

November 2017

Sixth Sense

From the Pastor

The Esther story in the Old Testament has always captivated me because it is a story that makes sense to our post-modern ears. God is never present in the story, but God is always acting behind the scenes, providing the characters in the story with wisdom and courage.

The key moment in the story, of course, occurs when Esther is challenged by her uncle Mordecai to take advantage of her position as the queen, risk her life, and intercede to save her people, the Hebrew people. When Esther hesitates, Mordecai challenges her with these famous words:

"If you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise from another quarter...but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for such a time as this." (4:13-14)

There comes a time when the whole drama of our lives turns upon some decisive hour. It is often an opportunity to act that places everything at risk that you spent the first part of your life trying to build. It is a tremendous opportunity, but we might be reluctant to act because the choice is not without risk, sacrifice, and cost.

We live in a time when things are falling apart in our country and there is no center to hold them, a time when the best lack all conviction and the worst are filled with passionate intensity. It is a time for a congregation like Sixth to boldly stand and proclaim that God's desire is for justice, mercy, and kindness. It is a time for us to live out our values of inclusion, earth care, and hospitality. To be silent, to retreat, to escape, would be to squander our decisive hour. In the avalanche of lies and the destruction of our public life, we need to be bold as a community of faith, upholding God's call to welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, and defend the widow and the orphan.

That is why I am going to respond to the Session's challenge and raise my 2017 pledge by 5% so that the ministry of Sixth can continue to be prophetic and pastoral in these harsh times. I hope that you will join us for breakfast and worship on Sunday, November 5, and bring your 2018 commitment card, so that we can begin to lay the foundation for the work that God has given us to do.

Peace!

Vincent



SIXTH
presbyterian
CHURCH

November Worship and Preaching

November 5 – Esther 4,
"Decisive Hours"

November 12 – Rev. Sarah
Robbins preaching

November 19 – Matthew
25:14-30, "The
Whistleblower"

November 26 – Matthew
25:31-46, "Holy Needs"

What the Pastor's Reading

- *When in Romans: An Invitation to Linger with the Gospel According to Paul* by Beverly Gaventa

When the Pastor's Away

Pastor Vincent will be on Study Leave from November 6-12. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Myra Kazanjian.

A Year of Changes In and Around the Building

In the past year, you've no doubt seen contractors at church. We've been busy making many necessary repairs to make the church a safe, comfortable, and inviting place. Projects completed to date include:

- Refinishing all the oak front doors and surrounds (below, left)



- Refurbishing the men's bathroom off the narthex
- Augmenting and maintaining the gardens (right)
- Replacing and releveling the concrete tile walkway by the back door (below, left)



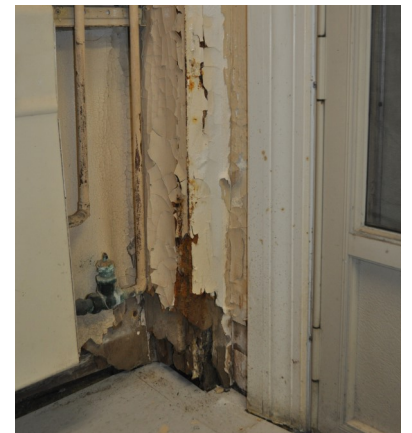
- Fixing our stormwater sewer drains to prevent flooding, including a new outside drain and concrete work (above, right)

Around the building, continued



- New security exterior doors in the chapel and in the Ridinger Room (above, left)
- Outside painting: doors, window sills and trim, repairing door trim and damaged wood (before: above, center; after: above, right)

Our complicated heating system is finally fully functional with a new boiler, thermostats and two new blower motors.



