



*Centerville
Presbyterian Church*

*"A Church committed to Jesus
Christ through worship, nurture,
care, and growth."*

the
BELL



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 163 Years of Ministry

APRIL 2017

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Greg Roth

Associate

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Marsha Roth

Assistant Pastor for

**Families, Young Adults &
Intercultural Ministries**

Leedah Wong

**Director of Discipleship,
Caring, and Outreach**

Alex Sung

Volunteer

Visitation Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jim Schoon

**Director of Traditional
Worship and Choral
Ministries**

Darryl Guzman

**Director of Contemporary
Worship**

Thomas Bañuelos

Children's Ministry

Interim Director

Alana Bischoff-Chan

Youth Ministry Director

Seth Beardsley

Preschool Director

Linda Hall

**Facilities/Office
Manager**

Tammy Sawyer

Finance Manager

Sally Suryan

Accounting Assistant

Julia Knutson

Ministry Assistants

Alana Bischoff-Chan

Val Cooley

Polly Walker

Holy Week Services

SUNDAY, APRIL 9—PALM SUNDAY

Rev. Michael Boyland, Guest Preacher

9:00 a.m.—Contemporary Service

11:00 a.m.—Traditional Service

THURSDAY, APRIL 13—

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

7:30 p.m.—Traditional Service

FRIDAY, APRIL 14—

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Pastor Marsha Roth Preaching

12 Noon—Tenebrae Service

of the Spoken Word

SUNDAY, APRIL 16—EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 a.m.—Contemporary Service

11:00 a.m.—Traditional Service

Session Notes—March 2017

Submitted by Marge Segraves, Ruling Elder

We preceded our Session meeting with time in prayer for the needs of our church and for other churches in EPC with specific needs: for the Nominating committee to hear God's voice in choosing the next Deacon and Elder nominees; that Finance/Admin decisions for the white church property will be in keeping with God's will; for Youth as they prepare for the trip to Mexico in April; that the Foundry would draw many from the Fremont community; for Sunset Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon, as they dissolve the call of their pastor; for our General Assembly in June as they consider the request to form two new presbyteries from our Presbytery of the Pacific.

Pastor Greg opened the Session meeting with a lesson from our Leadership Training Guide, discussing with us aspects of church government: the three basic forms of government (Episcopal, Congregational, Presbyterian) and which we use (Presbyterian) . . . the document of EPC that describes our government (Book of Order) . . . types of members in an EPC church (confirmed, baptized, affiliate) . . . the three "courts" of the EPC (session, presbytery, general assembly). It was a good review.

One of the first items on the agenda included a motion from the Finance/Admin committee to request a grant of \$275K from the Fremont Charitable Missions Foundation to continue funding the pre-building phase of our housing project at the white church site. That should last until January of next year, when we anticipate that we will apply for permits. (We approved it.) . . . Each step of the process has gone well and the Fremont City Council seems to like what we're planning.

Tammy reported that Free Dining was subjected to inspection by the health inspector, who required several changes to our facilities. The changes have been made and we passed our second inspection.

Leedah reported that the first meeting of the Foundry drew slightly more than 100 people,

considerably more than had been expected. Two of the attendees made first-time commitments to Jesus. Praise God! Please continue to pray for Leedah and the other leaders as they plan for more events.

Seth reported that the fundraising for the Mexico Missions trip has been going well: most of the students are fully funded.

Marsha reported that preparation for the Women's Retreat is proceeding smoothly; that our efforts to make Lent more meaningful are being received positively; and that we are well on our way to being prepared for the upcoming preaching and study series in the book of Acts.

Pastor Greg reviewed the calendar for upcoming meetings and events, then closed the meeting with prayer.

The Roth's Sabbatical 2017

Session reviewed plans for staff coverage during Pastors Greg and Marsha's sabbatical and vacation scheduled for mid-May through mid-July. They will be studying and teaching in Cambridge, England. Jim Schoon has agreed to deliver most of the sermons and assist the staff during this period, with Leedah Wong filling in as well.

Passed on to Heaven...

Beginning with this month's Bell we will be printing the names of our congregants who have gone to be with the Lord in the past two months. In this first printing we are including names from January and February.

James Vance	January 19, 2017
Jim Herget	January 30, 2017
Opal Morgan	February 13, 2017
Rev. Don Anderson	February 21, 2017

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; (John 11:25)"

Getting to Know

Charles Grant

Written by Betty Clark

I visited Charles and Nancy Grant on a Thursday afternoon. I walked on a shiny metal ramp to reach the front door. Nancy welcomed me in and I greeted Charles and Diane, Charles' caregiver.



