



## The Presbytery of San José NEWSLETTER

News of Presbyterians in San Benito, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties Vol 24, No 4  
September, 2004

### From the Interim Executive....

#### CALENDAR

**Saturday, Sept 25th**  
**Meeting of Presbytery**  
**with Mission Fair**  
**Foothill Presbyterian**  
**Church 9:00—1:00**  
(see back page)

**October 1, 2004**  
**All Presbyterian Women**  
**Fall Gathering at**  
**Sunnyvale Presbyterian**  
**9:30a—Noon**

**On World Communion**  
**Sunday, October 3, the**  
**Presbyterian Peacemaking**  
**Program invites you to**  
**reflect on Gods promises**  
**to grant peace in the land**



**(Lev. 26:6) and to walk**  
**among us (v. 12) even as**  
**we are to be God's people**  
**and walk in Gods ways of**  
**peace. Pray that people**  
**will turn from the methods**  
**of war, hatred, and liar to**  
**those of peace.**

The Presbytery Council has been reading the book *Leadership Jazz* by Max De Pree as a catalyst for discussion. This is a book I discovered about 8 years ago. My copy is underlined, starred, and full of comment and exclamation marks. *Leadership Jazz* contains many provocative questions, excellent advice, and suggested qualities of leadership. Since all of you reading this newsletter are leaders in the churches—and perhaps in your community and your work—I want to share some excerpts this month.

Max De Pree says. . . “Any follower has a right to ask many things of a leader. Here are several questions that leaders should expect to hear.

- What may I expect from you?
- Can I achieve my own goals by following you?
- Can I entrust my future to you?
- Have you bothered to prepare yourself for leadership?
- Are you ready to be ruthlessly honest?
- Do you have the self-confidence and trust to let me do my job?
- What do you believe?

The answers to these questions are some of the promises leaders will make.

De Pree continues. . .

These are some questions I ask myself.

- How do I learn best? By reading or listening or through conversation?

- What setting or groups lead to my most productive time? For most people, I think, the best way to learn is to become actually involved in risky work. We need to be given serious work to do, to carry full responsibility and accountability for failure and success. (This I believe, is one reason delegation is such an important part of a leader's job.)
- Am I willing to reserve time on my calendar for reflection?
- In learning to listen, have I thought about improving my ability to practice the art of silence? Do I listen with an intent to learn, to feel, to understand, to see?
- How am I going to nourish the spiritual, the visionary, the musical, the childlike side of my nature? How am I going to minimize the stale, mechanical, quantifiable side of my life?
- Where will I find the discipline to visit museums, to read good literature, to learn about music, to understand architecture, to go on a picnic?

How am I going to learn to deal with the difference between speed and time? It seems to me that speed constantly threatens the legacy of leaders, forcing them to leave in their wake merely the debris of spoiled hopes, defeat, and meaningless acquisition. Somehow quality and substance, like truth, arise from an awareness of time. Leaders

*(Continued on page 2)*

#### OUR VISION

Called by God as a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA) the Presbytery of San José exists to serve and be a resource for the health and growth of the Presbyterian congregations within our four counties.

Our Vision is:

- To support our congregations in reaching out to all people in the name of Jesus Christ;
- To challenge a diverse community to hold fast to the foundations of our faith;
- To build a diverse community unified by the unique gifts of the Holy Spirit for the great work of the church.

We call upon God's grace and help for the fulfillment of this vision.

(Continued from page 1)

replace speed with time, by sitting by the fire, watching the embers, acquiring a rhythm and poise that last a lifetime.

What will give me joy at seventy or eighty? At the end of life, what will I face? Or more important, whom?

Max De Pree, makes some specific suggestions for starting to answer these questions.

- Make a parallel track for responsible work in your life; something that complements your career but also serves others. This helps leaders reach their potential.
- Participate regularly in an intellectual pursuit.
- Learn who and what gives you health.
- Ask yourself frequently, “What truly gives meaning to my life?”
- Good leadership includes teaching and learning, building relationships and influencing people, as opposed to exercising one’s power.
- Some qualities of leadership . . .

**Integrity.** Integrity is the linchpin of leadership. Where integrity is at stake, the leader works publicly. Behavior is the only score that’s kept. Lose integrity, and a leader will suddenly find her/himself in a directionless organization going nowhere.

