



The Grapevine

"You Are Our Branches"

*Woodside Village Church celebrates God's love in both worship and music,
proclaims the Gospel in words and deeds, and reaches out to meet
the needs of our members, our community and our world."*

From Thanksgiving to Hope

As I have been planning for the busy holiday season, I couldn't help but think how quickly the "season of hope" follows our "thanksgiving" for all that God has blessed us.

Thanksgiving is a time to acknowledge how blessed we are to be in a relationship with a loving God; a relationship with the God of the universe who came to earth to walk among us; a pretty amazing thing to think about. During this busy season it is important that we set aside time for prayer and worship, thanking God and meditating on the "season of hope": How has God brought hope into my life? What do I think about the "hope that is to come?" How can I express my thanks to God for the "hope" that I have found in Him?

I hope you will join us as we give praise and thanks to God at our 'Thanksgiving Eve Service & Pie Night' and then as we come together again the following Sunday as a Church family for worship and the 'Christmas Tree Decorating Party' as we begin this "season of hope", in thankfulness to God.

See you in Church!

Pastor Mike

Stewardship Sunday

1st Sunday - November 6th

What is a Steward?

One definition states that a steward is a person who manages the affairs of a household or an estate of an owner. In the Christian sense, a Steward is the manager of the affairs of God on earth. God has made each of us Stewards and has given us abilities and talents that are unique and we should use these abilities and talents to serve God.

Everything we have is given to us by God: Time, health, relationships, talents, property, the Gospel, and the environment. A Christian Steward serves God out of love and gratitude for these gifts, knowing that it's not how much we have but what we do with what God has given us. *"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."* (1Peter 4:10)

Human life is the first and greatest gift of all and carries great responsibilities with it. Life itself is a stewardship. As Christians, we know that our lives are sacred trusts. We are the stewards of those lives; God depends on us to use them to accomplish God's purpose. When God gives us life, we don't know how much time we have to use that life. But, whatever time we have is a gift from God, and we must use it wisely in every activity throughout the day. We must budget our time so that we are able to give of our time to fulfill God's plan.

Stewardship of healthy body and mind. God gave human beings superior minds-- to be used to the fullest capacity in discovering God's plan and understanding self and others. We were also given bodies in which to accomplish God's work - bodies to be treated with respect (taken care of), not abused (harmed). We present our bodies and we renew our minds as an offering to God.

Stewardship of talents. God gives all people potential talents when they are born. Each of us can share in God's plan in his or her own way. The Bible tells us that if we use our talents wisely, we will be better able to use them and will even develop others-- but if we don't use them, we may lose even those talents we do have.

Stewardship of relationships are a gift from God and a measure of our stewardship for God.

At home: Providing Christian education for our children; living and growing together as a family.

At work: Showing our fellow workers the example of Christian behavior and supportive caring.

In church: Participating with others in worship, projects, events, etc., forming and nurturing friendships.

Stewardship of the Gospel. As Christian stewards, we have been given three ways to experience our partnership: **1)** To receive the Gospel: we experience the Gospel as an act of faith in God. **2)** To share the Gospel: we bring God's message into the world, that all who believe in God will have eternal life. **3)** To reflect the Gospel: we show others by our daily life, how we accept our responsibility as Christians.

Stewardship of property. We bring nothing into this world . . . and we take nothing out of it. Everything that we have while we are here comes as a gift from God. In appreciation, we choose to share a portion of these gifts. The stewardship of our property is an ongoing process. We give regularly and systematically in proportion to the gifts which we are given . . . the talents, which earn us our possessions. Because we love God, we gladly dedicate these gifts to God's service, and give a worthy portion to the care of people in need.

Stewardship of money. Giving money to the church is a symbolic act and a spiritual discipline . . . the offering of ourselves in service and devotion to God as well as an obedient and willful trust in God's provisions. Giving is a practical matter too, because the offering makes it possible for the church to pay its bills and carry out its mission and ministries in Christ's name to further his kingdom.

Our whole life is a partnership with God. Each of us can live as God's Steward.

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required."

Luke 12:48

See you in Church!

Pastor Mike

PRAYERS OF CONCERN AND COMFORT...

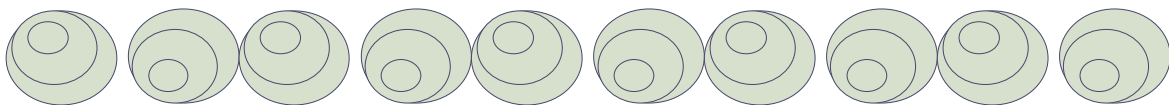
Church members:

Kristy Rice, post-surgery, **Jim Rice**, post-surgery, **Veva Wheaton**, health issues, **Natalie Friend**, severe back pain and **Clyde DeBenedetti**, health issues

Friends and Family members:

Phil O'Hara and family - brother of Barbara Tagg, **Kathy Bassett** - tumor, family friend of the Pedersens, **Scott Michelson** - Colon Cancer, **Rob Buelteman** - health issues, son of Bob Buelteman, **Cheryl Story** - surgery, aunt of Cindy Murphy, **Ed Decker** - cancer, uncle of Eric Pedersen, **Kelli Patrick** - health issues, daughter of Linda Patrick, **David Amschler**, grandson of Glen Hise, and **Margie Gibson** - cancer, friend of Sandie Pugh, **Shelly Thornwaldson**, cancer, friend of Kristy Rice, **John and family**, serious football injury, friend of Sue Brock, **Lou Wenzel and the family of Ellie Wenzel**, for the loss of Ellie, long-time community members, and **Biff Bafigo**, health issues, friend of Peggy Moore-Cain

