



Rose Clippings

John Bell

"Catch the Spirit"

Workshop Series

July 10-12

Learn more about this Scottish composer on our website!

Purchase tickets online and in the office. Books for sale in office \$15.

Thank you for helping to make our community events vibrant and loving! Right: Two stoles from the Shower of Stoles project; MHS Free Breakfast Program volunteers gather at Pastor Cindy's ThankYou breakfast. Bottom left: Alice Crouch and Rev. Janie Spahr; Aldona Dement and her daughter; Children at Vacation Church School enjoy Musical Moments with Nancy Nelle.



Why I Support Same Sex Marriage

by Pastor Cindy

In 2nd Samuel 1, there is the sad conclusion of the story of the love between David and Jonathan (the son of King Saul). In declaring his joy about the love Jonathan showed to him, David says: *Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women.* And in 1st Samuel 20: 16-17 it says they kissed and made a covenant of love between them. This relationship between David and Jonathan was undeniably a same sex loving relationship. We don't know if they acted it out beyond kissing. But that is not important. That is private and should remain so.

I am very happy the PCUSA has affirmed same sex marriage. I look at it from a nurse's perspective and know that whenever two people are allowed to make a covenant of love and commitment it is a healthy loving thing to do for their lives. (It is not sexual behavior. It is about LOVE!) Then when one is in the hospital the other in the married couple is legally allowed to be a part of their hospitalization decision-making and intimately support the healing process as any spouse is allowed to do. We have no business speculating if their loving relationship is enacted in their bedroom or not. That is none of our business. But I do know that people who are allowed to marry help build a healthier society. Less STDs and AIDS. Less alcoholism and depression and less suicide. More joy and happiness for all.

God's creation is good. God's unique creation in its various forms of diversity includes not only different colors of skin but also different sexual orientations. If someone is born gay they are not born wrong, that is just part of the beautiful diversity of creation that has existed since the beginning of time. Anthropology is a favorite subject of mine and gay people can be found in every culture around the world and same sex coupling in the animal kingdom as well.

I have studied the science that being gay is an in-born genetically influenced trait and as the child develops they become more aware of their uniqueness. I have friends who knew around 6 years old that they were "different" but didn't know why or how. They have grown up to be wonderful parents with same sex spouses



Photo credit: <http://www.cnn.com/2012/05/09/opinion/stanley-same-sex-marriage/>

and have become upstanding professors, doctors, choir directors, and teachers.

When a person doesn't know anyone personally who is gay why do they think they can judge the moral correctness of their sexual orientation? They have no understanding of the difficult struggle many gay people have growing up in a society that has judgmental people in it that assume things about them

but don't take the time or energy to really get to know their life journey. No one chooses to be gay. You know it must be an inborn trait if a person is gay because choosing to be gay would be crazy in a society that kills people for being gay. (A 2001 review of twin studies reported that almost all found identical twins were significantly more likely to share a sexual orientation – that is, to be either both gay, or both straight – than fraternal twins, who are less genetically close. **Such findings indicate that genes do factor into a person's orientation.**

See: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biology_and_sexual_orientation)

Just as the church changed her stance on slavery and women's role in the church, many theologians and biblical scholars now understand these biblical prohibitions of homosexual behavior to refer instead to violent sexual acts (such as the horrible way the guards at Abu Graib prison treated their male prisoners with sexual torture in 2003). We need to shift our focus to promoting fidelity and respect in marriage between **two people**. When we do not allow people to marry who love each other, we are interfering with God's

most important creation: **Love**. And we are putting an obstacle in the way of the Holy Spirit who inspires love between people. Who are WE to put an obstacle in the way of love and allowing people to share love with another in a mutual caring way? I don't pretend I am God and understand all the mysteries of creation. But I do respect God's creation and I am an ambassador of God's love.

