

# Happy Thanksgiving!

# NOVEMBER

## Rose Clippings - 2020

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ROSES  
*Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All*

Rose Clippings Newsletter Vol. 58 No 8  
(707) 542-4272, [office@churchoftheroses.org](mailto:office@churchoftheroses.org)



### COMING UP

- ◇ Daylight Savings Ends Nov. 1st
- ◇ All Saints Day & Rev. Eric Beene
- ◇ Sacred Space Nov. 7th @ 5 pm
- ◇ Weekly Zoom Bible Study
- ◇ Exploring the God Idea
- ◇ Deacon Buddy Day—Nov. 15th
- ◇ Advent Bible Study
- ◇ Secret Santa—Covid Style
- ◇ Book Club
- ◇ Thanksgiving



**DEACON BUDDY DAY!**  
**Sunday, Nov. 15th @ 1 pm**  
**MUSIC & FRIENDS**  
**BY ZOOM**



This Thanksgiving we can be grateful for the firefighters who have worked hard this season to save our homes and beloved forests. Pictured: Volunteer firefighter, **David Wolff** (Deborah Baker's son) is pictured behind a Firefighter in Camp Meeker.

## WHAT WOULD JESUS DO IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC, WILDFIRES, AND NATIONAL CHAOS?

It may seem that these are the worst of times and the worst of times...Lately I have been looking at the world through fogged up glasses from wearing my mask. But life seems especially difficult these days in many ways. We've lost another precious church member, we are still waiting to have permission to worship inside, our region is under great threat of wildfires once again, and the virus is still running rampant in the US. So I wonder, how would Jesus handle such a time as this? Let's look at scripture for his way of dealing with difficulties:

**1st** - Jesus would be a good citizen and vote. Then he would remember that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

*"I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below – indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom. 8:38,39)*

**2nd** - Jesus would want us to love our neighbors and focus our hearts and minds on showing love to others during this time. Whenever and wherever you get the opportunity, show the fruit of the Spirit:

*"the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5: 22)*

**3rd** - Jesus would remind us of these words from Isaiah 41 and trust that God is with us to the end: *"do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my right hand."*

**4th** - Jesus would pray. When things get tough, the tough pray. In Matthew 26:41 Jesus said: *"Watch and pray so that you will not enter into temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak."*

**5th** - Jesus would also say to focus on the good in the world and not let the bad times overwhelm us. Memorize Philippians 4: 4-9:

*"Rejoice<sup>\*</sup> in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved,<sup>\*</sup> whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about<sup>\*</sup> these things.<sup>9</sup> Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you."*

We will get through this one way or another. May we get through these times together and by faithfully following the ways of Jesus. Amen.

*Pastor Cindy*





## *Remembering those who have passed since last All Saints Day*

*Ray Foreaker  
Craig Hays  
Frank Hansen  
Norma Cooper  
Jeanette Nichols  
Gwen Christiansen  
Elizabeth Palmer  
Helen Burns  
Lucy Poindexter*

These are the scriptures and sermon titles leading up to Advent. Hope you all can make it to worship with us!

November 8th

Scriptures: Psalm 70 and Matthew 25: 1-13  
Sermon: Keep Awake and Be Generous

November 15th

Scriptures Psalm 90:1-8, 12, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Sermon: The Lord is Our Refuge

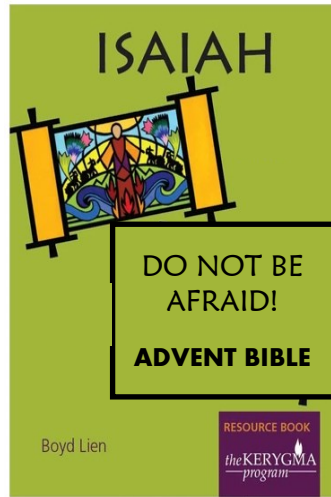
November 22nd (Thanksgiving celebration)

Scriptures: Psalm 65 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-15  
Sermon: Sow Bountifully

November 29th (Advent begins)

Scriptures: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 and 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Sermon: Jesus, Your Spiritual Gift

