

Piedmont Community Church

welcoming ~ nurturing ~ serving



Photo by Nick Baz - Artist in Residence

Annual Report 2010 - 2011



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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH
JUNE 12, 2011
11:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM
Pat Leicher, President of the Trustees

INVOCATION
The Rev. Don Ashburn, Associate Minister

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS
Pat Leicher

TREASURER'S REPORT
Dick Fletcher

REVIEW OF THE BUDGET FOR 2010-2011
Dick Fletcher

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Pat Leicher

IN MEMORIAM
The Rev. Don Ashburn

MINISTER'S REMARKS
The Rev. Don Ashburn

BENEDICTION
The Rev. Scott Kail, Youth Pastor

ADJOURNMENT



ENDOWMENT

The Endowment Committee advises the Board of Trustees with regard to its financial investments, as well as encourages members of the congregation to contribute to the Endowment Fund both at the current time and in the future, through planned giving. Current members of the committee are:

Bob Coleman-chairperson
Bill Gisvold
Horton Shapiro
Timothy Recker
Rev Bill McNabb - ex-officio

The Board of Trustees has designated approximately \$2.2 million for investment, under the guidance of the Endowment Committee. The EC has divided the funds to be invested into four categories depending upon the factors of; time horizon and possible use of the funds. This ranges from designating money to be spent on current expenses to maintaining adequate capital for long term investment growth. The unrestricted, long-term portion of the Endowment Fund is today about \$782,000. There is a further \$732,500 of restricted funds (“rainy day” or for some other designated purpose). Other operating cash funds, short term investments is \$364,500 non-investment is about \$381,000.

This past year, the Endowment Committee undertook a program to encourage planned giving by PCC members and friends; via wills, trusts, IRA’s and 401K’s. To assist with this effort, the church has hired a planned giving specialist, Richard Lamport. We sent out a questionnaire to the congregation to ascertain interest in the program. We also put on a forum with financial experts to provide more information. Further calls are planned to assist people who are thinking about how to leave a personal legacy to the mission of Piedmont Community Church.



What a wonderfully vital place Piedmont Community Church is --- full of life and energy. From the sermons which teach and challenge us, to the music which touches our souls, to the international mission trips and local service projects, to the fellowship opportunities for Bible study and good old-fashioned fun, and so much more, this is indeed a nurturing community. It has been such a privilege to be involved in so many aspects of Church life, working with the staff and getting to know more members of the congregation better.

The Board of Trustees has been focused this year on implementing several provisions of the Vision Plan. First is enhanced transparency. The President and Treasurer have been reporting to the congregation on a regular basis, providing both information and greater insight into the workings of the Board and the decision-making process. Second is a new effort to build an endowment to help secure PCC's financial future. A consultant has helped educate members on ways to include the Church in their estate plans with good results; the endowment is already growing. Third, since September we have tried different times for Sunday morning worship with the goal of having two robust services. While attendance is up, a survey of the congregation tells us many members prefer earlier service times. The Board of Trustees will be deciding the right balance of several factors to set worship times for the upcoming year. Fourth, our sister church relationship with Imani is flourishing with pulpit exchanges and a joint concert in recent months.

The Finance Committee, under the leadership of Dick Fletcher, has been committed to controlling expenses and drafting a responsible and realistic budget for the upcoming year, which will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. There will be a comprehensive audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and the statements will be available to you.

The Stewardship Committee, with Susan Mani and Joe Scherer at the helm, provided a new approach to fundraising with remarkable results. The campaign shed light on all the wonderful ministries of the Church and what they cost. Our members and friends clearly value these programs, and in a year when most other churches saw pledges drop, ours held steady. Your generosity is most sincerely appreciated.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee, so ably chaired by Wayne Marzolf, has handled all the details, large and small, to keep our beautiful facility maintained and operational.

The Marketing Committee activities are ramping. A charming postcard was sent to thousands at Christmas, inviting our neighbors to join us. We are working on ways to make sure that people both in Piedmont and in surrounding communities know we are here and the programs we have to offer.

With another very successful house-building trip to Mexico, upcoming trips to Malawi and the Philippines as well as many local projects, our commitment to service at home and around the world is thriving. Pick-a-Party, which provides funds for our mission activities and fun for our members, and the Treasure Sale, which contributes to the Mexico trip, each raised over \$20,000. The Alternative Gift Market raised more than \$40,000 for a variety of good causes. Kudos and thanks to those who worked so hard to make these events happen.

PCC has a staff of truly committed professionals. We are so fortunate to have each one of them. We also have wonderful volunteers - Sunday school teachers, Loaves and Fishes, Altar Guild, tutors and mentors and so many more. All of you contribute in important ways to making PCC such a remarkable place.

I want to offer special thanks to those of you who have served, are serving and will serve on the various boards. These jobs are time consuming and not always easy, but they are crucial. Thank you for your contribution and your commitment. And last, I want to thank the congregation for the true honor of placing your trust in me for this past year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia W. Leicher
President, Board of Trustees



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

This year the CE Board once again sponsored our church picnic in Piedmont Park, and our annual Christmas Pageant. Children's ministries are now supporting a new child from Compassion International, Ines Ulcuango from Ecuador. The Kidz Club program for grades 4-6 once again thrived through Julie Hofer's good efforts. Scott Kail continued his stellar work with our youth. We again collected books for Summer Reading for the East Bay Agency for Children. The Board continued its oversight activities with Children and Youth ministries.

