



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





Mon. - Thurs. Fridav

7 am-4 pm 8 am-12 pm

CLOSED JULY 4th

TEAM LEADERS
JULY 3RD @ 6:30 PM
FOX HALL

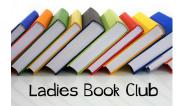


Wednesday, July 11 @ 8 AM Tanner Jacks, AG Mesa



Summer Hymn & Praise Sing!

Each Sunday morning from 10:15am-10:30am.
Arrive a few minutes early and enjoy singing some hymn and praise songs led by our Minister of Music, Cyndi Culp.



July 12 at 11:30 am
Fox Hall

July 12: *Threading My Prayer Rug* by Sabeeha Rehman (Non-Fiction)

Named on *Booklist's* Top Ten Religion and Spirituality Books of 2016, Threading My Prayer Rug is a richly textured reflection on what it is to be a Muslim in America. It is also the luminous story of many journeys: from Pakistan to the United States in an arranged marriage that becomes a love match lasting forty-five years; from secular Muslim in an Islamic society to devout Muslim in a society ignorant of Islam, and from liberal to conservative to American Muslim: from bride to mother: and from an immigrant intending to stay two years to an American citizen, business

Weekly Reminders

Wednesdays

★ Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM

Thursdays

★ Choir Practice 7:00 PM

Sundays

★ Worship Service 10:30 AM



Monthly Reminders

- ★ Ladies Bookclub2nd Thursday @ 11:30 AM
- ★ Genealogy Club

2nd Monday @ 10:30 PM

★ Presbyterian Women's Luncheon

NO MEETING IN JULY

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PASTORS CORNER

"How long, O Lord" Psalm 13

My new friend strode into the room late. Her frustration and pain filled the air like a thick perfume. All present were suddenly silenced. We recognized the state she was in. We were all very familiar with it.

"I feel like my life is slapped together," she said. "Nothing is in order. It's not at all what I expected or worked for. I've tried everything. All the personal growth stuff. I've prayed and things only get worse. People pray for me and I just get sicker. I want faith to make a difference in my life, but I just don't get it!"

As I reflected later on her statements and our group's fumbling efforts to comfort and support her, I thought what a perfect contemporary paraphrase of Psalm 13 her words were. "How long, O Lord, will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul and sorrow in my heart? All day long?" (Psalm 13, selected verses.)

Many of us have times like that every once in a while. Most of us can recall moments when all we felt was a crying absence of God's presence. We had done all we knew how to do and still no relief. No glimpse of a way out. No sense of God's comfort or guidance. We have had dry, empty, silent times when

we felt tired, tired to the core. Tired of praying. Tired of waiting. Tired of trying.

Since the beginning of time, God's people have wrestled periodically with feelings of absence, doubt or disillusionment. We've known times when the faith itself seemed to be "working" for others but not for us.

I would like to suggest that those times are immensely valuable. There is a story of a little girl who was taking piano lessons and trying to learn to read music. The teacher told her that the little blocks and squiggles sprinkled throughout the musical piece were called rests. After the explanation, the teacher asked the girl if she understood.

"Sure," she said. "That's when nothing happens."

"Oh, no," the teacher said.
"Silence is not the same as nothing.
The rest is a part of whole fabric of the music, as much as the notes.
Rests reveal the real wisdom of the composer. They are not nothing."

Perhaps the agonizing times of silent waiting are like that, part of the ultimate symphony of the spiritual life, necessary and natural, like Sabbath.

The suggestion that times of apparent silence are natural does not make them any easier to endure nor their onset any easier to understand or predict. Sometimes it seems that times of silence come as a result of sin that has subtly taken hold and misdirected our hearts and energy. Sometimes they seem to be a test to see if we truly believe or if we are fair weather only followers. Sometimes they come as a part of grief or change. Sometimes they even seem to come after a great high or success. Sometimes they come because we have put our hands over our ears like children not

wanting to hear God's call to change or grow.

Whatever precipitates times of God's apparent silence, a number of things happen during them. Our priorities begin to be reshaped. We learn to let go of our dependence on external things to support and give meaning to our lives. We learn that having more, achieving more, getting more acclaim, approval and acceptance can never substitute for deep and sustaining relationship with God. All of the things we think we need, that we think define us, come into focus for what they are. We recognize that they are not bad. They are just not necessary. With that realization comes the stark awareness that we simply cannot manage without God. Nothing else in all creation can fill that aching need.