**Awareness of the human spirit.** In a special way, all the qualities of a good leader stem from this one. Without understanding the cares, yearnings, and struggles of the human spirit, how could anyone presume to lead a group of people across the street? In modern organizational jargon, person skills always precede professional skills.

**Respect for the future, regard for the present, understanding of the past.** Leaders move constantly back and forth between the present and the future. Our perception of each becomes clear and valid if we understand the past. The future requires our humility in the face of all we cannot control. The present requires attention to all the people to whom we are accountable.

The past gives us the opportunity to build on the work of those who came before us. <sup>2</sup>

**Courage in relationships.** Followers expect a leader to face up to tough decisions. When conflict must be resolved, when justice must be defined and carried out, when promises need to be kept, when the organization needs to hear who counts—these are the times when leaders act with ruthless honesty and live up to their covenant with the people they lead.

Max De Pree ends his book with this: “Perhaps one need remember no more than what a friend of mine once said to me, ‘Leaders stand alone, take the heat, bear the pain, tell the truth.’ I am constantly excited by what there is to learn!”

Blessings,

Jane



Since 1989, Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity (HfH) has helped 25 low-income families build and own their homes in Santa Clara County.. HfH is positioned to build up to 10 homes/year going forward in the Valley this year. HfH will need substantial growth in volunteers and funding as we increase our production and, work on multiple sites at the same time.

If you would like information on how you and/or your congregation can get involved in your area contact Silicon Valley HfH at (408) 294-6464, Santa Cruz County HfH at (831) 685-0671, or Monterey County HFH (831) 422-4828.

### PRESBYTERY WELCOMES JANICE AND RICHARD DUNCAN

Rev Richard Duncan’s selection as Co-pastor by Carmel Presbyterian Church was accepted by Presbytery on the sixth of June.

Rick grew up in Santa Barbara, California where his family attended First Presbyterian Church. Throughout high school and college he was involved in ministry at his church, with Young Life and the YMCA. Rick graduated from U. C. San Diego in 1975. Janice and Rick were married in May, 1976 and they have 5 children: Julia (24), Forrest (22), Philip (21), John (9) and Mark (8).



In 1980, Rick graduated with a Masters of Divinity and Janice graduated with a Masters of Christian Education from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. During seminary they served at Covenant Presbyterian church in Jackson, then from 1980 to 1985, Rick was the youth pastor at San Clemente Presbyterian Church in San Clemente, California.

Rick and Janice come to this Presbytery from Brazil, where since 1986, Rick has been serving pastors and leaders in Brazil with O. C. International. He developed a discipleship manual to train Brazilian seminarians, missionaries and pastors. Appointed the Field Director for O. C. International in 1992, Rick was responsible for the missionaries and staff.

In the last ten years Rick was able to visit the states often, preaching at Presbyterian churches in California, Florida, and Mississippi. Presbytery welcomes the Duncans to their new home in Carmel and to His service within our tri-county bounds.

## FROM THE PRESBYTERY MODERATOR

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### “WHAT CAN I DO?”

“I am just one person, what can I do?” I’ve said that to myself many times. My latest “What can I do?” involves the war in Iraq. I feel such concern for the innocent people whose lives are in chaos, especially the women and children. I want to do something for them. Where do I begin? Who would know? Then it occurred to me who would know, Don and Dorothy Metzger, our Mission Advocates. Dorothy was delighted to research opportunities in Iraq and she gave me four possibilities to consider plus current information on the humanitarian situation.



We are blessed in this Presbytery to have the Metzgers as Mission Advocates, Pat Plant as Hunger Action Advocate, and Bill Palmer as Refugee Ministry Advocate.

The Metzgers work with mission committees, sessions and congregations helping to explain, promote and interpret Presbyterian Global missions. Ask them about the Interfaith Listening Project Christian-Muslim Dialogue team who will be visiting our Presbytery from September 23-30.

Pat Plant focuses on education and interpretation, encouraging all of us to learn about a wide variety of programs, resources, and organizations. Ask Pat about “Cents Ability”, the Presbyterian Coffee Project, and “sweat-free” clothing.

