



# 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

# DECEMBER 2018/JANUARY 2019



Mon. - Thurs. Friday

7 am-4 pm 8 am-12 pm



Threads of Faith
December 1st 10am-2pm
January 5th 10am to 2pm

TEAM LEADERS
DECEMBER 4TH @ 6:30 PM
NO JANUARY MEETING
FOX HALL

SANDY YBARRA MEMORIAL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 11:00 AM/ RECEPTION AFTERWARDS IN FOX HALL

CLAUDIA PETERSON

MEMORIAL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

11:00 AM/RECEPTION

AFTERWARDS IN FOX HALL



Wednesday, December 12th Wednesday, January 9th Tanner Jacks, AG Mesa 8 A 8:00 AM



Please mark your calendar for the upcoming Celebrations events in December:

Wednesday 12/5 at 6- come help decorate the tree in Fox Hall. Soups and dessert will be served.

Sunday 12/9 right after church-decorate Christmas cookies to take home in a decorative bag to give as gifts

**Sunday 12/16** 1:30-3:30pm Home for the Holidays-Hosted home parties for small

# **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

January 10, 2019

★ Genealogy Club

January 14, 2019

★ Presbyterian Women's Luncheon

> December 6, 2018 January 24, 2019



# December 2018 Daily Scripture and Prayer

1st – Colossians 1:11-20 "May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power." Prayer: Gracious God as I begin this month in which your children celebrate the birth of Jesus, strengthen me and help me to find my hope in you, so that when Christmas comes I will welcome you anew. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> – Psalm 24 "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it..."

Prayer: Gracious God, I give thanks to you today that the whole world belongs to you. That means that I belong to you, too. Help me to trust you with my life. Tend to me and all your creation with tenderness and wisdom. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> – Psalm 145 ""…Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever…"

Prayer: Gracious God I praise you today with my whole being. Help me to feel the joy and hope that comes from loving you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

4th - Psalm 146 ""...I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long..."
Prayer: Mighty Creator, today I thank you for my life, even with its challenges, it is a precious gift and I am grateful. Help me today to praise you for every good memory and every present comfort. In Jesus' name.
Amen.

5<sup>th</sup> – Isaiah 66:12-13 ""...As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you..." Prayer: Loving God, I long to feel your arms around me today. Please help me to receive the wonderful comfort that you have for me today. I know you love me, and I am grateful. In Jesus' name, Amen

### 6th - Genesis 29:20

"So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her."

Prayer: Dear God, I am not feeling as patient as Jacob today. Help me with your divine patience to take a deep breath and live today fully knowing that in you I lack nothing. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# 7th - Isaiah 40:28-31 "...those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Prayer: God of Divine Patience, oh how I love this image, me soaring free, eagle-eyed, focused. This is not how I always feel, but just because I don't feel like it doesn't mean that your word is not true for me. Lift me up, O God, and fill me with the strength I need for today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 8th - Psalm 46 "Be still, and know that I am God!"

Prayer: Help me, O God, to quiet my heart and mind so that I may greet you in your holy silence. Help me to stop worrying so that you may surprise me by speaking into the stillness of my soul. In Jesus' name. Amen.

9th – John 20:19-23 "Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Prayer: Holy God, fill me with your peace this day. When events confound me, remind me that you have already found me! In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 10<sup>th</sup> – 1 Corinthians 13 "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face."

Prayer: Dearest God, sometimes I don't understand very much. Help me today to focus on your eternal love even when it seems illusive and mysterious. Hold me close and give me courage. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 11<sup>th</sup> – 2 Samuel 6:14 "David danced before the Lord with all his might."

Prayer: Today, Lord, help me to do a little dance, even if it is just with my fingers or my memories. Help me to praise you with all of me, my whole body, mind and spirit. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 12th – Isaiah 52:7-10 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Prayer: The time is drawing nearer, Lord, for us to greet you again on Christmas. Open me to hear the angels' voices that remind me of your salvation. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 13th – John 13:12-17 "After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"

Prayer: Today, Gracious Lord, when I touch a towel, let me think of you. How you have served me! How may I serve you today? In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 14<sup>th</sup> – Isaiah 6:1-3 "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

Prayer: Today, Lord, I thank you for all of your gifts to me. My whole world is filled with your glory. Help me to enjoy it today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 15<sup>th</sup> – John 14:1-4 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me."

Prayer: Gracious God, heavenly builder, calm my troubled heart. Your presence with me makes my house a home.

Remind me today of all that you have in store for me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 16th – Psalm 141:1-4 "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice."

