

The PASADENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CLARION



Volume 70 Issue 10

June Issue 2011



*in the
City*

Matt Harris Quartet

Saturday, June 11
7:30 p.m.

Friends of Music at PPC ends its 2010–2011 season with our annual jazz concert, featuring the innovative, stimulating sounds of the Matt Harris Quartet with Rob Lockart, saxophone, Domenic Genova, bass, Lee Spath, drums and Matt Harris on piano.

pasadena presbyterian church
585 e. colorado blvd. pasadena, ca

FREE ADMISSION (voluntary offering)

Jazz Night at PPC

Friends of Music at PPC presents its annual celebration of jazz. From the L.A. studio scene to Director of Jazz Studies at California State University, Northridge, Matt Harris is a versatile artist and in-demand clinician whose works are commissioned world-wide and he will appear with his quartet.

FREE ADMISSION — bring your friends!

Music Ministry Sunday

June 12

We will celebrate PPC's extensive music ministry during each worship service on Sunday. It's also Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the birthday of the church. Renée Roederer, Mary Mellema and Bob Thomas will be speaking.

Summer Choir Begins

June 19

Beginning June 19, and continuing through Labor Day, interested singers meet at 9:15 a.m. in the choir room to quickly learn a very easy anthem for use in that morning's service. Come one day, or every Sunday all summer long as your plans permit. This is a great way to "try on" choir singing with no midweek time commitment.

Pasadena Presbyterian Church

585 E. Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, CA 91101

Phone: 626-793-2191 Fax: 626-584-6544

General E-Mail:

general.mailbox@ppc.net

Web Site: www.ppc.net

Office Hours :

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Closed for Lunch Hour Noon - 1 pm

Staff:

Mark K. Smutny, *Pastor/Head of Staff*

Luis Madrigal

Parish Associate for Latino/a Ministries

Hyun Sung

Associate Pastor for Korean Ministries

Art French, *Visitation Minister, Affiliate*

Tai Woan Kim, *Korean Ministries Assistant*

Jonathan Jong Lee, *Korean Ministries*

Assistant

Timothy Howard, *Director of Music &*

Organist

Carol Kaufman, *Operations Manager &*

Assistant to Rev. Smutny

Renée Roederer, *Director of Young Adult*

Ministries

Christine Cox, *Director of English/Latino*

Children & Youth Ministries/Admn Assistant

Diane Hubka, *Finance Administrator*

Carol Peterson, *Bookkeeper*

Adrian Estabrook, *Handbell Choir Director &*

Director of Rainbow Choir

Vena Luthey, *Carol Choir Director*

Margie Madrigal

Children's Outreach Coordinator

Personal Interest Missionaries:

Japan: Ann & Bill Moore

Thailand: Rob Collins & Esther Wakeman

The **Clarion**, PPC's newsletter, is published monthly and can be accessed from PPC's website at www.ppc.net. For members who do not have internet access please call the church office and ask for your Clarion to be mailed to you. A yearly donation of \$15 is asked of non-members.

Submit all newsletter articles no later than the 15th of the prior month to:

E-mail: Anita.Protich@PPC.net

Mail: Clarion Editor

585 E. Colorado Blvd.

Pasadena, CA 91101

A message from Dr. Mark Smutny

Dear Friends,

On May 10, the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area provided the final vote needed to ratify an historic change to the constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The change, known as Amendment 10-A, was set in motion by action of the 2010 General Assembly which met this past summer. It allows for—but does not mandate—the ordination of gay and lesbian Presbyterians. A majority of presbyteries was required to adopt the change. That threshold was reached on May 10. Our presbytery, San Gabriel Presbytery, also voted on the same day. I think all of us were stunned when our presbytery's vote was a tie, 92 to 92. While counted as a no, this was a major shift for what many consider a conservative presbytery.

For thirty-three years the official position of the Presbyterian Church (USA) has explicitly excluded openly gay and lesbian church members from serving as elders, deacons, or ministers. After a third of a century, the church has changed its mind.

Some do not welcome this change, both here at PPC and across the church. Many others rejoice at the news. I am among them, having worked for years to open ordination to all whom God calls, including gay and lesbian Presbyterians. Precisely because we are not of one mind, I am especially pleased with the new wording:

Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life. The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation. Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates.

The language carefully leaves the decision about whom to ordain with local governing bodies, presbyteries and sessions, on a case-by-case basis, as they examine candidates for office. The wording says nothing about a candidate's sexual identity or relationships, unlike previous constitutional language that attempted to close the door to ordination to the church's gay and lesbian members—even if they had served faithfully for many years in other capacities with all the gifts and graces with which they were blessed.

