

# The PASADENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CLARION



Volume 71 Issue 5

January Issue 2011

Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. (note special time)

## Frances Nobert 75th Birthday Celebration

Join Frances Nobert and friends for a celebratory concert in honor of her 75th birthday! You'll enjoy organ solos played by Dr. Nobert, organ/piano duets by the Haarlem Keyboard Duo (organist Steve Gentile and Dr. Nobert at the piano), choral selections by the Grant High School 1980 Chamber Singers conducted by Dr. Nobert with pianist Paul Baker, plus audience participation and a festive reception afterward. Free Admission - Invite Your Friends!



## Congregational Life takes you to the Pasadena Museum of California Art

It's right across the street from PPC, but the big blocky building remains a mystery to many. If you haven't yet visited the Pasadena Museum of California Art—or if you love the rotating displays and want to catch the latest—come along with **Congregational Life on Sunday, February 12.**

We will have a sandwich lunch after English language adult education, about 12:20 p.m., and then stroll over to the museum. Congregational Life is picking up the tab for the food, beverages, and admission.

The museum is dedicated to promoting the art of Californians from 1850 to the present, and

*(continued on page 3)*



## 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*

Hyun Sung

*Associate Pastor for Korean Ministries*

Art French, *Visitation Minister, Affiliate*

Tai Woan Kim, *Korean Ministries Assistant*

Jonathan Jong Il 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*

### 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](http://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,

As the New Year dawns, I covet your prayers in particular for several of PPC's ministries. The first request is for our Spanish language ministry. Since Luis and Margie Madrigal retired in early November, our Spanish language ministry has not had consistent pastoral leadership. God and faithful church members have stepped forward to continue ministries of worship and music, fellowship and outreach, hunger ministries and Bible studies. Perhaps of greatest importance, the Spanish Language Pastoral Search Committee, chaired by Maria Fernandez-Roche and with members Andrew Gutierrez, Ruby Benitez, and Wes Nam, is working diligently to find new pastoral leadership. Please pray for them.

Secondly, I ask that you keep in your thoughts and prayers the Search Committee for English Language Pastoral Leadership. As of this writing, the committee has reached a decision and will be reporting to the Session at its January 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Members of the committee include Bob Thomas, Chairperson, Allison Burns and Eric Lee. I am thrilled with their work and grateful for their diligence. Stay closely tuned for their announcement.

Thirdly, our Korean language ministry has undergone phenomenal growth the past few years. With rapid growth come growing pains and theological differences about how expansive God's embrace must be. I ask that you pray for the leaders of the Korean ministry at PPC: for pastors, elders, deacons and trustees that they may find wisdom, unity and vision.

Finally, I ask for prayers of thanksgiving for the rich blessings I experience every day of my life as your senior pastor. What I get to do every day in ministry sure beats working for a living. Thank you for the privilege of serving.

Faithfully yours,

Dr. Mark Smutny

(Congregational Life continued from the front page)

was founded by local residents (so local they now live above the museum) Bob and Arlene Oltman.

If you've driven by on the Union side, you've undoubtedly noticed the brightly painted façade and cartoons in the garage. The garage is the work of Pop artist Kenny Scharf and is permanently on display.

The three exhibits that will be displayed in February are quite diverse:

### **L.A. RAW: Abject Expressionism in Los Angeles 1945-1980, from Rico Lebrun to Paul McCarthy**

This exhibit brings together works by 40 artists (including Altadenan Paul McCarthy) in a variety of media – painting, sculpture, photography, and performance, tracing the aesthetic from the late 1940s through the present. PMCA says, “The figurative artists from the 1940s and ‘50s who dominated the Los Angeles art scene of that time have largely been written out of today’s art history.” The exhibit gives these artists historical context and examines the pivotal role they played in post-war American art.