In times when we feel that God is silent, strangely and mysteriously, we find that we learn our need for God, grieve our sense of absence and learn to trust and rely upon God anyway. We learn that our feelings, even our feelings of God's presence, are not God. Faith deepens as we choose to continue to believe and act on our belief even when we do not see or feel results. We learn that faith is not about what we feel to be real, any more than it is about whom we choose to rely upon.

When we stop running from, or railing against, times of silence, we can recognize that silence is not nothing and neither is God truly absent. God is working miracles of faith into the very fabric of our lives.

The Psalmists understood the complexity of human emotions and felt no need to hide or sanitize those feelings in their prayers. They just put it all out there. I love that! This month the daily scriptures all come from the Psalms and the little prayers from a Psalm journal I kept years ago. I invite

you this month to use them, if helpful, and lay all of yourself before God, no matter what you feel, or if you feel nothing at all. You will be blessed!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Eugenia

July Daily Scripture and Prayer

1 – Psalm 99:5 Extol the Lord our God; worship at God's footstool. Holy is our God!

Dear God, you are all holiness and beauty! We see your handiwork and our hearts take flight. Open our eyes today to see and praise you. Amen.

2 – Psalm 26:8 I love your sanctuary, Lord, the place where your glory shines.

Dear God, throughout the centuries across the globe your children have delighted in worshipping you. Fill me today with deep wonder at your love and power. Draw me to worship you with my whole heart. Amen.

3 – Psalm 33:4 – The word of the Lord holds true, and everything he does is worthy of trust.

Dear God, how I long to trust you more! Some days I feel that you are far away and distracted. Then I only trust myself. What a mistake! Help me to trust you even if I do not feel you. Amen.

4 – Psalm 104:24 How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Dear God, I thank you today for the beauty of this land and for the gifts and responsibilities you have given us as a people. Help us to work for justice, freedom and peace. Show us how to mend our flaws and demonstrate your love. Amen.

5 – Psalm 91:1 God orders the angels to protect you wherever you go.

Dear God you are with me and in charge today. Thank you. Help me to lean into your loving provision and live this day in tranquility. Amen.

6 – Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes to see the wonderful truths in your law.

Dear God, sometimes rules seem to chafe, but your rule is not only right, but good and winsome. Help me to honor you today by living according to your word. Amen.

7 – Psalm 68:19 Praise the Lord; praise God our savior! For each day God carries us in his arms.

Dear God, I woke up weary this morning and I am aware that I need you more than usual. Lift me up and hold me tight. Fill me with your love and live through me today. Amen.

8 – Psalm 40:17 As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God.

Dear God, sometimes I am just a bundle of needs and hurts. Comfort me, I beg of you. Remind me that what I see is not all that there is, not to my situation, not to the world, and especially not to you. Amen.

9 – Psalm 130:1-2 From the depths of despair, O Lord, I call for your help. Hear my cry, O Lord. Pay attention to my prayer.

Dear God, sometimes I cry out to you and do not understand why you seem silent. Speak to me today, dear God. Help me to meet today's challenges knowing that you are with me. Amen.

10 – Psalm 26:12 I have taken a stand, and I will publicly praise the Lord.

Dear God, it is my joy today to bear your name: Christian. Help me to honor you in all I do. Give me courage to be your person in every situation. Amen

11 – Psalm 106:1 Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's love endures forever.

Dear God, it is so much fun to wake with your praises on my lips. Thank you for drawing me to prayer today! Help me all day to notice every blessing and sing your praise. Amen.

12 – Psalm 84:11 – For the Lord is our light and protector. God gives us grace and glory. No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who do what is right.

Dear God, you are the light of my life. Today I ask that you show me a patch of your light to stand in. Help me to trust your bounty and live according to your plan. Amen.

13 – Psalm 106:2 – Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all God's praise?

Dear God, I am amazed by you. I see the tiniest creatures and the grandest designs and I am humbled to the core. You have kept me and led me all of my life and I do not know what to say but 'thank you'. Amen.

14 – Psalm 32:8 – The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you."

Dear God, some days my path seems strewn with boulders higher than I can even see. Help me to trust you to take my next step. Help me to know that you see the destination and to follow you willingly. Amen.