In the days when Paul was writing about homosexual behavior, the Christian community needed to multiply and be very fruitful. So the big cultural pressure was on having children and more of them. It was a sin to "spill their seed on the ground" because they were

When we do not allow people to marry who love each other, we are interfering with God's most important creation: **Love**.

supposed to use it to create more children. Now our world has over population and we don't have that cultural influence that greatly affected what they wrote about same sex relationships.

Jesus never said anything about homosexual relationships. But he did explain about eunuchs: *For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone accept this who can.*” (Matthew 19:11-12)

Some speculate that the “disciple that Jesus loved” (who was John) might have been a special same sex loving relationship. We don't know. And when you read “sexual immorality” in the Bible there is no reason to believe that sexual relationships between people who are gay are immoral if they are not abusing one another. What is immoral is when people disrespect one another within marriage and when they hurt each other physically and emotionally. Even though the woman at the well was living with a man she was not married to, and had other husbands before, Jesus allowed her to give him a drink of water and bring the whole town out to meet him because she could tell he was Divine. Jesus was much less judgmental and much more loving and forgiving. That is how we are to be as his disciples.

When allowed to get married, those born gay are able to be faithful to each other as well. Which is what we should promote for our society's health in general. What I believe is immoral, wrong and a sin is making gay people feel as if they are second class citizens who can never

marry when they fall in love and have happy families. Unless you have journeyed alongside someone who realized they were born gay and struggled to find their place in this world, you have no ability to understand the pain and hardship they go through. Remember Matthew 7: 1-3.

And most of all remember 1st Corinthians 13: 1-13:
“If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is LOVE.”*



Subscribe to Pastor Cindy's Blog!

<http://pastorcindysblog.blogspot.com>



Christian Desiderata

See everything as grace. When you sense the power of God's grace then show that spirit of faith out loud. And when you express your faith, your thanksgiving to God will bring more glory to God through you. By living your life in this way, you won't live a life of sadness or negativity; a life where you lose heart, so to speak. But you will live a life of renewal, trusting that although your outer shell is aging, your inner self can be renewed by being grateful to God and by sharing God's love and hope with the world. When you see the world this way, with a sense of grace and thanksgiving, then you know that when life's struggles and sufferings come, and they always do, you understand suffering as a moment in eternity; something that will pass. Material things are just temporary. Magnify God's love in your heart, soul, and mind; the invisible things are eternal. (adapted from 2 Corinthians 4: 13-18)

Pastor Cindy Alloway

LOOK AT US GROW!



We welcomed new members **Jim Taylor**, **Steve Cairns**, **Chris & Nancy Nelle**, **Kristen Ervin** (twins Liam and Grayson were baptized) and **Suzanne Smith**. We now have 32 new members since January 2014!



Vacation Church School Fun!



Our community garden is thriving!



Haiti mission team of **Dieph Domingue**, **Kathryn Culver**, **Kay Webb**, posed with **Pastor Cindy** in front of the chicken coop for the children's home: Hope House Haiti. This coop will have the name of the Presbyterian Church of the Roses on it since we funded the foundation of it.



Vacation Church School volunteers help children with craft projects.



Prayer Requests: *Please include in your prayers*

Those mourning the loss of a friend or family member

- Please pray for Dan Christian and family as they mourn the passing of his wife, Laura, on June 18th.
- Please pray for the family of Bill Fuller as they mourn his passing on May 31st.
- Please pray for the family of Amy Tompkins as they mourn her mother, Mary Deaver Slater, who passed away on April 18th.
- Please pray for the family of Ted Crouch as they mourn his passing on April 8th.
- Please pray for Dave Nelson as he mourns the death of his brother in Oregon.
- Please pray for the family of Sally Henderson as they mourn her passing, Mar. 13th. Her memorial service will July 25 at 2:30 pm.
- Please pray for the family of Art Borchers who passed away on February 8, 2015.

