



From the Pastor

Happy New Year!

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
Isaiah 43:18-19

As we begin a new year, it's always appropriate to look back over the past year, celebrating our accomplishments, learning from things that have not gone as well as we'd hoped, and making plans for whatever is being carried forward into the future.

So first, pat yourselves on the back and give yourselves a hand! In addition to offering weekly worship and providing important ministry inside and beyond our church walls, you participated in examining your past and present and then dreaming about your future, you prepared a mission and ministry study report from those, you evaluated your new yoking relationship with Pacific Presbyterian and committed yourselves to moving it forward into the future, you elected a Yoked Designated Pastor Nominating Committee who then wrote your pastor search documents, and as the new year begins, your new pastor search also begins in earnest. Congratulations on all that you've accomplished this past year of serving together!

And through them all God has been beside us, making "a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" of this transitional ministry time.

Now as we look ahead to 2019, we know that there is more transition coming. At some point I will transition from serving with you as your pastor, and at some point you will be joyfully welcoming into your church family a new pastor to serve with you in your mission and ministry. These have been the ultimate goals of our transitional ministry journey together and I invite you to join with me in hopefully anticipating all that God will be doing with and through you and this church family in this new year.

For God will continue making "a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" with you, lovingly watering and nurturing your faith, your calling, and your mission and ministry in this community and beyond.

See you in worship, at the Welcoming Table dinners, and around the church, as we continue serving together during this time of ministry transition!

Shalom in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Marilyn

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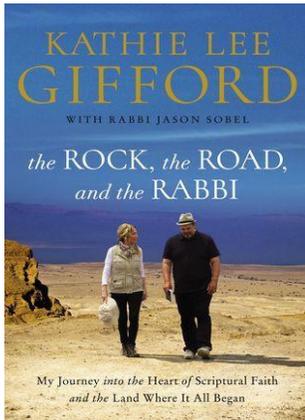


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Joint Evening Bible Study Beginning in January



Join Lisa Schoonover in a study of The Rock (Jesus), The Road (The Holy Land), and the Rabbi (The Word of God). This is a book written by Kathie Lee Gifford along with Rabbi Jason Sobel. The book was just released earlier this year. This is an amazing study and Lisa is looking forward to learning more with you.

Join us on this journey beginning on Monday, January 21, 2019 for 6 weeks. (Depending on the weather, it may go a week or so longer.) We will meet from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. each Monday evening. Time will be split between the two churches (3 weeks at Union and 3 weeks at Pacific) and more specific details will be forthcoming. Be prepared to be amazed at what you will learn! The required study guide costs \$8.75 but there is an optional hardback book (which has invaluable information) available for \$16.25. Please sign up by January 7 because books will be ordered that week to ensure they are to us by the start of our study.

Worshiping and serving God, loving and accepting all



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Presbyterian Women

The next meeting is January 25, hostess is Jackie Jany/Marie Wolf. Bible study led by Carol Gruber.

SAVE THE DATE:

WEST CLUSTER WINTER GATHERING

First Presbyterian Church of Sullivan
(285 East Springfield Road, (573) 468-6364)

Friday, March 8, 2019

9:30 to 10:00 a.m. Registration – coffee and pastries

Registration fee of \$10 will include lunch. More information to follow

Sunday Morning Worship for January

January 6 – Epiphany of the Lord – Communion – “Journeying into the Unknown” from Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 – Baptism of the Lord – Congregational Reaffirmation of Baptism – Guest Preacher the Rev. Carol DeVaughan – “You Are Mine” from Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany/Race Relations Sunday – “Embracing Our Diversity” from 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

January 27 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany – “Going Forth with Power for Ministry” from Luke 4:14-21



Fellowship List for January

- Jan 6 Karen Calvin,
Violet Lansford
- Jan 13 Carole & Dutch
Hutchinson
- Jan 20 Dorothy Clarkson,
Jackie Jany
- Jan 27 Laura & Mike Hill

Usher List for January

- Jan 6 Jim & Betty Mechem
- Jan 13 Karen Calvin,
Laura Hill
- Jan 20 Erik Bugl, Mike Hill
- Jan 27 Bonnie Woodruff,
Barbara Vancil

If you are not able to fulfill your assigned Sunday, please ask another member to take your place and let the secretary know of the change. Thank you

Called Congregation Meeting Sunday, January 20

The Session has called a congregation meeting following worship Sunday, January 20, 2019 for the purpose of recommending and voting upon changes to the By-Laws. Mark-up copies showing the proposed changes will be available for review prior to the meeting.

Thank You!

Thank you very much First Presbyterian Church family for the beautiful card, cash gift and amaryllis bulb! Thank you to those who remembered me individually for Christmas as well. I'm thrilled with the lovely ways you remembered me this Christmas!

Pastor Marilyn

Thank you for the beautiful card and gift card that will allow my husband and me to get something tasty. This was totally unexpected but greatly appreciated. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Lisa Schoonover

Save the Date

Martin Luther King, Jr Celebration

Sunday, January 20, 2019 at the East Central College Theater 3 p.m. with refreshments after the program. Missouri Representatives Nate Tate and Bruce Franks will speak. Church Women United will present Human Rights Award

Justice is Served CASA Fundraising Breakfast

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2016 @ 8:30 a.m. Jesuit Hall, St. Francis Borgia Church, 310 W. Main St., Washington Breakfast prepared by Café Mosaic and served by our local JUDGES. \$30/individual; \$250/table sponsor

Myron & Carol Gruber ushers for the Christmas Eve service.



Training to Be a Certified Pastor Coach

Pastor Marilyn will be on study leave January 12-18 at Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia toward becoming a Certified Pastor Coach. This program is instead of the one she had planned to do this past fall. She has received a scholarship for a portion of the tuition cost from the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation in exchange for accepting pastor clients for coaching within the Foundations 13-state midwestern region, which includes Missouri.

After this one week of taking classes at the seminary, she will then have monthly webinars and practice coaching for the next eight months.

Guest Preacher, Sunday January 13

Our guest preacher Sunday, January 13 will be the Rev. Carol DeVaughan. Carol has filled our pulpit from time to time in the past, and we are delighted to welcome her back while Pastor Marilyn is on study leave in Georgia.

January 2019

First Presbyterian Church, Union

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 The Welcoming Table canceled on this day	2	3 Second Blessings Pantry Day 1:30pm-3:30pm	4	5
6	7	8 The Welcoming Table - Zion UCC Serving 6:00 PM	9	10 Second Blessings Pantry Day 1:30pm-3:30pm	11	12
13 Guest Preacher Rev. Carol DeVaughan	14	15 The Welcoming Table - Second Blessings Serving 6:00PM	16	17 Second Blessings Pantry Day 1:30pm-3:30pm	18	19
20 Congregational Meeting after worship Martin Luther King Jr Celebration @ ECC 3pm	21 Book Study @ 6:30pm	22 The Welcoming Table - First Presbyterian Serving 6:00PM	23 Session Meeting 7:00 pm	24 Second Blessings Pantry Day 1:30pm-3:30pm	25 Presbyterian Women meeting.	26 CASA Breakfast fundraiser, 8:30 am @ Jesuit Hall, St. Francis Borgia
27	28 Book Study @ 6:30pm	29 The Welcoming Table - Kiwanis club Serving 6:00PM	30	31 Second Blessings Pantry Day 1:30pm-3:30pm		