

The Vision



A Community of Comfort and Care

Where:

- ~ Christ Reigns Supreme
- ~ Worship Lifts the Spirit
- ~ The Bible Touches Hearts & Minds
- ~ Serving Brings Meaning
- ~ Relationships Change Lives

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018



Monday 10am-4pm
Tuesday 7am-4pm
Wednesday 10am-4pm
Thursday 7am-4pm
Friday 7am-4pm

TEAM LEADERS
MAY 1 @ 6:30 PM
FOX HALL



THREADS OF FAITH
CRAFTERS GROUP

Welcome All Crafters!

Threads of Faith will not meet in April. We will meet again on **Saturday, May 5th** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Fox Hall. Come work on a project or learn a craft, pick up yarn or fabric, or stop by to drop off what you have made. All crafters are welcome, if you can make items we can

donate locally or globally. Enjoy fellowship while you give to others. For more information, contact Caroline Cohen (860-268-6837, cscohen45@gmail.com).

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Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Youth Fundraiser & Education Room Tours Sunday, May 6 @ 12 PM



Wednesday, May 9
8:00 AM
Tanner Jacks, AG Mesa

Weekly Reminders

Wednesdays

★ Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM

Thursdays

★ Choir Practice 7:00 PM

Sundays

★ Worship Service 10:30 AM



Monthly Reminders

- ★ Ladies Bookclub
2nd Thursday @ 11:30 AM
- ★ Genealogy Club
2nd Monday @ 10:30 PM
- ★ Presbyterian Women's Luncheon
4th Thursday @ 12:00 PM

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PASTORS CORNER

When I was a little girl, I often had a hard time breathing. I remember it being especially difficult in the spring when the thick pine pollen coated the front porch of our home, the cars in the drive and the lungs in the house.

Sometimes, when the air was thick and the infections in my lungs persistent, my mother would come and lie across the foot of my bed and tell me stories of Sea Grove Beach, Florida. Sea Grove was, in those days, a tiny barely developed spot on the Gulf coast where the waters were emerald green and warm and the sands sugar white. It always seemed that I breathed a little easier there. Maybe the ocean breezes swept the pollen far in land and away. I'm not sure. But I remember when I was sick that Mama laid at the foot of my bed and reminded me of Sea Grove. She promised that if I would hold on, we would

go there. I remember closing my eyes and breathing deeply, as deeply as I could, and imaging myself running along the shore in the sunshine with my eyes closed and arms outstretched. It was my vision of wholeness.

Every person, I think, has a picture in his or her mind's eye of what life should be like, or could be like, if everything were in perfect order.

Sometimes we live into those pictures. Sometimes we don't. If they are healthy and life giving, those pictures lead us even when we are having difficulties.

The same is true of churches. Many of us have a vision of what church is at its best. We don't all have the same vision, at least not in the details, but all of our visions for the church include some common elements. We know that when we are being our best we are loving, close, Christ-centered, Biblically grounded, poured out for the community, tolerant of others failings and generous in mind, spirit and resources.

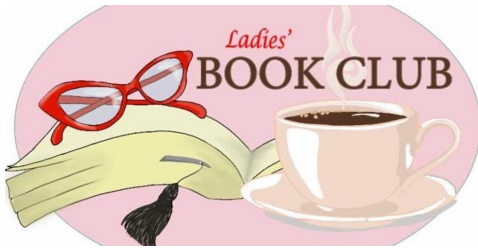
May is a wonderful month for thinking again of who we really are and how we are most vitally healthy as a congregation. It is a great

time to remind each other of where we are going and who we most truly are. So I encourage you this month to think and pray a little about the future for our church. When you close your eyes and stretch out your arms, what do you see? How do we start to get there? Let the wonder of what God may yet want to do with us wash over and inspire you. I'd love to hear what you think!

If you'd like to learn a little more about our church, it's history, values and vision, I invite you to consider attending the series of Inquirer's dinners that Robbie and I will be hosting at our home on three consecutive Thursday evenings beginning on May 17th. If you are interested in joining our church this is a great way to meet others and gain some insight as you make that decision. If you are already a member and you have never attended Inquirer's classes, you are welcome too. Email me for more information or call the church office to make a reservation.

