



The Grapevine

"You Are Our Branches"

*Woodside Village Church celebrates God's love in both worship and music,
proclaims the Gospel in words and deeds, and reaches out to meet
the needs of our members, our community and our world."*

Mission and Vision

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas. Now we start the New Year filled with anticipation and excitement. What will this year hold for us? A larger Sunday school, more Bible studies, a focus on prayer, a focus on spirituality, a new look at our mission? 2012 holds enormous potential for Woodside Village Church. Many people are looking to make a spiritual connection in these difficult times. God has positioned us in a wonderful way to be able to respond to the needs of our friends, neighbors and family. People are looking for answers to the difficult questions of life. During Lent we will work our way through the book, "Purpose Driven Life" which will assist us in struggling with these hard questions in order to respond to our friends and neighbors. We need to *first* **pray** asking God to fill us with the Holy Spirit and open our eyes to the opportunities to share a word of hope. *Second* **trust** that God will provide the words we need to encourage our family and friends. *Third* **participate** in the ministries of Woodside Village Church to welcome visitors and encourage participants.

As we move into this New Year looking for opportunities to share the good news of God's love for us and the world, we need to be conscious of the spiritual pain, ignorance, and apathy of many people around us. This just makes our job more urgent and even more necessary. We need to depend on the power of the Holy Spirit for us to be effective. When Jesus called his disciples and sent them out to disciple the whole world, he was sending them into a world that was even more hostile than our world, and yet he knew the task before them was possible:

"Go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and teach them to obey all that I have commanded. And lo, I am with you until the end of the age."

God has promised to be with us as we continue the work of the disciples in bringing people into the presence of Jesus; where their lives can be transformed for eternity and the kingdom of God can draw near to us.

God has also given us a mission and a vision of our marching orders:

"Woodside Village Church celebrates God's love in both worship and music, proclaims the gospel in words and deeds, and reaches out to meet the needs of our members, our community, and our world."

Let's get excited about this New Year and all the wonderful opportunities that it presents.

See you in church, *Pastor Mike*

The Night Before Jesus

By Herb Brokering

[from *Alive Now!*, Nov/Dec 1974 pp.54, 55.]

'Twas the night before Jesus when all through the earth
Every creature was stirring for a new baby's birth.
Some faces were watching far out in the sky
Believing God's Son would be soon coming by.
The wise men were searching the heavens with care
Hunting signs of God's love in some stars up there.
Shepherds were tired, weary and beat.
Their sheep had just ba-a-a-ed their last sleepy bleat.
When up in the air there arose such clatter,
They looked and saw angels, and asked, "What is the matter?"
Up on their feet they stood straight and tall,
To see hundreds of angels, and to hear angels call,
It sounded like glory and looked bright as can be,
It was hard to believe, and so hard to see,
It happened so sudden, it happened so quick,
Was it real? Was it true? Or was it a trick?
More rapid than eagles the shepherds they came ;
Found Mary and Joseph, and whispered His name.
It's Jesus, Jehovah, Messiah, the Son,
Emmanuel, the Lord, He is all and each one.
So up to the hillsides their running feet flew,
With their eyes full of Jesus and their hearts now like new.
Far away....wise men stood on a roof.
Searching the skies for biblical proof.
There! There! Each one shouted Out in the east.
And mounted with speed his two-humped beast.
They were filled up with questions from head to toe,
Asking, "Where's the new king? We truly must know."
And three kinds of gifts they had piled on the back.
Gold, frankincense, myrrh in a sweet-swelling pack.
They saw God had given his Son to the earth.
They had nothing to do and nothing to say.
It was truly God's world and this was God's day.
Christ was on earth; old things were like new.
Now people could see what God surely can do.
When it's the night before Christmas from ground to the sky,
God's glory is near and Jesus comes by.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN AND COMFORT...