## *Zooming in to Advent*

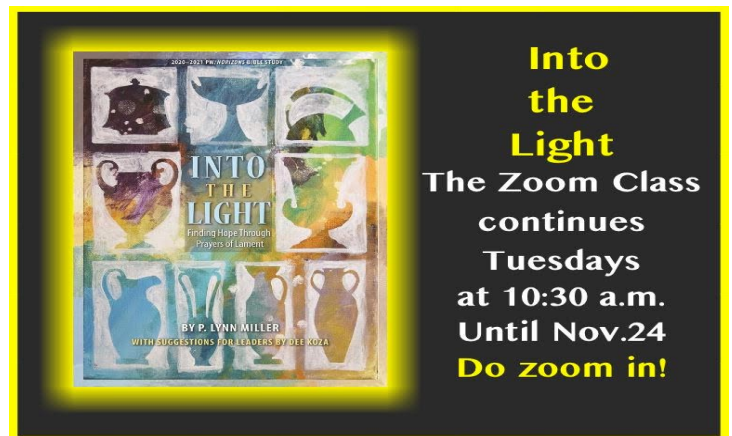


Without the possibility of having our traditional Advent Study at church we will be joining all the teachers who are doing their classes remotely.

The Christian Ed Committee will be offering the very appropriate Kerygma Bible Study on Isaiah

entitled **BE NOT AFRAID.** It focuses on some of the most beautiful passages in the Bible that offer hope to a people in distress and called them to trust in God.

Church of the Roses has offered Kerygma studies in the past and found them very inspiring. Watch for announcements of class times with the needed Zoom links and passwords and plan to join us for this Advent Study as we look ahead to a different kind of Christmas.



### **FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee is seeking people from the congregation willing to serve as a Deacon. If interested, please give David Nelson a call at 707-328-6534. Thank you.

# DON'T GET SCAMMED

**NEVER give agencies that call you any private information - no matter how urgent they sound.** Hang up without saying anything and then look up the actual agency's number in the phone book, on a bill, or on their official website. If in doubt, YOU call them and tell them about the phone call you received. **Remember, official agencies never sound urgent.**

## LOCAL SCAMS

**PG&E:** An official sounding call from PG&E claiming that your power will be turned off is a scam. If unsure, hang up and call PG&E's actual phone number on your bill or from their website. A call to PG&E assured us that they are NOT currently shutting power down due to nonpayment.

**SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE** – The Social Security Office does not call anyone.

**INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE** – The IRS will not threaten jail over the phone nor will you be hearing from them by phone regarding your paperwork. They communicate in writing. If in doubt, look up their **official phone number** and give them a call or speak with your tax preparer.

**GAS STATION PUMPS** – Try to wiggle the part of the machine that takes your card. Skimmers get placed inside this part of the mechanism to copy your card information. According to Bank of America, the best precaution against having your card information stolen is to PAY INSIDE.

**USE PAYPAL ONLINE** – Most online vendors allow you to pay for items via a secure Paypal account that has your bank, debit, or credit card information stored. In this manner, you do not have to input your card information onto every vendor site. The vendor only sees that you paid via Paypal without ever seeing your card number. Paypal will NOT send you an email asking you to update your information. If you do choose to use a regular card, avoid saving the card information on a vendor site if you can help it.

**NEVER CLICK ON AN EMAIL LINK for an agency or bank that wants you to update your information.** Read the email and then go to your web browser and type in the agency or bank and find their official website or look for their information on a bill. Contact them in this way to see if there is actually an issue.

Warning Signs: fuzzy logos, agencies or banks that rarely or never email you, a feeling of urgency (the word "immediate").

**NEVER respond to emails from your loved ones or acquaintances asking for money. Do NOT hit Reply.** No one asks for money via email because it is a popular scam. If in doubt, CALL your loved one and confirm the request.

Warning Signs: a request for money or gift card, sense of urgency in the email, behavior that is out of character, and/or someone that rarely emails you, claims of being trapped in another country.

## REPORT IT:

If you believe you or someone you know may have been a victim of fraud, contact your local FBI field office or submit a tip online. You can also file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center.

# Finding Gratitude

Tick, tock tick, tock, two more months to go and we can put 2020 in the rear-view mirror. It certainly has been one of the most miserable years in recent memory. A global pandemic, job loss and financial hardship, the feeling of isolation that comes from having to quarantine, not to mention fires, evacuations, power shut offs..... I don't think any of us will be looking back on this year with fond memories.

November is here and with it Thanksgiving and what in the world do we have to be thankful for? I found myself asking this very question at the end of a long week of distance teaching. It was a welcome break pursuing this line of thought. Most of us have not been in a space that included thinking about things to be thankful for in quite a while. As I compiled a mental list, I found myself feeling better. It turns out that there was a scientific study conducted by professors Robert Emmons and Michael McCullough on the psychological and physiological effects of being grateful. According to the study an attitude of gratitude lowers blood pressure, reduces stress, and slows down neurodegeneration as we age. It also increases oxytocin which fosters a sense of calm and security. If there was a prescription drug that did all of this, people would be beating down the door of the pharmacy to get it!

