

The PASADENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
**CLARION**



Sacred Space for the City

Volume 69 Issue 1

September Issue 2009

# California Dreamin' Homecoming



**Sunday  
September 20**

**10:00 am Hyper Worship  
11:00 am Epic Picnic**

**Come to the  
pipeline of rad  
fellowship!**



**SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 6  
PANCAKE BRUNCH**

PPC's Men's Group will be the chefs for this brunch immediately after English-language and Spanish-language worship. **This is the initial "table fellowship" meal to be held on the first Sunday each month.** Everyone is encouraged to join in the food and fellowship.

Susan Egan & Georgia Stitt are  
**ALL KNOCKED UP**

**FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11  
7:30 PM**

**"ALL KNOCKED UP"**

**A BENEFIT  
CONCERT FOR PPC**

**See page 4 for  
details**

## 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 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Closed for Lunch Hour Noon - 1 pm

### Staff:

Mark K. Smutny, *Pastor*

Jessica Weinhold, *Director for Education and  
Congregational Fellowship*

Timothy Howard, *Director of Music & Organist*

Luis Madrigal

*Parish Associate for Latino/a Ministries*

Hyun Sung

*Associate Pastor for Korean Ministries*

Art French, *Visitation Minister, Affiliate*

Carol Kaufman, *Operations Manager &*

*Administrative Assistant to Rev. Smutny*

Diane Hubka, *Finance Administrator*

Carol Peterson, *Bookkeeper*

Christine Cox, *Administrative Assistant*

Anita Protich, *Clarion-Headline News Editor/*

*Administrative Assistant*

Adrian Estabrook, *Handbell Choir Director &*

*Co-Director of Rainbow Choir*

Sharon Duenas, *Co-Director of Rainbow Choir*

Vena Luthy, *Carol Choir Director*

Margie Madrigal

*Children's Outreach Coordinator*

Tai Woan Kim, *Korean Ministries Assistant*

### Personal Interest Missionaries:

**Japan:** Ann & Bill Moore

**Thailand:** Rob Collins & Esther Wakeman

**Spain/Portugal:** Bryce & Phyllis Little

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 month to:**

**E-mail:** Anita.Protich@PPC.net

**Mail:** Clarion Editor

585 E. Colorado Blvd.

Pasadena, CA 91101

## A MESSAGE FROM CO-PASTOR DR. MARK K. SMUTNY

Dear Friends,

Your support and promises to hold Barbara and me in prayer touch us beyond words. As a couple we venture into new terrain holding fast to the marriage vows we first shared twenty-eight years ago. For a season, miles will keep us physically apart as Barbara cares for her mother Nancy in Ohio. Nancy brought Barbara into this world to my great benefit and now needs her more than I.

God's pull on Barbara to write is vigorous and we, her readers, await the fruit of her giftedness. Barbara cherishes the memory book given with such love and tenderness and conveys her deep gratitude to you, the congregation of PPC. She will be back in early October for a two-week visit—not a long time from now.

I cannot begin to fill her shoes but I can be myself. I pledge my best and my love for you, my blessed PPC. What a privilege it is to awaken each day eager to serve our Lord and to be in ministry with and among you. I love what I do. Thank you for inviting me into the most sacred dimensions of your lives as your pastor.

We have our challenges. I am thrilled at the ways people are stepping forward with imagination, hard work, marvelous talent and love of PPC as we face our minor financial predicament. What do a benefit concert on September 11, chicken tamales, E-Waste, an uptick in pledges, matching gifts for an elevator, rummage, car washes, and a magical mustard seed have in common? Abundance! Growth! Pitching in! Most of all: faith. Faith to see not what is, but what can be with God's help. May God give the growth.

PPC excites me this fall. We launch first Sunday of every month fellowship meals on September 6. The Men's Group is flipping pancakes and serving up bacon, eggs, syrup, butter and other goodies. All three language ministries are invited. During the meal, we'll have some structured conversation called Table Talk, a way to get to know one another through simple dialogue questions.

September 11 is the benefit concert for PPC's operating budget, organized by Georgia Stitt and Ann Wareham. It should be great fun.