If you didn't know Charles Grant before, you surely know him now. He is the big man in the big motorized wheelchair. He wasn't always in the big motorized wheelchair, but he always was big.

A little over a year ago, Charles suffered two falls. The second fall sent him to the Kaiser Hospital in Oakland. That hospital specializes in spinal surgeries. Following the operation, Charles spent twenty-eight days in Vallejo in the Kaiser rehabilitation unit. He was sent home the day after Easter, 2016. Charles was paralyzed from the waist down and with limited motion in his arms and hands. But he was at church the following Sunday.

It was very important to him that he be at church that Sunday. It was Holly Siverly's last day at Centerville Presbyterian. He had to say goodbye to her. Holly was the Director of Children's Ministries and Charles had been a security guard for her. Charles checked the Sunday School rooms before the children arrived. He made sure the rooms were in good condition and that the right people were in the rooms. What a good plan!

When my daughter asked me what I had done that Thursday, I told her about Charles and Nancy. In describing Charles, I said, "You know if you could find a warm huggable, giving bear, you'd have Charles Grant. He is a warm, huggable, giving "bear of a man".

When I entered their home that afternoon, there was no "Woe is me" attitude. They were carrying on, living. In fact, when I asked Charles where he got the fortitude, the strength to face each day, he replied, "You have to go on living". And that is what they do.

There is equipment to accommodate Charles; a lift from their step down living room to raise Charles to the main hall. Nancy gave me the impression that all the equipment was not an inconvenience, but new pieces of

furniture. She showed me with pride the hoist they used to get him in bed.

While we were talking, it was time for Diane to go home. She couldn't leave until Charles gave her a goodbye hug. Diane has become family. I met Diane when she came with them to our Wednesday afternoon Luke Bible study. Yes, they still participate in church activities.

They also take in the movies. Nancy said, "Oh Betty, have we seen the films." As they did in the past, they go out to lunch after church with anyone who wants to come along. Charles still moves around the patio, talking to people. What they do miss is the travelling they did. They regularly visited Nancy's son and family in the Boston area. Charles and Nancy have travelled world-wide; Israel, the Masada, the British Isles, France, the Netherlands two times, Russia, Greece, the Scandinavian countries and many more. They have gone through the Panama Canal twice.

When I asked how the two of them met, Nancy said she thought God was the matchmaker. Nancy's two sons and Charles' two sons were all members of Boy Scout Troop 379 in Newark where Charles was Assistant Scoutmaster. Nancy, a widow and mother, drove her boys to the meetings. Later Charles became Scoutmaster of Troop 138 at Patterson School. Also, she and her two sons attended Centerville Presbyterian Church. Charles, too, had lost his spouse and was the father of two sons. They saw each other at scout meetings and church. It was in the patio that Charles asked Nancy if she would like to go to the Alameda County Fair. She said yes. They married in 1989.

Charles told me his scouting career included being the Scoutmaster for Troop 2 at the California School for the blind. His sons were working on the Handicap Awareness Merit Badge. He drove his sons to the school and met the blind students. He found them so receptive, so warm and welcoming that he became their Scoutmaster. A warm, receptive welcoming man met his match.

It is said that God has a plan for each of us. "*For I know the plans I have for you*" declares the Lord, "*plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*" (Jeremiah 29:11) Did God plan for Charles to be an inspiration to many of us in the church? And did God plan for Nancy to be the encouraging and loving partner for Charles? So it would seem.

Oh, Charles told me that your handshakes and greetings spur him on, so be sure to greet him and say hello as he moves around the patio.



By Linda Hall, Director of CCP

We want to say a great big THANK YOU to all of you church members who supported our See's Candy Fundraiser last month!! I will let you all know how much we made as our profit in next month's Bell.

As you receive this month's Bell, we have already begun teaching the children one of the most important verses in the Bible: "Jesus is Alive!" (taken from Matt 28:7). While we discuss the great sacrifice that our Lord Jesus did for us, in giving up his life, to give us eternal life, the one thing we want the children to remember is that: "Jesus is alive". Our Chapel Time this month will be on Tuesday April 4th @ 10:45 and Wednesday April 5th @ 11:30. We will be closed for Easter/Spring break between Friday April 14-April 21st.

