

# First Presbyterian Church

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*The PRESS(byterian)*  
January 2012

*First Presbyterian Church is  
your church family on the hill  
who is Christ-centered,  
loves one another &  
serves the community.*



## Dear friends,

God is himself the greatest Missionary: he loved the world so much he came to it in the person of his Son. Jesus is God's mission to save the world.

Now God invites us to share in that work by sharing Jesus with others. The good news about Jesus is the heart of Christian mission.

So, God's work to save this dark world now takes place through Christ's body the church as we take the message of Jesus to the world. Our whole calling in the world can be summed up with the term "witness," a calling that gives us purpose, and focus in our life together. That's how Jesus defined the

church in Acts 1:8, when he told his disciples "You shall be my witnesses." Whether we are preaching, teaching Sunday School, hosting a reception for a grieving family at a memorial service, serving Meals on Wheels, or visiting someone in the hospital, being a witness for Jesus is the heart of ministry, and an expression of God's mission to the world.

Since God loves each of us like he loves the world, we want to be the faithful witnesses he calls us to be. Maybe that means we reach out to someone who doesn't know Jesus. Maybe it means we start to pray specifically for people we want to invite to join our fellowship. There's a lot of need out there, and we have all the riches of God to share.

With love for you in Christ,  
*Pastor Randy*

## Working on Faith: Great Books That Everyone Should Read

with Dr. Randy Working

### "An evening with the children's writings of C.S. Lewis"

Thursday, January 19, 2012, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

At The Bookstore, 1137 N H St # Q (behind Carrow's Restaurant)

Free!

Refreshments will be served and Lewis' books available for purchase

Pastor Working is the author of *From Rebellion to Redemption* (NavPress) and *Breaking Free: A Devotional Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans* (Reformation Press, forthcoming). Pastor Working has taught at Westmont College, Seattle Pacific University, and Ashland Theological Seminary. He holds a BA from Whitworth University, an MFA from University of Washington, and MDiv, DMin, and PhD (ABD) degrees from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Come for a warm evening of stimulating conversation on ideas that matter. Bring a friend!



## Annual Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, January 29, 2012**

Annual Meeting - 10:45 AM

- Adoption of 2012 Budget
- Approving Pastor's Salary

Potluck Lunch - 11:15 AM

- Receiving the Annual Report

**Lunch:** Please bring your own plates & utensils and a main dish, salad or dessert to share.

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### Music Rehearsal Schedule

**Wednesdays:**

**Chancel Choir at 5:30 PM**

**Bells - at 6:30 PM**

**Sundays:**

**Praise Band at 8:15 AM.**



Praise God  
with Music

These times may change somewhat as we are trying to accommodate a lot of unique needs of our volunteer bell ringers, instrumentalists and singers in three groups.

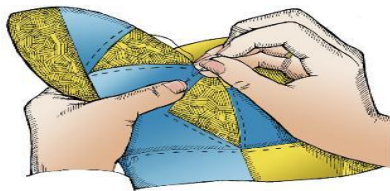
Any people interested in joining the choir, praise band or bell choir are welcome!!! Please call Barbara Luken regarding bells, Linda Hurd regarding choir or praise band.

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"God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible.  
What a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves." (A.W. Tozer)

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**Congratulations to Nancy Kelly**, who won our Christmas quilt raffle! SKY Club raised nearly \$1000 for Relay for Life from the quilt raffle and the fall bazaar.



**SKY Club**

Due to Monday holidays, SKY Club will meet on Monday, January 9 and on Monday, January 23, at 1 PM in the Adamson Room. We invite all sewers and knitters and yakkers to join us as we work on our projects.

**Dear Church Family & SKY Club,**

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl that was delivered to me a couple of weeks ago. Your love and encouragement are very much appreciated. Thanks again. God bless you all,  
*Mary Williams*

**The Prime Timers** will visit the PG&E Energy Education Center in SLO on Thursday, January 26, to see their great public display. They will also give us a group presentation just for our Prime Timers on energy generation - especially the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Generation Facility. This includes demonstrations of some of the major components as well.



Although our presentation will begin there at 1:00, lunch and the exact timing and car-pooling arrangements will be announced later.

**Deborah Circle** will meet on Saturday, January 7, at 9:30 AM at the home of Marion Greene. Join us for study and fellowship. Contact: Erna Brown.



**Mizpah Circle** will meet for fellowship and study on Thursday, January 19, in the Vista Room at 9:30 AM. The study of lesson four will be lead by Nancy Thompson. All women are welcome. Hostesses are Carole Burgess and Eunice Limberg. Contact: Joan Jaco or Jo Ecklund.