On September 13, during the adult education hour, along with other offerings, we begin Kaleidoscope Bible Study, a method perfected by Eric Law, especially friendly to cross-cultural groups. No expertise in the Bible is needed. Newcomers within the space of fifty minutes feel welcomed and included.

Homecoming on September 20 should be a real kick. The theme is "California Dreamin'." Come home to PPC wearing your loudest beachwear floral. I'm ditching my pinstripe suit but I refuse to wear boarder shorts when preaching. I have some dignity. Be prepared to sing Beach Boy songs-karaoke style-on the patio.

*Continued on the next page*

## ADULT EDUCATION OFFERINGS

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 13

### Kaleidoscope Bible Study

Come together as a fellowship of people to read Scripture, share insights, experiences, hopes, and prayers as Bible passages inspire you. By doing so, we can become a stronger community of people who pray together, help each other with our problems, and reach out to serve others. No familiarity with the Bible is required. Newcomers are especially welcome. Facilitated by Mark Smutny. Meets in South Hall.

### What's Happening in Iran? An Iranian Christian Perspective

Iran is an exceedingly complex nation, a nation of contradictions with a rich heritage often difficult to understand. The recent political turmoil continues to baffle most outsiders. The Reverend Mehdi Abhari will seek to illuminate the current situation including the impact on the Christian minority. Mr. Abhari was ordained in the Presbyterian Church of Iran. After the 1979 Islamic Revolution, he, his wife Tamara, and their children immigrated to the United States. He served as Coordinator of Finance for the Worldwide Ministries Division of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Meets in FH 136.

### September 20 - No classes - Homecoming

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On September 24 and thereafter on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, I invite you to my home for another Bible study, Bible and Brownies, at 7:00 p.m. The brownies are Ghirardelli's. Sin boldly, I say.

Jazz Night is Friday the 25th. Most church activities resume in September and, of course, the ever-present church meetings. Get involved. Join a choir. Join a Bible study. Get involved in a mission project. Feed your soul. Feed others' hungry souls.

I appreciate deeply your concern for me and my workload. My strategy for my own soul care is quite simple: pray, exercise, keep one day of Sabbath per week, delegate, laugh, sing, and give thanks to God at all times and for everything. See you in church.

Faithfully yours,  
Mark Smutny

## PPC CHANGES LIVES STEWARDSHIP 2009/2010



Kickoff event:  
Sunday, September 27 • 5:30 p.m.

Potluck dinner followed by a fun-filled evening, featuring "The Return of the Wig" (Mark Smutny encores his hilarious appearance at Barbara Anderson's retirement dinner).

To say that Stewardship doesn't involve dollars and cents would be disingenuous. But it — and the church — are so much more! So many great, life-changing programs are happening at PPC, including:

- **Rainbow Choir**

Nearly 70 children are expected to be in this multicultural choir for elementary-school children this fall. For many, this is their only exposure to God's love and the only music education they receive. Lives are being changed!

- **God Loves You Food Ministry**

More than 100 families each week receive food baskets from this growing ministry spearheaded by PPC's Latino/a Ministry. Through this ministry, lives are being changed.

- **Mission Ministry**

Each summer PPC members travel to places such as Tijuana and the Gulf Coast to minister in God's name. And what do we hear each year when they return? "My life has been changed."

- **Bible Study Groups**

In all three language ministries, Bible Study groups are growing rapidly. And many of the people who participate in these programs say, "My life has been changed."

These are just a few of many examples. During this year's Stewardship Campaign, we'll focus on stories like these. Prayerfully consider how your pledge helps PPC change lives.

### FOR THE RECORD

#### *Deaths*

**Lois Cole** died August 20, 2009. A retired social worker, she and her husband George (a retired pastor) came to PPC in 1994.

**Margaret (Maggie) Waterman Hebgen** died August 23, 2009. Joining PPC in 1978, Maggie was active in the Kirk Choir for many years, and served PPC as an elder.