I do not expect major changes in our life at PPC; we already welcome all who seek to serve Christ in our midst, without regard to sexual identity. But the new wording has provoked reaction across the church. The implications of this decision will continue to unfold for months and years ahead. I encourage us to listen respectfully to one another,

(continued on opposite page)

PPC Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 19

11:15 a.m.

In Fellowship Hall

- Hear the reports of the committees, boards and ministries of the church.
- Receive the report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee

A light lunch will be served. Cost is \$6 for adults; \$3 for children \$15 cap per family.

Celebrate the vitality of life at PPC.

Adult Education

Religion and Politics: Continued

The relationship of religion and politics is an issue that never grows old for Americans, including Christians and churches. Many PPC members demonstrated their interest—despite the conflict with Mother’s Day and other church meetings—by attending the classes May 8 and 15 on the history of religion and politics in America.

Four more classes will be offered on this issue in June and July. These sessions will consider it from four different perspectives, each one representing the particular viewpoint of a major group in American religious and public life. The purpose of these sessions is not to advocate for the “right” view. Rather, it is to enrich our understanding of the diversity and complexity of the issue. Class participants will understand better not only the views of their fellow Christians and their fellow Americans, but also their own background and understanding of this issue.

There will be more information in early June on the writers representing the various perspectives. Handouts will be available then also for those who plan to attend the June 12 class. Put June 12 and 26 and July 3 and 10 on your calendar and join other PPC’ers for this timely and enlightening conversation.

(Message from Dr. Mark Smutny cont.)

particularly those with whom we disagree.

Our calling is to welcome all people in the way of Jesus. Let us carry on with that as we offer Sacred Space, grounded in the inclusive love of God.

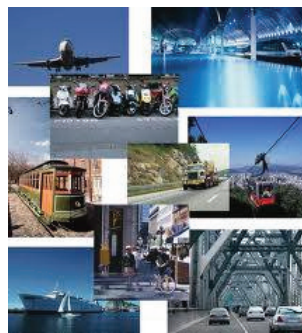
Faithfully yours,
Dr. Mark Smutny

Using the Church Van?

Are you planning on using it in the future for a ministry activity? There are new rules for the usage of the church van now available in the church office.



Transportation!



Planes, trains, and automobiles are just a few ways to travel. Knowing how to get from one place to the other is important. This summer the youth of PPC are going on a trip.

Not just any trip but a transportation trip., We will travel from Pasadena, to San Francisco and Sacramento, then home, using trains, cable cars, buses, boats, subways and planes along the way. During this trip the youth will learn how to navigate in an unfamiliar city by using multiple forms of transportation. To fundraise the youth will be having Bake Sales as well as Rent-A-Youth.

Summer Sunday School

This summer we will be learning about Gratitude, Grace, Compassion, Forgiveness and Faithfulness using parables. Each Sunday will be fun filled with games, crafts, Bible stories, and an exciting snack! You won’t want to miss out! Class will begin Sunday, June 5 at 10:00 am in Parish House 007; this is for children Kindergarten – 5th grades.

Vacation Bible School

Calling all children!
PandaMania is this month!

Come sing, play games, make crafts, hear wonderful Bible stories, sing some more and discover that God is Wild About You!

June 27-July 1, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Be sure to register your child(ren). Registration forms are available in the church office and on the patio Sundays after church.

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii
Summer Conference

Blessed Are You, Rejoice!!!



Joining us

Encuentro Regional

Mujeres Hispanas Latinas Presbiterianas

Regocijate, Estas Bendecida!

Tienes una familia y un llamado con proposito

July 15-17, 2011

Chapman University, Orange, CA

The Reverend Magdalena Garcia , Marta Rodriguez, Moderator
Presbyterian Women Churchwide , Christian Muslim Consultative Group
"Take It to the Congregation" Team

COST: \$225 Full Time (2 nights and 6 meals) \$200 if received by June 10
Rooms are double occupancy; add \$50 for a single room (limited availability)
\$120 Full-time Commuter (with 4 meals)
\$65 One-Day Commuter (with 2 meals)
(Meals for commuters include lunch and dinner)

Registration Deadline: June 30, 2011

Call the church office for complete information



**Take a hike—
in the Arroyo Seco!**

Saturday, June 18

10 a.m.

Grab your sunscreen, water, and comfortable shoes and meet at the end of the cul de sac on Busch Garden Court at 10 a.m. We'll split into groups for an easy hike through the Arroyo with light refreshments at the end.

