



Piedmont
COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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In the Footsteps of Paul

by Dr. William McNabb

When I was in seminary while perusing a used bookstore I came across a faded, beat-up, old hardback book called "In the Footsteps of Paul". Published in 1936 by British travel writer H.V. Morton it chronicled his exploration of Palestine, Greece and, mostly Turkey. His tales of visiting Ephesus and the old black and



white photo plates have made me always yearn to go there. Well this month, thanks to the sabbatical time provided by PCC, a dream came true.

Maureen and I just returned from a two week trip to Turkey. We spent five nights in Istanbul and then rented a car and drove ourselves around the biblical and archeological sights of the western coast of Turkey. We rented a tiny one bedroom house to use as a base to explore all the incredible historical ruins. There was so much to see. The temple of Apollo at Didyma, the ruins of Pirene; but grandest of all was Ephesus. When I mentioned in worship one Sunday that I was planning on going to Ephesus on my sabbatical, I was amazed how many of you in the receiving line afterwards indicated that you had been there. It's not such an out of the way place I discovered.

Described in the guidebooks as having the best-preserved Greco-Roman ruins in the world, Ephesus did not disappoint. We arrived late in the day after most of the crowds had gone and hired a guide. Our man Osman was a second-generation guide there and was quite knowledgeable. We also lucked out on the weather. We got an unseasonably cool and breezy day in a place where summer temperatures can reach 110 degrees with nary a tree in sight.

The reason Ephesus is so magnificent is that it was buried with dirt for 1800 years and its treasures were not available for pilfering. The Meander (that's right) River silted over and the whole town was covered in dirt and what once was a seaport ended up two miles inland and buried in dirt. It stayed that way until British archeologists began excavating the city in the late 19th century. Now you can walk down the marble streets that show the markings of Roman chariots and see the two story Library of Celsus and the remains of the largest Greek temple ever built to honor the goddess Artemis. When I saw the 26,000 seat amphitheatre, I was reminded of the story from the New Testament book, The Acts of the Apostles, where Paul causes a riot in Ephesus by convincing people they did not need to buy silver statues of Artemis because God was "not made by human hands." This caused the silversmiths guild to go bonkers and they rushed into the amphitheatre and shouted, "Great is Artemis, god of the Ephesians" for two hours until a local politician could calm them down. Paul was lucky to get out of Ephesus alive. (see Acts chapter 19)

I am looking forward to preaching about some of the amazing exploits of Paul and the other early Christians to whom we owe the very existence of our faith. Hope everyone is having a great summer and I look forward to seeing you in September.

See more photos on page 2.

NEXT DEADLINE:
August 12, 2011

Send submissions to
messenger@piedmontchurch.org

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VISIT PCC ONLINE:
www.piedmontchurch.org

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SERMONS & FLOWERS

Sunday, July 24th

Rev. Scott Kail

"Retelling of the Story"

Luke 15: 11-31



Sunday, July 31st

Rev. Dave Sandberg

Preaching



If you would like to donate flowers for the sanctuary, please contact Sara Hirsch sara1.hirsch1@gmail.com 510 -853-8789



MILESTONES

Dan Smith

husband of Mary Smith, died on July 4th, 2011

His Memorial Service will be held on July 28th, 2pm.



David Hodgson

husband of Marilyn Hodgson, died on July 12th, 2011

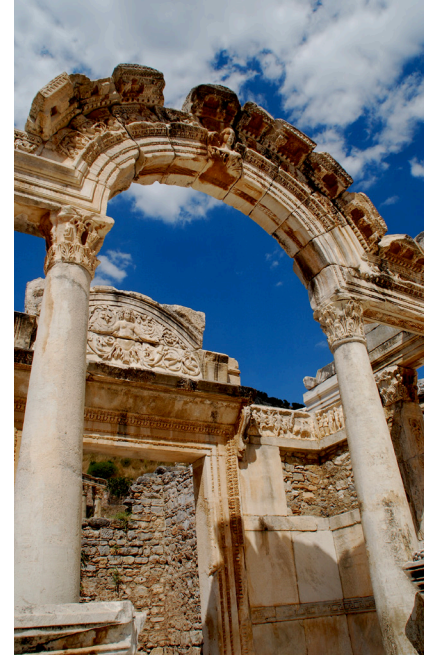
His Memorial Service was held on July 18th.