All my love,

Eugenia



LADIES BOOK CLUB

May 10 at 11:30 am – Fox Hall

May 10: *The Summer Before the War* by Helen Simonson (Novel)

East Sussex, 1914. It is the end of England's brief Edwardian summer, and everyone agrees that the weather has never been so beautiful. Hugh Grange, down from his medical studies, is visiting his Aunt Agatha, who lives with her husband in the small, idyllic coastal town of Rye.

Agatha's husband works in the Foreign Office, and she is certain he will ensure that the recent saber rattling over the Balkans won't come to anything. And Agatha has more immediate concerns; she has just risked her carefully built reputation by pushing for the appointment of a woman to replace the Latin master.

When Beatrice Nash arrives with one trunk and several large crates of books, it is clear she is significantly

more freethinking—and attractive—than anyone believes a Latin teacher should be. For her part, mourning the death of her beloved father, who has left her penniless, Beatrice simply wants to be left alone to pursue her teaching and writing.

But just as Beatrice comes alive to the beauty of the Sussex landscape and the colorful characters who populate Rye, the perfect summer is about to end. For despite Agatha's reassurances, the unimaginable is coming. Soon the limits of progress, and the old ways, will be tested as this small Sussex town and its inhabitants go to war.

June 14: *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi (Non-Fiction)

ALL WOMEN are invited to join our Ladies Book Club. We meet in Fox Hall, at church at 11:30 am, the 2nd Thursday of the month. Bring your lunch! **YOU ARE FREE TO JOIN US FOR ONE OR MORE OF OUR MEETINGS.** Copies of our entire reading list are available on the church library shelf. If you haven't

come before, please give your email address to Cathy Brady (cathy.brady@gmail.com) so we can update you on any changes to the schedule.

Welcome to This Place

The 2018 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women

Continuing a mission of giving that began in 1922, our Presbyterian Women will sponsor this year's Birthday Offering on Mother's Day, May 13th. The name "Birthday Offering" comes from the story of Hallie Paxson Winsborough challenging her Presbyterian Women's group to give one penny for each year of their lives as a birthday gift to a school for girls in Kochi, Japan.

Since that time, the Birthday Offering has become an annual tradition. Monetary gifts have funded nearly 100 major mission projects to assist women and children both here in the USA and around the world. Birthday Offering grants primarily fund capital improvement projects. Because these are large projects, only a small number are chosen each year.

In 2018, we will offer our prayers and financial support for the following:

Cottage Village, a Tiny-house Community for Low-Income

Residents – Cottage Grove, Oregon

Our birthday offering grant will be used to help build 13 tiny houses and community center that will serve as a compassionate and protective community for vulnerable rural citizens.

Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health – Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Our birthday offering grant will purchase the Village of Grace Center (originally established by Presbyterian mission workers) to function as a retreat center, managed by the Presbyterian women of Honduras. It will offer international hospitality for retreats, workshops, and mission teams from the PC (USA), Solar Under the Sun, and Waters for the World.

The Dwelling Place – Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

The Dwelling Place was established in 1998 to provide for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of women and their children following their escape from a violent partner. The Birthday Offering Grant will help purchase a vacant lot which will be used to build a multipurpose building, allowing expansion of their program helping more women and children who are seeking safety.

Birthday Offering envelopes will be inserted in the Mother's Day bulletin on May 13th. Information can be found on the PW bulletin board. Please contribute as you are able. Checks may be made to PW.



Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 p.m. each week in Fox Hall

THANKS FROM THE PASHOS

Thank you so much for your prayers! We arrived in Albania about 24 hours ago and we are happy to reunite with Daniel (our older son). We had a great time in California. God brought many people to encourage and to pray for/with us. We are looking forward to be used by God for his purposes.

We love and appreciate you all,
Alban, Dori, Daniel, Ruben & Sindi!