Children's Ministries: (also see Leslie Quantz's separate report) Leslie Quantz continued in her fifth year as Director of Children's Ministries, with Tabatha Thomas as Nursery Coordinator, assisted by Pat Ruvkun.

Sunday School: PreK through 5th grade continued in the Godly Play curriculum that has proven so successful for several years now. On "holiday" weekend Sundays, we continued with movies in the Youth Room for PreK through 5th Grade. For Sunday summer school, we provided a casual service for combined grade school children. CE Board members staffed every Sunday during the summer with biblical movies, games, and crafts for the kids.

Youth Ministries: (also see Rev. Scott Kail's separate report) Rock and Live Wire again flourished with regular meetings, plus high-school pizza lunches (150+ attending). Middle school movie nights were a big draw. Youth interns Tony San Nicholas and Tricia Crispins continued on the team, working with the youth group and providing the driving force for our new family alternative worship services, Sunday evenings once a month.

Mexico Trip: The trip was again a huge success, with approximately 250 students and adults traveling to the Tecate area to build 15 houses. For the second year, the equipment securely stored in Mexico helped to reduce both the logistics and cost of the trip. A new cooking crew organization proved to be a great success, and the teams received top marks from Amor Ministries, the sponsoring agency, for the high quality of the completed homes.

Africa Trip: This is planned for June/July, as about a dozen students and adult leaders once again visit our sister church Kafita and volunteer in several building and healthcare projects.

Fundraisers: A fundraiser golf tournament was held on May 16 at Claremont Country Club, but bad weather once again curtailed the actual golfing, if not the gathering afterward. In spite of a tough economic year, the Garage Sale again proved to be an outstandingly successful fundraiser for the Mexico program.

Fall Kick-off Picnic: The annual church picnic was held on September 12th in Piedmont Park. Once again our grillers provided hamburgers and hot dogs, with great music from Mitch Polzak and his Royal Deuces band, and with a "jumpy" for younger kids in the parking lot above. This event is something we always look forward to as a kick-off to the church year—and it's one of the primary events that draw community attention to our church. The good food and fine music are our goodwill ambassadors.

Christmas Pageant: The annual Christmas Pageant was held on December 12th, with the Advent Dinner following immediately in the Guild Hall. The Salvation Army Band continued to entertain us, and we in turn donated the evening's offering to their efforts. Thanks to the hard work of the staff, the CE Board, the volunteer teachers, and the Guidiccis as directors, this event has become a smooth-running affair full of charm and smiles.

F.U.N. Group (Family Unity Night for parents of children from newborn to 5th grade): F.U.N. met with the adult fellowship group a few times, and had several events during the year including miniature golf, a night with magic, and discussions on parenting styles.

Confirmation Sunday: At a special Youth Sunday Service, a group of 19 of our youth were confirmed. Several were baptized.

Acknowledgments: I wish to call attention to the great blessings we have in Scott Kail and Leslie Quantz as leaders and examples for our children. (We probably don't know how lucky we are.) I am also thankful for the warm, cohesive board that has faithfully turned up for our monthly meetings, and then turned out to get the work done. My thanks to Barbara Brown, Selma Chin, Helga Lenart-Cheng, Mike Jumper, Kathy Kelleher, Jan Linden, Lynn Olander, John Quantz, Rod Thompson, Sharon Swimley, and Bruce Turner. Also, I would like to thank the Sunday School teachers, staff, youth leaders, and parent volunteers who helped make our programs possible. When you see them at church, please extend your own thanks, too!

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Fitzgerald
Chair, Board of Christian Education



The Board of Deacons is comprised of twelve elected members of our Church who serve a three-year term on the board. The Board of Deacons meets monthly on the first Monday of the month. The Choir and Altar Guild report on the activities of their respective groups at the monthly meetings. Rev. Don Ashburn is the staff advisor to the Board of Deacons and provides both spiritual as well as practical guidance to the board.

Each board member serves two months as Deacon of the Month to provide a team of two people from the Board of Deacons that the congregation can contact with any questions about our Church and our Church activities. A table is always set up in the courtyard or the Clara Barton Room for interaction with the Deacons of the Month. The Deacons of the Month are responsible for getting greeters, ushers and communion servers for the Sundays they are Deacons of the Month. Each deacon has a nametag to better identify those on the board. Along with the above duties each deacon serves on one of the standing committees of the Deacons: Fellowship, Congregational Life, Outreach and Mission.