*~ It is requested that church members **please** advise the church office of any illness, injury, or hospitalization, so that they may be added to the prayer list, and congregational and pastoral care may be arranged.~*



This coming week's church schedule:

reminder:

Saturday - 29 Wanna Dance? Special Halloween Party! *(details on page 3)*

Sunday - 30 9:30 a.m. Worship Service + Sunday School

Tuesday - 1 7:30 p.m. Weekly Sermon Scripture Study

Wednesday - 2 11 a.m. Weekly Sermon Scripture Study
7:30 p.m. Special Prayer Service

Thursday - 3 7 p.m. Choir

Friday - 4 9:30 a.m. Altar Guild

Sunday - 6 9:30 a.m. Worship Service + Sunday School
Stewardship Sunday

Winding up October...

Peninsula Ecumenical Community Conference on Israel/Palestine

Saturday, October 29, 2011

9am - 4pm

Fellowship Hall

First Presbyterian Church

1140 Cowper St., Palo Alto

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Joel Beinin on the impact of the Arab Spring on the Israel/Palestine conflict

Professor George Bisharat on the Palestinian UN Diplomatic initiative

This conference is designed to help our ecumenical faith communities become more informed on the issue of Israel/Palestine.

Despite the entwining of the three Abrahamic faith traditions, Christians in America are surprisingly uninformed on the nature of the conflict and what can be done about it. This lack of information causes difficulty in discussing Israel/Palestine with our Jewish and Muslim friends and neighbors. It also stands in the way of allowing the change that is needed for the cause of justice and peace.

This ecumenical conference will seek to inform and encourage dialogue and conversation with our Jewish and Muslim sisters and brothers.

Suggested donation: \$5 - \$20 with light lunch included



HALLOWEEN HOWL!! Party Time!!

Wanna Dance? (or not)

Something for EVERYONE!

Please join us: **Saturday, October 29th 7:00 - 10:30p.m., Guild Hall**

7:00 p.m. Dinner: "Son of a Witch" Stew, Salad corn muffins, dessert.

Donations appreciated - kids eat FREE - Refreshments all evening

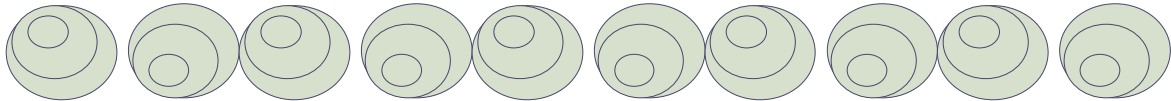
8:00-10:30 p.m. Live Music



Costumes optional!

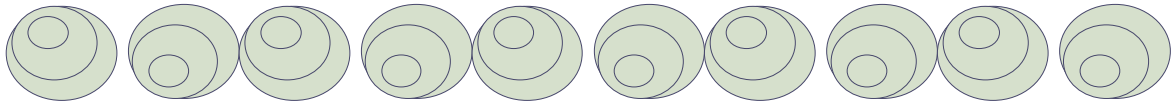
One more reminder - Stewardship Sunday

1st Sunday - November 6th



A big **THANK YOU** to all that helped with this last rummage. We did very well in spite of the rain and an over load of items. Many hands make light work and more money for WVC and the other charities that we give to.

Thank you, Dolores and Crew



Thanksgiving Eve & Pie Night
November 23rd, in the Sanctuary, at 7:30pm

Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us for a wonderful service of "Thanks be to God", followed by the eating of a scrumptious array of pies! Sandy Pugh has also donated 8 large and 3 medium, glass lantern centerpieces for a FREE raffle. After the service, every man, woman, and child will get a FREE raffle ticket when they enter Guild Hall; one winner per family and you must be present to win!!! A sneak preview of the centerpieces will be on display on Sunday, November 6th!

Come and give thanks with us, eat pie with us, and win a centerpiece for your Thanksgiving table too!

(ONE MORE TIME!!)
MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 7 P.M.
DINNER STARTS AT 6:30 P.M.

Our feature film (postponed from last month):



Football coach Harold Jones, befriends Radio, a mentally challenged man who becomes a student at T.L. Hanna High School in Anderson, South Carolina. Their friendship extends over several decades, as Radio transforms from a shy, tormented man into an inspiration to his community.

Starring Ed Harris and Cuba Gooding Jr.

Serving Our Lord

Date	Deacons
November 6	Chet Yee, Jack Riewerts, Nancy Riewerts
November 13	Chet Yee, Mary Soubirous, Ross Soubirous
November 20	Chet Yee, Mark Dickey + 1 volunteer
November 23 Thanksgiving Eve	Chet Yee
November 27	Chet Yee, Jack Riewerts, Nancy Riewerts
Readers	
November 6	Charlyne Gaytan
November 13	Sue Brock
November 20	Barry Willbanks
November 27	Spencer Riewerts
Greeters	
November 6	Charlyne Gaytan + Maynard Nonnemacher
November 13	John Burkmand + Marie Delucchi
November 20	Jim Degnan + Kristy Rice
November 27	Eric Pedersen + Jennifer Lindberg
Sunday Breakfast	
November 6	Vic and Karl Frederick
Communion Assistants	
November 6	Ellen Schillig + Karlene Harvey
November 13	Carolyn Van Cise + Barry Willbanks
November 20	Karlene Harvey + Cindy Murphy
November 27	Jennifer Lindberg + Carolyn Van Cise
Coffee Hour Volunteers	
November 6	tba
November 13	tba
November 20	tba
November 27	tba