



# Presbyts

September 2010

Celebrating Our Presbyterian Heritage  
*We Are A Biblically Based Church*

**First Presbyterian  
Church  
Of Inglewood**

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The Rev. Dr. Harold E. Kidd,  
Pastor

**MISSION STATEMENT**

First Presbyterian Church of Inglewood is a multicultural congregation committed to exalt God through the celebration of **Worship**, to share God's Good News through **Evangelism**, to nurture our members in an atmosphere of contagious **Fellowship**, to transform lives through **Spiritual Growth opportunities**, and to equip members for servant **Ministry** to people in our community and world which bears witness to the Redeeming love of Jesus Christ to the glory of God.

Dear Friends,

As our congregation continues to celebrate its 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as well as live through the 'growing pains' of change, with newer persons and families entering into the fellowship of FPCI, and experiencing the loss of members who have made their transition to go home to be with the Lord, it might be good for us to take some time over the next several months to review our Presbyterian heritage in the larger scope of our history, beliefs, structure, constitution, mission and ministry.

The roots of Presbyterianism are in the Bible. The name of our denomination comes from the Greek word *presbuteros*, translated elder. It points back in the old Testament to the elders selected by the tribes of Israel as their leaders. (1 Kings 8: 1 – 3; Exodus 18: 10 - 27; Deuteronomy 27: 1 - 8) In the New Testament Church it is used to describe the overseers of a local congregation (Acts 14:21 - 23;

Acts 20:17 - 28; Titus 1:5) So our origins of who we are and how we choose to live out our witness for Christ are based in Scripture.

A Presbyterian church is a church governed by elders elected by the congregation and linked with other Presbyterian churches (*Presbytery*). The *Session*, is the governing body in the local Presbyterian congregation consisting of the pastor or pastors and elders elected by the congregation. In our system neither the pastor nor elders have sole authority, but together we are called to provide spiritual and administrative leadership to the local congregation.

In the Roman Catholic church all authority is under the pope and its hierarchy of church officials. In the Methodist, Episcopal and Lutheran churches, authority centers in the Bishop, Conference and Council. In some Baptist and Pentecostal denominations the pastor or bishop has near

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absolute authority. But not so for us, we share in the responsibilities of leadership.

In the Presbyterian church authority rests in the *Session* within the local congregation, within the *Presbytery* for a geographical area, within the *Synod* for a larger geographical region, and within the *General Assembly* for the entire denomination. FPCI is a member of Pacific Presbytery which is a member of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii, which is part of the Presbyterian Church USA. Pastors and elders serve together at each of these levels as elected commissioners, in making decisions related to the ministry and mission of the church.

So as you can see, we really are a church family, a connectional church having many members, yet one body! Stay tuned as we will review many important aspects of our rich heritage in future editions of the Presbyts.

In His Service,  
Pastor Kidd

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## NBPC SUMMER CAMP

Our congregation sent three youth, **Jimmy Hale**, 11 and **Derek Wells** and **Dayzia Williams**, 9 to the National Black Presbyterian Caucus of Southern California Church Camp August 8 -14 at Rancho La Scherpa north of Santa Barbara near Goleta. Two

buses transported the leaders and youth, ages 9 to 18. They were divided into family groups and spent the day in activities beginning and ending with worship. The purpose and vision of the camp was to lead young people into a full relationship with Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. What follows is an account given by Jimmy Hale and Derek Wells.

“We went to church camp for a week. We played baseball, kickball, archery and paint ball. We went down a rope. It’s called zip line. It’s scary. We went high.

We learned about God. We prayed. God takes all the bad things back. He forgives us. We had game time. We had “flat on bunks” (rest). We had arts and crafts. We saw a tarantula, lizards, frogs, snakes and lots of deer. We performed in a concert. Jimmy was in a talent show.

Thank you for sending us to church camp. It was far away. It took two hours to get there by bus. On the way home we watched a movie about Jonah and the Whale.”