So, what do we have to be grateful for? For myself I am grateful that even though Dee Andrea and I are isolated from our family, technology has enabled us to stay in touch nearly every day. And of course, even though my work as a teacher and as a music director has changed rather radically, I am still able to do my jobs and bring some joy to my communities. As a church we have been able to worship together when so many other churches have struggled with distance and in person services, and we should be so grateful that we have members of our community that are technically savvy enough to make that happen. We should also be grateful in the knowledge that this pandemic will not last forever and that someday (hopefully soon) we will have a working vaccine and can return to some form of normal. Indeed, even in the midst of our struggles there are still many things to be thankful for, as the poet laureated Maya Angelou once said ***"Be present in all things and thankful for all things."***

A very happy November  
Your Music Director, Myles

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Your Church of the Roses Membership committee has been hard at work this summer on several projects, meeting via Zoom and email. If you had your photo taken you should have received your long awaited photo directory this past month. We were thrilled to be able to get these out!

Over the last couple of months we updated the Membership committee description to bring it in line with our current duties and responsibilities. We continue to look at various

forms and publications used in the new member packets and will be working on updates in the next few months.

Our current and very exciting project is to improve the appearance of our church making it more inviting by replacing our rather worn out church sign. More news in the future on this endeavor!

We miss seeing everyone on Sundays at the outdoor service and/or Zoom and pray all are well as we pass through this difficult period of time.

## FINANCE

Year to date financials reflect about \$30,000 in losses. However, we have yet to recognize the debt forgiveness of our PPP loan. The PPP loan program was part of the first stimulus program approved by the Government to help businesses during the pandemic. If all proceeds were used to continue paying our employees so they could keep their jobs then the loan would be forgiven. When we process the forgiveness paperwork and make the accounting entries we will bring into income about \$45,000. So at our current rate of losses, 2020 should turn out to be about a breakeven.

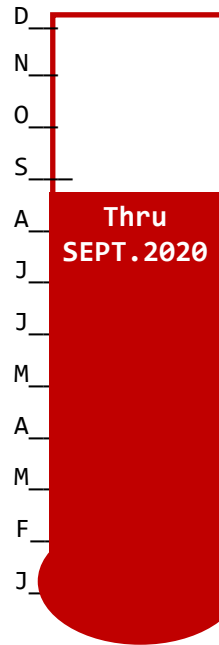
Our liquidity or reserves are quite adequate. We recently were awarded with a very nice bequest from a recently deceased member and expect to receive the money early next year.

The 2021 Stewardship campaign has launched and you all should have received in the mail a letter with your pledge card. Please consider the importance of our church to us all, especially in these times. If you don't rely on the Church that much, think of a day you might need to and think of your gifts as "paying it forward".

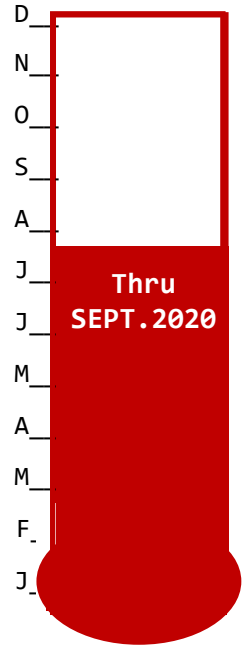
Regardless of what motivates you, please be generous as you always have.....thank you.

*Chris Nelle, Finance Chair*

**GOAL**  
225,000  
PLEDGED



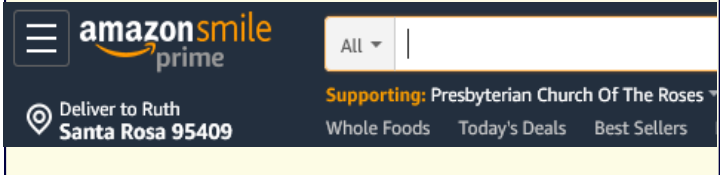
**GOAL**  
58,000  
UNPLEDGED



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CHOOSE US AS YOUR CHARITY!**

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always make sure that you see the Amazon  
Smile logo and Supporting: Presbyterian  
Church of the Roses**





## DEACONS UPDATE

### Buddy Day 2020

**Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.**

### COVID Zoom Style

Yes, we are having a Deacons Buddy Day this year! it will just be a bit different than in the past. No luncheon in Bowen Hall but we have ZOOM. We will have Nancy Nelle's Ukulele group playing a sing along and breakout rooms for time with your personal Deacon. What could be better? Here's how it will work:

The Deacons will send out a postcard with information to each of their buddies.

