



# Portola Church Newsletter



Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Office Hours  
10am – 1pm  
Tues. through Fri.**

## *Weekly Schedule*

1. Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, Mon  
Prayers & Squares, 10am
2. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, Tue.  
T.O.P.S
3. Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Wed  
No Chimes Practice  
Choirs 5:00 pm  
Ash Wed. Service 7pm
4. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Thurs.  
**Bible Study, 11am**  
Kids Activity 4pm
5. Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, Sat.  
Conference Event, “2012  
Discovery Events” is at  
Oroville UMC.  
  
Sunday School Teachers  
Meeting at Christine’s  
House
6. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, Sun.  
**Bible Study 12:15pm.**
7. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>, Mon. NOON  
Church Conference

## *Birthdays in Feb.*

Diane Niford 2/13  
Andy Johnston 2/19  
Ellen Smith 2/22  
Jane Melicker 2/26

- Cover Picture: Transfiguration by Lodovico Carracci, 1594, depicting Elijah, Jesus, and Moses with the three apostles.

## *Announcements*

1. **Ash Wednesday Service is on Wed.7pm.**
  - a. No Chime Practice. Choir practice is at 5 pm on Wed.
2. **Kids Activity** is on Thursday, 4pm to 5pm.
3. **New Bible Classes during Lent are on Thursday and Sunday.**  
**Thursday group** will meet 11am, and **Sunday group** will meet 12:15pm.  
For registration and ordering the book for the class, email to [Portolaumc@hotmail.com](mailto:Portolaumc@hotmail.com)
4. We encourage people to sign up for **Fellowship Snack** on each Sunday. I suggest that those who have a birthday on the week may prepare the fellowship. We celebrate birthdays monthly on the first Sunday each month. ☺
5. Caring Ministry begins ‘**Recycling**’ to support the local community. The recycle bin is located in the fellowship room, near the choir room.
6. There is a **special report from the finance committee.** See the other side of this Newsletter.

## *Special Prayers are needed*

- Prayer for Donna Caldwell.
- Prayer for Jeremy’s Family.
- Prayers are needed for Sammy. He needs to stay infection free for one month, so he can have his surgery. It is scheduled for March 9.

## *Bible Study will start in Feb. 16th, 2012*

### PORTOLA UMC



### Mission Statement

**Welcoming People  
to Love God,  
Grow Spiritually  
and Serve the  
Community**

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**NEW BIBLE STUDY** begins during the Lent season with Adam Hamilton's Book, "24 Hours that changed the world".

The text book is \$11, and 40days reflection book (optional) is \$8.

To register for the class, and order the book, email to

[portolaumc@hotmail.com](mailto:portolaumc@hotmail.com)

**Thursday group** meets

11am, and

**Sunday group** meets

12:15 pm.

### From Carl Chavez,

#### Finance Committee Chair

We have been challenged to come up with some "New" ideas to make up unforeseen shortfalls in the 2012 Budget. So far the only suggestions, with the exception of some sort of "Book Sale", have included our traditional attempts such as auctions, garage sales, spaghetti dinner, and fashion show. With the exception of the spaghetti which has been our biggest fund raiser bringing in about \$950.00 for a great deal of work from Connie and a few other dedicated volunteers (the same one who seems involved in everything we do). By contrast our next largest "Flower Power" fundraiser which we instituted last year brought in \$484.00 with very little effort from one person (Becky Smith). For that reason the Finance Committee needs to strongly support that effort and encourage not only our Congregation but others outside the church to participate.

Now for the reality of our financial situation:

Our 2012 Budget shows an estimated income of \$115,850.00 for the year which means that over 52 weeks we need to AVERAGE \$2223.00/wk. For the first 7 Sundays this year we are averaging only \$1,632/wk.

To think that fundraising will be our salvation is folly. Contributing to this potential shortfall has been the loss of significant income from members who left the church due to their moving and taking with them over \$12,000 in contributions. No way is fundraising going to make up that difference. There really are only two options I see, one of which in this economic climate is probably not feasible. That is asking for increases in tithes & offerings. The other option is to make a concerted effort to bring in new members to the Congregation. A third option that has already been implemented in order to reduce the potential deficit was agreed upon at last Wednesday's PPRC meeting and that was to not pay any Apportionment's except for the required Pastor's Pension contributions. Additionally, as you heard on Sunday we will shortly begin paying the Pastor's Housing allowance of approximately \$560.00/mo whether or not the Parsonage is rented (hopefully rent will to cover this cost). I am open to any other suggestions.

There will be a Meeting on February 27th and I would like to present any fund raising ideas you may have. Remember with any suggestion you should indicate WHO MIGHT BE ABLE AND WILLING TO DO THE WORK in order to implement any new program. I look forward to your responses.

Sincerely  
Carl Chavez

### *Weekly Report from Last Sunday*

**Total Deposit: 2,309.00**

General Fund \$ 2308.00  
Heifer \$ 1.00

**Attendance: 46 (Adults: 40, Children: 6)**