Church members:

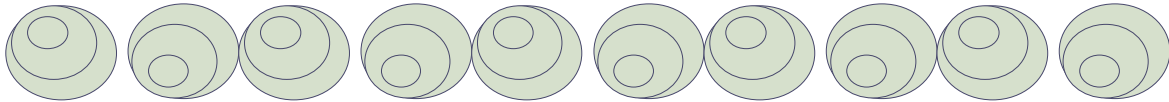
Veva Wheaton, health issues, **Eric Pedersen**, pain management, **Natalie Friend**, severe back pain and **Kristy Rice**, seizures

Friends and Family members:

Biff Bafigo - health issues, friend of Peggy Moore-Kane, **Chester Veliquette**, "Uncle Chester" member of the Rice family, recovery from surgery, and **Shelly Thorwaldson**, health issues, friend of the Rice family

*****Please check the names on the prayer list. After one month they will automatically be removed and if need be, replaced at your request. PM**

*~ It is requested that church members **please** advise the church office of any illness, injury, or hospitalization, so that they may be added to the prayer list, and congregational and pastoral care may be arranged.~*



This week's church schedule:

Saturday - 31	8 p.m. Wanna Dance? New Year's Eve Party
Sunday - 1	8:30 a.m. Breakfast
Sunday - 1	11 a.m. Worship Board
Sunday - 1	9:30 a.m. Worship Service + Sunday School
Monday - 2	Office closed.
Tuesday - 3	7:30 p.m. Weekly Scripture Study
Wednesday - 4	11 a.m. Weekly Scripture Study
Thursday - 5	7 p.m. Choir
Friday - 6	9 a.m. Altar Guild
Sunday - 8	9:30 a.m. Worship Service + Sunday School and Congregational Meeting - quorum required!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS from REV. DOROTHY

HANDCHIMES – Were you inspired by the SFSU Handbell Ringers? Have you always wanted to do something musical but just didn't feel you could sing in choir? Are you looking for a new and different way to serve WVC? Do you like the sound of the handchimes playing with us on the hymns or sharing a special musical piece? Then you should consider joining a group of people who meet once a week to ring handchimes!

You don't read music? I can teach you how if you can count at least to six. We need eleven people to ring our three-octave set of handchimes so that each person only has to be responsible for two primary chimes. We'll determine a mutually agreeable rehearsal schedule when I have eleven individuals who want to give it a try! Even if you're not sure, come and try it—you may surprise yourself!

Contact me (Dorothy): 510-713-2942; dorothys@svchurch.org



Hello,

I just wanted to let everyone know I am a Rent-A-Teen again. This time I am raising money to go to Ashland, Oregon with my English Class. We are going up the end of March to see 3 shows at the Shakespeare Festival.

So, if you have any odd jobs or things you need help with I am available. You can contact me through Pastor Mike.

Thanks,

Spencer Riewerts



Pledge Report as of December 31, 2011

Budgeted to Date: \$148,000

Received to Date: \$121,340

**Are YOU up to date? If you don't know, call Linda to find out.
Our spending budget is \$3500 per week to carry out our vision.**

Serving Our Lord

Date	Deacons
January 1	Chet Yee + Mark Dickey
January 8	Chet Yee, Jack + Nancy Riewerts
January 15	Chet Yee + Ross + Mary Soubirous
January 22	Chet Yee + Mark Dickey
January 29	Chet Yee, Jack + Nancy Riewerts
	Readers
January 1	Carolyn Van Cise
January 8	Karl Fredrick
January 15	Sue Brock
January 22	Ashley Pedersen
January 29	Paul Hackworth
	Greeters + Oblation Bearers
January 1	Carolyn Van Cise + Glen Hise
January 8	Vic + Karl Fredrick
January 15	Kristy Rice + David Bean + Jim Degnan
January 22	Ashley Pedersen + Jennifer Lindberg
January 29	Jodi + Paul Hackworth
	Sunday Breakfast
January 1	Carolyn Van Cise
	Communion Assistants
January 1	Ellen Schillig
January 8	Carolyn Van Cise
January 15	Karlene Harvey
January 22	Jennifer Lindberg
January 29	Karlene Harvey
	Coffee Hour Volunteers Judy Rice overseeing
January 1	Judy Rice
January 8	TBD
January 15	TBD
January 22	TBD
January 29	TBD