Fellowship Committee

Deacons ~ Steve Senter, Lynn Nelson and Steven Thorne

The Fellowship Committee once again coordinated the four Church dinners along with Loaves and Fishes, who do a wonderful job cooking. The season started off with around 100 people attending the Harvest Dinner, always a popular and hearty autumn meal. In December, about 110 people enjoyed the festive Advent Dinner following our Children's Christmas Pageant. We introduced a special children's table which was a big hit. The Ash Wednesday Dinner was attended by about 70 people, and was followed by a wonderful Ash Wednesday service. The final Church dinner was our Maundy Thursday Dinner, attended by 85 people, and was followed by the Tenebrae service. The Fellowship Committee also helped coordinate the other monthly adult fellowship events of our Church which included potlucks, a "Diner Dinner," game night and bowling outing. Finally, the Fellowship Committee helped to coordinate the food and decor for the reception following the joint Sunday service with our Sister Church, Imani Community Church, held in March.

Congregational Life Committee

Deacons~ Bob Wright, Paul Gray and Frank Judd

The Congregational Life Committee coordinates with our Welcoming Team to welcome all members and visitors on Sunday mornings to our 10:30 AM service. The purpose of the Welcoming Team is to create a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for everyone. Welcomers have name tags to identify each team member clearly. Other responsibilities for the Congregational Life Committee are to assist our ministers in any aspect of our Church such as new member classes, maintain literature about our Church and update our website. The Handyman work group meets about 3 times per year to do various projects around our Church to help maintain our facilities. One such project was to refinish the benches in the courtyard. The Gardening Team helps keep our landscaping looking top-notch.

Outreach Committee

Deacons ~ Cynthia Adams, Maureen Recker and Kristine Haataja

The Outreach Committee coordinates local outreach work in the community. During the past year, this outreach included collecting supplies for Lakeview Elementary School through the Fall Giving Tree, collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program in December, and participating in the Christmas Adopt a Family program with City Team Ministries of Oakland. Many congregants work as tutors at East Oakland Pride and Lakeview School in Oakland. This year Lakeview School benefited greatly from the school supplies the Giving Tree collected. Likewise, the annual Toys for Tots gift drive collected many toys for that program. There were 22 needy families who were adopted by PCC at Christmas and who benefited with food and Christmas gifts. Other outreach efforts at City Team included a canned food drive and warm coat drive in December, and cooking a dinner meal for the shelter in March. The Berkeley Men's Shelter received a monthly meal cooked and served by Barbara Crawford and her team



BOARD OF DEACONS (CONTINUED)

of volunteers. Additionally, the Alternative Gift Market held in December provided the congregation an opportunity to buy gifts from local and international charities as alternative gifts for Christmas, and it raised over \$40,000 for these charities.

Mission Committee

Deacons ~ Jennifer Niemann, Mary Fielder, and Rick Clark

The Mission Committee coordinates, in conjunction with our Mission Action Team (MAT), all mission activities of our Church. These activities include oversight of grant proposals and funding recommendations, review of international proposals that could be funded by our Better World Fund and recommendations to the Board of Trustees which proposals to fund and how our Church mission dollars should be spent. The local Deacons mission organizations which were funded for this year include: George Mark House \$5,000; Faith Network \$5,000; A Safe Place \$5,000; Destiny Arts Center \$5,000; and Habitat for Humanity East Bay \$5,000. From the Better World Fund, we gave a \$7,500 grant to support the 2011 LeaderSpring East Bay training cohort. This is an organization that provides a 2-year training program for executive directors of non-profit organizations. We also gave \$15,000 to East Meets West in further support of the ADAPT program, an anti-trafficking initiative in southern Vietnam which the Church had previously supported. We gave \$8,000 to Flying Kites for medical equipment for an orphanage in Kenya. We gave another \$12,000 for further restoration work needed in the Philippines in the wake of a typhoon. We spent the remainder of the Better World Funds, approximately \$20,500, for medicine for the Ekwendeni Hospital in Malawi. We also approved a Church-sponsored Mission Trip to the Philippines this coming September for 10-12 people to visit projects funded through the Better World Fund, specifically the post-typhoon recovery and rehabilitation of a creek and village. In an effort to increase the funds available for mission and to promote fellowship, the Pick-A-Parties returned in April. So far we have raised over \$21,000 to be used for mission purposes in the future.

Respectfully submitted
Jennifer Niemann
Chair, Board of Deacons

In 2010, the Altar Guild adopted some key goals, which allowed the group to accomplish several important tasks beyond the traditional duties. They were:

- ~ Re-fresh Christmas decorations
- ~ Reorganization of Altar Guild closet
- ~ Purchase of new vestments for Don Ashburn

Through teamwork we were able to accomplish these goals as well as perform our many tasks from Communion preparation to decorating the church for the holidays.

There are some members of the Altar Guild who have gone well beyond the call, bringing their creativity and care of the church to great service. **Christine Allen** carefully and skillfully hemmed our new Easter Banners and reworked our communion cloths. **Marion Schmidt** beautifully refreshed the Holiday Decorations and organized their storage with **Bob Wright**. **Carola Ingram** coordinated the purchase of the new vestments for Don Ashburn.

We also took time this year to have some fun outside of our commitments. We enjoyed a fun potluck lunch in the spring and a tour of the Christ the Light Cathedral in Oakland this fall.