15 – Psalm 36:6 – By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of God's mouth.

Dear God, you have spoken all creation into being. Its vastness is supreme. You even spoke my own life into being. Thank you for your word. Train me to hear and respond. Amen.

16 – Psalm 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation---so why should I be afraid?

Dear God, sometimes my fears are just relentless. Even when they threaten to overwhelm me I know that they are really false because in you all fear is banished. Help me today to see your light. Amen.

17 – Psalm 127:1 Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builders is in vain.

Dear God, the house of my soul feels shaky today. Shore up my foundations with your peace for I cannot do it alone. Amen.

18 – Psalm 34:7 – The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear God, and God delivers them.

Dear God, I believe that your angels are encamped around me to help and protect me. Thank you. Today I ask that you help me rest in the promise of your help. Amen.

19 – Psalm 31:7 I am overcome with joy because of your unfailing love, for you have seen my troubles, and you care about the anguish of my soul.

Dear God, all I can think about today is your love for me. It is more wonderful than words. You have held me in despair and your love is enough. Amen.

20 – Psalm 128: 1-2 Happy is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in God's ways. You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you.

Dear God, thank you for providing me with something to do today, no matter what it is. My life is full from loving you and I am feasting on your grace. Amen.

21 – Psalm 69: 14 – Rescue me from the mire, do not let me sink; deliver me from those who hate me, from the deep waters.

Dear God, people are driving me crazy today! I do not understand them or why they do what they do. Help me to rely on you. Guide me through these waters. Amen.

22 – Psalm 41:1 – Blessed is the one who considers the poor

Dear God, I am tired of thinking about my own problems all the time! Help me to focus on others in need. Use me in their healing. Amen.

23 – Psalm 68:34 – Tell everyone about God's power.

Dear God, thank you for your powerful love. Give me today someone with whom I can share that love. Amen.

24 – Psalm 27:4 - The one thing I ask of the Lord—the thing I seek most—is to live my life in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Dear God, I long for you with a deep longing. All I ask is to draw near to you. Take me in your arms and never let me go. Amen.

25 – Psalm 106:48 Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the Lord.

Dear God, I want to praise you today but I am having a hard time doing it. Life is hard and I am stressed. Come to me, Lord, and open my eyes to your wonders. Amen.

26 – Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Dear God, I return to this verse again and again and again. I cling to it as a way of clinging to you. Help me. Strengthen me. Deliver me. Amen.

27 – Psalm 69:32 – The humble will see their God at work and be glad. Let all who seek God's help live in joy.

Dear God, help me today not to try to do everything myself. Help me to seek and accept the help I need so that I may experience a little of the joy you have for me. Amen.

28 – Psalm 141:3 – Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.

Dear God, today I ask that you help me to speak only good and loving things to others and to myself. Amen.

29 – Psalm 27:5 In the time of trouble God shall hide me in God's own pavilion

Dear God, I would like to flee to you today. Please tuck me to your heart and let me rest there awhile. Amen.

30 – Psalm 100:2 – Obey God gladly; come before God, singing with joy.

Dear God, I seem to never learn that obeying you is my joy. Help me today to remember that your ways are always best. Amen.

31 – Psalm 124:8 – Our help is from the Lord, who made the heavens and the earth.

Dear God, you have made all things and we are all in your hands. Help me today to look to you for my support and my meaning. Amen. executive, grandmother, and tireless advocate for interfaith understanding.

Beginning with a sweetly funny, moving account of her arranged marriage, the author undercuts stereotypes and offers the refreshing view of an American life through Muslim eves. Sabeeha was doing interfaith work for Imam Feisal A. Rauf, the driving force behind the Muslim community center near Ground Zero, when the backlash began. She recounts what that experience revealed about American society and in a new preface discusses Islam in America in the time of Trump.

August 9: The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See (Novel)

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.

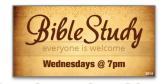


THREADS OF FAITH CRAFTERS GROUP

Welcome All Crafters!

Threads of Faith will meet again on **Saturday, July 14** from 10:00 p.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).



Wednesday Night Bible Study
7 p.m. each week in Fox Hall.
No Bible Study July 4th.