**George Woodbury Stimson** died August 30, 2009. A member of PPC since 1935, Mr. Stimson worked as an engineer and served the church as an elder and trustee. He taught Sunday School for several decades. A memorial service will be held at PPC on Saturday, October 3, at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

*Susan Egan &  
Georgia Stitt* are  
**ALL KNOCKED UP**



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  
7:30 PM**

**“ALL KNOCKED UP”**

Following critical acclaim and world tours, PPC member, composer and pianist **GEORGIA STITT** and Tony-nominated Broadway performer **SUSAN EGAN** are pleased to present their concert *All Knocked Up (again)*, at PPC on Friday, September 11.

Tickets are \$12 and profits will be donated back to the church. Join these two talented (and pregnant) ladies for an evening of song, raucous laughter and juicy gossip as they present a unique perspective on pregnancy and family life. Produced by PPC member Ann Wareham.

Tickets are available in the church office or can be purchased at the door.

**34<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PASADENA AREA  
“CROP WALK”**

**Sunday, October 18, 2009 - Save the Date!**

This is a community-wide opportunity to support CHURCH WORLD SERVICE to fight hunger and poverty worldwide and to provide disaster relief to persons in need in our own Pasadena area. Congregations of various faiths, schools, service clubs, concerned groups and individuals will walk together to benefit Church World Service, an organization with which the Presbyterian Church has co-operated for years. We want lots of walkers! Children, teenagers, dogs and cats, parents, individuals – all are welcome! More information coming in the next few weeks, watch for it.



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

**JAZZ NIGHT**

**6:30 P.M.**

featuring

**Brandon Bernstein, jazz guitar  
Putter Smith, upright bass  
Chuck Manning, tenor saxophone  
Tim Pleasant, drums**

Appetizers provided  
Suggested donation **\$7 per person**

# Are You Hungry?

## Fellowship Groups at PPC



### THE SPIRITUALITY OF POETRY AND JOURNALING

**Sunday Morning Breakfast Group - 8:30 A.M.**

**Starting September 27**

The spirituality of poetry and journaling can help us to live deeper, more soul-filled lives. How might we soar with spirit yet go deeper and become more soul-filled at the same time? What better way than through when we craft poetry and/or write in a personal journal? Please join with us to explore these opportunities! 8:30 Sunday Mornings Breakfast Group. Parish House 202. Facilitated by Doug Dailey, Frances Nicholson and Steve Robertson.



### BIBLES AND BAGELS

**AN EARLY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

**Every Other Wednesday - 7:00 A.M.**

**Beginning Sept. 9**

The group is open to men and women who want a chance for Bible study and friendship at the beginning of the day. The purpose of the group is to build in-depth friendships and be transformed as disciples of Jesus Christ. Gamble Lounge

### BIBLE AND BROWNIES

**Second and Fourth Thursdays - 7:00 P.M.**

**Begins September 24**

You are invited to the home of Mark Smutny for freshly-baked Ghirardelli Brownies and Bible Study, beginning Thursday, September 24, 7:00 p.m. Thereafter, we'll meet on 2nd and 4th Thursdays. All are welcome. We'll gather for dessert and refreshments and then explore Scripture, sharing the ways it connects with our lives and gives new insights for our journey of faith. We'll build a community of love, support and prayer. Whether you have studied the Bible your whole life or not at all, you will find this Bible study is for you. RSVP and get directions by emailing Mark at [Revcivic@aol.com](mailto:Revcivic@aol.com) or calling the church office. Shared transportation can be arranged.

### FRIDAY PRAYER

**9:00 A.M. in Parish House 201**

A Friday morning Prayer Group meets weekly to pray for PPC, its ministries, members and friends. Led by Art French.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**WALKING WITH JESUS**

**Second and Fourth Monday Evenings - 7:00 P.M.**

**At the Home of Thea Van Amersfoort**

Walking with Jesus is a Bible Study for women in the church and their friends. The purpose is to build in-depth friendships with other women and be transformed as disciples of Jesus Christ. Where ever we are in our spiritual journeys, small groups connect people to one another and to God.

### MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP

**Monday Nights at 7:00 P.M.**

All men are invited to join the Men's Group that meets Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. for fellowship, discussion, prayer and support. For more information stop by the Information Table on the patio.

**September Schedule:**

Sept.14 - Home of Mark Smutny

Sept. 21 - Home of Jim Petersen

Sept.28 - Home of Andrew Gutierrez



### MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES

PPC offers singing opportunities for everyone from Kindergarten on up. Each week more than one hundred members and friends of the congregation give their time and talents toward beautifying our worship experience and developing concerts to share with the whole community. There is a place for you in this fellowship and ministry!

