



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

CONNECTION connecting all to our vision
A Community Center with a Congregation at Its Heart.

ST. JOHN'S ANNIVERSARY

On March 7, St. John's will be celebrating its 140th anniversary. Come for food and fun after worship. More info on page 3.



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PASTORAL MUSINGS

We heard recently that scientists give us one more minute on the Doomsday Clock – we are now at 6 minutes to midnight, when we destroy ourselves. No longer is this determined by a nuclear arms war, but climate endangerment & biological warfare. That clock was reset to reflect a more “hopeful state of affairs.” The fate of the world is in our hands.

Harold Camping, host of family radio in Oakland, is at it again, predicting the end of the world. “The Rapture and the Day of Judgment” will occur on May 21, 2011. Darn, I’ll miss my birthday on the 28th! God’s countdown is close to liftoff. In theaters these days we are entertained by the film 2012, depicting how global calamity suddenly threatens to destroy the world, as predicted by an ancient Mayan prophecy. Humanity is helpless. Christian and Jewish Zionists urge the establishment of Israel, and the removal of all Palestinians, so that the stage will be set for Armageddon. Zionists believe they can manipulate the timing of Christ’s arrival. Of course these Christians believe that unrepentant Jews will go to hell - in the meantime they cooperate to take the land. The faithful control God’s plans.

We grieve as we see Haiti devastated once again by disaster. The hunger, poverty and extremely poor living conditions exacerbate the trauma from the earthquake. We feel so helpless to turn around their ongoing plight. Like conditions surrounding many places of disaster, this seems to be so preventable. We do make choices to do nothing about the end for many.

Our fascination with our ending affirms our need for justice, or gives us a sense of power, or gives us an excuse to escape from responsibility or gives excuse to be our own gods, and gives us a glimpse at the unexamined life. Do we think we will manipulate the end of the world or do we feel helpless about it crumbling around us? Do we feel worried, fearful or powerless or do we believe that God has given us gifts and abilities to avoid drifting into passivity, and to
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JOYS AND CONCERNS

If you know of anyone in need of pastoral care, please notify a pastor.

Let us remember in our prayers:

Bernice Petty who is recovering in a care facility from a damaged shoulder after falling, since her hip replacement surgery.

ST. JOHN'S
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 PC (USA)
 25 Lake Street
 San Francisco, CA 94118
 (415) 751.1626
 www.stjohnssf.org

**NORMAL
 OFFICE HOURS**
 Mon: appointment only
 Wed: 10am - 5pm

CHURCH LEADERSHIP
Ministers:
 Members of St. John's

Pastors:
 Rev. John Anderson
 janderson@stjohnssf.org

 Rev. Theresa Cho
 tcho@stjohnssf.org

Choral Director:
 Karen Carle Irwin
 kcirwin@stjohnssf.org

Organist:
 Dr. Cyril Deaconoff
 cdeaconoff@stjohnssf.org

*Coordinator of
 Ministries:*
 Susie Moore
 smoore@stjohnssf.org

Parish Associate:
 Deb McGuire
 dmcguire@stjohnssf.org

St. John's Eagle
 is published monthly
 and sent to
 members, friends &
 guests via email or
 snail mail.
 It is also available
 online at
 www.stjohnssf.org.
 Entry deadline -
 the 15th of each
 month.

CELEBRATION connecting all to God's presence

10am Worship Celebration

THE LIGHTHOUSE (CHILDCARE): Each Sunday, 9.45 – 11.30am in the chapel

February

Season of Epiphany

7 Isaiah 6.1-8, (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11

14 Exodus 34.29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2; Luke 9.28-36, (37-43)

Season of Lent

21 Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Psalm 91.1-2, 9-16; Romans 10.8b-13; Luke 4.1-13

28 Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3.17-4.1; Luke 13.31-35

PARKING

Seniors: white zones. Guests only: Dble Prkg on Lake. (Police enforce complaints of blocking cars.) Prkg @ St Anne's - 3rd & Lake until 11.45am in parking lot.