Prayer: Gracious God I lift my spirit up to you this day. Please accept the prayers of my heart and fill me with peace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 17<sup>th</sup> – 1 Kings 3:3-14 "Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for the uniqueness of my life. None has been like it before. None will be like it after. Fill me with wisdom today to appreciate my own life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 18th – Matthew 3:1-12 "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Prayer: Gracious God, help me today to clear away the clutter in my mind so that you may have a straight path to come to me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 19<sup>th</sup> – Philippians 4:4-7 "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice."

Prayer: Dear God, sometimes this season is harder than it is jolly. Help me to find my joy in you. Remind me this day of all the good things in my life so that I may truly praise you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 20th – Philippians 4:8-9 "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."

Prayer: Today, O God of Peace, help me to model my life on Jesus' life and fill me with your peace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

21st – Philippians 4:19-20 "And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Prayer: O God, your promises are sure and they are enough for me. Satisfy my need today, O Lord, for only you are able. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 22<sup>nd</sup> – Luke 1:39-45"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

Prayer: God of Mercy, you indeed work miracles. Help me today to learn the lessons of waiting so that I will be ready to receive your fulfillment. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 23<sup>rd</sup> -Luke 1:46-55 "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant."

Prayer: Magnificent Lord, as you did with Mary, look with favor upon me. As Mary did, I praise you for all your faithfulness to me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 24th – Philippians 2:5-11 "Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Prayer: On this holy Eve of your birth, I bend my knee and shout out loud that you are my Lord and my God. Alleluia! Amen.

# 25th – Luke 2:1-20 "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them."

Prayer: Gracious God, how can this great thing be true?!? You have come to dwell with me. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 26<sup>th</sup> – John 1:1-5 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

Prayer: O Jesus Christ, Word of God, Word of Life, I welcome you today into my little life. It is holy and meaningful because you share it with me. In Jesus' name. Amen.

27th – 1 John 5:1-5 "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child."

Prayer: Dear God, I do love you. Help me to live that love faithfully and with courage today. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 28th – Matthew 18:1-5 "Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

Prayer: Dear God, there is much in me today that feels childlike, a little frightened, a little helpless, a little invisible. Help me to learn the lessons of this day and to live humbly in your provision. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### 29th – John 7:37-39 "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink."

Prayer: I come to you today, O God, with a thirsty heart. Fill me with your refreshment. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 30<sup>th</sup> – 3 John 1:1-15 "Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul."

Prayer: Dear God, as my soul enjoys health in you, please tend to the needs of my body so that in whatever condition I find myself, I may truly be well. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# 31st - Psalm 98 ""O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things."

Prayer: Dear God, in my life I have seen many things, many marvels, many changes. On this New Year's Eve, help me to welcome what the new year will bring with praise and a new song on my lips. In Jesus' name. Amen.

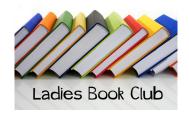
groups Would you like to open your home for a small group to celebrate the season? Please let Gail Jones know ASAP. (Hosts will provide homes and hot drinks; guests will bring appetizers and desserts.)

Friday 12/21 5:30 pm - Christmas caroling party. Meet at the church to go Christmas caroling around Nipomo.

Our traditional Alternative
Christmas Fair will be held on
February 17th right after
church. This "Share Your
Love" event will give you
many opportunities to
contribute to local and
worldwide missions.



Genealogy Club - Will Meet Again on January 14, 2019 Our purpose is to help and encourage each other in our research. If you're interested in discovering your family history, we invite you to join us. We can even help you get started on your own family tree. Laptop computer helpful but not necessary. Bring your curiosity and enthusiasm! Contact Kathy Nienhouse at klnienhouse@yahoo.com with any questions or to let us know vou're coming.



LADIES BOOK CLUB
No Meeting in December
In January, please come with
suggestions for 2019
reading list. Also, check
library availability before
suggesting a book.

January 10, 2019: Liar, Temptress, Solider, Spy by Karen Abbott (Non-Fiction) Karen Abbott illuminates one of the most fascinating yet little known aspects of the Civil War: the stories of four courageous women—a socialite, a farmgirl, an abolitionist, and a widow—who were spies.

After shooting a Union soldier in her front hall with a pocket pistol, Belle Boyd became a courier and spy for the Confederate army, using her charms to seduce men on both sides. Emma Edmonds cut off her hair and assumed the identity of a man to enlist as a Union private, witnessing the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. The beautiful widow, Rose O'Neale Greenhow. engaged in affairs with powerful Northern politicians to gather intelligence for the Confederacy, and used her young daughter to send information to Southern generals. Elizabeth Van Lew, a wealthy Richmond abolitionist, hid behind her proper Southern manners as she orchestrated a

far-reaching espionage ring, right under the noses of suspicious rebel detectives. Using a wealth of primary source material and interviews with the spies' descendants, Abbott seamlessly weaves the adventures of these four heroines throughout the tumultuous years of the war. With a cast of real-life characters including Walt Whitman, Nathaniel Hawthorne, General Stonewall Jackson. detective Allan Pinkerton. Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln, and Emperor Napoleon III, Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy draws you into the war as these daring women lived it.