For 2010, we had the effective leadership roles lead by **Matt Truesdell** as Flower Chair; **Barbara Whalen** as Communion Chair; **Susan Schroeder** as Easter Chair; **Marilyn Evert** as Corresponding Secretary; and **Suzie Soper** as Hospitality Chair, and **Carola Ingram** as Recording Secretary. I would also like to thank the other members of Altar Guild who were very helpful in fulfilling their commitments in a range of responsibilities. They are **Susan Schroeder, Adele Parmley, Christine Allen, Marion Schmidt, Sara Hirsch, Penny Robb, Laura Novak, Tina Farman, Marella Guigou**, their many hands made the work light and enjoyable. We also appreciate the support and guidance of Jennifer Niemann as a deacon representative on the Altar Guild.

I have had the pleasure of working with these fine people as president of the Altar Guild. We have accomplished our goals beyond our duties which, I believe, illustrates the Guild's commitment and enthusiasm to create a pleasant and inspiring environment for worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Corvin
Chair, Altar Guild



2010-2011 was a strong year for the music program of Piedmont Community Church. In addition to the regular high-quality offerings of our Chancel Choir, we also had a number of opportunities to hear small instrumental ensembles in worship, which many of you tell me is a special treat. One of our highlights for the year included this past Christmas Choir Sunday, where our Chancel Choir and soloists sang Johann Sebastian Bach's marvelous Magnificat in D major. We performed this piece with an exceptionally large orchestra of "period" instruments, which means you heard it largely the way Bach would have heard it. The Magnificat is an extraordinarily dense, difficult piece of music, and the members of the Choir put in a great deal of effort (and countless extra hours) learning it. To be honest, while it's a landmark piece in the repertory, I worried that the combination of cerebral Bach, Latin words, and what turned out to be a very cold, rainy day, would mean somewhat lower attendance than usual for a Choir Sunday. Happily, I couldn't have been more wrong; we were jammed to the rafters, with one estimate of over 400 people. A lovely problem to have!

Other musical highlights include our increasing involvement with the musicians of our sister congregation at Imani Community Church, including a spirited joint concert in the Imani sanctuary this past Spring. We also continued this year with our contemporary worship services offered once a month on Sunday evenings. Wonderfully led by Tricia Crispens, Tony San Nicolas, and Scott Kail, these services have become a great opportunity for us to approach music and worship in an entirely different way, and I am delighted and honored to be included! Lastly, this year saw our first experiment with offering music at the "early" service (currently at 9am). From all reports this appears to be a success, and I'm told the addition of music has truly added to the inspiration of the service.

Membership in our choirs is strong. Our section leaders continue to lead with a great variety of ideas and influences. We are lucky to have them! Our other ensembles continue to contribute as well, with the Handbell Ensemble experiencing a tremendous growth in numbers recently – we've literally run out tables to use for our rehearsals! Finally our Youth Choir continues to improve its offerings, in spite of the enormous number of after-school commitments for these talented young people.

Plans are underway at this writing for the upcoming Spring Choir Sunday, where the Chancel Choir and soloists will perform John Rutter's lovely Requiem with instruments. And this coming Christmas (just to put out a teaser), it's my intent to write another full-length Christmas cantata for choir and full orchestra to highlight the amazing strengths of our musicians. (And now that I've said it publicly, I just have to DO it...!)

Here comes the part I always say in these reports (and I never forget to say it either): none of this comes cheaply! Musicians, music programs, pipe organ maintenance, sound systems, orchestras, and all the rest are only possible because of the generous giving and dedicated time of our members. The direct result can be heard in our most important goal – worship services that are vivid, direct, and meaningful. If ever I forget how crucial this goal is, I need only visit another church where it isn't so; I always return to PCC feeling very fortunate.

I feel blessed to be part of a congregation that truly values and supports the music we make here. As always it's my continued hope that what we do in this place will continue to inspire you and honor God.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen T. Main
Minister of Music



General Comments: The Children's Program includes 3 separate programs - Nursery, Godly Play for the PreK-5th graders and Wild Truth Bible Studies for the 6th graders. We started out the year with the full Sunday School program running at 10:30 and a combined Sunday School class for the 9am service. We found that families were attending the 10:30 am service and we were not getting any students at 9am, so we discontinued this program. We will re-address this issue periodically and will add a class if there is a need. We sent over 50 shoeboxes around the world for Operation Christmas Child, and we will be helping out the East Bay Agency for Children on June 5th with a summertime project.

Curriculum: The Godly Play program remains strong, and new lessons were added this fall and spring. As our volunteer teachers become more comfortable with Godly Play they have been able to adjust the classes to fit the age level for those they are teaching. The older the children, the more background and information they are given and they are encouraged to participate more with the class. This has helped keep the children engaged. We continue to collect an offering to support Ines Ulcuango who is our new Compassion International child from Ecuador. Bibles were given to seven 3rd and 4th graders on Bible Sunday.

Attendance: We have approximately 100 children from Nursery through 6th grade attending Sunday School. Attendance remains inconsistent because various activities have a significant effect on attendance and participation. We have quite a few new families coming to church and Sunday school and this has been exciting for me.