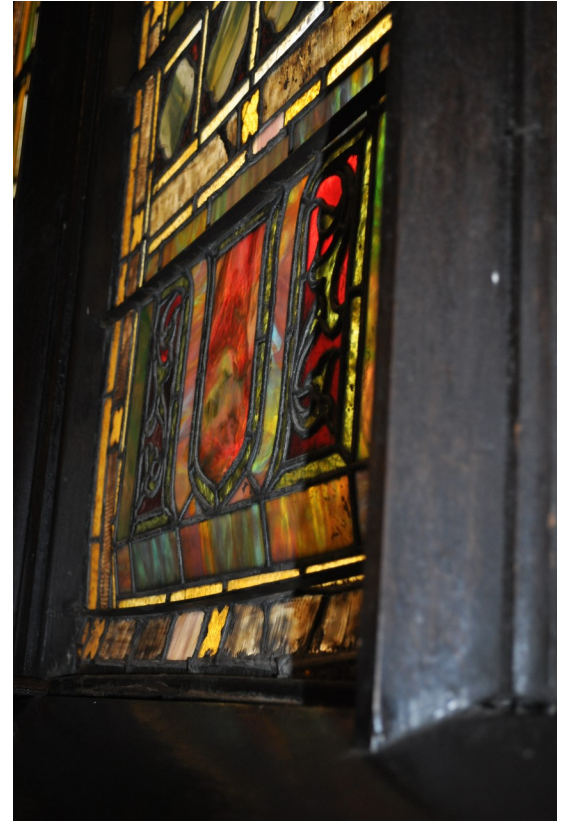
What remains to be done?

On the outside, the stonework needs repointing in many places, especially along the roofline, which allows moisture to infiltrate (above, left). The masonry of the handicap ramp needs repair. Our many iron railings are rusting badly and need to be sanded and painted. Significant amounts of concrete stairs and walls on the Forbes Avenue frontage are crumbling (above, center). Inside the church, we would like to make the second floor fully accessible, including retrofitting one of the bathrooms for handicapped accessibility. Throughout the church, we need to plaster and repaint many areas (above, right and right). The kitchen appliances have been recently repaired, but the wall finishes should be renewed.



Around the building, the work never stops!

Many of these smaller projects can and will be accomplished thru our regular annual budget line item over the next few years. In 2017 session approved an additional amount to pay for more substantial essential repairs, like the painting, furnace and drain work. To help with the stone repointing, we are seeking another grant from Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Religious Properties Grant program.



Our building was built in 1904, over a hundred years ago. By far the greatest project being considered is the renewal of the sanctuary windows. The effects of gravity, natural lead deterioration and wear and tear have taken their toll on the stained glass. Look closely and you will see that they have 100 years of dirt on them, and that many panes are cracked (above, left). Over time, the windows have bowed because the leading between the glass panes has weakened (above, right). The outside protective covering has failed in places and needs to be renewed, and the wood window framing underneath needs painting.

In January, we will offer tours of the church to provide additional updates on projects, and we will present the projected costs of window renovations to the congregation for consideration and discussion.

Should you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact Leslie Kaplan, House Committee Chair.

—Lauren Ward and Leslie Kaplan

Pictures of Life at Sixth



Welcome to our newest church members!

Our 2017 Confirmation Class was received for membership by Session in September and Confirmed in worship on October 5, which was World Wide Communion Sunday. Pictured below are Elly Bertolet, David Rothenberg, Lizzy Sindhi, Daedalus Brockner, and Liam Greenley.



Stewardship 2018: Why I Support Sixth Church

I first came to Sixth Church about 16 years ago in September. I was new to Pittsburgh, and I wanted to reconnect with a faith community. Sixth was within walking distance of my home at the time, and it had a rainbow flag. It seemed a logical choice.

I was welcomed by several people, but it was David Bennett who convincingly marketed the women's retreat happening within a couple of weeks and encouraged me to sign up quick (the deadline was like, that day!). So after getting good vibes from others after church as well, I went for it, and it really was one of the best spontaneous decisions I've made in my adult life.

It was a great way to start getting to know many of the women of the church, and it gave me insight early on to the intelligence and thoughtfulness, as well as the range of values and beliefs that are held here. I was hooked. Even at a time when Pastor John McCall was famous for saying "Don't just stay here! Shop around for different churches!", I knew I didn't need to, I already felt like this was where I belonged.

Don't forget to send in your 2018 pledge card (also available in the pews)!

It took me a long time to actually join, though...like 12 or 13 years?(!) I was pledging, and on committees, and felt like I was doing enough as a "friend of Sixth" that I didn't really need to join. I also had a lot more questions about faith and how to rely on it than I did answers, but I was made to feel like that was okay. I felt accepted as I was. That was important to me since this was my church family, after all.

