

Westview Presbyterian Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Westview Chimes
www.westviewpc.org

November 2011

"Our knowledge of God is perfected in Gratitude."

- Thomas Merton



We know and understand God and the nature of God better as we live grateful lives. We begin to see God's giving heart more clearly. In addition, we begin to live in our rightful place with God—as grateful, dependent children.

Merton states, "A person who truly responds to the goodness of God and acknowledges all that he has received, cannot possibly be a half-hearted Christian... To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us—and He has given us everything! Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a gift of grace... Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference." Thomas Merton, *Thoughts in Solitude*

A life of gratitude helps the reality of God's goodness sink deep into our souls—we in turn love God more and trust God more.

Henri Nouwen, a Catholic Priest who taught at Harvard, had the following reflections on his time in Bolivia and Peru among the poor,

"What I claim as a right, my friends in Bolivia and Peru received as a gift: what is obvious to me was a joyful surprise to them; what I take for granted, they celebrate in thanksgiving... I learned that everything that is, is freely given by the God of love. All is grace. Light and water, shelter and food, work and free time, children, parents and grandparents, birth and death—it is all given to us... A voice calls us anew to know with heart and mind that all that is, is given to us as a gift of love, a gift that calls us to make our life into an unceasing act of gratitude."

Our lives are richer as we acknowledge the gifts of God. Our relationship with God is aligned correctly as we acknowledge the gifts of God. Let us discover the joy of being a people of gratitude, living each moment in the acknowledgement that **All IS GIFT!**

I pray we may have not only a Thanksgiving Day, but a November rich in gratitude and may we in turn have a deeper, more fulfilling relationship with our Creator, Savior, Companion.

I am grateful for our church family.

God bless you,
Pastor Dan



Book Study Series

We are continuing to study *Grace Immersion* by Rene Schlaepfer. For the month of November we will be meeting on **November 9th and 30th at 6:30 p.m.** You can buy a copy online at www.amazon.com. In **November** we will **study week 5 & 6 of the book...**

I pray your life will be Changed by Grace!

Youth/Children's Ministry

Mark you calendars for Child/Youth Gym night.

These will continue on the first and third Friday in November and December and is open to all youths.

Dates of gym nights in November will be on **November 4th and 18th.**

Join us for fun and pizza!!!





**Annual Harvest Dinner
November 12th
5:00 p.m.**

Who can resist our mouth-watering chicken teriyaki, delicious side dishes and warm

fellowship! Come join us as we give thanks to our Lord for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us as individuals and as a church family. Our theme this year is "What A Mighty God We Serve". This year's free will offering will be split between Monterey and Santa Cruz County Hospice.

This year we will be graced with a special performer, Christian singing artist Junko. You don't want to miss this!!

Pajaro Valley CROP Hunger Walk



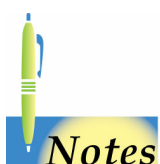
On October 15th, nine members and friends of Westview (Kevin Erbe, Susan Manabe, Eric and Christy Routley, Evelyn, Elijan and Isaac Veal, Eiko Stewart and Jane Yoshida) participated

in the CROP Hunger Walk to raise funds to help stop world hunger and poverty around the world. Our trekkers met at the Second Harvest Food Bank and walked 5.6K (3.5 miles) around beautiful Watsonville. Everyone had a great time and a huge THANK YOU to those who supported them with your generous monetary donations. Next year we hope there will be a larger group of us walking together for such a great cause!!

*Annual Tri-Church Picnic -
Huge Success!!*



The annual Tri-Church Picnic was held on October 8th at Toro Park in Salinas. About 80 people from Westview, El Estero and Lincoln Avenue Churches came to this wonderful event. Delicious tri-tip and hot dogs were perfectly barbecued and people brought scrumptious side dishes to share for our lunch buffet. Highlights this year included music by the Teen Challenge Band, pastor charades, bingo, an M&M pick-up game and a raffle drawing. Fun, food and fellowship – who can ask anything more!!



- Kenny Matsui and Tracy Mano are singing with the praise team
- A big thank you to Marlon & Evelyn Veal who have graciously volunteered to help out with the sound and piano playing.

Congratulations!



Alice Miyeko Hayashi was born on September 27, 2011. She weighed in at 6 pounds 3 ounces and was 19 1/4 inches. Miyeko was her great grandmother, Betsy Shikuma's name.

Her proud parents are Derek & Casey Hayashi of Walnut Creek, CA. Her equally proud grandparents are Chuck & Marby Bennett of Alamo, CA and Dr. Art & Joanne Hayashi of Watsonville, CA. Her great grandfather is Charlie Shikuma and her great grandmother is Dorothy Bennett of Seattle, WA.