Please pray for those facing health issues

Robert McNutt
Pamela Sage
Judy Bello
Albert Reil
Alan Reil
David Downard
John Baker

Lorraine Nichol
Brooke Smith
Ed and Fay St. John
Marie Patchin
Mary Olson
Sharon Sorani
Krissy Healy

Randy Pierce
Steve Cairns
Helen Burns
George Menchen
Helen MacKenzie

Those serving in our military

Sgt. David A. Dickens, USAF Jason Morse, US Navy Jason Imbimbo, Coast Guard Lt. Ian Alloway Culver, Lt. Col. David Trowbridge, U.S. Army, Fort Lewis, WA. David continues to serve in the Army as Chief of Cardiology at Madigan Hospital.

Roses Health Ministry: Promoting Health, Healing, and Wholeness

July is Cataract Awareness Month

A cataract is a clouding of the eye's lens which lies behind the iris (the colored part of your eye) and the pupil (the small black "dot" in the middle of the colored part of the eye). Cataracts are the most common cause of vision loss in people over the age of 40 years old, and is the leading cause of blindness in the world. Today, cataracts affect more than 22 million Americans age 40 and older. And, as the over "40" crowd grows in the U.S.; more than 30 million Americans are expected to have cataracts by the year 2020!

Types of Cataracts

Subcapsular Cataract. This occurs at the back of the lens. People with diabetes or who are taking high doses of steroid medications have a greater risk of developing this type of cataract

Nuclear Cataract. This cataract forms deep within the central zone of the lens (nucleus) of the lens. This type of cataract is usually associated with aging.



Deborah Baker
MSN, ACHPN, FNP-BC

Causes of Cataracts

No one knows for sure what causes cataracts, but some factors may include such things as ultraviolet radiation from the sun, diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, smoking, previous eye injury or surgery, significant alcohol consumption, or family history.

Cataract Signs and Symptoms

Cataracts start out small and initially, may have little effect on the vision. Vision may be slightly blurred, as if looking through a cloudy piece of glass. One may notice light from the sun or a lamp seeming to be too bright or glaring. Or, one might notice, while driving or riding in a car, the oncoming headlights cause more glare than before. The type of cataract one has will influence exactly which symptoms one experiences, and how soon they will occur. If you think you may have a cataract, please see an eye doctor for an exam to learn for sure!

Excerpted from All About Vision.com

Christie M. Page MSN, RN



Christie Page
RN, MSN

Presbyterian's Pedal for Protein



At a Hunger Task Force meeting in 2013, one of our member pastors, Rev. Sue Fleenor, Knox Presbyterian Church Santa Rosa, commented that the food pantry at her church could only afford to purchase starch based foods as the protein foods cost more from the food bank. The small church started a food pantry ten years ago, helping 30 people per week, now the food pantry

serves over 300 per week, overwhelming the congregation. Even with joining forces with the neighboring Catholic Resurrection parish, a member of Knox states, *"It's a leap of faith every week!"*

So the Pedal for Protein ride was created to feed hungry people in the Presbytery of the Redwoods. Patty Sanders, Hunger Action Advocate along with Presbytery Executive, Robert Conover both athletes and cyclists were joined by thirteen other riders for a 6 day tour of the scenic Northern California coast. The support from our Presbytery was fantastic, our

smallest congregations, many who hosted our riders with meals, showers and accommodations loved being part of our support team. Our goal was to raise \$20,000, which I knew would be something to aim for but probably not attainable, said Sanders. **Our 15 riders for the 364 mile ride and 7 riders who join us for the final day plus the Redwoods congregations raised over \$25,000 for our inaugural Pedal for Protein in 2014.**

This year our goal is to raise \$30,000 for grassroots food pantries. The rider's pay \$250 each for registration, which covers our overhead expenses such as sag wagon, publicity, one motel stay, snacks, etc. Plus each rider is required to raise a minimum of \$500. Last year most riders raised \$900 plus. Interestingly, our average age was 60 years old. Our youngest rider was Bryce Weibe, from the Presbyterian Hunger Program in Louisville, KY. The 2015 ride will take 7 days and cover 429 miles and 32,000 feet of climbing, about 60 miles per day (remember we do have sag wagons.) **Our final day of the ride, Saturday, September 26, will end at the Golden Gate Bridge. We invite one day riders to join us along the way and especially on the last day. The ride is open to any cyclists who want to support food pantries. For more information, to Register or donate visit:**

