



January 2025

CONNECTION

FPC

FIRST KIDS



Just as seasons come and go, so do our emotions. In January, we will look at what the Bible has to say about different feelings such as sadness, worry, anger, and joy. No matter what emotion we may be feeling or what we may face, because of Jesus, we can learn to trust that God knows how we feel. We might get knocked down, but when we put our trust in God, we find the strength we need to get back up again!



EPIC (for Preteens)
January 17, 6-8:00 PM

Gather for an epic night of games, pizza, and conversations about faith.

Nomadic Shelter: February 4

Sign up to help on
January 19

Warm clothing donations
always welcome.



January 5: Epiphany Sunday: Communion and Special Music

January 12: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount: The Beatitudes, Matthew 5:1-12

January 19: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount: Salt and Light, Matthew 5:13-16

January 26: Hope, Stronger than Fear, Isaiah 43,
Dr. Sandra Richter preaching



Installation Service for Emily Stockert

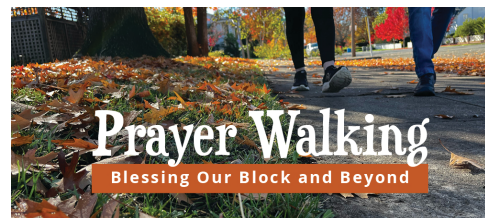
January 19, 3:00 PM,
Tomales Presbyterian
Church

An installation service for Emily Stockert in her new call to the Tomales and Two Rock Presbyterian Churches will be held at Tomales Presbyterian Church, 11 Church St., Tomales, CA 9497. All are welcome to attend.



Sunday, January 12
10:05-10:25 AM, Room 114

Pray for the PNC and the ongoing ministry of our church and staff.



Prayer Walking Meeting January 5, 10:05 AM, Room 113

It is our hope that every day in January, perhaps throughout the year, at least one person from our church community will *Bless our Block and Beyond* by signing up to do a prayer walk.



Unraveling the Mysteries of Revelation

Taught by Rev. Kent Webber
Begins January 19, 10:30 AM, Rm. 113
or via Zoom
Tuesdays, Jan. 21 - March 4, 7-8 PM

In this class we will carefully explore the kind of literature Revelation is, who wrote it, and why.



A Shared Weekend with Dr. Sandra Richter, PhD

Saturday, January 25, 1-5:30 PM
Class and Fellowship at The Cove

Sunday, January 26, 9 and 10:30 AM
Worship at First Presbyterian

Dr. Richter is an author and the Chair of Biblical Studies at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. She is a member of the NIV Translation Committee, a sought-after speaker and has led student field trips to Israel. One of Sandra's many gifts is bringing the real people and real places of the biblical narrative to life.



Youth Ministries

Decade - High School

Shasta Winter Retreat

Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2025

We're heading to Lake Shasta for a great weekend of fun, fellowship and snow! You can ski, snowboard, or just hang out. The cost of the trip is \$80. Ski/Board rental and lift ticket extra at Mount Shasta Snow Park.

Movie Nights!

Please be on time to watch the whole movie.

Decade : January 5, 6 PM

Granite: January 8, 7 PM

Youth Parent Gatherings Room 224

Decade Parents

January 12, 12-1:00 PM

Granite Parents

January 28, 12-1:00 PM



Presbyterian Women

Tuesdays,

10 AM, Rm 113

On January 14, we are excited to begin a new video study with the popular teaching of Dr. Sandra Richter, Epic of Eden: Psalms.

On January 28, we will meet to make handmade projects.



Movie Night:

Perfect Days

Friday, January 10

6:15 PM, Room 113

This month we will review and discuss a beautiful, award-winning film that comes from Japan. It is an intimate character study of a gentle man with a humble job (public toilet cleaner) who, in appreciating the small things in life, finds deep contentment and peace in the busy world of Tokyo.

Please enter through the outside doors on the McDonald Avenue side.



January 9, 6:00 PM via Zoom

Caregivers exchange practical information, talk through their challenges, and learn ways to cope.



Wednesday, January 8,
3-5:00 PM, Room 113

GriefShare support group returns after holiday break. It is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief.

For more information or the link, contact Colleen Soldate at (707) 328-5465 or Colleen@fpcsantarosa.org

From the Pastor's Desk



Navigating the Past, Present and Future

As we say goodbye to an old year and stand on the cusp of a new one it creates a natural opportunity to reflect on the passage of time. Though our faith is rooted in eternal truths, it is not impervious to time. Christian faith is rooted in the past, demands full attention to the present, and provides hope for the future.

For me the past year has been a joyful surprise. Not only have I formed new relationships with a lot of people, I've been privileged to walk through the Christian year with you—highlighted by Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas seasons.

I am also learning to live more amicably with the present—a present that we can lose if we stay stuck in the past or anxious about the future.

The future is where we are headed. It is important to plan for the future so that when we get there we are not surprised by its arrival – unaware of its likely demands. What are some things we should hope for in 2025? We certainly hope for a new pastor. My hope is that you don't just "get someone" but "get the right someone." That choice will determine so much about your future that I'm glad you are handling it with prayer. But it's important to remember that the vitality of our church does not hinge solely on a future pastor. It's up to everyone who belongs to envision the future you'd like to see: a future that includes passionate worship, warm fellowship, and energetic outreach to our community and world.

Warmly in Christ, Pastor Dan Price

A Place to BELONG, BELIEVE
LOVE like Jesus

First Presbyterian Church
1550 Pacific Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA
www.fpcsantarosa.org