Teachers: We have forty wonderful Godly Play teachers and substitutes who have worked hard to keep the students interested in the lessons and the program. The teachers volunteer their time to learn the lessons and teach the children and I want to thank them for all the work they do! I also want to thank them for being so flexible this year as it has been somewhat of a challenge due to the beginning of the year addition of the 9am class.

Nursery: The Nursery has been kept busy with young children and has been available every Sunday – including Easter Sunday. Tabatha Thomas, our Nursery Coordinator, has been here for three years and has provided childcare as needed at events when requested. Many thanks to Patty Ruvkun for 13 years of nursery care.

Fellowship: F.U.N. had an active year this year, with Jennifer Napper and Helga Lenart Cheng planning events which included miniature golf, game night, magic night and parenting styles. Kidz Club has continued to thrive under the leadership of Julie Hofer, with help from her daughter, Rachel Hofer. Kidz Club is for kids in 4th, 5th and 6th grade. The club met monthly and did many activities including making cards and cookies for our seniors at Christmas and Valentine's Day, reading "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind" and sponsoring a bake sale from which the proceeds will be sent to Africa with the teen mission trip this summer.

Pageant: The Christmas pageant continues to be a big event in the children's program. Thanks to the CE Board for their leadership! Christy and Wayne Guidici were our professional directors again, and Russ Taylor was an outstanding pianist. The Salvation Army Band performed for the 40th year! Also, the patience of the Sunday School teachers during the pageant season is always appreciated!

Facilities: We continue to add posters to the walls and continue to update the bulletin boards. I want to thank Shirley Prince for keeping our building and classrooms sparkling clean!

Closing Comments: I want to thank all of you for your continued support. I want to thank the CE Board and my wonderful volunteer teachers. I especially want to thank Julie Hofer and Jan Linden for all the support they have given me. I want to thank the staff at Piedmont Community Church – especially Jean, who keeps me on track! I also want to thank my family, John, Allison and Melissa for helping when they are needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Quantz
Director of Children's Ministries



STUDENT MINISTRIES

As the Ministry year comes to a close It is good to sit and ponder the people, relationships, meetings, ministry, events and all that is the Student Ministries of PCC. I love and continue to be so excited about the opportunity to serve Christ and those in Piedmont. I believe the ministry and those involved have grown significantly in many ways. We continue to remind ourselves that we have not arrived but we are well on our way in a very exciting journey. It is by God's grace and leading that we conduct the ministry and also by His grace that we are on the road we now travel. With that said, allow me to cover some specifics of the ministry over the past year.

Intern Staffing

We have been fortunate to receive two grants from the Stephen Bechtel Foundation to staff internships for our Student Ministries. Tricia Crispens and Tony San Nicolas have been with us this year and have greatly contributed to the health and growth of ministry to students in and around Piedmont. We will be keeping them on for another year starting in September of 2011.

Rock and Livewire are functioning well and continue to be the backbone of the youth program. It is here that we establish and maintain the vital relationships that our ministry is dependant upon. Over the past year the focus has been specific and fruitful.

With a leadership team of adults in place for both ROCK and LIVEWIRE we continue to have as our first priority, that of building relationships with students who are involved in the ministry. This is a growing number and consists of church members as well as many students whose families are of different faiths and/or no faith association. We count this a huge privilege to have access and active ministry to so many. This team of leaders also assists with the weekly leadership and direction of the ministry. As a leadership team we focused on four main areas:

- ~ Building an atmosphere of community.
- ~ Building an atmosphere of worship.
- ~ Creating a proper understanding of Jesus Christ and the roll He desires to play in our lives.
- ~ Reaching as many students in Piedmont as possible, accepting them where they are and exposing them to Christ and our ministry.

Although this will continue to be a process, I feel we are achieving these goals in fine fashion. The number of students attending and involved on a regular basis continues to grow and the "pool" of students is well over 150 for ROCK and 60 for LIVEWIRE.

Sunday School continues to meet the need to go deeper with our faith and biblical teaching. It is always biblical, usually interactive and strongly applicable in the lives of the students. The attendance has been regular and tends to mirror family attendance each Sunday. As with the flow of attendance of PCC as a whole, we experience ups and downs in attendance as the seasons of the year flow. This has left us with the decision to remain a combined group of Middle and High School. As a practice we venture to the sanctuary for the monthly administering of Communion.

Confirmation occurred in the fall of this year and was offered to 8th grade students. This was part of a purposeful move on behalf of Student Ministries and the CE board to make the most of Confirmation and to best integrate it into the total ministry experience for the middle school students. It was very successful and culminated in "Youth Sunday" where the students led the congregation in worship. As a result 19 students were confirmed on November 14th.

Mexico Missions underwent some tweaking and changes for the good this year. We added many steps in the preparation and training end as well as successfully recruited more adults who had never attended a Mexico trip. We sustained a strong number of attendees (250) and continue to be excited about the steady interest in the trip



with the students of Piedmont. The trip was a huge success. We built 15 homes, and we continue to be excited about the future and have a firm belief in service mission's opportunities for the students of PCC and Piedmont. Some small changes for this year really helped emphasize the relationships with the local families and the focus on patience and quality instead of speed in building. We will continue to evaluate and fine tune the mission's opportunities and seek to use the CE board to a greater extent in this part of the ministry.