### KIRK CHOIR (adults)

**Begins Thursday, Sept. 10 - 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

PPC's principal choir sings most Sunday mornings and rehearses every Thursday night. They also perform in some of the Friends of Music concerts.

### VAN ETTEN HANDBELL CHOIR (adults & older youth)

**Begins Thursday, Sept. 10 - 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.**

Adrian Estabrook directs this ensemble which will convene this month for a new year of ringing praise. New members are always welcome!

**RAINBOW CHOIR (grades 2 - 5) - Begins Sunday, Sept. 27**

**CHOIR CHOIR (K - grade 1) - Begins Sunday, Sept. 27**

Rehearsals for both choirs are each Sunday at 11:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### YOUNG ADULTS

Contact Jessica Weinhold for information on events and gatherings. She can be reached through the church office or email Jessica at [Jessica.Weinhold@ppc.net](mailto:Jessica.Weinhold@ppc.net)

### TOTALITY (Ages 40's - 60's)

**Fourth Saturday of Each Month**

**Various Locations**

Bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert to share and a beverage of your choice, plus \$3 per person.

### SECOND FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

**6:00 P.M. IN South Hall**

Women are invited for dinner, fellowship and sharing. Bring a craft (needlework, quilting, knitting, scrapbooking, puzzles) and spend an evening relaxing and getting acquainted.

**FROM TIMOTHY HOWARD  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST**

Fall is often seen as a time of new opportunities: a new school year, new seasons at the theater and the concert hall, renewed college football rivalries. This year it's no different in the PPC Music Department.

I am saddened to announce Nick Preston's resignation as Kirk Choir Tenor Section Leader and Soloist after 6 years of service to PPC. We've watched and listened as Nick's solo voice has developed, and as he's learned to provide leadership in the choir. We wish Nick and Kathleen well as their lives, both professional and geographical, take them further away from PPC, and we look forward to hearing much more from Nick in the future.

As a result of Session's recent decision to transform two of our staff music positions from paid to volunteer status, I regret to announce the departure of Tabitha Henken from PPC. Tabby actually had decided to retire completely more than a year ago, so her year with us has been something of a gift. I am profoundly thankful for the talents and skills Tabby has brought to us this last year with the Van Etten Handbell Choir and the Rainbow Choir. I particularly note the remarkable musical strides made by the children in Rainbow Choir under her leadership.

In very nearly the same breath, I am pleased to announce that Adrian Estabrook and Sharon Dueñas have accepted my invitation to lead the Rainbow Choir. These two women are talented musicians and accomplished music educators who have a gift and passion for working with children. Both of them also are valued members of PPC's Kirk Choir and Pasadena Singers. Adrian comes from a very musical family: her father is a retired music educator and former Minister of Music at Yuba City Presbyterian Church, and her mother is an active musician. Sharon also has an wide-ranging musical background; I have known her for many years, as we were undergrad music majors together.

Adrian also has agreed to direct the Van Etten Handbell Choir, providing leadership to that musical and spiritual small group within our congregation. Adrian has been a bell ringer for many years, and has absorbed much leadership knowledge from her mother, among other things an experienced handbell ensemble director.

Both Adrian and Sharon bring an energetic spirit and an eager attitude; I am confident that both individually and together they'll be tremendous assets to PPC.

Finally, I report that Jenny-Marie Carson is transitioning away from her regular staff position. Jenny has been accompanist for Rainbow Choir rehearsals and assisted me on Thursday nights and Sunday mornings. Jenny has made remarkable progress this year, having been placed in a position that simply assumes excellence as a collaborative artist and a solo performer. You'll still be seeing (and hearing) Jenny play, but on a more irregular basis. I thank Jenny for her faithful service to PPC this last year.