## Vacation Bible School

Thank you to everyone who made our **2010 Vacation Bible School** a success. The theme was **The Miraculous Power of Jesus Christ who gives us the POWER to be thankful, help others, be brave, live forever through Him and tell others about God!!!** The curriculum was provided by **World Vision**. Over the five

days an average of 24 children and 30 adults attended. A delicious free meal started each evening prepared by cooks, **Annie Burns, Ruth Wessels, Janie Cuffe, Men’s Fellowship** and kitchen helpers, **Maxine Wynne, Marsha Carr, June Jacobson, Amaya Maxwell and Jay Stabler**. Multi-talented, **Geneva Crawford** led the opening activities each evening and the Friday evening culmination presentations with “thank you” extended from the youth to all the adults. **Ruth Hiersemann** was the Bible Story Teller. Technology was handled by our friend, **Vishal “Vish” Chauhan**, who also photographed the kids according to a script and put together an audio-visual show telling The Parable of the Ten Lepers. **Laura, David, and Ka Shaunda Ballomy and Monique Evans** led arts and crafts. **Mimi Mesfin** helped with games. Registrars, **Yvonne Brown and Helen Bardwell** kept detailed information on everyone. Adult Bible Study was ably led by **Gretchen Morris and Pastor Terdema Ussery**. **Sister Lynn** of Hope Chapel runs a ministry for homeless youth and again this year she brought many of the children into our program. We gave away shoes from World Vision and donated books. Jay led our Mission Project this year, making sandwiches for the homeless. We gave over 350 to **St. Margaret’s Center** and 150 to **The Salvation Army** and 60 to **Sister Lynne**.

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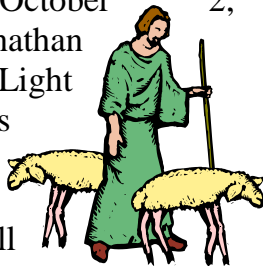
**Jean Ussery, Jolene Swain and Ruth Hiersemann**

were co-directors and thank all who attended, the regular volunteers, new helpers and anyone who helped in any way, with our "wish list", monetary donations, materials, etc. You helped us stay well within the budget, have an exciting week and praised God mightily.



**ATTENTION SHEPHERDS!!!!!!**

There will be a training session for the Shepherd Ministry at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 2, 2010 in Jonathan Lounge. Light refreshments will be provided and we will have you on your way home before noon.



If you are currently a Shepherd, or if you think you might like to become a Shepherd, please call the church office no later than close of business Wednesday, September 29, 2010 to let us know if you will be attending or not, so we will know how many to plan to accommodate.

Thank you!  
Janie Cuffe

**Doing God's Will By Doing Service To Our Fellow Human Beings**

God blesses all of us with gifts and skills to perform his service, even when we are unaware or unsure of those gifts and skills. Bob Boone heard a wonderful talk on service given by Elder Mark Jones of Westminster Presbyterian Church at a training session a few years ago. Mark gave Bob permission to repeat part of it in his "The Open Table" sermon on August 29, 2010. The next time you feel like God can't use you simply take a look at a few of the distinguished characters God chose to carry out God's will ~ God's plan for us

- Noah was a drunk
- Abraham was too old
- Isaac was a daydreamer
- Jacob was a liar
- Leah was ugly
- Joseph was abused
- Moses had a stuttering problem
- Gideon was afraid
- Samson had long hair and was a womanizer
- Rahab was a prostitute
- Jeremiah and Timothy were too young
- David had an affair and was a murderer
- Elijah was suicidal
- Isaiah preached naked
- Jonah ran from God
- Naomi was a widow
- Job went bankrupt

- John the Baptist ate bugs
- Peter denied Christ
- The Disciples fell asleep while praying
- Martha worried about everything
- The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once
- Zaccheus was too small
- Paul was too religious
- Timothy had an ulcer . . . and
- Lazarus was dead!

You see, it doesn't matter who you are, what you've done, or what you think you know, God calls whomever God will call to His service including you and me!

Ask around, there are many opportunities for service at First Presbyterian Church of Inglewood. Approach the Pastor, the Session, the Deacons, Presbyterian Women, or Men's Fellowship, to name a few, for service opportunities.