And then my foster daughter, Savanna, came along (another one of my best spontaneous decisions), and everyone made her feel like family.

I will be forever grateful to the many people in this church who played different roles in helping me navigate my way along the bumpy road of a foster parent. It was because of Savanna, though, that I realized how much it can matter to officially belong to a family. So a while after her adoption officially made her my family forever, we joined the church together, and she was baptized here.

Now I'm serving the church in a way that I couldn't do as a friend of Sixth, I am a deacon. I am proud of the many things Sixth does to add to and better the community, and the passion brought to each activity by so many, such as: the CROP walk, the PIIN organization, the support for political activism and fighting for various forms of social justice, the Lazarus fund, the Household helpers, the recycling efforts, the children and youth ministries and programming, the Deacons (and the projects I've had the privilege to be a part of so far), the Elders, and all of the various committees that make the church run and grow.

Also...the adult and family retreats that are so special to me, the wonderful music each Sunday, and the joys and sorrows shared in church services that help us learn more about the world and what people have experienced, and that help us connect with each other and to care more deeply for each other.

I am proud to be a contributing member of Sixth Church, and of playing a role in serving the surrounding community as well.

—Jennifer Joy

Sixth Church and God's Creation

Internationally-known environmentalist Bill McKibben spoke in Oakland at the Twentieth Century Club on September 28. He stated that citizens need to take action **right now** to mitigate against the most severe results of climate change; we are past the point of stopping damage altogether. McKibben is on a global mission to engage communities in climate activism. To cheers from the audience, McKibben reminded both Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh to divest from fossil fuels, and he discussed toxic regional impacts of the proposed Shell ethane cracker plant in Beaver County. While complimenting Pittsburgh on its many environmental improvements, McKibben stressed that supporting fossil fuels contrasts sharply with those achievements.

McKibben authored the popular 1989 book, *The End of Nature*, an early warning about climate change, and continues to publish on that topic. His 2010 book, *Eaarth* (sic), explained that the planet needed a new name to reflect a new reality of destructive heat, flooding, and storms. McKibben also founded the non-profit **350.org** to promote activism in 188 countries: 350 parts per million (ppm) of carbon dioxide in the air is acceptable, but the world currently is at 400 ppm. McKibben is a Scholar in Residence at Middlebury College, and has won numerous awards for his writing and global action.

Other news:

The Hilltop Urban Farm in south Pittsburgh is slated to become the largest urban farm in the United States. With the Allegheny Land Trust, the Three Rivers Urban Land Initiative will help to protect urban farms and community gardens from land developers, keeping areas green and under the control of local communities. Hilltop Urban Farm benefits nearby Mt. Oliver and other low-income neighborhoods, but will reach a wider audience through its CSA (community supported agriculture) sales.

The City of Pittsburgh unveiled its draft Climate Action Plan 3.0, to improve city air and water quality by 2030. For more information see www.pittsburghpa.gov/onepgh.

The city's Our Water Campaign has a new Facebook page, making it easy to follow the fight for clean, affordable water, supplied by a public utility.

—Heather Lyle

RECYCLING UPDATE: Please start saving your coffee bags! They are being collected by a member of the Church of the Redeemer, where you can take them and leave them in a bag in the downstairs hall leading to the church's meeting room. This is a good development: it's great to see other congregations getting involved in recycling!

EVENTS: In the wake of the Climate Leadership conference, many events and meetings are being organized. Here are some you might want to take part in:

Nov. 1: Allegheny County Health Department: let our public officials know what you think about the bad air we've been experiencing from the Clairton Coke Works. 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 1, Main Conference Room, ACHD Administrative Offices at 542 Fourth Ave., Downtown Pittsburgh. www.pennfuture.org

Nov. 13: Shale and Public Health Conference, 9 am to 5 pm. At the University Club, University of Pittsburgh. Organized by the League of Women Voters. Registration info: shalemarcella@gmail.com

Nov. 17 - 20: People vs. Oil and Gas Summit, at the William Westin Omni Hotel. \$1:00 registration fee. https://actionnetwork.org/ticketed_events/people-vs-oil-gas-summit-speakers

Nov. 30: Climate Change and Oil & Gas Development, Jewish Community Center, Squirrel Hill. Evening event. More information to come.