Bill Palmer helps our Presbytery to assist in resettlement and advocacy for refugees in conjunction with Catholic Charities. Ask Bill about preparing backpacks for refugees who are arriving in our area..

Our advocates have so much to offer. Please use them. They are eager to share their resources and expertise with you.

What did I decide to do? I decided on a brand-new program called “Hope-in-a-Box.”; <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/help/hopeinabox.htm>. Look it up

What can you do?

Blessings and Peace to you all,

Claudia Hamm

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Published 5 times each year  
for the 44 Presbyterian  
churches located in this four  
county area.

## AIDS HOME BASE CARE KITS ———A Success Story

Presbytery of San Jose Mission Advocates and Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery are celebrating a successful partnership to provide AIDS Home-Based Care Kits to PCUSA partner churches in Africa. Announced at the December, 2003 Presbytery meeting, funding and supplies for ten kits have been received from individuals, congregations, and PW groups. Each kit contains 28 essential items plus a pledge of \$100 to cover training and supplies purchased elsewhere. A standard kit costs about \$300 including shipping fees.

Started in January, 2003, Presbyterian individuals, congregations, National Black Presbyterian Caucus and Presbyterian Women generated over \$150,000 and 700 AIDS Kits in the first 18 months. The program continues in order to meet the 1800 boxes requested by the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) in Malawi.

Go to the PCUSA website: [www.pcusa.org/health/international/aids](http://www.pcusa.org/health/international/aids) to learn about “The Kit” and the program. The Rev. Karla Norton and members of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz are pictured at the dedication of their AIDS Kit. The Mission Advocates and Presbyterian Women thank everyone who has contributed to the AIDS Kit project.



Join us for the Annual

# Mission Fair

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Saturday, September 25, 11 am - 1pm

"A Harvest of Blessings"



## Foothill Presbyterian Church

5301 McKee Rd., San Jose 95127

***PLEASE be sure your Mission Committee and Mission-minded members are encouraged to attend!***

- Regular Presbytery meeting 9 am - 11 am (**Mission Fair and lunch 11 am - 1 pm**)
- Guest speaker **Andrew Kang Bartlett**, Associate for National Hunger Concerns for the Presbyterian Hunger Program in Louisville, KY. will speak about food and faith, hunger and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Prior to coming to the Presbyterian Hunger Program in 2001, he worked with non-profit organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area on human rights, environmental health, people-centered development and social justice issues. Kang Bartlett also lived in Japan and East Asia for five years, three of those as a Presbyterian missionary doing community organizing and civil rights work with Koreans-in-Japan.
- **Delicious lunch** featuring local food, and freshly-harvested produce from local growers (**PLEASE RSVP for lunch** to the Presbytery office **(408) 279-0220** or email **jim@sanjosepby.org** by **Wed., Sept. 22.**)
- The Presbytery Meeting resumes from approximately 1-2 pm, followed by:

### **"Cultivating Understanding: Christian-Muslim Dialogue"**

#### **WHAT:**

*Cultivating Understanding: Christian-Muslim Dialogue* is an opportunity to bring Christians and Muslims together for listening and conversation in our community. The PCUSA's church partners in ten countries are each sending a two-person team to the United States. Every team will include one of their Christian members together with a Muslim to visit congregations, presbyteries, colleges and local communities.

#### **WHEN:**

The team will visit from **Thursday September 23 – Thursday September 30, 2004**

#### **WHO:**

We've been selected to host the team from the Philippines, Rev. Beltran Pacatang and Ms. Zaynab Ampatuan.

#### **WHY:**

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, the need for Presbyterians to engage in interfaith conversation and to seek understanding became critically clear. The Worldwide Ministries Division in partnership with the Peacemaking Program developed the project.

The hope is that as team members interact with each other and with us, we will be helped to explore the complexities of living in our multi-religious world. We may find ways to accept God's call to work together for the well being our communities.

**If you would like to help plan this event, or if you would be interested in the team visiting your congregation, please contact:**

**Don and Dorothy Metzger, Mission Advocates, 408.356.1216, metzger.dondorothy@verizon.net**

**Joey Lee, Associate Executive, 408.279.0220, joey@sanjosepby.org**

**Your PEACEMAKING offering, World Communion Sunday, October 3, may benefit your congregation's peacemaking mission**