**The February Newsletter**

**Article Deadline**

**is 9:00 AM on**

**Monday, January 23, 2012.**



# Deacon Beacon

By Cindy Spangler



Presbyopia: Around the age of 40, give or take, the focusing system of the eye becomes less flexible, a normal aging process called presbyopia.

That's the medical definition of presbyopia, which explains why most of us have a pair of reading glasses available at an arm's reach—we have presbyopia! Yes, it's a real word.

Here's mine skewed definition of presbyopia:

Presbyopia: Around the age of 40, give or take, the worshipping system of the Presbyterian becomes less flexible, a normal aging process called Presbyopia.

I'm finding I have both ocular and Presbyterian presbyopia. It's hilarious to try to read without reading glasses these days. My eyes are just not as flexible as they used to be and have a hard time focusing. And in worship, I find myself resisting new ideas and changes...just like my presbyopic eyes; my Presbyopic heart is a little less flexible than it used to be.

My prayer during this beautiful and wondrous New Year is for anyone experiencing a touch of Presbyopia to open their mind and heart to new people, new ideas, and new ways of serving our little church on the hill. As for your presbyopia—you're stuck. Get a good pair of reading glasses!

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## A New Bible Study

The Wednesday Bible Study group meets weekly at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Wally & Audrey Kent. On January 4, they will begin a new 13 week study on Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, and Jude. This is part of the series "Genesis to Revelation" put out by Abingdon Press. All are welcome. Please join us.

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## Mission on Our Doorstep - The Mission Committee



Warm Clothing Drive

**We will continue collecting warm clothing** (sweaters, jackets, hats, gloves, blankets) through January. Please put clean items in the green & red box in the entryway. Mission on Our Doorstep is helping keep people warm!

**Lompoc Valley Community Thanksgiving Dinner** - Thank you to the congregation for helping with the Thanksgiving meal by bringing food, making food, and serving food on this special day. There were twelve churches involved in this activity, making Mission on Our Doorstep a time to be Thankful.

***You are all part of the Mission on Our Doorstep, helping others!***

## January 2012 Calendar

Jan 1	9:30 AM	WORSHIP - Myron Heavin preaching
Jan 2-3		New Year Holidays - Office closed
Jan 7	9:30 AM	Deborah Circle - Marion Greene's
Jan 8	9:30 AM	WORSHIP - Communion
	10:45 AM	Called Congregational Meeting
Jan 9	5:45 PM	Deacons - Vista Room
	7:00 PM	Christian Education Committee - Vista Room
Jan 10	4:30 PM	Fellowship Committee - Vista Room
	5:30 PM	Worship Committee - Vista Room
	6:30 PM	Personnel Committee - Adamson Room
	7:00 PM	Mission Committee - Vista Room
Jan 11	5:00 PM	Finance Committee - Adamson Room
Jan 15	9:30 AM	WORSHIP - Officer Installation
	4:00 PM	Comprehensive Care Center Worship
Jan 16		Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office closed
Jan 17	9:00 AM	Annual Report Deadline
Jan 19	9:30 AM	Mizpah Circle - Vista Room
	7:00 PM	Working of Faith: Great Books that Everyone Should Read with Dr. Working - The Bookstore, 1137 N H St # Q
Jan 21		Santa Barbara Mission Conference - FPC Santa Barbara
Jan 22		Annual Reports Available
Jan 23	9:00 AM	February Newsletter Article Deadline
Jan 26	TBA	Prime Timers to Energy Education Center in SLO
Jan 28	9AM-4PM	Session Retreat & January Meeting - Heavin home
Jan 29	10:45 AM	Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck
Jan 31	4:45 PM	Feed the Hungry - St. Timothy's

## Weekly Meetings

- Sundays
- Worship Team - 8:15 AM - Sanctuary
  - WORSHIP - 9:30 AM
  - Children's Sunday School - 9:30 AM (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)
  - Coffee / Fellowship Hour - 10:45 AM - Adamson Room
  - Pastor's Sermon Discussion Class - 11:00 AM - Vista Room
- Tuesdays
- Bible Study, *Luke* - 12:00 PM - Texas Cattle Company
- Wednesdays
- Small Group, *Hebrews- Jude* - 1:00 PM - Kent home
  - Choir - 5:30 PM - Sanctuary
  - Carillon - 6:30 PM - Music Room
- Thursdays
- Bible Study, *Seventh Day* - 7:00 PM - Heavin home
- Fridays
- Bible Study, *Amos* - Comprehensive Care Center
- Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



**P.U.S.H.**

**P**ray

**U**ntil

**S**omething

**H**appens

**Become PUSH-Y!!!!**