Our prayers are with their family and friends as we thank God for their lives.

Widows

Friendship Circle

The Widows Friendship Circle will not be meeting this summer. Monthly meetings will resume September 20th at 10:00am in the Guild Parlor.



In the Footsteps of Paul

Additional photos from Dr. McNabb's journey to Ephesus, Turkey.



SAVE THE DATE PCC's Christmas Concert Premiere

I hope you're all having wonderful summers. I myself just got back from the fun premiere of a new movie I scored, "After the Wizard" (with Stephen Prestwood credited as Music Mixer, by the way!) - a total blast. Speaking of premieres, there is another important premiere coming up: The one this coming Christmas at PCC. I'm in the process now of writing another full-length cantata, which we will be presenting this December 11 at 5pm at PCC. It will be written for our wonderful soloists, Chancel Choir, and full orchestra. Full means quite full indeed -- think of the Centennial Concert, with woodwinds in front and brass up in the loft, strings, etc., in the "pit." A very exciting sound!

We're trying something new here - the idea is to give our performance in the late afternoon/evening hours, and invite people for the concert with wine/hors d'oeuvres to follow. We'll warm everyone up by singing carols WITH the orchestra (which is a marvelous experience). Then we'll present the premiere. Like the Centennial Concert, the event will be black tie, evening-wear, etc., and will be in lieu of Choir Sunday.

I wanted to let you know about this in advance, and ask you to save the date NOW. This should be an amazing event, and hopefully the beginning of a new Christmas tradition at PCC!

~ Steve Main, Minister of Music

Adult Fellowship Event Baseball Tailgate Party Plus Fireworks



Game time: 7:05pm, Friday September 16, 2011 - Athletics VS. Detroit Tigers
\$30 includes reserved seat and tailgate party food and drink. Open to all - adults & children.
Fifty tickets available - purchase by Friday September 2nd either before or after Sunday worship services or in the church office. Tailgate party begins at 5:30pm, location to be determined. For more info, contact Mel Taylor (510) 377-4604 or Jean Leahy (510) 547-5700.

Meet Our New Board of Trustees



MIKE BANDROWSKI has been attending PCC for about 13 years. He has served on the CE Board, the Nominating Committee, taught Sunday school, and helped with Rock. He particularly likes the Mexico Mission Trip, having attended as a team leader for the last 9 years. Mike is married to Renee Scott and has two children, Michael and Genny. All have been on the Mexico trip numerous times and Renee and Genny have also gone on one of the Africa Mission trips. Outside of PCC, Mike is very involved with Boy Scouts as the Committee Chair for Troop 1 and one of the high adventure leaders, which fits with his interests in backpacking, skiing, and trail running. Mike works for the EPA managing a number of program areas ranging from building community capacity to radiation emergency response.



KIM KELLOGG is a corporate communications consultant with more than 25 years of experience in developing and implementing strategic public relations campaigns, targeted communications programs, crisis management strategies and executive speech writing, primarily for financial services companies. When she's not working at Kellogg Communications, she gives her time and talents to local community organizations such as the Piedmont Harvest Festival, Art & Music in the Gardens at Lake Merritt, the Mechanics Institute Library in San Francisco and of course, Piedmont Community Church. Kim enjoys entertaining, cooking, reading, hiking, sea kayaking, traveling, and supporting arts & culture in the Bay Area.