LENT & EASTER WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS

Ash Wednesday, February 17

7 – 8pm Worship of renewal with prayers, song and ashes

Palm Sunday, March 28

10am Holy Week Pageant

Good Friday, April 2

7pm Worship of Reflection & Music

Easter Sunday, April 4

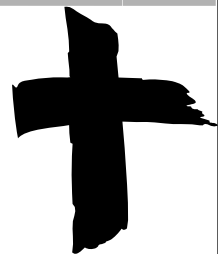
7am Worship at Crissy Field Picnic Tables

10am Worship with Trumpets

Easter Egg Hunt following 10am worship

THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent is 40 days (not counting the six Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. It is a time of preparation for Easter – the most important festival of the church year. The English word "Lent" is derived from the word "lengthen" because, in the northern hemisphere, where the season as we know it today developed its present character, Lent occurs at the time of year when the days are lengthening after the short, dark days of winter. The color used throughout Lent is purple, indicating a time of repentance.



OPEN ANTHEM SUNDAY

Is this you?

- I like to sing in the shower
- I've thought about singing in a choir
- I don't read music
- I can't be in church every week

If so, we have a deal for you. We call it "Open Anthem Sunday." On the first Sunday every month we'll pick a fun, easy anthem, give you the music in advance, and provide you with an online lesson on our Web site. All you have to do is send me an e-mail at (kcirwin@stjohnssf.org) or talk to me after Sunday service and I'll send you the link and that'll be that no pressure, no pain, no long-term commitments.

COMMUNITY connecting each to one another

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

Men's Group - Meet first Saturday of every month at 8:00am at Lucky Penny (Geary & Masonic). Info: John Lenox, 752-1365.

Faith on Tap - Meet at The Bitter End pub (441 Clement St. b/w 5th & 6th Ave), February, Wed., 6.30-7.30pm. Faith not required, just a curiosity to explore. See pastor John for info.

Gospel Bites - Let's together chew on the images of St. John at the Bitter End pub (441 Clement, @ 5th & 6th) February 3 (1st Wednesdays), 6.30-7.30pm. See pastor John or just show up.

AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH

St. John's Library Collection On Website — St. John's library is on the web! Check out a list of our collection. Feel free to check out books any time.

Desire Prayer? — If you are interested in leading the prayer chain, please contact Evelyn Ho, eyho@usfca.edu or 422.0662.

ST. JOHN'S 140th ANNIVERSARY

St. John's will celebrate its 140th anniversary on **March 7**. Although St. John's has been in the Richmond District for 100 years, it has been in existence for 140 years, moving three times. The first location was originally St. James Episcopal Church at Post St. near Mason. It was built in 1866. In 1870, St. John's purchased the building for \$45,000 and began worshipping there on March 6, 1870. In 1888, St. John's moved to its second location on California & Octavia and finally landing in its present location in 1906. **Join us on March 7 as we celebrate our church's birthday after worship with food and fun.**



ST. JOHN'S LEADERSHIP

ELDERS

are responsible for the overall function & mission of the church.

Lisa Bazinet
 Brian Co
 Steve Heminger
 Evelyn Ho
 Kim Kwok
 Fiona Ma
 Jesse Medlen
 Carol Ogilvie
 Doug Olds
 Mark Palmer
 Anne Warren

DEACONS

are responsible for the individual needs of the congregation.

Jackie Autry
 Susanne Dunnigan
 Rick Harris
 Matt Reno
 Suzanne Reno
 May Lyn Tam
 Dale Walker
 Andy Woodard

Meetings are usually the 4th Monday of every month, 7-9pm.

KNITTERS & THE WORD

Beginning February 2, every Tuesday, 7-8.30pm, knit and study the Scripture. Experienced and knitting novices are welcome to join. See Deb McGuire (dmcguire@stjohnssf.org) for more information.



