

The CHIMES

February 2025
Published Every Two Months

A newsletter for and about the First Congregational Church, Oroville, CA

General

Please send me any stories or pictures of your travels or successes to be considered for the next edition of The Chimes at dubkub42@gmail.com, or call me at (805) 636-8505.

Jeannie Maes Annual Trip to Mexico for the Shoe Drive and Distribution



Jeannie had the following to say about the young lady above on the left: “Yureli had her 15th year celebration that I was proud to attend recently. Her family lives at the dump and her mom made jewelry I helped sell for years. Her mom now sweeps the streets of PV and proudly told me that she attended Preppa for 2 of the 3 year program; equivalent to High School. She intends to go to University and study nursing. Yureli is a grade 10 (A) student, as is her older brother. Due to your generosity I could buy her school shoes.”

The picture on the right is volunteers giving out shoes, tracts and snacks.

Jazzy Holiday Fundraiser

At the end of December, due to the kindness of local John Paris, who has accompanied the Moody Blues, been featured on the Merv Griffin Show and the Jerry Lewis Telethon (only to name a few), we had a very entertaining time. He brought an “Etta James” type singer who

dazzled with her voice, Amber Mowery from Yuba City, and Glenn Dawson, a local guitar player and vocalist. We raised \$350 for the children injured the shooting at the Feather River School as well as the Oroville Rescue Mission.

The show was amazing and typically one pays a lot of money to attend.

We will be having another show, ***Ivories and Strings***, featuring John Paris and Dr. Ayke Agus, a world renowned violinist, on March 1, 2025 at FCC Oroville, 1715 Bird Street. They practiced together on January 23 and if you want a preview, look on our Facebook page for the recording. The recommended donation is \$10. Our charity this time will be Father's Table. We plan soon having these shows at the church quarterly.

John is musician, storyteller and an inspired leader, who we are blessed to call a local.

Ayke is an amazing talent who lives in Yuba City and who graciously accepted John's offer to play for us. She trained under the greatest violinist who ever lived and her gift to the world is her violin performance.

Attend this event with us. If you aren't able and still desire to donate, please go to our Facebook page and donate your desired amount, and let one of the church officers know and we'll make sure the money goes where it's intended. I will Livestream this on Facebook.



Church Business

John Zenor recently retired from his duty as Trustee Chair and building maintenance John-of-all-trades. He will be replaced by a Bill-of-all-trades (Kubecki).

Thank you John for your many years of selfless sacrifice in the service to our church and the Lord.

Lynda Upthegrove will be recommended for trustee. Kathy Hardy agree to remain a trustee until we can nominate a third trustee.

Alise Kubecki will be nominated for the Endowment Chair role.

Donations

We have an online option for your offerings and donations! It's incredibly easy and safe. Check it out at FCCOroville.org. If you have any questions, please call John Zenor at (530) 521-8177, or, please mail your contribution to: FCCO, 1715 Bird St., Oroville, CA 95965.

Services

Our live worship service on Sundays begins at 11:00am, with fellowship in the social hall beginning at 12:00 noon. Join us in person if you can.

For those who cannot join us in-person, online ministries will be available as an alternative for those who prefer to stay at home. People can participate either by Zoom or Facebook live. Facebook link: <http://www.facebook.com/fccoroville>.

Bible Study is held in person most every Wednesday at 2:00pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church, and can be found using the info above, live on Zoom or on www.facebook.com/fccoroville. It will remain on our website for future viewing.

If you have any questions, or need help accessing any of these online events, please don't hesitate to call Pastor Andrew McHenry, 530-360-6030.

Pastor McHenry's Notes

We worship well, and we eat well -- and there's more good food coming up in the future. Superbowl Sunday is just a few weeks away, on February 9th. (After tomorrow we'll know which teams will be in it.) And as usual, Trinity Presbyterian Church will be having its annual sale of homemade sub sandwiches. Greg Henderson will be taking the lead on it again. Tomorrow there will be order forms available. The proceeds will benefit the children's ministry and the general Christian education program. Some of us are hopeful that we'll be able to have a Vacation Bible School this summer, perhaps done jointly with other neighboring churches on Foothill Blvd.

I appreciate everyone who came out for Fred Grant's memorial service yesterday. It was a good showing both from his family, from his circle of friends, and from the church. It was nice both to share and to remember what he brought to this world. Among the joys: We finally got to meet Terry & Gail Osborn; Fred always wanted us to be praying for them. We also were able to meet his friend Brenda who worked over at Fosters Freeze for a long time.