—Nora Johnson

Bored in Church, Teens in Church

Here at Sixth we have just concluded the Confirmation process with five delightful young people and since then I've been thinking a lot about what happens next. How are we at Sixth Church "doing" youth ministry and what impact is it having on our young people? I have been asking myself some of the same questions that every church considers: How do we keep teens in church after confirmation? What makes faith stick when students go off to college and into the world? I have returned to rereading the results and commentary of two of the most revealing and insightful studies conducted in recent years on youth and religion. The Fuller Youth Institute's "Sticky Faith" research and the findings reported by Christian Smith in the National Study of Youth and Religion funded by the Lilly Endowment are fascinating.

Here are three things that both research studies have shown:

- Parents and the adults that teens like the best have a way bigger impact on young people's faith development than any youth ministry program or event.
- Teenagers need to be integrated into the life of the church
- Teens must be able to and given the opportunity to verbalize their faith.

"Probably the most common, and most healthy, reason for young teens to feel boredom is their developmental need to grow up in faith...But a young teen's new ability to grasp (or at least entertain) abstract ideas begs all their concrete spiritual conclusions and understandings into question."

I've been considering these three points and how we can "do" youth ministry at Sixth in a way that meets the needs and wants of our young people. The number one thing I hear from parents is that their teens are bored in and with church. (And not surprisingly the number one thing I hear from teens is yep – you guessed it – church is boring.)

So, given the first of the three points listed above, I believe there probably isn't a program or event that we can create to help end their boredom. I am not suggesting that it's up to parents and mentors to make church not boring. But, if we as parents and the adults who love the teens are what has the biggest impact on their faith development – then we need to step up and not let the programs, sermons, and Sunday school lessons do all of the work.

So how do we step up and address the cries of "church is boring!"?

Mark Oestreicher is an author/pastor who has done a lot of writing about youth ministry and I've read a lot of his stuff. Oestreicher reminds us that boredom in church is part of the normal developmental cycle of faith development and not because of anything we are doing wrong or not doing in church to engage youth.

"Probably the most common, and most healthy, reason for young teens to feel boredom is their developmental need to grow up in faith. Pre-teens and children approach faith issues, obviously, with the mind of a child. But a young teen's new ability to grasp (or at least entertain) abstract ideas begs all their concrete spiritual conclusions and understandings into question."

We, the adults in the teen's lives, have to learn about and remind ourselves of where our young people are developmentally. Teens brains are growing, learning, and processing at a rapid rate. Our teens, especially the ones that have grown up in our church, are now trying to put it all together. We have been handing them puzzle pieces of Bible stories and abstract ideas and concepts like grace, mercy, and forgiveness that they are now trying to fit together in a more complete picture.

“When it becomes obvious to a teen that their childhood spiritual answer to a given situation or question doesn’t offer a strong enough answer anymore, they are forced to ignore this issue or struggle to allow their beliefs to evolve into a more adult form,” says Oestricher.

Here are some of my thoughts about how parents and mentors can help young people stuck in the boredom realm:

- Talk with young people in a casual and relaxed way. It’s easy as a parent to get into lecture mode and yammer on about why we think they are bored. We are also very good at offering many suggestions on how we think they should be engaging. Perhaps if we back off a little with the “parental talk” and work to create more casual and open lines of communication about church, faith, and spirituality we can have an easier dialogue. We all have a lot of questions. Don’t be afraid to share some of your questions with your teen. Listen well. We are the parents, we are in charge – and it’s not easy for us to not have the answers. But helping our young people process their questions and reservations about church without jumping to easy answers will go a long way in helping create an honest and trusting dialogue.
- Youth ministry in almost every church is changing as our culture changes. Churches that have been more successful in keeping young people engaged in church have moved to a more relational model. Even in the current climate of social media, our youth are looking for and need relational face-to-face connections. I have noticed that our young people thrive when they are more connected with people than with programs. We have great and interesting people at Sixth. Encourage your teen to connect or stay connected to people from our church who have similar interests and experiences. Our young people will feel more integrated into the life of the church if we help them foster relationships with not just other young people, but adults who hugs them, show interest in them, and love them.
- Be open and verbal about how you are living out your faith in your day-to-day-life. We like to think that they are ignoring us, but believe me they are paying attention to our words and actions. If a young person can see and recognize where the adults that they love are putting their faith into action, it may help them figure out what an “adulting” faith system can look like.
- Again, more talking. Try to find a way to talk with your teens following church or a church event. Ask them about the sermon if they were listening. Share your thoughts and questions about what you heard. Work to find a way to debrief about church in a way that doesn’t sound like you are playing 20 Questions to see if they were paying attention. Also, offering some listening points or placing bets on things you think Pastor Vincent might say in his sermon could be a fun way to engage. We can help young people figure out how to verbalize their faith by encouraging them to articulate the real-life connections between scriptures read or what’s talked about in church.

