

Bethel Focus

Bethel Church, Founded 1764

PCA Foundation

The PCA Foundation is an agency of the Presbyterian Church in America that provides charitable financial services to members and friends of the PCA.

Their services include the Advise & Consult FundSM (a donor advised fund), endowments, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, estate design and bequest processing.

As year-end ap-

proaches, often people will begin addressing tax planning and charitable giving issues and opportuni-

ties. Some of the PCA Foundation's services, especially the Advise & Consult Fund, may be helpful continued p. 2



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA
FOUNDATION

Library News

I'll never forget my trip to Monterrey because that was when everything in my life shifted. It was during a quick afternoon stop at Casa Hogar del Norte,

an orphanage, that I met a young man whose name I don't know because he never spoke a word. He was probably 5 or 6 years old with an absolutely angelic face

containing the most expressive eyes I have ever seen. He stood next to me, looked up at my face, smiled and took hold of my hand (and my continued p. 2

November 2010

November Sermon Schedule:

- 11/7 "Faithful Is As Faithful Does" Malachi 2:1-10
- 11/14 "The Road to Restoration" Malachi 2:17-3:5
- 11/21 "The Danger of Ingratitude" Malachi 3:6-15
- 11/28 "How to Be a Treasured Possession" Malachi 3:16-18

Welcome New Members

Bethel welcomes the following new members, who were presented to the congregation on October 24:

Amy Catherine Allen, Hannah Leigh Holben, Margaret Adelle McCarter, Samuel Franklin Taylor, and Katherine Susanna Flanagan Taylor.

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PCA Foundation, continued

to those with remaining 2010 and future year gifting desires, and at the same time, help them reduce 2010 income taxes.

The PCA Foundation's Advise & Consult Fund is used by many PCA members to financially support their church and other Christian ministries.

A significant benefit of establishing an Advise & Consult Fund is that contributions to fund it are eligible to be income tax deductible in the year in which they are made,

even though the donor may choose to recommend distributions from the fund months or even years later. The Advise & Consult Fund can be used to:

- make all your regular gifts to your church and Christian ministries
- schedule automatic recurring distributions
- make anonymous distributions
- support missionaries
- fund mission trips, even your own family's
- save for future ministry

projects

- establish matching challenge programs
- make testamentary gifts to ministries

To learn more about the PCA Foundation, the Advise & Consult Fund, or any of their other services, contact them directly at 800-700-3221, or visit the website, www.pcafoundation.com.

You just may find that establishing an Advise & Consult Fund account is an ideal means by which to accomplish your charitable giving.

Library News, continued

heart). He then led me over to a wall where we sat next to each other...still holding hands. When I realized everyone else had left, I stood up to go and bent down to give him a hug. He held his finger up as if asking me to wait and then ran into the bedroom. He climbed under one of the many beds and ran back to me holding something tightly in his fist. He opened his hand showing me a piece of paper wrapped around a feather. It was obviously something he treasured...and he gave it to me. After another hug, I left to join the rest

of the group.

The book "Reckless Faith" was written by Beth Guckenberger who, with her husband, founded Back to Back Ministries, an organization which helps support orphanages in Cancun and Monterrey, including Casa Hogar. In it, she relates the story of going on a mission trip to Monterrey. They finished their work early and searched for a way to serve during those last few hours of their trip. After one stop at an orphanage, the trajectory of her life

changed. Every page in this book will touch your heart and inspire you. It's available in our church library on the missions/biography shelf.

By the way...I still have that feather. Every time I look at it, I see the face of my precious little friend and get that restless feeling that tells me that I'm supposed to be doing something more. I pray that I'll have the faith and the courage to follow when that "something more" becomes clear."



The Session of Bethel Presbyterian Church met Sunday, October 10, 2010, at 2:00 PM in the Conference Room of the Family Life Center with Moderator, Rev. John Gess.

The meeting was called to order and opened with reading of the Scriptures from John 17:17 and prayer by the Moderator.

A quorum was present. Elders present: Robert D. Henderson, Robert B. Meek, Jr., W. Hampton Stowe, III, Stephen Q. Ferguson, James G. Long, Timothy G. Marsh, David E. Drechsler, Donald E. Johnson, Daniel B. Love, Cary E. Grant, James T. Jackson, and H. Dean McCarter. Also present were Pastoral Interns Marco Escalante and Marcus Van Vlake and Diaconate Chairman D. Ross Love.