Rock Pizza Lunch continued this year and was a huge success. This is a purely outreach ministry for the students of Piedmont. Each Tuesday the students from PHS walk over to the new youth room and enjoy pizza and a drink as well as a really cool and welcoming atmosphere. As we started the event we offered the meal free of charge and hosted over 150 students each Tuesday. We now charge \$4, just enough to break even, and average around 80 students each week. Also, the addition of monthly "LiveWire Movie Nights" has been a huge outreach to Middle Schoolers. The LiveWire Movie Night is once a month on a Friday and has been drawing 30+ kids, many of whom do not attend church at all (Yet!). This monthly event has been a huge outreach to middle schoolers.

Sunday Evening Worship Service was established this year and was held once a month throughout the year. It was a success in many ways. The youth ministries and its interns continue to plan and staff the service.

This coming year will look very similar in content in that we are still on the road to build and strengthen the four areas mentioned earlier. We look forward very eagerly to the fourth trip to Africa this summer and have a team of 12 in place. Praise God for His guidance and blessings and we pray for the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Scott Kail
Pastor to the Students



ASSOCIATE MINISTER

It's been a full and fulfilling year of continuity and change at Piedmont Community Church. We continue to serve God and one another faithfully, offering worship services of depth, creativity and relevance. We're always striving to provide programs to build up our church family and to reach out to those in the broader community. And we've encountered a number of changes along the way as well; with new worship times, new faces and new opportunities to express and experience our life together in Christ. All in all, I think it's been a great year – inspiring, enriching, challenging and fun! What a privilege we have “to welcome and nurture disciples to serve” in this place and beyond. Here are a few highlights of the past year for me as a pastor.

~ Last July, I took the last of 3 months of sabbatical leave. During that time I wrote a great deal of my doctoral dissertation. I was not able to finish, however. So I am still trying to carve out adequate time in my schedule to complete my Doctor of Ministry degree.

~ This summer, I will be serving as acting Head of Staff while Dr. McNabb is on sabbatical.

~ I'm still engaged in the work of the Marketing Team to publicize PCC more widely and to welcome visitors and new members to our community. We have recently contracted with a church marketing consultant as well, who will help us to improve and systematize our efforts. I'm thankful to Jennifer Napper, Rod Brown, Steven Thorne, Jamie Anderson and others who've been instrumental in moving this process forward.

~ I continue to guide our Adult Education program and to organize Piedmont Forums. This past year I taught a number of multi-week Sunday morning classes, including a class I've long wanted to teach on “Books that Didn't Make it into the Bible.”

~ I still lead a weekly Bible Study at Piedmont Gardens, and have participated on occasion with the Women's and Men's Bible Studies and our midweek Small Group Bible Study.

~ During Lent, I led a 5-week series of Gatherings in the Chapel, which included worship, dinner and discussion. I really enjoyed the experience and would be interested in leading them again.

~ I'm still actively involved with the work of the Board of Deacons, the Altar Guild, the Welcoming Team and the Mission Action Team. Thanks to everyone involved in those groups, especially to Jennifer Niemann, Sara Hirsch, Mary Fielder, Valerie Corvin and Susan Schroeder.

~ I staffed the Alternative Gift Market effort, once again so ably led by Bill and Lani Taylor, Barbara Crawford and others. It's so great to raise the profile of service during the Christmas season, as well as a good deal of money, for worthy projects and organizations. The total this year was again around \$40,000.

~ I continue to engage in pastoral care and hospital visitation and, with Florence Slater, to stay connected with those who are unable for whatever reason to attend church on a regular basis.

~ Finally, I've continued to preach and lead worship with Dr. McNabb, and to work on a daily basis with a talented and dedicated church staff. It's a great gift to me to be able to share my own gifts for ministry and service with all of you as we continue to serve and worship our merciful God. And I look forward to another year of finding new ways and fresh avenues to meet Christ in one another and to embody Christ together in this world and in this congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Don Ashburn
Associate Minister



After the tremendous activity and excitement of our Centennial Celebration last year things have returned to a little more normal pace this year. As the economy continues its very slow paced recovery, we continued to feel its effect on our annual stewardship campaign. The stewardship team conducted a major campaign which entailed having each area of ministry produce a Ministry Action Plan to describe the goals and objectives for the coming year. These plans were presented to church leaders at two events and feedback was solicited. The plans were then revised and presented to the congregation at two lunches and a dinner event and were accompanied with a video presentation. The events were well received and many PCC members said they gained a greater understanding of the breadth of ministry that goes on at the church. In the end the stewardship campaign raised \$1,005,000 in pledges – a slight increase over the previous year.