Philippians 4:10-20





Cinco de Mayo Fiesta



Youth Fundraiser & Education Room Tours Sunday, May 6

After church, the youth will be hosting a Cinco de Mayo Fiesta and tours of the new education rooms. This fundraiser will help support youth activities for both our teen and tweens groups.



Sharing Love on Mother's Day

Diaper Drive for Living Word

Sunday, May 13th



When you are shopping over the next few weeks, would you consider picking up a package of disposable diapers? Our moms and babies can always use this help. We have 14-20 infants and toddlers in our Living Word Mommy and Me program every week. Many of these amazing families struggle to make ends meet each week. **If you would like to help, please bring the diapers to church with you on Mother's Day to say thanks and we love you to these moms and families.**

Sponsored by the Local Mission and Living Word teams. For more information about Living Word, check out our brochures at each entrance to the sanctuary.

**Presbyterian Women
Thursday, May 24, at Noon – Fox Hall**



Bob Thomas, from the Turtle and Tortoise Rescue in Arroyo Grande, will speak about the rescue facility. They have over 300 turtles and tortoises and over 40 species. Also, they breed species and find homes for 100-200 rescued turtles each year.

Lunch will be served at 12 noon

A \$5.00 donation is requested.

ALL WOMEN of the church and their friends are welcome to attend Presbyterian Women (PW) meetings and are encouraged to take part in the activities aimed at strengthening our faith. Please join us!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9:45am Choir Practice 10:30am Worship/Childrens & Y	30 8:30am Watercolor Painting Gro	May 1 6:30pm Team Leader Meeting	2 7pm Adult Bible Study	3 6:30pm Private Group 7pm Choir Practice	4 9:30am Bread Packaging 10am People's Kitchen Food Pre	5 10am Threads of Faith Crafte
6 9:45am Choir Practice 10:30am Worship/Childrens & Y 11:45am CINCO de MAYO YOUT 12pm Healing & Wholeness Sen 5:30pm SLO Jam	7 8:30am Watercolor Painting Gro	8 8am Mens Breakfast 7pm Adult Bible Study	9 8am Mens Breakfast 7pm Adult Bible Study	10 11:30am Ladies Book Club 1:15pm PWCT Meeting 6:30pm Private Group 7pm Choir Practice	11 9:30am Bread Packaging	12 2pm Bill Oldt Memorial
13 9:45am Choir Practice 10:30am Worship/Childrens & Y	14 10:30am Genealogy Group	15 4:30pm Deacon's Meeting 6:45pm Session 7:30pm Finance Team Meeting	16 7pm Adult Bible Study	17 6:30pm Private Group 7pm Choir Practice	18 VISION DEADLINE 9:30am Bread Packaging	19
20 9:45am Choir Practice 10:30am Worship/Childrens & Y	21 8:30am Watercolor Painting Gro	22	23 7pm Adult Bible Study	24 12pm PW Luncheon 6:30pm Private Group 7pm Choir Practice	25 9:30am Bread Packaging	26
27 9:45am Choir Practice 10:30am Worship/Childrens & Y 12:15pm Local Missions Team M	28 8:30am Watercolor Painting Gro	29 8:30am Watercolor Painting Gro	30 7pm Adult Bible Study	31 6:30pm Private Group 7pm Choir Practice	Jun 1 9:30am Bread Packaging 10am People's Kitchen Food Pre	2 10am Threads of Faith Crafte

Please visit www.nipomopresbyterian.org for a full description

May 1st, 2018 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Location: Fox Hall	Team Leaders Round Table
May 5th, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM	Location: Fox Hall	Threads of Faith Crafters
May 6th, 2018 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM	Location: Church Campus	Cinco de Mayo Youth Fundraiser
May 9th, 2018 from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM	Location: Tanner Jacks, AG Mesa	Men's Breakfast
May 10th, 2018 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM	Location: Fox Hall	Ladies Book Club
May 12th, 2018 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Location: Sanctuary/Fox Hall	Memorial for Bill Oldt
May 24th, 2018 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM	Location: Fox Hall	PW Luncheon

For a full color version of "the Vision" visit nipomopresbyterian.org