IMAthlete.com/PedalforProtein

Contact: Patty Sanders, HAE and Ride Director
PattyRedwoodsHAE@sbcglobal.net 415-515-6127

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Call for Nominations

Nominee's Name _____

Which Office: _____ Elder _____ Deacon _____ Nominating Committee

Reasons for your choice _____

COMMITTEE UPDATES



Summer Music Happenings

By the time this Rose Clippings is published, the Chancel Choir and Bellissimo will be on summer hiatus. Instead we will be enjoying talented soloists, duets and ensembles during worship. The Choir and Bell Choir will return to practice on September 10th and be singing the next Sunday, September 13th. If you would like to lend your musical talents to the Sunday morning services, please contact me at Church either by telephone or email.

St. Andrew Presbyterian, First Methodist and Church of the Roses are sponsoring John Bell for an exciting weekend July 10 to 12th. Please check out the church website for more details or ask Bill Morgan, Anita Pinney or myself. Tickets may be bought from the Church website or on Sunday mornings. We also have three of John's books for sale in the Church office and Anita Pinney is leading a Sunday school class from John's book "10 things they never told me about Jesus".

Wishing you a restful, God-filled summer,

Barbara McElroy, Music Director



The fellowship committee served at the Spring Fling and the All Church picnic in June. Thank you to the fellowship committee members and all volunteers who made these events happen. Boys scout troop 135 worked with us at the church picnic. Thank you again for the great support at these events.



The Christian Ed Committee celebrated a successful Vacation Church School from June 8 to June 12. We used the Living Water for the World program again, adapting it with new games, crafts and snacks. Thanks are due to all the people who carried out each part of the program so well. The Committee is investigating a different program for next summer. Diane Osten has lots of ideas that involve a parachute! Look for Wednesday movie nights in July if the June 24th one showing Babe is a success. Sunday School for children on Sunday continues and more teachers are needed. The 8:15 Sunday morning Bible Class for Adults is studying 10 Things They Never Told Me About Jesus by John Bell.

Nominating Committee will meet July 24 and August 28th at 1 p.m. in the Adult Education Rm.



The school has been thoroughly cleaned, the floors stripped and waxed and the entire room rearranged. We are ready

for a summer of fun and learning. Hopefully it will be warm enough for a lot of water play. We have ten new children joining us this summer. This is the time of year when we have both two and five year olds in the program. While challenging to make sure our curriculum is appropriate for twos and still interesting to fives, it also leads to some great moments. The older kids like helping the younger kids learn all about Rosebud.



Worship Committee

Dr. Jane Spahr brought a message of love to worship on June 14th as well as many visitors to our congregation.

Thirty liturgical stoles were exhibited in the sanctuary as part of the Shower of Stoles Project, representing the religious leaders who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We also had visitors from Vacation Church School who led the congregation in "Alleluia" and joined us at the church picnic following worship. Several people responded to the call for help with projection and sound, and trainings are planned for the fall for ushers, liturgists, and additions to the tech crew. We will use the communication slips in the red attendance pads to gather contact information to provide people with opportunities to participate in the work of the church. Independence Day will be celebrated on June 28th and we look forward to the "Catch the Spirit" weekend with John Bell July 10-12.



The Nominating Committee has started its process to recruit candidates for Deacons for 2016. Should you be contacted regarding nomination as a Deacon, but are unsure whether you want to commit to this service, you are welcome to talk to current Deacons and attend a Deacons meeting. You may be agreeably surprised at how satisfying this service to the church members and community can be. If you would like to become a Deacon, but were not nominated, please give Ellen Marks a call at 539-8390.

The Deacons will not be meeting in July and August, but The Buddy Program and all other Deacon services will continue. All of the Deacons join me in wishing you a safe and happy summer season.



