timmerman <i>Classrooms</i> 6:00 Gifts and Bequest 6:30 C + Y Committee <i>Library</i> 7:00 Worship & Arts <i>Rose</i> 7:30 Boy Scout Eagle Review <i>Ad Ed</i>	2 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting <i>Conf</i> 10:30 Pastor's Class <i>Rose</i>	3 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:00 Decorating of Sanctuary w/lunch to follow 12:00 Domino Group <i>Ad Ed</i> 6:00 Bellissimo 7:00 Preschool Board Meeting 7:30 AA Group <i>Blue/Red</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	4 7:15 MHS Breakfast 10:30 Art Ministry <i>Blue/Red</i> 11:00 Coffee with Cushman <i>Lyons</i> 1:30 Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture <i>Rose</i>	5 9:30 Handicapables <i>Bowen</i> 10:00—11:00 Paws for Love <i>Rose</i>
		6 Giving Tree Available Communion/2¢ A Meal & PB Sunday 8:30 Informal Worship <i>Rose</i> 8:30 Bible Study Book of God <i>Blue/Red</i> 10:00 Worship/Sunday School 11:00 Congregational meeting electing 2012 Elders & Deacons <i>Sanctuary</i> 2:00 Roses Concert Floracanta	7 10:30 Prayer Group <i>Library</i> 7:30 Boy Scouts <i>Bowen</i>	8 7:15 MHS Breakfast 8:30 B&G Crew 9-5 Whole Foods <i>Bowen</i> 10-2 PW Sewing Red/Blue 2-5:45 Judy Timmerman <i>Classrooms</i> 6:00 Finance Committee <i>Ad Ed</i> 7:00 Deacons Meeting <i>Rose</i> 7:15 Adult Ed <i>Library</i>	9 7:15 MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting <i>Conf</i> 10:30 Pastor's Class <i>Rose</i> 12:00 Bereavement follow-up session	10 7:15 MHS Breakfast 12:00 Domino Group <i>Ad Ed</i> 6:00 Bellissimo 7:30 AA Group <i>Blue/Red</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal
13 Giving Tree Available 8:30 Informal Worship <i>Rose</i> 8:30 Bible Study Book of God <i>Blue/Red</i> 10:00 Worship/Sunday School Installation of Officers	14 Final Day to Return Giving Tree gifts 10:30 Prayer Group <i>Library</i> 12:00 Men's Spirituality Lunch <i>Ad Ed</i> 3:00 Church + World <i>Ad Ed</i> 7:30 Boy Scouts <i>Bowen</i>	15 Rose Clippings Due by Noon 7:15 MHS Breakfast Wrapping Giving Tree gifts Bowen 8:30 B&G Crew 12:00 PW Program 12:00 Program Advisory <i>Ad Ed</i> 2-5:45 Judy Timmerman <i>Classrooms</i> 7:30 Boy Scouts <i>Library</i> 7:00 Session Cushman's Home	16 7:15 MHS Breakfast Wrapping Giving Tree gifts Bowen 9:15 Staff Meeting <i>Conf</i> 10:30 Pastor's Class <i>Rose</i> 2:30 Companions <i>Library</i>	17 7:15 MHS Breakfast Assemble Giving Tree gifts Bowen Sanctuary 12:00 Domino Group <i>Ad Ed</i> 2:00 Norm's Movie Rose 6:00 Bellissimo 7:30 AA Group <i>Blue/Red</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	18 No MHS Breakfast Assemble Giving Tree food boxes 10:30 Art Ministry <i>Blue/Red</i> 11:00 Coffee with Cushman <i>Lyons</i> 1:30 Spanish Language & Hispanic Culture <i>Rose</i> 3:45-7 p.m. Girl Scouts <i>Blue/Red</i>	19 Tentative— Dress Rehearsal for Chancel Choir Sanctuary Deliver Giving Tree Items
20 Christmas Joy Offering 8:30 Informal Worship <i>Rose</i> 8:30 Bible Study Book of God <i>Blue/Red</i> 10:00 Worship/Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Roses Christmas Concert Chancel Choir 11:30 Stephen Ministry <i>Library</i>	21 No MHS Breakfast 10:30 Prayer Group <i>Library</i> 7:00 PW Evening Bible Study <i>Library</i> 7:30 Boy Scouts <i>Bowen</i>	22 No MHS Breakfast 8:30 B&G Crew No PW Sewing 2-5:45 Judy Timmerman <i>Classrooms</i> 1-4 Dress Rehearsal for Youth Musical Sanctuary	23 No MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting <i>Conf</i> 10:30 Pastor's Class <i>Rose</i> 1-4 Dress Rehearsal for Youth Musical Sanctuary	24 No MHS Breakfast Christmas Eve 12:00 Domino Group <i>Ad Ed</i> 7:30 AA Group <i>Blue/Red</i> Worship Service 2 p.m. Blessing of the animals 7 p.m. Crescendo Pageant 10 p.m. Lessons and Carols	25 Merry Christmas Office Closed 	26
27 8:30 Informal Worship <i>Rose</i> 8:30 Bible Study Book of God <i>Blue/Red</i> 10:00 Worship/Sunday School	28 No MHS Breakfast 10:30 Prayer Group <i>Library</i> 12:00 Men's Spirituality Lunch <i>Ad Ed</i> 7:30 Boy Scouts <i>Bowen</i>	29 No MHS Breakfast 1:00 Rose Clipping Crew Ad Ed 2-5:45 Judy Timmerman <i>Classrooms</i>	30 No MHS Breakfast 9:15 Staff Meeting <i>Conf</i> 10:30 Pastor's Class <i>Rose</i>	31 No MHS Breakfast 12:00 Domino Group <i>Ad Ed</i> 6:00 Bellissimo 7:30 AA Group <i>Blue/Red</i> 7:30 Choir Rehearsal		

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8:30 a.m. Informal Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal and Coffee Time
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary and Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Coffee Time and Conversation

ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER
ISSUE OF **ROSE CLIPPINGS**
NEED TO BE IN THE OFFICE BY
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