For our academic readiness this month, the preschoolers will be learning about the number nine and the shape of a star. Our Pre- K students will be re-visiting those concepts as well as doing work on the letters: "U", "V", "W", and "X". The color of the month will be purple. And of course, a whole lot of fun Easter art projects will be worked on by everyone, including each child making their own "Bunny Bucket" which will be filled with treats and then hunted for, on our Easter Party days! We will finish up the month with a fun "Earth Day Picnic" for all the families on Wednesday April 26th, instead of having our normal snack time that day.

We are now in the process of enrolling new students for the up-coming 2017-2018 school

year, which starts in September after Labor Day. If you know of any families who are looking for a great Christian Preschool, please share with them the following contact information.

Classroom: [510-797-6757](tel:510-797-6757)

Office: [510-793-3575](tel:510-793-3575) ext. 12

E-mail: preschooloffice@cpcfremont.org

I would love to set up an appointment time with them for a school tour!

Lastly, we had the pleasure of taking the children across the street to our neighborhood fire station last month. Wow, the kids were so excited to get to see the whole facility (including the bedrooms), and then get to actually climb through one of the fire trucks at the end of our time there. Check out the photo below of our group that day.

Easter Blessings to you all!!

Miss Linda

Miss Kaitlyn



Firehouse No. 6 on Central Avenue, Fremont, CA

EASTER EGG HUNT

at Centerville Presbyterian Church

Saturday, April 8, 2017
10 am to 12 noon

FREE

Activities Include:

Egg Hunt, Photo Booth, Face Painting,
Ballon Artists, and Carnival Games

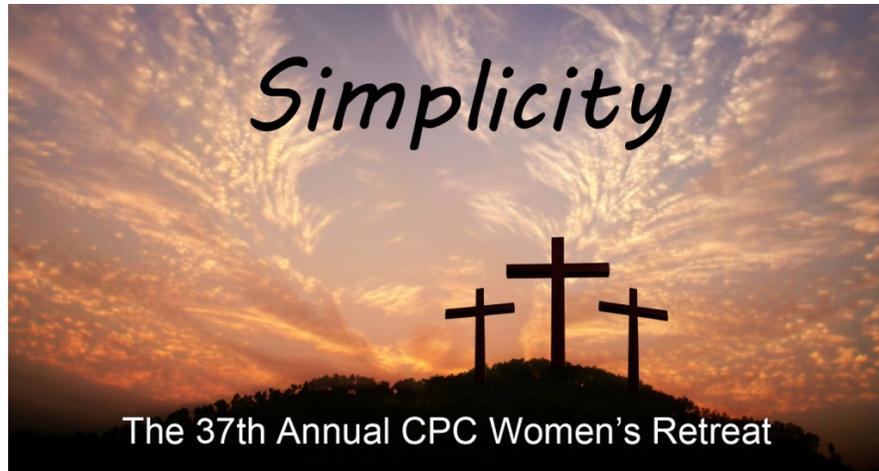
Bring your own basket for gathering eggs!

R.S.V.P. REQUIRED
at www.cpcfremont.org

For more information email
abischoff-ghan@cpcfremont.org

4360 Central Avenue, Fremont, CA | 510-793-3575 (across from DMV)

Retreat Reflections 2017



- What:** Retreat Reflections is a time for women to get together to reminisce about our retreat experience. It is a time to share how God has been working in our lives and making us more like Him! Please bring pictures or other artifacts that will help you share your story. Also, plan on having fun and lots of good conversation!
- Food:** Brunch will be provided by the COACHes.
- Who:** You should definitely come. Also, please feel free to invite a friend. It is a wonderful way to encourage her to attend next year's retreat!
- When:** Saturday, April 29th at 9:00 A.M.
- Where:** Centerville Presbyterian Church
4360 Central Ave., Fremont
Westminster Room: This is the first room on the right as you enter the Centre building.