ST. JOHN'S EVENTS 2009/10

February

5-7 Annual Lake Tahoe Snow Trip
17 Ash Wednesday

March

7 St. John's 139th Anniversary
14 Daylight Savings Begins
28 Holy Week Pageant

April

2 Good Friday
4 Easter, 7am (Crissy Field) & 10am
11 All-Family Worship

May

9 Mother's Day
23 Pentecost

June

13 New Officer Ordination/Installation
Sunday School ends
20 Father's Day

July

18 AIDS Walk

September

5 Sunday School Begins

October

3 World Communion Sunday
17 All Church Picnic

November

7 Daylight Savings ends
27 Saturday, Greening of the Church

December

19 All-Church Christmas Pageant
Tenderloin Caroling
24 Christmas Eve Worship, 4.30p & 7p

January

30 Commitment Sunday



February 25, 7pm, come for food and conversation at Las Ramblas (Spanish) @ 557 Valencia (b/w 16th & 17th). Contact pastor Theresa for more information, to suggest a restaurant, to get on the email list, and to RSVP so that we can make a reservation.

MARCH 25 — Il Fornaio (Italian)

APRIL 22 — Mai's Authentic Vietnamese

MAY 27 — Pagan (Burmese)

JUNE 24 — Elite Cafe (Southern)

For a list of more restaurants and information, go to www.stjohnssf.org/alphabet_diners.com.



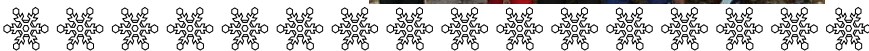
ANNUAL SNOW RETREAT

Feb 5-7 — Come for this wonderful time of reflection, restoration and fun at the Zephyr Point Presbyterian conference Center, Lake Tahoe's South Shore. We spend time worshipping, playing games, and enjoying each other's company. Cost depends on family make-up.

Room rates for 2-4 days - \$81/night (1-2 persons); \$103/night (3-4 per room); \$10 each per night in parent's room (children 3-9 yrs old).

5 Meals (Sun breakfast - Sun lunch) - 51.50/person (10 yrs-adult); \$35 (3-9 yrs).

For more info: contact Leslie Bacho, lbacho@sffb.org, or go to www.zephyrpoint.org.





The A.R.K. (All Remarkable Kids) Sunday School will be having a bake sale for our Harvest program.

February 21 & 28 after worship.
Suggested donation per baked good: \$1.25
(\$1.25 feeds a family for a week)

Contact pastor Theresa to participate or for more information.

COMMITMENT connecting all to one's faith



We accept online contributions in an easy, secure way: St. John's uses eGive for secure electronic giving. Click on the eGive button on our website to sign up. You may give a one-time gift to or set up regular recurring commitments to be automatically drafted from your checking account.

You can also set up a draft to contribute weekly, bi-weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, or in any fashion you desire. This method is safe, secure and you won't have to worry about writing a check each week or mailing an offering when you are away. You can use this online giving method to tithe, give to missions, or give towards any other purposes you specify. **Don't forget to fill out a commitment card.** You may download a commitment card at www.stjohnssf.org.

ST. JOHN'S COMMITMENT

In January, we had an opportunity in worship to reflect on our commitment to God, each other, and St. John's. We also heard ways that we can live out our commitment and continue God's work. Three ways that St. John's is committed to God's vision is through mission, music, and our kids. Below is a description of these three areas. You can go to www.stjohnssf.org to learn more about ways to get involved.

MISSION AT ST. JOHN'S

Philosophy St. John's strives to give 10% of the operating budget to organizations that coincide with St. John's vision goals and are important interests of our congregation members and guests. We believe that mission is actively participating in our community in order to show and share God's compassion and love.

MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S

Philosophy St. John's believes that music is a vital way to enrich the lives of our faith family. Music can be a vehicle of expression of one's devotion to God as well as a way to and find a connection with Christ. All music, from a simple hymn to a great masterwork, is a collective endeavor, experienced by both the listeners and the performers. Actively engaging in music brings the entire church family closer to each other and closer to God.

KIDS AT ST. JOHN'S

Philosophy St. John's believes that children are important in a faith community. They teach adults how to be open to the Spirit, to be present, and to claim a child-like faith and curiosity. They also remind us that we have a responsibility to nurture our children with a sense of community and acceptance that helps them develop their identity with the people of God and as a person of God.

MUSINGS con't

work out in love and equity what God desires for all? Do we simply wait for whatever clock to tick until our time comes, or do we act, knowing that all things lie in God's power, and we are God's co-workers, celebrating life and promise and hope?

We may not determine our end any more than we determined our beginning but we are wise and humble enough to believe that we are nothing apart from God's story and that that story is not complete without us, no matter when our beginning was and our ending is. We have been given an eternal context!

Real peace in the New Year!

Peace, John

COMPASSION connecting all to service

CARBON NEUTRAL by Elder Doug Olds

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS NOW CARBON NEUTRAL. St. John's emitted about 11 metric tons of solid carbon (40,100 kg of CO₂ gas) from its operations in 2008. This amount of carbon (31.6 cubic meters) in the form of solid charcoal would fill about 1/5 of a boxcar and this amount of gas would fill 34 single-person hot air balloons. Put another way, St. John's operations makes up about 4.7% of the average member's yearly carbon footprint.

Because of its neighborhood membership, many of whom walk to church, St. John's has a low carbon footprint due to gasoline consumption. 22.1% of its carbon footprint is from gasoline-driven travel. St. John's had no jet-fueled mission trips in 2008, a significant source of carbon emissions for churches whose mission trips involve long-distance travel.

In addition to the proportion of footprint derived from gasoline, natural gas in the form of heating the church plant emitted the highest proportion of carbon, 34.2%. Electricity consisted of 18.6% of the total emissions of carbon, while water was a negligible source of emissions, 0.7%. Indirect emissions in the form of furniture, paper, mining, chemicals, equipment and outside services were estimated by this study to be 24.4% of total emissions.

Carbon offsets are available in a range of \$30-100 per ton, and at the midpoint price of \$65, in order to make itself a carbon neutral institution. St. John's purchased \$800 of carbon offsets in the form of planting trees on and around Mount Kilimanjaro. By this, the church became a "carbon neutral institution" per recent PC(USA) General Assembly initiatives.

St. John's going forward will engage in

- annual carbon audits
- purchases of carbon offsets
- moving toward conservation and investment in heating-efficient materials and technologies
- positive environmental messages in its worship and community-outreach programs
- local rather than jet-fueled mission (i.e. Harvest)

Should any church member desire a copy of the spreadsheet that details data and research and quantification methods, contact Doug Olds, Elder at douglasolds@sbcglobal.net.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

SF Food Bank — Bring non-perishable food for S.F. Food Bank barrel.

Hayes Convalescent Home — Share with residents in worship, 2-2.45pm, 1250 Hayes St., each 3rd Sunday of month. For information: David Miller, 673-4810.

Harvest — Saturdays, 7.30-10am pass out groceries here to our hungry neighbors. Info: John Templeton at blackmoneyww@gmail.com. Each week, 15 volunteers are needed.

ST. JOHN'S CINEMA

FREE, EVERY FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7PM

King Corn — February 4, 2010

In Aaron Woolf's thought-provoking documentary, friends Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis move back to America's Corn Belt to plant an acre of the nation's most-grown and most-subsidized grain and follow their crop into the U.S. food supply. What they learn about genetically modified seeds, powerful herbicides and the realities of modern farming calls into question government subsidies, the fast-food lifestyle and the quality of what we eat.