Many thanks to our chancel choir for a wonderful year of music! Also thanks to our wonderful musicians and all those who offered their gifts throughout the year! Thanks to the dedicated summer singers and to Cyndi and Ninnette for their hard work in scheduling. Choir will resume in September. Wouldn't you like to join and sing praises to God?!?



Please pray for our elders at our annual planning retreat July 13th and 14th.



Save the Dates! Jubilee! October 26-28, 2018

Don't miss a wonderful weekend of thanking God and celebrating the past, present and future of our church. We will invite members that have moved away, former pastors and lots of others to join the celebration which will include a BBQ for out of town guests, a celebration banquet and concert, and special Sunday worship. More info coming soon!



Family Album

In preparation for Jubilee we are creating a church family album to share. Karen Graves, our church photographer, will be contacting each of you to arrange a time to take some snapshots for the album. Get ready for your close ups!

The Jane Plunkett Back to School Drive Begins July 1/Ends August 12



It's time for our annual Jane Plunkett Back to School Drive which is so named to honor Jane who had the heart and initiative to start this PW mission in 2011. School supplies will be collected to be given to the Children's Resource Network for disadvantaged children and at-risk youth in SLO and North Santa Barbara Counties.

For more information, please contact Joan Rice, Barb Deel or any member of PW's Coordinating Team.

School Supply Wish List There is a big demand for backpacks!

Backpacks	Whiteboard Markers	Spiral Notebooks
Glue Sticks	Crayons	Binder Paper
Sharp Point Scissors	Rulers	School Glue
Round Point Scissors	Protractors	Math Compass
Classic Pencils/Pens	2-inch Binders	Pencil Box
Colored Pencils/Pens	1-inch Binders	5-Subject Dividers
Classic Markers	Erasers	Pocket Folders
Washable Markers	PencilSharpeners	Lined Index Cards

Receptacles will be available in our sanctuary's narthex to receive your supplies beginning July 1. Should you prefer to donate monetarily, checks should be made payable to "The Children's Resource Network" and placed in the offering plate or left with Caroline in the office.

On behalf of a local child in need, we thank you!



ALL DONATIONS ARE 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE - TAX ID# 27-1473791



Movie Night

Disney's Frozen

Sunday, July 15th

6:00 p.m.

Pízza dinner, popcorn, red vines § special "Frozen Desserts" will be served

The church is embarking on a new project, and we would like to invite anyone who's interested to participate. We have need of a Dear folks, new banner for the Jubilee Weekend in October, and we would

like to combine the old with the new. The church has several banners from the Santa Maria church, but they are no longer in a condition to hang in the Sanctuary. We would like to create a new banner from pieces of the old ones, uniting the past with the present and future. We are looking to find people to help design the banner, and people to help sew and embroider it. You do not need to belong to Threads of Faith, the NCPC crafters group, to be involved with this project (although Threads is always welcoming new members!).

If you are intrigued and would like to help with any aspect of this creation, please contact Caroline Johnson in the office, or Caroline Cohen (860-268-6837)

Rev. Eugenia A. Gamble

Nipomo Community Presbyterian Church Summer Events Schedule

"Schools out!" Ice Cream Social

Make your own sundae

Jigsaw puzzles & board games

Sunday, June 10 @ 12 PM

Movie Night – Frozen

Pizza & special Frozen desserts!

Sunday, July 15 @ 7 PM

All church Luau/picnic

Lawn games right after church.

Pulled pork sandwiches will be served

Bring a side dish.

Sunday, August 5 @ 12 PM

Welcome Back to School Breakfast

Sunday school Kick-off!

New Sunday school Room Tours!

Sunday, August 19 @ 12 PM

Beach Party BBQ/Potluck

To celebrate Grandparents Day!