Timothy Howard  
Director of Music and Organist

Presbyterian Women in the  
Synod of Southern California/Hawaii

**FALL GATHERING  
"GOD WILL DO WONDERS AMONG YOU"**

**Saturday, September 19, 2009  
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Plenary Speakers**  
**The Reverend Margarita Reyes**  
Churchwide Gathering Impressions  
**The Reverend Dr. Edie Gause**  
Introducing the Joshua Bible Study

**Workshops**

<i>We Have a Story to Tell</i>	Katharine Reeves
<i>Clergywomen Concerns</i>	Liliana Castaneda-Mejia and Nermine Hanna
<i>Joshua Bible Study in Spanish</i>	Clelia Moke
<i>Joshua Bible Study in Korean</i>	Sim Lee

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

**Registration fee (includes lunch) - \$15**

Please send registration to:  
**Connie Fairbanks**  
**601 California Avenue #306**  
**Santa Monica, CA 90403**

**Deadline: Saturday, September 13, 2009**

Phone: 310-451-4959    Email: [cfairba@msn.com](mailto:cfairba@msn.com)

**IMPORTANT PPC MUSIC DEPARTMENT DATES  
THIS MONTH**

**Thursday, September 10: 6:15pm**  
Handbell Choir rehearsals begin

**Thursday, September 10, 7:30pm**  
Kirk Choir rehearsals begin

**Sunday, September 20**  
Homecoming Sunday: children's choir signups

**Saturday, September 26** — Kirk Choir Retreat

**Sunday, September 27**  
Rainbow Choir and Carol Choir rehearsals begin

# September Calendar



**Monday - 7**  
LABOR DAY - Campus Closed

**Saturday - 19**  
Presbyterian Women of the Synod

**Thursday - 10**  
Handbell Choir begins  
Kirk Choir begins

**Sunday - 20**  
Homecoming

**Friday - 11**  
Benefit Concert

**Friday - 25**  
Jazz Night

**Monday - 14**  
Men's Group  
Women's Bible Study

**Saturday - 26**  
TOTALITY

**Tuesday - 15**  
Session

**Sunday - 27**  
Christian Education Begins  
Children's Choirs Begin  
Stewardship Dinner



**Remember to  
keep up your  
pledge!!**

## Ongoing Activities

### Sunday

Worship in the Sanctuary	10:00 am
Spanish-Language Worship	
Church School for Youth to Adults	11:20 am
Latino Ministries Brunch	11:20 am
Rainbow Choir and Carol Choir	
Korean-language Worship	12:30 pm
Korean Fellowship Meal	1:30 pm
Korean Ministry Trinity Choir	2:00 pm

### Monday

Daily Prayer	5:30 am
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### Tuesday

Daily Prayer	5:30 am
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### Wednesday

Daily Prayer	5:30 am
Music at Noon	12:10 pm
Korean Bible Study	8:00 pm

### Thursday

Daily Prayer	5:30 am
Food Distribution	11:00 pm
Handbell Choir (beginning 9/10)	6:15 pm
Kirk Choir (beginning 9/10)	7:30 pm

### Friday

Daily Prayer	5:30 am
Friday Prayer	9:00 am
Korean Young Adult Fellowship	6:30 pm
Korean Singles	7:00 pm
Korean Praise Service	7:00 pm

### Saturday

Daily Prayer	5:30 am
Korean Leadership Team	6:00 am
J-Tune Praise Band	1:00 pm

### SELF-HELP GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous	Daily 6 am & Sundays 6 pm
Overeaters Anonymous	Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Noon Saturdays 8:30 am
Sexual Recovery Anonymous	Monday & Friday 7 pm
Debtors Anonymous	Fridays 7:30 pm

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*Sacred Space for the City*

## 2009-2010 Friends of Music Season Kick-off Party and Silent Auction

**Saturday, October 10, 2009  
4:00 p.m.**

**At the home of Ned and Dana Newman**

**\$35 per person**

**Live Entertainment  
Festive Appetizers and Beverages**

**FREE CONCERTS  
WEDNESDAYS AT 12:10 PM**

**Sept. 2**  
Midori, violinist

**Sept. 9**  
Michael Sellers, pianist

**Sept. 16**  
Third Wheel  
flute, clarinet & bassoon

**Sept. 23**  
Sean O'Neal, organist

**Sept. 30**  
Azzoni Duo  
violin and piano

Lunch is available following  
the concert for a \$6 donation.

**MUSIC AT NOON**