Easy Senior Exercise!
Every Monday
at 10 am in the Rose Room

NOTICE: GriefShare will not meet during July.



Church of the Roses
received a
Distinguished Service Award
from the
Kiwanis Club
for 15 years
of serving a
free breakfast
for the MHS
students
every school
day.

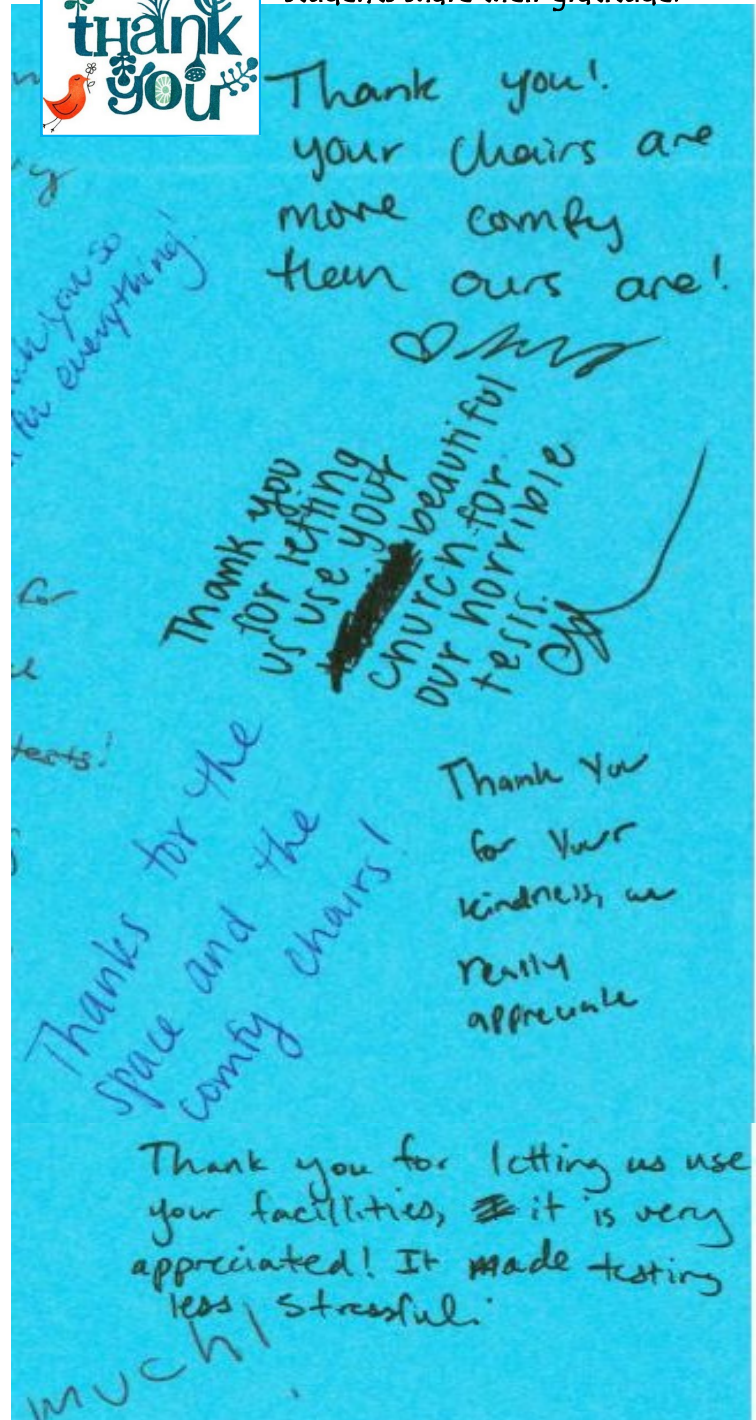
Dear Church Family,

The memorial celebration of charter member, Sally Henderson's life will be held here on July 25th at 2 pm. Reception to follow. Please mark your calendars for this very special service to honor and remember our precious mom, an amazing lady, an angel of grace.