Pastor Cindy will send out a zoom invitation to the 2020 Buddy Day before the event.

At 1 p.m. after those who attend in person or zoom worship have had time to arrive home or eat lunch before the Zoom event will begin.

Nancy's Ukulele group will play and sing songs that we all know and love. We will be able to sing along muted (of course). Nancy's small group that is part of the 80+ Ukulele group that meets Monday's at the Finley Center (pre-covid). The larger group played regularly for many Catholic Charities events and Senior groups around the county. Nancy's small group is playing for senior groups and groups that are isolated by the pandemic. We are so fortunate that Nancy and her group are playing for us.

Nancy's group will perform for about 45 minutes and then Pastor Cindy will set up the breakout rooms by Deacon. You will have a chance to talk with your Deacon and others on that Deacon's Buddy List.

The Deacons are looking forward to seeing you!!!!

## Secret Santa-COVID Style

Yet again another change. There will be no Christmas Tree in Bowen Hall with 50 Secret Santa cards on it for you to choose a child or an adult with a special request for a gift. It will all be done online this year.

The Secret Santa group has partnered with Salvation Army, Sonoma Toys-for-Tots, Santa Rosa Fire Department Toys for Kids program, Friedman's, Redwood Empire Food Bank, KZST and other groups to centralize the gift giving effort.

***On the next page is the information from Secret Santa on how to do your gifts this year.***

***You will need to visit***

***[www.secretsantanow.org](http://www.secretsantanow.org).***

Each year Secret Santa has served over 40,000 people in need. This year due to the pandemic and fires the need will be even greater. You will have several options on how to help Secret Santa be successful this year.

### **JOY BAGS**

The Deacons are working with the Fellowship Committee on the Joy bags. We are doing follow-up calls once the bags have been delivered.

That is the big news this month—

Barb Basham, moderator

### **INTERFAITH SONOMA COUNTY EVENTS**

- Keeping The Peace in Sonoma County  
Responding Rightly to Conflict in the Aftermath of the November 3 Presidential Election

**Interfaith Lunchtime Chat**

**Monday, November 2 — Noon to 1:30 pm**

- Conversation and Connections

**Evening interfaith discussion**

**Tuesday, November 24 — 7:00 to 8:30 pm**

# Be Someone's Secret Santa

Sonoma County's Secret Santa brings joy to tens of thousands of children and families in need during the holidays. This year's program will be a virtual version of traditional giving. Join us online to show your love for our community.

**We may be apart, but we're still #strongertogether!**

## Show Your Heart: Follow These Steps

1. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we ask that you fulfill heart wishes with a gift card, or by funding gifts online.
2. Visit **[www.secretsanthanow.org](http://www.secretsanthanow.org)** to adopt a heart or letter that speaks to you.
3. Once you have selected the perfect heart or letter, you will receive instructions for touchless donations.
4. As always, you can make a monetary donation to help us fulfill hearts and letters.



## Scan to Adopt A Heart



**Have Questions?** Email **[secretsanta@cvnl.org](mailto:secretsanta@cvnl.org)** or call **707.890.8880**





## **Presbyterian Women Tuesday Dec. 15 10:30 a.m.**

Zoom in for some holiday togetherness! No nice luncheon this year but let's get together with our own coffee and cookies and celebrate Christmas. There will be carols and a Christmas story. We can share our holiday plans and memories. Watch for the zoom link and password or the phone number to join the party.



### **OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2022**

**Join our church group travelling to the  
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Tour covers 4 Eastern European countries in 12 days.  
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payment is July 2022!

**Contact PCOR member Barbara Nelson for more  
information, brochure, and short video: 707-538-  
3836 or email [barbarastravel@earthlink.net](mailto:barbarastravel@earthlink.net)**

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## *God Will Point the Way*

Often a problem arises,  
Creating havoc in our life.  
We can't seem to get our act together,  
Confused from all the strife.

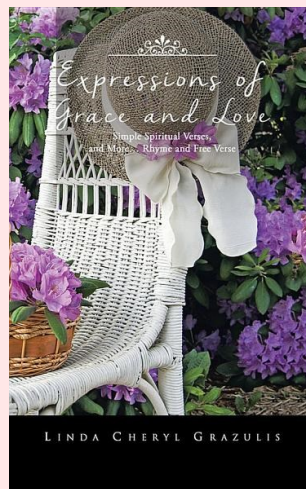
Storm clouds look like giant tornadoes,  
Leaving our thoughts whirling to and fro.  
As fears and doubt accumulate,  
Our sorrows grow and grow!