Parents – let’s talk! We can support each other as we support our young people to grow, learn and change. I would love to hear from you and hope that we can continue to work together to make Sixth a place that engages our youth.

Here are a few books I recommend that have been great resources and that I am going to revisit:

- *The Teenage Brain: A Neuroscientist’s Survival Guide to Raising Adolescents and Young Adults* by Frances E. Jensen. (This is a “science” book but is very readable and accessible for the non “science” types.)
- *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church* by Kenda Creasy Dean.
- *Soul Searching* by Christian Smith and Melinda Lundquist Denton.
- *Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in your Kids* by Kara Powell
- Mark Oestreich blogs at www.whymarko.com

—Jenny Newman

Notes from Session, October Meeting

CLERK'S REPORT

- Worship Attendance: 150 on 10/1, 136 on 10/8, 130 on 10/15, 132 on 10/22.
- A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve April Clisura, Shawn Patton, Lori King, Cyndi Dickson, Gregory Winner, Lois Carrico, Karen Horgan becoming members of Sixth by transfer from the Greenfield Presbyterian Church.
- A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve a congregational meeting for November 19, Sunday at noon, to elect church officers.

Finance:

- Erik Fogt reviewed Maggie Ritchey's Financial Report.

House

- Elder Leslie Kaplan reported that she had received a bid to do the work on the stained glass windows from the Hunt Stained Glass Studios, Inc. This bid is much less than the other bids received. She will investigate this further.
- The outside painting is finished and a good job was done.
- The furnace is fixed.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to reset three sections of removed acrylic on the south windows. The price will be \$600.00.

Stewardship

Elder Lauren Ward reported that the contract for the feasibility study has been signed. She reported that she, Leslie Kaplan, and Pastor Kolb will meet together before they meet with the representative from Church Campaign Services.

Personnel

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Pastor's vacation from 12/26/17 to 1/2/18.

Deacon's Report

The Deacon's Report was reviewed.

Old Business

There was no discussion of "Responding to Events in Real Time"

New Business

- There was an agreement that the Indemnification Agreement should be put in the Building Policy, but before that is done, the Session will have Peter Watt-Morse review it. It will be presented at the November meeting.

Committee Information

Church and Community

Draft Resolution on Hewlett Packard. Peter Gilmore. PCUSA voted in 2014 to divest from HP because of its involvement with the occupation of Palestine. Consistent with FOSNA campaign for HP-free churches, the resolution proposes that C&C recommend to Session that Sixth boycott HP products. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the draft resolution.

Earth Care

Nora Johnson has suggested we bring Larry Schweiger to Sixth Church to speak on Climate change. Pastor Kolb will talk to the treasurer to see if there is money left in the Roger's Fund to pay for it.

Next Session Meetings will be January 3 and 31.

— Millie Barnes, Clerk of Session

What I Get From Singing in the Choir

My husband Sam and I started singing in the Sixth Church choir nearly 30 years ago. When we became parents in 1993, Thursday evening became Date Night! But aside from the fact that it got us out of the house once a week, we both found that singing sacred choral music was the most profound form of worship for us. The choir sang at Sam's Memorial Service three years ago, and I was so grateful and humbled, and I know that Sam was enjoying it.