MUSIC AT NOON

FREE CONCERTS
WEDNESDAYS AT 12:10 PM

June 1

Mark Robson, piano

June 8

Claude Bourbon, guitar

June 15

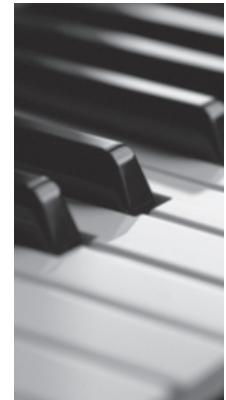
Carl Matthes, piano

June 22

Brian Hanke, piano

June 29

Azzoni Duo
music for violin & piano



Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 2 at 7:30 p.m.
Hollywood Bowl Fireworks Spectacular
with Daryl Hall and John Oates

Patriotic music, pyrotechnics, and picnics. What could be a better way to celebrate Independence Day? Tickets go on sale in June. \$26 per person includes admission and the Bowl Bus.



L.I.F.T!

Living in Faith Together!

Young Adult Ministry at Pasadena Presbyterian Church!



"I have been attending PPC since the age of 4. As a matter of fact, my family's first visit to PPC was the week after President Clinton visited PPC. For the 13 years until Phil and I left for college, PPC has given us the tools to grow in our faith. Many of the people who helped us were young adults. Their energy and love enabled us to connect to the church and learn what it truly means to be living faithfully. Many in the current young adult group have that potential to help children and adults grow in faith. I hope that the members of our congregation meet the young adults and show their support to the efforts we are trying to accomplish and their enthusiasm for the things we have left to do."

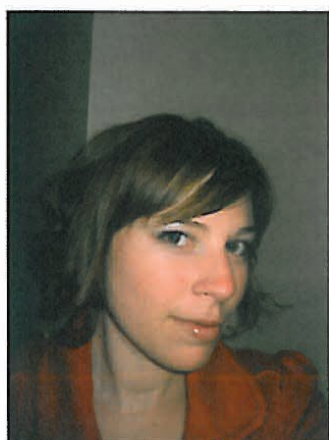
-Allison Burns



"I began attending services at Pasadena Presbyterian Church regularly in 2009 and found a community that appreciates diverse perspectives and attracts a variety of unique individuals. People are at once diplomatic, wise, and willing to laugh at themselves. I am drawn by the irresistible grace and blessing of God reflected in the congregation; a people who strive to model Christ's love with intelligence and humility.

The practice of "community" through my involvement at Pasadena Presbyterian Church has been essential to my growth as a Christian.

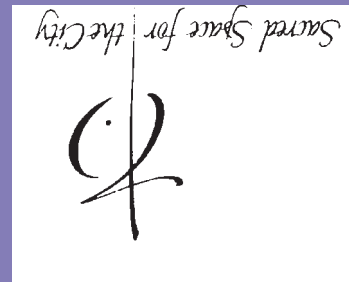
The PPC men's group (on Mondays) allows me to be vulnerable while teaching me confidence. For Young Adults, the activities we facilitate together (Bible Study, Sandwich Symposium, Fund Raising) are reflective, challenging. . . and always fun! Our church's service opportunities help me to 'get into shape' spiritually and to practice other disciplines like prayer and meditation."-Eric Westrope



"I was drawn to Pasadena Presbyterian Church for the music program. When I moved to the greater L.A. area from a small town I felt I had little hope of finding a church that satisfied all my needs: liberal, open and accepting of all people, compassionate members, and most importantly, a choir that sang the classical music I grew up with. A neighbor recommended several churches with good choirs and PPC happened to be the first I attended. I didn't search any further. I wanted to be in a church with these qualities...whether or not it had a young adult community.

However, after being at PPC for almost four years now, I truly believe that a young adult community is a vital part of a church that thrives. I have met people in my age group who care deeply about each other and support each other. There is a special type of bonding that occurs amongst peers in addition to that which occurs between young adults and older

generations in our church. Relationships between all generations have been important to me within the PPC community, but I am particularly grateful that a special kind of talk, laughter, and understanding between those of us in the young adult group. My only hope for PPC is that the young adult community continues to grow and thrive. We are the future of this church." -Adrian Estabrook



Forwarding Service Requested
Pasadena Presbyterian Church
585 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91101

'Oh Happy Day' Festival

On May 1st, PPC's Korean Ministry had a special festival for toddlers and elementary-age children. Over 85 kids and 30 assistants were joyfully jamming and running the entire PPC



gym that day. Crafts, face-painting, balloon art, seven game stations, cotton candy, snack bar and bounce house were provided.



We received such positive and encouraging feedback from the kids and the parents. Some parents suggested to staff to have the same event every Sunday!

Thanks be to God for giving us this great church facility for children, and the opportunity to see their big-heavenly smiles the whole day. Volunteers thank you for your hard work!