The Endowment committee under the direction of Bob Coleman kicked off its program to increase the amount of Planned Giving in the congregation. The desire is to get PCC members to remember the church in their will or trust or to consider a bequest. We held a workshop in March led by estate attorney Susan Von Hermann and Dick Lamport, our Planned Giving consultant. We had about 30 attendees and several people expressed interest in meeting with Mr. Lamport to talk about a planned gift. The Endowment committee was also delighted to learn in May that the church has received a \$158,000 bequest from the Stanley and Dorothy Cocks estate.

Our mission/outreach program continues on both local and international levels. The Better World Fund is almost exhausted and many people around the world have been touched by the \$450,000 that has been donated. We continue to have an active presence in Oakland inner city schools providing tutors through the Faith Network program. Also 7 men and women from PCC volunteer as mentors in the Oremi mentoring program for children whose parent is incarcerated. The ministry of providing dinner at the Berkeley Men's Shelter continues under the guidance of Barbara and Stuart Crawford.

Our relationship with our two sister churches continues to flourish. Scott Kail is getting ready to lead a mission team of young people and adults to visit Kafita church in Malawi and other mission programs there. They will be meeting the new minister at Kafita, Rev. Edward Tembo. We had two wonderful pulpit/choir exchanges with our sister church in Oakland – Imani Community Church. We also had a joint choir concert and fellowship dessert in April hosted by Imani. Also for the second time Imani and Piedmont shared in a joint work day mission project this year working on houses with Habitat for Humanity.

The choir, under the direction of Steve Main, has, as always, provided inspiring music to our weekly worship services. I have produced three sermon series this year – “Becoming the Best Version of You,” “The Heart of Christianity” and “Revelation,” along with regular and seasonal sermons. The Board of Trustees voted to try an experiment with our worship times which were moved in September to 9:00 and 10:30 am. The Board will be evaluating the experiment in June.

I am blessed to work with an incredible staff. Their commitment and dedication to the well-being of the church is evident in all they do. We are also blessed with stability, having no staff turnover this year.

The PCC Marketing Team has renewed its efforts to increase our exposure to the residents in the communities that surround Piedmont. They created and distributed a mailer just before Christmas to invite people to the Christmas Eve worship service. Anecdotal evidence seems to indicate that the mailing was successful and efforts are underway to prepare another one for the fall kickoff season.

Maureen and I continue to feel blessed to be able to serve God here at Piedmont Community Church. It is hard to believe it was 10 years ago that we made the trek west from Miami. As I write this, I am in the first month of my sabbatical and I am tremendously grateful to the church for providing this opportunity for education and renewal. I look forward to returning in September for another year of service to God and this church community.

The Rev. Dr. William H. McNabb
Senior Minister



STATISTICS FOR JUNE 1, 2010- MAY 31, 2011

MEMBERSHIP

Total Membership, June 1, 2010:	1203
Members Received	
by Confession of Faith, Letter of	
Transfer or Reaffirmation	22
Confirmands	19
Total Members Received	41
Members Removed:	
Deaths	8
Letters of Transfer & Requests	17
Total Members Removed	24
Total Membership, June 1, 2011	1219

PASTORAL SERVICES

Baptisms	7
Marriages	17
Funerals/Memorials	5
Total Pastoral Services	29

AVERAGE WEEKLY CHURCH ATTENDANCE

2010-2011	260
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Members and friends of Piedmont Community Church deceased 2010-2011

David Roberts

Ian Turner

Dorothy Farran

Nora Meadows

David Cram

Elizabeth Bonner

Perry Foster

Louise Rosen

Elizabeth McCall





CHURCH BOARDS/GUILDS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2012

Scott Willis, President
Rod Brown
Dick Fletcher
Rich Thompson
Joe Scherer

Class of 2013

Katy Ford
Julie Hofer
Bob Hoseman

Class of 2014

Mike Bandrowski
Kim Kellogg
David Napper
Jan Wolfe

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2012

Mary Fielder
Paul Gray, Chair
Lynn Nelson
Maureen Recker

CLASS OF 2013

Rick Clark
Kristine Haataja
Frank Judd
Steve Thorne

Class of 2014

Don Campbell
Marella Guigou
Rebecca Litteneker
Jennifer Nixon

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Class of 2012

Helga Lenart-Cheng
John Quantz
Rod Thompson, Chair

Class of 2013

Mike Jumper
Kathy Kelleher
Lynn Olander
Sharon Swimley

Class of 2014

Jim Fleser
Jan Linden
Amy McKenzie
Adam Thatcher

ALTAR GUILD

Class of 2011

Marilyn Evert
Marella Guigou
Laura Novak
Adele Parmley
Susan Schroeder, Chair
Matt Truesdell
Barbara Whalen
Tina Farman

Class of 2012

Christine Allen
Sara Hirsch
Penny Robb
Barbara Stewart

Class of 2013

Ann Chandler
Aija Koch
Lois Linford
Elizabeth McCall
Jessica Rajaratnam
Shelagh Udovch
Carol Warren

2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE, AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Bill Molmen
Barbara Brown
Wayne Marzolf

Underlined names denote persons to be elected at the Annual Meeting

Altar Guild is on a January thru December calendar year.