At such times we must remember  
God can meet our every need.  
Get busy digging up the ground,  
For God will provide each tiny seed!

Don't be afraid to simply trust God  
No matter what shape you've in;  
He comforts and delivers  
And offers mercy for each sin.

God will point the way,  
And turn crisis into calm.  
If we utter prayers in faith —  
He'll supply the healing balm.

By Linda C. Grazulis from her book  
"Expression of Grace and Love"



## LAMENT

By Judith Rivers-Moore

God Of Earth's Realm and our Merciful Master  
I implore you to give a loud voice to the harm of  
man's destruction of our beautiful earth,  
the natural world that you gave us.

My anger spews sadness and sorrow that you do  
not find your voice and demand of us:  
To stop the destruction of animal, insect and  
plant species.

To hinder the annihilation of animals for  
medicine, foods, and fur.

To eradicate the pollutants of our oceans and  
drinking waters from man's greed.

To knowingly spread illness to one another.

To slow the man's unending hunger for money.

My voice is angry....Where is your VOICE  
DEMANDing that we listen.

Why are you silent? We need instruction.  
What can we as humble humans do to quell the  
disaster we see on the horizon, our earth being  
destroyed by greed and overpopulation?

Merciful Master you gave us a world of inner-  
acting-purposeful animals, insects and earth-filled  
delights. In the Bible you told us to multiply.  
People have overridden the earth and it cannot  
supply the food or room... Now What?? Your  
Bible does not instruct on this.

Merciful Master, we need a VOICE...one that we  
can all hear and act upon  
Before it is too late for our beautiful earth that  
we love from being destroyed

Merciful Master.....I know you hear our plaintiff  
cries. In my heart, your wisdom rings. Help us find  
a way to plant in other people's hearts the  
message to preserve and care for our beautiful  
earth's future generations.

I implore you to combine our voices that are now  
so faint to the greedy man's ears.

Give us a louder and broader voice to make  
ALL understand the destruction  
they and we bring to our planet.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### THOSE WHO MOURN FAMILY & FRIENDS



\*The family and friends  
of **Lucy Poindexter**, as  
they mourn her passing  
on October 24, 2020.

\*The family of **Helen Burns**, as they mourn her  
passing on August 14, 2020.

\*The family of **Elizabeth Ann Palmer**, as they  
mourn her passing on July 24, 2020.

### THOSE WITH HEALTH ISSUES

Bill Beaumont	Luu Maxwell
Bob Bunting	Jessica Morse
Patrick Butler	Beverly Mueller
Peggy Call	Debbie Seat
Stephen Caron	Bob Simmons
Doreen Cowden	Sharon Sorani
Dick Draper	Shirley Walton
Danny Duchsherer	Bob Weber
Barbara Flannery	Jill White
Marilyn Hilen	Roger White
Janice Holmes	Helen Wikle
Carolyn Kenworthy	Betty Witchey-Ryer
Vivian Mazeski	Betsy Yeager
	Avery Yudice

### THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Sgt. David A. Dickens, USAF Jason Morse,  
Coast Guard Lt. Ian Alloway Culver,  
Lt. Col. David Trowbridge, M.D. is stationed  
at the Joint Air Force Base Elmendorf-  
Richardson in Anchorage, Ak and serves as  
a Cardiologist with the Alaska Native  
Medical Center, Chris Loranger serving in  
Afghanistan.



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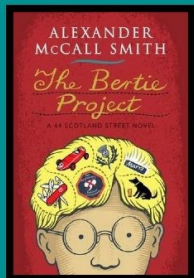
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**PASTOR CINDY'S SERMONS  
ARE ON THE RADIO!**  
Sunday Mornings 6:30 am—7 am  
or anytime at... [https://www.ksro.com/show/  
presbyterian-church-of-the-roses/](https://www.ksro.com/show/presbyterian-church-of-the-roses/)



**Zoom Book Club  
November 19 1:30 p.m.**

**The Bertie Project  
by Alexander McCall Smith**

**From the 44 Scotland Street Series  
Pick up books at Jeanne Nussmeier's**

**Join us ON THE LAWN  
For a meditative and reflective  
service in community  
NOVEMBER 7th @ 5 pm**



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**Presbyterian Church of the Roses**

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