**WE LOVE GOD &
WE LOVE YOU!**



**SEEK TRUTH
EMBODY LOVE
LIVE TO INSPIRE**

Mexico Team Prayer Cards

Our Mexico Missions Team will be in Ensenada Mexico doing work projects and running a VBS from April 16 to April 23. Something you can do to support our team is stop by the youth table and pick up one of our team member prayer cards! We believe in the power of prayer and would love it if you would pray for our team. 😊



Follow us Social Media

INSTAGRAM:

@epcyouth

FACEBOOK:

CPC Fremont Youth &
College Ministries



**Josh Beardsley
Youth Director
(209) 261-7677
beardsleyj@epcfremont.org**

**1366 Central Ave
Fremont, CA 94536
www.epcfremont.org**

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH (SMY)

9:30-10:30AM

IMPACT

SUNDAY NIGHTS 6:30-8:30pm

April 2—NO SMY! COMMUNION SUNDAY

IMPACT | Series: Squad Goals - Building Your Squad | Games: Link Ups | 7 Minute Bible stories

April 9—SMY | Series: Deal with it | Through not around

IMPACT | Series: Squad Goals | Family Peace Games: 4 Corners | What happens next?

April 16—SMY | Deal with it | Comfort in Community

NO IMPACT! Mexico Mission Trip

April 23—SMY | Crew | Friends Make or Break You

NO IMPACT! Mexico Mission Trip

April 30—SMY | Crew | Who are you Listening to?

IMPACT | Squad Goals | God Squad Games: One-handed odds | Emoji Charades

Growing Old Gracefully

By Pastor Marsha Roth

When my grandmother, Lucille Noble, turned 100, I marveled at her gracious manner in greeting state senators, beauticians, life-long Bible study friends and colleagues in teaching. It was a grand celebration for a grand Christian woman, who has inspired me in her zest for learning. I felt very young that day. As I observed her example of humility, I realized I have so much to learn.

This April, another heroine of mine marks a special birthday...Greg's mom, Dorothy Roth, will be 90! Many of you recall how a few years ago she threw out the opening pitch for the Seattle Mariners game, while hundreds in the stadium cheered "Dorothy, Dorothy." My mother-in-law received this honor not because she was once Oregon's Reading Specialist of the year, or an enthusiastic evangelist for Jesus to new immigrants from countless countries. No, she was recognized by the governor simply because she once played women's pro-baseball in the 1940's. She, too, has lived an exemplary life because she has heartily embraced Christ as Lord in her own aging process. So I thought I would pass along a few life insights I've learned from each of them.

You've heard the expression "Growing old is not for sissies." As I age I agree. I am more aware of my own vulnerabilities and fragilities, and I would say to you, "Growing old is not for the humorless." As my own eye sight diminishes, I am collecting some very funny stories. You might try collecting your own stories on memory loss or the aging process and tell them to your friends!

Of course there is a less pleasant side to aging.

Our strength wanes, our bones degenerate, and whether we like it or not, we actually shrink! Our bones creak, muscles can ache and perhaps worst of all is the fear of the unknown. Some of you suffer from anxiety and it lives just under the surface of your skin. I believe this is where our faith in Christ Jesus can assist you the most. The Psalms are full of meaningful passages as we age. One of my favorites says, "*Do not forsake me, O God, when my strength is gone*" (Psalm 71:9).

We can allow our Lord to take us by one arm with renewed faith and His hope by the other as we walk alongside Him. Whatever our age, we are called to walk on the pilgrimage path. Consider the heroes and heroines who've walked that path before you. Did they stay linked arm and arm in His gracious faith and hope? Jesus will daily whisper words of faith in one ear, "If my Spirit that raised me from the dead is living in you, the Father who raised me from the dead will give life to your mortal body!" Wow, imagine that! So even in these last years of your life you can have very special spiritual encounters with the Spirit of Jesus. You can be infused with His Divine energy. This is good news!

Jesus whispers in our other ear, "Have hope in me!" Hebrews 11:1 says, "*Faith brings the future into the present, giving substance to our hope, and then hope gives us the present assurance of a glorious future.*"

So that means the Church is a place where we celebrate one's age, regardless if you're experiencing some diminishment and impairments. This attitude of rejoicing may not happen in our world, but as God's special people we treasure those who are in their advanced years as seasoned saints, showing us how to live graciously. Let us heed the words from Leviticus 19:32, "*Rise in the presence of the aged. Show respect for the elders and revere your God.*"



CPC Missionary Updates

Mitch & Juliette Anderson – Pichilemu, Chile – YWAM – The Andersons have been loving on 400 seniors in the area by inviting them to the YWAM campus and providing a variety of care sessions including knowing about Christ. The seniors also have an opportunity to swim and they are fed lunch. Currently, during their summer, they have been hosting a lot of swim teams. There are approximately 250 students taking Discipleship courses from 26 countries. Pray for the Anderson family as they provide multi-generational opportunities to seek and accept Christ.