Like any other group endeavor, the whole is hopefully better than the sum of the parts. As a group, we work hard to learn the music, and then to provide something beautiful and meaningful for those who hear us. Gail always chooses appropriate music, and she is fantastic at extracting the best that we have to offer as amateurs. There are occasional Sundays when we perhaps only "make it through", but there are more Sundays when the words and the notes of what we are singing become a thing of profound beauty and meaning. It is so powerful! And frequently members have expressed being moved by the music on a particular morning, and that makes it all the better. It does feel like a gift to be able to participate in an expression more full than any I could achieve on my own.

Singing in the choir is challenging and very rewarding. My own musical sensitivities and my ability to sing have improved immensely throughout the years that I have sung with the choir. If you might consider joining us, it really only requires the ability to carry a tune and a willingness to work and learn. The reward is great!

— Jan Myers-Newbury



Nicaragua Mission 2017 : How We Help

On Oct. 17 the group that participated in the June 2017 Mission Trip shared details and highlights from their trip. If you missed it, below are some highlights of the trip that they shared with the group. To view a slide show of photos from the trip please visit the Children and Youth Blog via the church's website at [www. Sixthchurch.org](http://www.Sixthchurch.org).

Also, for some background and more info on our partnership with El Porvenir please check out the June 2017 edition of the church's newsletter, Sixth Sense.

The mission team: Our group of six included David Rothenberg, Sara Berg, and Jenny Newman (that's me!) from Sixth Presbyterian Church. Also along for the journey were Jennifer Novelli, Executive Director of Building New Hope, and her son, Alessandro. Mark Swift, a member of First Presbyterian Church in Washington, PA, joined us for the adventure. We were excited to be joined by Building New Hope board member Therese Tardio during our time at El Porvenir.

On a warm and sunny morning at El Porvenir, we met with Rene and some of the community's elders in the office of the Co-OP. They wanted to share with us their appreciation or our church's support. They presented us with a report of what our donations were used for. The Community of El Porvenir received \$1,000 from Sixth Church in 2016 through the church's Church & Community committee allocations. Financial Transparency is very important to the elders and leaders of the community. A ledger is kept in the CO-OP's Financial Office and receipts and payments are meticulously documented.

Donations from Sixth Presbyterian Church in 2016 have been used for:

Improvements and renovations to the Main House at El Porvenir. The structure is 96 years old and serves as the office, gathering place, location of the coffee sorting and storage, housing for visiting groups. Our friend's report that this has been a long and difficult renovation due to size of the structure and the type of hard wood that is used in its construction.

Rebuilding of the gazebo at the lookout point on the top of the mountain. The structure collapsed in 2015 and Sixth Church donations have made it possible to reconstruct this structure.

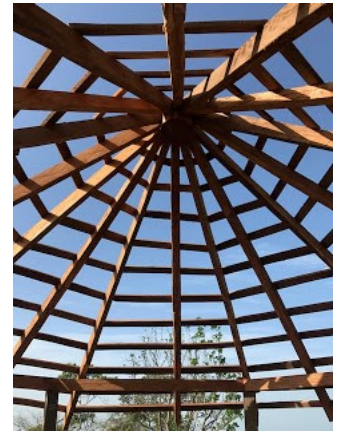
A railing was added to the long, concrete steps of the Main House making trips to the outhouse and other places down below safer.

Funding from Sixth Church Donations have made it possible for the community to maintain a medical fund. Members of the community are able to borrow from that fund in case of medical emergencies and pay it back at no interest.

2017 Donations :

2017 Donations During our trip we presented the El Porvenir with a \$500 donation from our mission trip group and Sixth Church's 2017 allocation from Church & Community which was \$980. The leaders of El Porvenir were very happy to receive our contributions which will allow them to get parts and begin to fix a broken water pump which is a much needed and anticipated repair.

—Jenny Newman





Our Child Care workers got up bright and early on a Saturday morning to get certified in CPR and using the church's AED. Pictured here are Jenn McCartney, Meredith Harrison, Sonia Panic and Izzy Nelson.

Youth Happenings November

Sunday School: Sunday school class for junior and senior high is held each week (10 - 10:45 am) upstairs in Jenny Newman's new office (formerly Gail's music office). Join Amy Whipple and special guest stars for discussion on the week's scripture passages, current events, and other assorted topics. There will be donuts and drinks!