New Members

Alyssa Daw
Guadalupe Dryburgh
Carter Dunlap
Patty Dunlap
Evan Caulley
Sid Ewing
Stacy Ewing
Hilde Gonzalez
Jamie Gonzalez
Cathy Lackey
Louise Linford
Mallory Lynch
Ashley Miller
Jack Myers
Zelie Myers
Charlie Nooney
Cynthia Nooney
Jessica Rajaratnam
Raj Rajaratnam
Mary Soliday
Judy Swaby
Yu Fen Talati

Confirmands

Rachel Adams
Laura Cook
Nicole Cosares
David Dryburgh
Brian Ford
Louis Gerhardy
Skip Hill
Emily Kelleher
Paul Kim
Ethan Kwan
Nicholas Mani
Dylan McBirney
Scott Ng
Jeevan Rajaratnam
Alexandra Romanowski
Sam Thacher
William Thacher
Miles Von Hermann
Austin Willis



A SHORT HISTORY

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH AT 100 YEARS

The life of “The Church in Piedmont,” as it was originally known, began as the twentieth century dawned. The drive to former church homes in Oakland had proved arduous, so several attempts to provide Sunday School for residents’ children were made between 1900 and 1905. Then in 1905 a permanent Sunday School program was organized under the leadership of Rev. Henry Mowbray, Assistant Minister of First Congregational Church, Oakland. Until the 1906 earthquake, the Sunday School met in the old Blair Mansion on Highland Avenue, then moved to the carriage house of the Mirriam home on Hillside Avenue. The Piedmont Sunday School Association was founded and raised the funds for, and in 1909 built, Mowbray Hall, a permanent home for the Piedmont Sunday School, which stood till late in the century on Vista Avenue across from Piedmont City Hall. Mowbray Hall was soon in demand for adult services!

In Fall of 1909, Dr. John Stuchell was encouraged by the Presbytery of Oakland to investigate the possibility of establishing the first church on the hill. Dr. Stuchell began conducting worship services in Mowbray Hall, and in his Easter Sunday sermon in 1910 described his vision of what would become Piedmont Community Church: “The opportunity is given of building up a church that will be the pride of the community in future years; we have the chance of showing what a church conducted on the broad lines of basic Christianity can do: if we let it slip, if we allow our enthusiasm to be chilled by the old partisan cries, if we insist that the work must be Congregational or Episcopalian or Presbyterian to be acceptable to the Almighty and helpful to mankind . . . then we prove that we are not as far beyond the Middle Ages as we had fondly imagined. But we do not take this dismal view.” This vision of an “umbrella” like ecumenical community church, while revolutionary in its day, found a willing and energetic following in this new community of Piedmont. After that Easter service, 56 charter members formally established The Church in Piedmont, which, in the spring of 1912, joined with the Piedmont Sunday School Association as one body.

It soon became evident that the growth of the church would exceed the capacity of Mowbray Hall. In November, 1913 the present site of the church was donated by its owners, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Alexander, early leaders of the church. Plans were drawn for the present building around a central courtyard, and ground was broken in 1916. On January 6, 1918, dedication services were held and Piedmont Community Church as we know it was established. There were many slow years of growth, but then the East Bay population exploded following World War II and the present Christian Education wing was built and dedicated on September 25, 1949. Later building additions included our beautiful Youth Chapel in the early 1950’s and the Lindamood Music Wing in the early 90’s.

Piedmont Community Church has been served by 9 Senior Ministers:

- Dr. John E. Stuchell, Presbyterian, 1910-1916
- Rev. Charles D. Milliken, Congregational, 1916-1927
- Rev. Ernest F. W. Swann, Methodist, 1927-1934
- Rev. Richard E. Shields, Presbyterian, 1935-1939
- Dr. Holland F. Burr, Congregational, 1941-1959
- Dr. Paul W. Yinger, Congregational, 1960-1971
- Rev. Samuel J. Lindamood, Jr., Presbyterian, 1972-1994
- Dr. Jim Davis, Presbyterian, 1994-1999
- Dr. William H. McNabb, Presbyterian, 2001-

In addition, the church has been served by 6 different Interim Senior Ministers: Rev. Francis Van Horn, 1934-35; Rev. James Muilenberg and Rev. Arthur Basham, 1939-1941; Dr. Harold Eymann, 1959-1960; Dr. Kenneth Johnson, 1971-1972; and Rev. David Sandberg, who served us in 1999-2001 and previously in 1994-1995.

These many years of proud history have proved the wisdom of the vision of our founders. The strongest chapters of that history have been written when the early ecumenical vision has been reclaimed and renewed. Today, with a broad spectrum of strong ministries in music, youth, children, fellowship, mission outreach, adult spiritual growth groups, and the historical Founding Our Future Capital Campaign, we stand on the brink of yet another strong chapter and embrace our communal mission: “*Welcoming, Nurturing, Serving.*”

In March of 2010 PCC celebrated its Centennial year. A luncheon was held with over 300 people including many past presidents of PCC and the time capsule from the 75th anniversary was opened. The following week a reception and concert was held with music from the choir and a 30 piece orchestra. A history book of the church and a cd of the concert has also been commissioned.