It was nice to hear from Cathy Duncan recently. Unfortunately, she is staying in Missouri a bit longer than expected. We had hoped she'd be back home this week, but she was forced to hold back. Let's keep praying for a good sale on her property down there.

I also heard from Jeannie Maes recently. She expects to be back home from Mexico by mid-February. We'll look forward to seeing her again. Her shoe distribution went well to the children down there, and she regularly sends us prayers requests.

One historical correction I need to make: Rita Frieze, from the Trinity family, was among the original charter members of Trinity Presbyterian Church back in 1959. Previously I said that Ray Fairley was last surviving charter member, but that was wrong. Sorry for the error. I was also told that Ines Carrell joined Trinity not long afterwards too.

Several of us also got a nice note from Linda Benner. She has settled well in her new location in Woodland. She's also started going to the Presbyterian church down there. On Thursday I spoke their pastor, Mike Umbenhauer, at a regional pastors' lunch in Yuba City. I tried to "put in a good word for her" (not that she needs that.) We'll miss her, but we're grateful that the new chapter in her life is beginning so well.

I also want to speak my appreciation for the good work of Bill Kubecki and the church trustees at First Congregational Church. A new partnership has been set up with Jordan Crossing ministries, after having a series of fruitful conversations with their lead pastor, Bill Speer. They will be renting our annex for their teen outreach ministry. They will also be helping us out with building and grounds issues as they come up. We've had a good relationship with them before, so I'm glad it's starting up again. It stands to help our church out financially too, with the rental income.

There's a lot of good kingdom-activity in both churches! Here's the schedule of what's coming up...

- + January 29th (Wednesday) - 2:00 p.m. "The Overlooked New Testament" Bible Study with Stan Henderson at Trinity (3rd of 4 sessions - looking at Jude and Philemon)
- + February 1st (Saturday) - 8:30 a.m. Citrus Savers Fruit Harvest Day, done in cooperation with the local Rotary Club, under the leadership of Chuck Reynolds. The plan is to meet at the Monday Club at 2385 Montgomery Street. Please let us know if you have trees that you want harvested from.
- + February 3rd (Monday) - 6:00 PM Chapel at the Oroville Rescue Mission. Meet at the Trinity parking lot at 5:30 p.m. if you want to ride down there with us. Also, bring food donations and we'll take them in.
- + February 5th (Wednesday) - 11:30 a.m. Pastors lunch at First Congregational Church - I'll be giving my "Pastors Who Persist" presentation, based on my sabbatical tours and interviews. Jordan Crossing is providing the lunch.
- + February 9th (Sunday) - There will be a short congregational meeting after worship at Trinity, for the purpose of approving appointments for the church nominating committee.
---> Also: This is Superbowl Sunday! The sub sandwiches will be available, and both the Sycamore Glen and Country Crest chapel services will be at 2:00 p.m. Stan Henderson will be leading it at Sycamore Glen.
- + February 11th (Tuesday) - 12:00 noon - The CCCO will meet at Trinity.
- + February 12th (Wednesday) - 9:30 a.m. Trustees meeting at First Congregational Church.
- + February 15th (Saturday) - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The CCCO annual pancake breakfast will be at Trinity. Proceeds will go to feed hungry people through the Oroville Rescue Mission, the Kingdom Table, and the Salvation Army.
- + March 1st (Saturday) - 7:00 PM - John Paris in concert with violinist Ayke Agus at First Congregational Church. The suggested donation is \$10. These are outstanding and renowned musicians.
- + March 5th (Wednesday) - 5:30 PM combined Ash Wednesday service at First Congregational Church.
This marks the first day of Lent. For Lent this year, the all-church book read will be on
- + Gracia Burnham's book "In the Presence of My Enemies" - chronicling her experience of abduction in the Philippines.
- + March 9th (Sunday) is the First Sunday of Lent. It's the 40-day season preceding Easter.
- + March 15th (Saturday) - CCCO Hunger Walk - 8:30 a.m. registration begins; 9:00 a.m. The walk begins. Riverbend Park is the starting location.

Pastor McHenry's Blog:

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Check out Pastor Andrew's blog at <http://www.pastormchenry.weebly.com>