**February 14:** *Tattoos on the Heart* by Gregory Boyle (Non-Fiction)

**ALL WOMEN** are invited to join our Ladies Book Club. We meet in Fox Hall, at church at 11:30 am, the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 cart. 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.

# **Angels We Have Heard on High**

# Presbyterian Women's Christmas Potluck

Thursday, December 6 \* Noon-Fox Hall



Please sign up by December 2 on the sheet in Fox Hall. We ask you to bring a salad or side dish.

DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED.

Please join us for lunch and singing Christmas favorites!



All women are invited to this and all programs of PW.

Feel free to invite your friends.

# **Nipomo Community Presbyterian Church** Advent & Christmas at

December 2:

First Sunday of Advent

December 5:

Deck the Hall @ 6 PM in Fox Hall

December 6:

PW Christmas Potluck @ 12 PM in Fox Hall

December 9:

2nd Sunday of Advent & Cookie Decorating after church

December 16:

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16:

Last day to bring Living Word Angel Tree gifts.

Home for the Holidays Lunches 1:30-3:30 PM

December 19:

December 16:

Blue Christmas Service @ 5:30 PM

Christmas Caroling around Nipomo @ 5:30 PM

December 24:

December 21:

Christmas Eve Service @ 5 PM Christmas Day Service @ 10:00 AM

December 25:

Epiphany Celebration, lunch after church &

January 6:

intergenerational activities.

\*Our traditional Alternative Xmas Fair (now "Share Your Love") will be held on Feb. 17 after church

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CELEBRATE ADVENT
WITH DECKING THE HALL
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2018
6PM IN FOX HALL



PLEASE JOIN US TO DECORATE FOX HALL FOR ADVENT. IF YOU'D LIKE, BRING AN ORNAMENT TO DONATE FOR THE TREE.

# DINNER AND COOKIES PROVIDED



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# HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS
DINNER IN PRIVATE HOMES!

Sunday, December 16th

1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

HOST MEMBERS ARE OPENING THEIR HOME FOR A FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER.

GUESTS SIGN UP AT THE TABLE IN FOX HALL OR THROUGH THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>.

NAMES WILL BE DRAWN AT RANDOM AND ASSIGNED TO A HOST FAMILY DINNER. YOU WILL BE GIVEN THE ADDRESS, BUT NOT THE NAME OF YOUR HOST.

GUESTS BRING AN APPITIZER OR DESSERT.

IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO HOST ONE OF THESE
GATHERINGS FOR 10-12 PEOPLE IN YOUR HOME, PLEASE
CONTACT GAIL JONES (805-710-4264)



# **Are You Having a Blue Christmas?**

I have many wonderful Christmas memories. It is the most special time of the year for me. But it is not like that for all of us. Maybe it is not always like that for many of us. Sometimes the holidays seem more blue than red and green. Many who have suffered loss, or who are faced with daunting challenges in life, find the holidays at best hollow and at worst nearly unendurable. If that is where you are, join us on Wednesday, December 19th at 5:30 p.m. for a service that will honor your feelings and offer you hope. The service will be quiet and respectful with beautiful music and a chance for you to be with people who understand. You will not be asked to share, unless you want to. You will be given the opportunity to light a candle in memory or thanksgiving for a loved one, or to represent a special prayer for peace and healing. If you have friends or neighbors who might benefit from this service, don't just invite them; bring them! This is my personal invitation to you.

Much love and many prayers, Eugenia.

Nipomo Community Presbyterian Church, 1235 N. Thompson Road, Arroyo Grande, CA (805) 473-8059



# Follow Your Star: Celebrating Epiphany

# Jan. 6th @ after worship

The feast day of Epiphany, or Three Kings Day, is an ancient holy day in the Christian church. The celebration marks the culmination of the season of Christmas and is associated with the arrival of the

Magi to visit the Christ Child. In ancient times this was the time when Christmas decorations were taken down and, in some cases burned in a huge community bonfire.

This year we will gather together for a real Epiphany celebration with lunch provided, King's cakes, and the gift of your special star for the year. This will be a fun celebration for all ages. We will make the traditional Magi's blessings cards for home and prepare our church for the New Year by receiving the blessing of the Magi and preparing Fox Hall for the season of Epiphany.

Please make a reservation by calling or e-mailing the church office at nipomopres@att.net or 473-8059 by January 4th. There is no cost.