Bring a side dish and your own

meat to BBO

Avila Beach picnic area

Sunday, September 9 @ 2 PM



			TAKE ONE STEP UP IN YOUR GIVING									
ANNUAL	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	Weekly giving as Proportion of Income									
INCOME	INCOME	INCOME	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%
\$20,000	\$1,667	\$385	\$12	\$15	\$19	\$23	\$27	\$31	\$35	\$38	\$42	\$46
\$30,000	\$2,500	\$577	\$17	\$23	\$29	\$35	\$40	\$46	\$52	\$58	\$63	\$69
\$40,000	\$3,333	\$769	\$23	\$31	\$38	\$46	\$54	\$62	\$69	\$77	\$85	\$92
\$50,000	\$4,167	\$962	\$29	\$38	\$48	\$58	\$67	\$77	\$87	\$96	\$106	\$115
\$60,000	\$5,000	\$1,154	\$35	\$46	\$58	\$69	\$81	\$92	\$104	\$115	\$127	\$138
\$70,000	\$5,833	\$1,346	\$40	\$54	\$67	\$81	\$94	\$108	\$121	\$135	\$148	\$162
\$80,000	\$6,667	\$1,538	\$46	\$62	\$77	\$92	\$108	\$123	\$138	\$154	\$169	\$185
\$90,000	\$7,500	\$1,731	\$52	\$69	\$87	\$104	\$121	\$138	\$156	\$173	\$190	\$208
\$100,000	\$8,333	\$1,923	\$58	\$77	\$96	\$115	\$135	\$154	\$173	\$192	\$212	\$231
\$120,000	\$10,000	\$2,308	\$69	\$92	\$115	\$138	\$162	\$185	\$208	\$231	\$254	\$277
\$140,000	\$11,667	\$2,692	\$81	\$108	\$135	\$162	\$188	\$215	\$242	\$269	\$296	\$323
\$160,000	\$13,333	\$3,077	\$92	\$123	\$154	\$185	\$215	\$246	\$277	\$308	\$338	\$369

For example: If your income is \$40,000 per year and you are giving \$31 per week, that is at the 4% level. Step up to the 5% level and give \$38 per week. That is just \$7 more, not even enough for two Starbucks coffees. If you make \$60,000 per year & are giving \$81 per week, that is the 7% level. Step up to the 8% level and give \$92 per week, just \$11 more.

IF EVERYONE STEPS UP JUST ONE STEP, WE CAN GROW NEW PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES

Presbyterian Women

Summer Potluck/Bingo

Thursday, August 23rd * Noon – Eugenia's Home 1131 Fair Oaks Drive, Arroyo Grande







"Angels Among Us"

Please bring a photo or momento of a woman that helped shape your life.

Eugenia will be talking about where in the world the various PW ministry projects have been.

- Bring a dish to share
- Bring a White Elephant gift (\$5) for Bingo.
- RSVP's are required, so watch for the sign-up sheets on the PW table after church starting June 4th.
- Carpooling is advised as parking is limited.

Jul 2018 (Pacific Time)

nipomopres@att.net, Holidays in United States

28 10am - Threads of Faith Crafters 10am - Threads of Faith Crafters 9am - Session Planning Retreat 9am - Private Event ALL DAY @ 20 9 am - Private Event ALL DAY @ 6pm - Session Planning Retreat 10am - People's Kitchen Food 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 10am - People's Kitchen Food 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 9am - Private Event ALL DAY @ 6:30pm - Private Group @ Fox 11:30am - Ladies Book Club @ 1:15pm - PWCT Meeting @ Fox 6:30pm - Private Group @ Fox 25 8am - Men's Breakfast @ Tanner 7pm - Adult Bible Study @ Wed 24 31 7:30pm - Finance Team Meeting 6:30pm - Team Leader Meeting 4:30pm - NEW MEMBER BBQ @ 4:30pm - Deacon's Meeting @ CAROLINE VACATION 23 10:30am - Genealogy Group @ 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 12:15pm - Local Missions Team 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:15am - Hymn & Praise Sing 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:15am - Hymn & Praise Sing 7pm - Movie Night *(Frozen)*-12pm - Healing & Wholeness 5:30pm - SLO Jam

Please visit www.nipomopresbyterian.org for a full description

Nipomo Community Presbyterian Church

Phone (805) 473-8059. Email: nipomopres@att.net Mailing Address: PO Box 158~ Nipomo CA 93444 1235 North Thompson Road~Arroyo Grande

Location: Sanctuary July 1st, 2018

Back to School Drive Begins!

Location: Fox Hall MI 3rd, 2018 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Team Leaders Round Table

Men's Breakfast Location: Tanner Jacks, AG Mesa MA 08:9 of MA 00:8 monf 8102, dfll ylul

Location: Fox Hall July 12th, 2018 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Ladies Book Club

Location: Fox Hall July 14th, 2018 from 10:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Threads of Faith Crafters

Location: Fox Hall My 15th, 2018 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Movie Night *FROZEN*

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