Thanksgiving worship will take place on **November 20th**. Please remember to bring non-perishable items for Second Harvest to help those in need. Barrels will be set out at the Church.

Sunday Message Series: In November we will continue our series: **"Changed by Grace!"**

🎵🎵 A special musical performance by Rev. Dan Hoffman, Evelyn Veal, and Eric Routley will take place during Sunday Worship on **November 6th** 🎵🎵

Worship Team for November 6, 2011

Pulpit	Rev. Dan Hoffman
Chair	Diane Mio
Greeter	Faye Hashitani
Usher	Steve Kajihara, Ray Sako
Musicians	Evelyn Veal, Eric Routley, Rev. Dan Hoffman
Refreshments	Jane Yoshida, Wauhillau Erbe, Faye Hashitani
Counters	Jane Yoshida, Steve Kajihara, Faye Hashitani

Worship Team for November 13, 2011

Pulpit	Rev. Dan Hoffman
Chair	Michelle Aoki
Greeter	Jane Yoshida
Usher	Lynne Nagata
Pianist	Joanne Hayashi
Refreshments	Irene Yuhara, Edna Nagata Susan Manabe
Counters	Jane Yoshida, Steve Kajihara, Faye Hashitani

Worship Team for November 20, 2011

Pulpit	Rev. Dan Hoffman
Chair	Lynne Nagata
Greeter	Tracy Mano
Usher	Dick Wong
Pianist	Joanne Hayashi
Refreshments	Michelle Aoki, Joanne Hayashi, Shirley Wong, Nancy Watson
Counters	Diane Mio, Randy Mano

Worship Team for November 27, 2011

Pulpit	Cheri Holland
Chair	Susan Manabe
Greeter	Nancy Yamamoto
Usher	Louise Sako
Pianist	Lynne Nagata
Refreshments	Diane Mio, Candy McCarty, Diane Hall, Lynne Nagata
Counters	Diane Mio, Randy Mano



God is blessing our church with new vitality.

You all do much to serve our church and give of your talents contributing to what God is doing in our midst. Our leadership team (Session) is grateful.

Please take time again this November to reflect on:

- What you are grateful for about our church?
- How you want to continue to give of your time and talents to continue to extend God's love into the world?
- How you will give financially to support our church and our service in this community?

Giving is part of our response of worship and gratitude towards God.

In November we will be giving out pledge cards. Please prayerfully consider how you will continue to give of your time, talents, and money. If you are able please return the pledge cards by the end of November. This will help us budget for our ministry and mission for 2012.

It is a pleasure serving you,
The Westview Session

Please pray for those in our Westview congregation, church family, and for those who are ill or are recovering including: Charlie Shikuma, Haruyo Ishibashi, Joanne & Willie Yahiro, Lou & Wally Osato, The family of Julie McCoy, Edith Ichiuji, Jane Sugidono, Michelle Aoki, The family of Gladys Kato, Rev. Lee Tyler, Ichiro Sugidono, Gwen Koda and the Koda Family, Bea Shinta, Doug Warner, Hiroko Shikuma, Laura Cass, Karen Hirahara, Shirley Koda, and Toshio Kato.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



In Memory of Mother Haruko Iwanaga
Richard & Linda Muramoto

In Memory of Asa Sugidono
Ichiro Sugidono

In Memory of Kinu Wada
Nancy Yamamoto

Peacemaking Offering

Min & Marian Niiyama Marie Nakamoto Ichiro Sugidono Koso & Emily Takemoto
Willie & Joanne Yahiro Diane Mio Mary Meifu Lynne Nagata Kristopher Church

Tri-Church Picnic

Yamashita Market: Eight 5 pound bags of rice

Appreciation

Ted & Shigeoko Tahira: For Westview's support in time of need

Dr. Art & Joanne Hayashi: In celebration of birth of granddaughter, Alice Miyeko Hayashi

Birthday

Randy Mano

Jane Yoshida

Diane Mio: In honor of Jiro Sugidono

Min & Marian Niiyama: Marian's Birthday

Janitorial

Kathy Fujita Ichiro Sugidono

Capital Campaign Fund

Diane Mio Robert & Jane Yoshida

One Great Hour of Sharing

Robert & Jane Yoshida

Refreshments

Nancy Yamamoto

Guiding Ministry: Harvest Dinner

Randy & Tracy Mano

General

Jim & Melissa Song Marlon & Evelyn Veal Alan Yagi