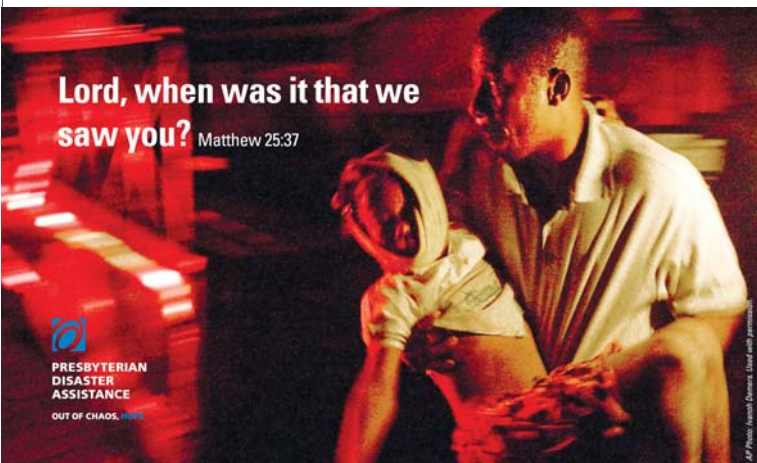


Upcoming Movies For descriptions of upcoming movies, go to www.stjohnssf.org.

March 4	Pete Seeger: The Power of Song	April 1	Death in Gaza
May 6	Young @ Heart	June 3	Food, Inc.

The films we choose for St. John's Cinema are intended to give our neighborhood insight or inspiration, maybe education, or perhaps just some joy. We hope the shared adventure of viewing these films will foster discussion and a new perspective. The views or opinions that may be expressed in these films are not necessarily those of St. John's or its members. We encourage participants to form their own opinions.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE



The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is responding in Haiti. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has already sent funds and is working in cooperation with our ecumenical partners on the ground to provide emergency food, water, shelter and medical supplies. Please pray for those affected and give to the ongoing relief through PDA account number DR000064.

Gifts can also be made by phone at (800) 872-3283, and checks can be mailed to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

Presbyterians respond to the earthquake
GIVE, ACT, PRAY www.pcusa.org/pda

St. John's is all about connection — to God, our faith, each other, our world, and our vision. Being connected is vital to the life of St. John's because when we feel connected, we feel empowered to participate in the life and call of St. John's. The 5 C's of Connection — Celebration, Commitment, Community, Compassion, and Connection represent the different areas we connect in church. They are not isolated, but interconnected.

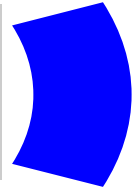
COMPASSION
connecting all to
service



CELEBRATION
connecting all to God's
presence



CONNECTION
connecting all to our vision
A community center with a congregation at its heart.



COMMUNITY
connecting each to
one another



COMMITMENT
connecting all to
one's faith

VISION CLASSES

Call pastor John by 10am the day of the class to reserve your space. If you cannot attend one of the dates mentioned, call one of the pastors to set up your own convenient time. Childcare is provided upon request.

Commitment Class - Come explore what it means to take a 1st step in a journey of commitment to Christ & consider making St. John's your spiritual home, being a committed part of it, indicate your interest on the clipboard or call/email a pastor & we'll let you know about an upcoming class.

Community Class - Once we have committed ourselves to Christ, we discover what it means to live out our faith in the church, the body of Christ, what we call "Community." This class (taken after Commitment Class & joining the church) will assist you in making commitments to growth through study, prayer, giving and fellowship. Next class: Monday, **Feb 1** from 6.30-7.30 pm in the Library. This class is offered 3 times a year.

Compassion Class - This class (taken after Community Class) shows how to discover the gifts God has given you and begin to imagine ways to express your unique, spiritual gifts. Next class: Monday, **March 1** from 7-8 pm in the Library. This class is offered 3 times a year.

St. John's Presbyterian Church
25 Lake Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