DAVID NAPPER has been living in Bay Area since 2003. Having travelled and lived in several parts of the world - David finds the Bay Area to be very similar to his home town of Sydney, Australia. He met his wife - Jennifer - while living in San Francisco and was introduced to PCC shortly thereafter. David has been in several vertical markets throughout his career including international banking, hospitality and in the past 12 years has been in the software sales arena. He currently works for a small private firm in Novato, Marin County. David and Jennifer have a young daughter Angela (7) and started coming to PCC when they lived in nearby Oakland. They currently live in the badlands through the tunnel - yes the tunnel - that leads to Walnut Creek. David has already served on the CE board.



JAN WOLFE has been attending PCC with her family since 1987. From 1992 to 1998 she worked as the Church Administrator, responsible for all of the church's finances and staffing the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees as a whole. After leaving the Church Administrator role, Jan worked as Accountant and then Program Director at the Presbytery of San Francisco, and now leads her own accounting consulting firm. Jan has sung in the Chancel Choir since 1989, recruiting husband Bruce to join the following year. Among her various Kidz Club roles, Jan has also been a confirmation mentor, accompanied the youth to Mexico on three occasions and prepared meals as part of the Food Angels. Most recently, Jan chaired the Board of Deacons and served on the Mission Action Team.



SCOTT WILLIS, PRESIDENT As a PCC member for 7 years Scott has enjoyed the adult Mexico mission trips, teaching Sunday school with his wife, Charmaine, and being a member of the Buildings and Grounds committee on the Board of Trustees. He has been married to Charmaine Clay for 24 wonderful years. They are pleased to be raising two thriving children, Austin 13 and Sydney 11. Scott is also a big fan of Boy Scouts and works as an assistant scout master for Troop 11.

PREACHING SCHEDULE

July 24th - Rev. Scott Kail

July 31st - Rev. Dave Sandberg

August 7th - Rev. Scott Kail

August 14th - Rev. Scott Kail

August 21st - Rev. Don Ashburn

August 28th - Dr. Stephen Main

Parent Communication Workshops (see back page)

9/24/11 - *Communication Skills that Build Connection*

11/12/11 - *Setting Loving Limits that Work!*

1/21/12 - *Preparing for Adolescence: Setting the Tone for Teens*

3/17/12 - *Strong Relationships with Teenagers - Yes, It's Possible!*

5/5/12 - *Motivating Children: Inspiring Interest, Inquiry & Action*



PCC's New Program for Parents

Over the past few months, our Publications Coordinator, Jamie Anderson, and I have been talking about developing an educational program geared to parenting –

both as a way to serve a clear and pressing need, as well as a way to reach out to the broader community. As you may know, Jamie has a lot of experience in the area of counseling and guiding parents, both on an individual and group level. One of a number of hats she wears in life – including being a single mom of two teenagers – is as Vice President and Program Developer at the non-profit Institute for Collaborative Communication (ICC). She is also nearing publication of a book on parenting and the art of listening.

So, starting in September, Jamie will be offering 5 experiential weekend workshops (dates and topics listed on page 3). The first two workshops serve to lay a communication foundation for any parent, regardless of their children's ages. The next two workshops will offer practical applications of these skills as children approach adolescence and for when they are fully in the throes of their teen years. The final workshop will be devoted to motivation. We'll be looking at how parents can inspire self-driven motivation in their children while maintaining a warm and connected relationship.

In addition to the workshops, there will also be a number of *Tuesday Night Parenting Talks*. They will be “drop-in” classes on various topics, which could include: Technology and Teens, Emotional Outbursts, Aggressive Behavior, Difficult Transitions, and others.

The content of each workshop and talk will explore best parenting practices, including their spiritual/religious aspects and ramifications.

I'm very pleased that Jamie has agreed to do this and look forward to a fruitful collaboration between PCC and ICC as we reach out to our community to strengthen the “ties that bind.”

Peace,

Rev. Don Ashburn
Associate Minister

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Youth Africa Mission Trip

The Africa Team has returned safely! We appreciate your prayers throughout our journey and can't wait to tell you more about it in the next issue of the Messenger.