### **Richard Bunkall: A Portrait**

The Pasadena-based artist, who passed away at age 45 of ALS, is known for his distinctive style. The exhibit examines several periods in his career. “Bunkall trained his rich, muted palette and painterly approach on a broad and inventive consideration of the urban environment, one that creates its own compelling reality and draws the viewer into mysterious interiors and lofty exteriors in which improbable things are seen in improbable situations,” PMCA states. We think you have to see it to understand it.

### **Nancy Baker Cahill: Fascinomas (in the Project Room)**

Cahill is inspired by electron microscopy, parasitology, and prehistoric cave paintings. With Fascinomas, she explores “the uncharted territory between physical vulnerability and metaphysical indefinity, where undulating, spectral forms arouse curiosity and wonder at the same time that they impart a visceral feeling of dread.” Installations in the Project Room are interactive, and in this case, visitors are integrated into a large-scale specimen sample which blurs the boundaries between organisms.

So whether you understand art (or the people who write about it) or just “know what you like,” join Congregational Life for a quick bite of lunch and culture.

## For the Record

### *Deaths*

**Rosalie (Ro) Quinn** died December 3, 2011. A member of PPC since 1959, Ro served on Session and was active in the Women’s Association. A memorial service will be held later in January.

**Taylor Potter** died December 6, 2011. Rev. Potter was an architect and retired minister; his work included building churches in Thailand. He and his wife B.J. resided at Monte Vista Grove Homes. A memorial service was held December 29 at Marwick Place.

## Office Volunteers Needed

We are in the need of individuals who can answer phones in the church office on either a regular basis or once in a while. If you are interested in helping, contact Christine Cox in the office.

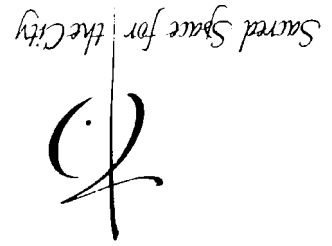
## Can Islam and Christianity Coexist in Today’s World? Beginning January 8

A subject that was not even on the radar before 2000 is absolutely unavoidable today. Recent history has shaken established patterns and given rise to questions about the role of America, and of the Church itself, in the world.

- \* What is the impact of 9/11?
- \* What are the implications of the “Arab Spring”?
- \* What does *Jihad* mean to Muslims? How do Christians understand it?
- \* Is Christian mission to Islam possible today?
- \* What are the barriers to Christian-Muslim understanding?
- \* Are there bridges to relationships between Christians and Muslims?

These are among the issues that will be addressed in an adult education class at PPC in January. Dr. Dudley Woodberry of Fuller Seminary, a lifelong missionary and scholar on Islam, will be here for three Sunday classes on January 8, 15, and 22. More details to come.

Plan to join your fellow PPC’ers for this timely and provocative series. Friends are welcome to attend, too. More information will be available after the holidays, but start 2012 with these dates on your calendar.



*Forwarding Service Requested*

Pasadena Presbyterian Church  
585 E. Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

## Beginning a New Year: Live the Questions!

It's that time again! The calendar has shifted and 2012 has begun. What are your hopes for this year? What are your dreams?

As we've neared these days, we may have associated 2012 as an election year. Or perhaps we've associated 2012 as that strange year where the Mayan Calendar just stops. . . Or on a more personal level, perhaps this is the year where you hope to meet some New Year's resolution. But what else can it be? What else can be dreamed and experienced at Pasadena Presbyterian Church? These are questions we want to ask this year. These are questions we want to live together this year. So as these days of newness begin, let's spend some time in prayer asking these questions: What does God dream for our church, and how are we individually and collectively called into that dream?

So in the coming months, I hope to voice these questions again and again. And beyond voicing such questions, I hope that we can live together in such a way as to make unexpected directions possible.

This year, I especially invite you to be mindful and prayerful of. . .

- . . . opportunities to deepen multicultural relationships within our church
- . . . opportunities to grow young adult communities within our congregation
- . . . opportunities to build strong, intergenerational ministry
- . . . opportunities to invite others into the life of our church
- . . . opportunities to nurture the gifts of newcomers and long-time members

Let's dream together.  
Renee Roederer