Dennis & Linda Beck – Iowa – CRU (formerly Campus Crusade) – The Becks are living in the U.S. but take a number of trips to Eastern Europe as they provide leadership workshops and encourage leaders for the *FamilyLife* Program they started. They are also reaching out to Professors at Colleges & Universities in the U.S. and talking with them as to how they can reach out to students who don't know Christ; one professor has accepted Christ. Pray for the Becks who are currently traveling in Europe and as they plan for the next European and college outreach trip.

Catharine Coon – Gulu, Uganda – Hope Alive! – Upon returning to Uganda, Catharine has relocated from Kampala to Gulu in northern Uganda. She is busy finishing her thesis for her Doctorate of Divinity and will graduate in June from Northern Seminary. At the same time she is providing executive leadership for *Hope Alive!* Following her graduation she will be working on overseeing the development of a new campus in Gulu from the ground up where there will be schools, a church, and a community center to reach out to families who are impoverished and don't know the Lord. Pray for Catharine as she finishes her thesis and studies for her oral exams.

Jeff and Cindy (Goodier) Eidsen – Fresno, CA – InFaith – The Eidsens are working toward establishing a church where they can invite those they are leading to Christ and those who are in a crisis marriage situation. They are contacting pastors in the area to gather as a team for this special outreach to gangs. Pray for healing of Jeff's foot and for pastors in the area coming together to establish a church where others can feel God's love.

Jake & Debbi (Brewton) Tyler – Oswego, NY – Youth for Christ (YFC) – Debbi is the Asst. Director for the YFC Pacific Region and Jake is the Chaplain to the YFC Directors in the Pacific Islands. Last fall the Tylers spent a month in the Pacific Islands as they met with new and continuing directors of YFC groups. They provided leadership/encouragement for groups of directors as well as the youth as they prayed with them and shared their walk with Christ. Their son, Eli, will be going to the Cook Islands and doing YFC outreach for two years. Pray for the Tyler family as they plan for the next trip to witness and reach out to Pacific Islanders.

Mark & Aly Westlind – Chicago, IL – CRM - Mark and Aly will be leading a missions team to Sweden in July to work with a small church in reaching out to non-believers. Mark is working on courses to be put on-line and teaching them at a church; and Aly is working for a non-profit. Pray for the Westlinds as they continue planning the details for the missions trip they will be leading.

Simon & Becky (Mar) Zeigler – Davis, CA - International Students Inc. (ISI) - The Zeiglers are holding weekly Bible Studies and hosting monthly hospitality gatherings for the international scholars at the University of California Davis. They are using the Discovery Bible Study Method as many of the scholars from around the world are reading the Bible and discovering how Christ can transform their lives. As the ISI West Coast Director, Simon leads various regional conferences throughout the West. Pray for the Zeigler family as they reach out so other may know Christ.



CENTERVILLE
Presbyterian Church

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Fremont, CA
PERMIT NO. 7

4360 Central Avenue
Fremont CA 94536

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please Note: If you do not wish to receive this
Newsletter, please call our office at 510.793.3575 ext. 14

APRIL 10, 2017 is the deadline for submitting articles for the
MAY 2017 "BELL" Newsletter.

Please submit to Val Cooley, Ministry Assistant — vcooley@cpcfremont.org.
All articles submitted are subject to approval, editing, and space available.

April 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Sponsored Pancake Breakfast – 8-11 am—Westminster Missions Report on Trip to Uganda by Carol Scruggs & Chris Stone-Payne—12:20 pm Westminster
April 8	Easter Egg Hunt 10 am – 12 noon (More details inside)
April 9	Palm Sunday – Services at 9, 10:30, and 11 am.
April 13	Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30 p.m.
April 14	Good Friday Service at Noon
April 16	Easter Sunday – Services at 9, and 11 am.
May 7	Sunday Eats
May 14	Mother’s Day
May 20	Combined Choirs Concert – Harbor Light 7:00 p.m.
May 29	Memorial Day Holiday – Campus and Office CLOSED

Join us for Worship
9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Service
 Led by Thomas Bañuelos
 with the Worship Team and Band

11:00 a.m.
Traditional Service
 Led by Darryl Guzman
 with the Centerian Choir and
 CenterPeace Orchestra

Office Hours: M-TH | 8:00am—4:00 pm
 510-793-3575 Office | 510-793-3594 fax
www.cpcfremont.org | cpcoffice@cpcfremont.org