### **Presbyterian Women**

### Thursday, January 24th, at Noon - Fox Hall



After the PW business meeting, Jiana Mooney will speak on tai chi—
a martial art developed for self-defense that has evolved
into a graceful form of exercise used for stress reduction and other
health conditions.

What is tai chi? Who can do tai chi? Why try tai chi?

Join us and find out.

All women of the church and their friends are welcome.

Lunch will be served at 12 noon A \$5.00 donation is requested.



Dec 2018 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles) nipomopres@att.net, Holidays in United States

22 9:30pm - People's Kitchen Prep 9am - Liturgical Arts Sanctuary 2 pm - Liturgical Arts Setup 11am - Ybarra Memorial 10am - Threads of Faith 28 9am - Liturgical Arts Sanctuary 5:30pm - Xmas Caroling around 10am - People's Kitchen Food 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 10am - People's Kitchen Food 9 am - Liturgical Arts-Advent 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 9am - Liturgical Arts Setup Ē 29 27 20 12pm - PW Luncheon @ Fox Hall 13 12pm - Sanctuary Liturgical Arts 6:30pm - Private Group @ Fox 10am - Stewardship Meeting 6pm - Choir Practice @ 6pm - Choir Practice @ 6pm - Choir Practice @ 6 pm - Choir Practice @ 7 pm - Choir Practice @ 5pm - Taize Service 5pm - Taize Service Thu 28 26 19 8 am - Men's Breakfast @ Tanner 10am - Setup Deck the Hall @ 6 pm - Deck the Halls/Potluck 9am - Sanctuary Setup-Blue 5:30pm - Blue Xmas Service 7pm - Adult Bible Study @ Wed 27 25 Ξ 2pm - Setup Deck the Hall @ Fox 6:30pm - Team Leader Meeting 6pm - Deacon Session Social @ 9am - Sanctuary Setup-Blue 11am - Claudia Peterson 11:30am - Coalition for Tue VISION DEADLINE 10am - Worship Christmas Day 26 24 31 9 17 6:30pm - Finance Team Meeting 9 am - Sanctuary Liturgical Arts 9am - Watercolor Society 10am - Memorial Setup OFFICE CLOSED New Year's Eve 5 pm - Worship 30 16 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 1:30pm - Home for the Holidays 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 12:15pm - Local Missions Team 1pm - Sanctuary Liturgical Arts 12:15pm - Local Missions Team 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 12pm - Healing & Wholeness 9:45am - Choir Practice @ Xmas Cookie Decorating 5:30pm - SLO Jam

Please visit www.nipomopresbyterian.org for a full description

Jan 2019 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles) 9:30am - People's Kitchen Prep 25 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 10am - People's Kitchen Food 10am - People's Kitchen Food 9:30am - Bread Packaging @ 10 24 12pm - PW Luncheon @ Fox Hall 6:30pm - Private Group @ Fox 11:30am - Ladies Book Club @ 1:15pm - PWCT Meeting @ Fox 6:30pm - Private Group @ Fox 10am - Stewardship Meeting 7 pm - Choir Practice @ Private Event/ ALL DAY 23 30 EVENT SETUP ALL DAY @ Fox 8 am - Men's Breakfast @ Tanner 7 pm - Adult Bible Study @ 7 pm - Adult Bible Study @ 7pm - Adult Bible Study @ 7 pm - Adult Bible Study @ 7pm - Adult Bible Study @ 22 59 15 9am - Sanctuary Liturgical Arts 4:30pm - Deacon's Meeting @ 6:45pm - Session @ Fox Hall 10am - Private Event 10am - Private Event 10am - Private Event 10am - Private Event Tue 31 9am - Liturgical Arts Fox Hall & 6:30pm - Finance Team Meeting 10:30am - Genealogy Group @ Martin Luther King Jr. Day nipomopres@att.net, Holidays in United States 9am - Watercolor Society New Year's Eve 20 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 2pm - Sanctuary Liturgical Arts 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 10:30am - Worship/Childrens & 12:15pm - Local Missions Team 12pm - Healing & Wholeness 9:45am - Choir Practice @ 5:30pm - SLO Jam

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# 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: Fox Hall December 1 & January 5 from 10:00 AM

Threads of Faith

December 4th 2018 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Location: Fox Hall (No January Meeting)

Team Leaders Round Table

December 6, 13 & 20, 2018 from 5 PM to 6 PM

Taize Service Location: Sanctuary

December 12 & January 9 from 8 MA to 9 AM

Men's Breakfast Location: Tanner Jack, AG Mesa

Location: Sanctuary December 19th, 2018 from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Blue Christmas Service

December 24th, 2018 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service Location: Sanctuary

December 25th, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Christmas Day Service Location: Sanctuary

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