Love, Kathy Kelley and Vicki and Joseph Schmidt. You may contact Kathy at 396-1936.



Below: Montgomery High School students share their gratitude.



JULY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg. (JB)	2 12:00 PM Simply Friends	3 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer	4 Independence Day
5 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship	6 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study	7 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds	8 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	9 12:00 PM Simply Friends	10 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer 7:00 PM JOHN BELL: Workshop I at First Methodist	11 3:00 PM JOHN BELL: Workshop II at St. Andrew Pres
12 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship - JOHN BELL	13 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study	14 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds 10:00 AM PW Sewing	15 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	16 12:00 PM Simply Friends 3:30 PM Book Club 5:00 PM Finance Meeting	17 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer	18 9:30 AM Handicapa- bles
19 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Wor- ship 11:30 AM Stephen Minis- try	20 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study 7:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting 7:00 PM PW Evening Bible	21 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds 10:00 AM PW Coordinating Mtg 7:30 PM Boy Scouts	22 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	23 12:00 PM Simply Friends 2:00 PM Favorite Film Series	24 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer 1:00 PM Nomi- nating Commit- tee	25 2:00 PM Sally Henderson Memorial 6:30 PM Court of Honor Troop 135
26 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Health BP Screenings	27 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study	28 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds 5:30 PM Church and World	29 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	30 12:00 PM Simply Friends	31 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer	1


AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship 1:30 PM Hispanos Cristianos	3 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study	4 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds	5 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg. 7:00 PM GriefShare?	6 12:00 PM Simply Friends	7 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer	8 Birthday
9 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship 1:30 PM Hispanos Cristianos	10 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study	11 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds 10:00 AM PW Sewing 12:30 PM Personnel 4:30 PM Worship Committee	12 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	13 12:00 PM Simply Friends	14 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer	15 9:30 AM Handicapped
16 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Stephen Ministry 1:30 PM Hispanos Cristianos	17 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study 7:00 PM PW Evening Bible	18 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds 7:00 PM Christian Edu. Meeting 7:30 PM Boy Scouts	19 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	20 12:00 PM Simply Friends 3:30 PM Book Club 5:00 PM Finance Meeting	21 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer	22
23 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Health BP Screenings 1:30 PM Hispanos Cristianos	24 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study 7:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting	25 8:30 AM Buildings & Grounds 5:30 PM Church and World 7:00 PM Session Meeting	26 10:00 AM Staff Mtg. 11:00 AM Bulletin Mtg.	27 12:00 PM Simply Friends 2:00 PM Favorite Film Series	28 12:00 PM Hour of Prayer 1:00 PM Nominating Committee	29
30 8:15 AM Bible Study Class 10:00 AM Worship 1:30 PM Hispanos Cristianos	31 Office Closed 10:00 AM Senior Exercise 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM New Testament Study					5

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Our **Hospital to Home Care program** is designed to ensure a smooth recovery at home after a medical incident.

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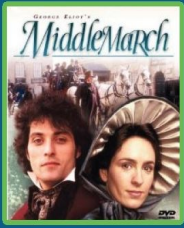
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UPCOMING EVENTS



Book Club
Thurs. July 16 3:30 P.M

Middlemarch

Scenes from the BBC video series of George Eliot's novel.



Favorite Film Series
Thurs. Aug. 27 2:00 p.m.

On Golden Pond

Take a summer vacation with some old favorites in this classic film.
Fonda and Hepburn in Oscar winning roles.



Favorite Film Series
Thurs. July 23 2:00 p.m.

Gosford Park

Before *Downton Abbey* Julian Fellowes wrote this star-studded mystery drama.

A Robert Altman Classic

10 Things They Never Told Me About Jesus

A beginner's guide to a larger Christ
by John Bell



This book and others is available at the church for \$15. Bible Study based on this book is Sunday mornings at 8:15 am.

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