A motion was M/S/A to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2010 Session meeting and the September 12, 2010 Congregational meeting as written and mailed to each Session member.

Ross Love gave the Deacons Report and reviewed the minutes of the October 5, 2010 Deacons meeting. He also informed the Session that Kenneth Truelove, one of the eight Deacon nominees, had requested to be removed as a nominee. A motion was M/S/A to have seven names on the ballot to elect Deacons at

the October 31, 2010 Congregational meeting. A motion was M/S/A to approve the Deacons report and minutes. Cary Grant dismissed Ross with prayer.

Cary Grant and Jim Jackson gave a report on the Presbytery meeting they had attended on September 23, 2010 at Olivet PCA. A motion was M/S/A to commend Cary and Jim for their report and diligence.

Cary Grant informed Session that RFDTV will highlight Bethel PCA on November 27, 2010 at 5:00 AM on WJZY Channel 46 and at 10:00 AM on RFDTV. The show can also be seen on November 28, 2010 at 4:00 PM on RFDTV. Cary was pleased with the quick and positive response he had received from RFDTV, and he also wanted to give credit to Clint Boyd, who had informed him about RFDTV having a show that highlights country churches.

Session discussed a request from a non-Bethel member to use the church tennis court to give private lessons to a non-Bethel member. It was decided that the church court cannot be used by anyone for profit.

Session members had received a letter from Marco Escalante telling of his plans to plant a church in Mexico City after he concludes his studies at RTS in

2011. He asked for spiritual and financial support, and the Session and the Diaconate will be considering financial support when making plans for next fiscal year's budget.

Rev. Gess gave an evaluation of the church staff, including Marco Escalante, Marcus Van Vlake, and Dawn Slavens. He is very much pleased with each of them and the work that they are doing.

A motion was M/S/A to remove Kimra Sue Mullis Kirksey from the church roll, since she and her husband are now living in Minnesota.

Cary Grant gave a brief report on a meeting that he and several others from Bethel had recently attended at RTS.

Session discussed the field behind the church. A motion was M/S/A to approve the use of the field by recreation groups, contingent upon their getting it in good shape and maintaining it.

A motion was M/S/A to adjourn.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Cary Grant.

James G. Long
Clerk of Session



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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

Prayer Requests

- Pastor Gess and Interns Marco Escalante and Marcus Van Vlake as they preach and minister to the Bethel congregation, and for their families.
- Please pray for the VanVlake family that in all things, Christ would be preeminent (Col.1:15-20). Pray for continued grace, peace, wisdom, and perseverance as Marcus begins another full semester and we transition back into school and fall activities. Praise the Lord for His continued provision, goodness and mercy!
- The Escalante family as Marco completes his seminary training in the spring semester and they prepare to move to Mexico city and begin the work of church planting there.
- The Lee family in Language School in Costa Rica, for their safety, for good health, and for clarity of mind and ability to retain what they study.
- Session and Diaconate members, WIC officers, Sunday School teachers, Kid's Quest teachers, Bible Study leaders, Youth leaders/teachers, giving thanks for their faithfulness and willingness to serve.
- Our college students.
- Missionaries throughout the world, as well as local ministries such as Habitat for Humanity, God's Kitchen, Clover Area Assistance Center and Biblical Studies Released Time, supported by Bethel Church.
- Expectant mothers and their unborn babies within the church family.
- Our soldiers serving in Afghanistan/Iraq: Wayne Bolin, Amanda Brown, James Pittman, III (nephew of Victoria & Steve Linder), John Rice (grandson of Joe & Phyllis Wysor) recovering from injuries from a roadside bomb explosion, Capt. Paul Robinson II, Greg Sandifer, and Ted Trevino.
- Marcelle Brackett (Alzheimer's disease), Eddie Bradley (friend of Joe LeMoyné), Aaron Cosgrove (Stacy Dixon's nephew), Jorge Escalante (Marco's brother, cancer), Rebecca Gable (Carol Davis' mother), Susie Harris, Ruby Jackson, William Jackson, Hannah Lee, Libby Claire McGarrity, Jim Pittman (Victoria Linder's brother, prostate cancer), Bobby Wallace, Marian White, Claude Wilder (Cathy Robinson's father), Joe Wysor.