**Reminder!**  
**2010 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE**

September 17-18, 2010  
 At St. Paul's Presbyterian Church  
 5100 Coliseum St. Los Angeles, CA 90016

## THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FPCI PICNIC

Was held on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Queen Park. It was a festive affair that seemed to be enjoyed by those young, old, and everywhere in between. More than 170 people relished the barbequed meats, side dishes, and desserts. The picnic seems to grow, and be better organized each year. Although the picnic is sponsored by the Men's Fellowship its continuing success is due to the efforts of the entire church community. Special thanks should be given to all who worked at shopping, food preparation, cooking, transportation, set-up, serving, leading games, and clean-up duties.

The service that Sunday was also a special event. The Young Adult Choir sang. Reverend Eric Riley gave an inspirational sermon. He talked of growing up in our church and what the church family of FPCI meant to him. He stressed that the church could not have lasted 120 years without the grace of God and the efforts of the members.



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF INGLEWOOD

Presents

### Mario Feninger

*Piano*

*"88 years at the 88s"*

**SUNDAY, October 17, 2010  
3:00 P.M.**

Octogenarian Feninger, an outstanding recitalist and teacher, will present works by Chopin, Liszt, Teresa De Rogatis and Feninger. His touch and technique are envied by much younger pianists and greatly enjoyed by the listeners. Piano teachers, bring your students to hear and see this wonderful pianist.



### WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

Our nesting congregations will join us for worship, food and fellowship.



## DEACONS CORNER

The Deacons are in awe that the year has moved so swiftly and some of us have fulfilled our term. What an experience it is to be a working deacon. In addition to reaching out and helping others through visits, letters, prayers, cards, telephone calls, greeting on Sunday mornings, and meetings in our personal homes that we turn into a party afterwards. We have had the experience and pleasure to be on duty to memorialize many of our members this year. At one point we were afraid to go to sleep. (smile)

We are always thinking of ways to reach out to those who need our help in and out of our congregation. During the past six months, with your help, we have contributed to The Salvation Army, Union Rescue Mission, Sandwich Ministry, Church Summer Camp for one of our youth,



Child Care  
and  
Vacation  
Bible  
School to  
name a few.

You the congregation, help to make our service very rewarding. As we all say and know, it is better to give than to receive, however both can be heart felt. So, keep giving and we will continue to give in your name.

Thank You

## MISSION REPORT

**Jay and Ruth** continue to recycle glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans with the proceeds helping the church in various ways. Many thanks are due **June Jacobson** and **John Tomlinson** for their ongoing contributions.....**24 Baby Care Kits** were sent by UPS this summer to **Church World Service** in Arkansas for distribution to Haiti or elsewhere. While recovering from surgery **Nellie Yaness** sewed on lots of baby care items. Now they are ready for the ladies of the **Sewing Club** to reconvene and complete the finishing work. There will be more kits to mail and to give locally. Donations of fabric and money are always welcome.....In August FPCI hosted our **Downtown Sandwiches for the Homeless** program and we distributed over 300

lunches. Watch for another opportunity to serve coming soon.....The final count for the **2010 LAX CROP WALK** is in, **\$6,415**. It is about half of what we have come to expect but reflects the economic crisis we are in. Thank you to everyone who helped.

## GOOD CITIZENSHIP

**Democracy works** only when its citizens stay informed and in conversation with their representatives! Are you writing letters or emails to yours? They want you to be! If you are not, consider getting connected.

Are you reading about Proposition 23, written and funded by oil tycoons, some from out of state, to set aside California's green energy initiatives?

Are you reading about Health Care Reform and

what it means not just for yourself but all of our citizens?  
Be a good citizen! Be involved!

## PULPIT GUEST

September 19<sup>th</sup>

Our pulpit guest September 19 will be **The Rev. Dr. Laura Krause** who is in her fourteenth year as Co-Pastor with her husband, **The Rev. Dr. Reinhard Krauss**, at St. Luke's Rolling Hills Estates. She just completed her DMin in May 2010 from SFTS. Reinhard and Laura also co-parent two children, Benjamin who was a YAAD at General Assembly this past June and Lydia, their 14 year old daughter.