Youth Fellowship at Crazy Mocha: Youth are invited for coffee and conversation at Crazy Mocha on Murray Ave. from 6 to 7:30 pm on Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16, and 30.

Questions? Contact Jenny Newman at (412) 720-6392 or Jenny@Sixthchurch.org

Coffee for Sale

We have coffee for sale! Stop by the church office to buy a bag of coffee from our mission partners in El Porvenir!

Regular or dark roast ground or whole bean **\$13**

Decaf ground or whole bean **\$14**

Sunday School Announcements

- Please join us for our Stewardship Breakfast beginning at 9:30 am, Sunday, Nov. 5. Following the breakfast, pre-school through older elementary students are invited to gather with our Sunday School teachers at 10:30 am in the sanctuary to learn about the Sacraments, what happens during the worship service, and training for acolytes and water pourers.
- There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, November 26 for the pre-school through high school classes. We will have nursery care and Extended Session during the worship service.

Upcoming Dates:

Dec. 3: Family Advent Dinner, 5 to 7 pm in the Chapel

Dec. 16: Sunday school Christmas Pageant Practice at 10 am

Dec. 17: Sunday School Christmas Pageant during worship, 11 am

Dec. 24: No Sunday school. We will have nursery care and Extended Session during the worship service.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service at 7 pm. Nursery Care for infants and toddlers will be available.

Dec. 31: No Sunday school. We will have nursery care and Extended Session during the worship service.

Adult Education: The Reformation



Ruling Elder Peter Gilmore will be leading an adult study class on the Reformation at 10 am on Sunday, Nov. 19 and Sunday, Dec. 10. in the Parlor. Please join us!

November 2017 – Events and Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Louise Craft 11:00 am, Bible Study 7:00 pm, 14th Ward Democrats	2 5:30 pm, Esther Play Rehearsal 6:00 pm, Youth Group (Crazy Mocha) 7:30 pm, Choir	3 Andrew DeJong Alice Scales	4 7:00 pm, NA
5 Mary Crossley Stewardship Sunday 9:30 am (Stewardship Breakfast) 11:00 am, Worship 12:00 pm, More Light Committee 12:30 pm, Program on Gerrymander -ing 8:00 pm, NA	6 Megan Fogt 7:00 pm, Knit Night (off- site) 7:00 pm, NA	7	8 3:30 pm, Condo Association 7:15 pm, Deacons	9 6:00 pm, Youth Group (Crazy Mocha) 7:30 pm, Choir	10	11 10:00 am, Course in Miracles (outside group) 7:00 pm, NA
12 Nancy Wells 10:00 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Worship 12:00 pm, Gun Safety 8:00 pm, NA	13 7:00 pm, NA	14 Gabe Yancy	15 Joan Gaul 11:00 am, Bible Study	16 Grace Brennan Jack Johnston Brian Lazarus 6:00 pm, Youth Group (Crazy Mocha) 7:30 pm, Choir	17	18 7:00 pm, NA

November 2017 – Events and Birthdays, continued

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 10:00 am, Adult Study: The Reformation 10:00 am, Sunday School 11:00 am, Worship 12:00 pm, Congregation -al Meeting 2:00 pm, Alopecia Support Group 8:00 pm, NA	20 7:00 pm, Knit Night (off- site) 7:00 pm, NA	21 Bob Robinson- Dassel	22 Cosy Cornelius- Bates	23 Thanksgiving Office Closed Lucy Brennan	24 Office Closed	25 Laura Sindhi 10:00 am, Course in Miracles (outside group) 7:00 pm, NA
26 11:00 am, Worship 8:00 pm, NA	27 Elena Berg Robin Holtje 7:00 pm, NA	28	29 Dan Brennan 7:30 pm, Session Meeting	30 6:00 pm, Youth Group (Crazy Mocha) 7:30 pm, Choir		



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Dated Material – Do Not Hold
Address Service Requested



We are an open and affirming community of faith in Jesus Christ. At home in an urban neighborhood of many faiths, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. In worship, study, and fellowship, we celebrate our Presbyterian roots and find joy in our diversity. We strive for the grace to love one another as we seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit, working for justice and serving as stewards of God's wondrous creation.



The Deadline for the December newsletter is November 15th. Please email articles and announcements to Amy in the church office (office@sixthchurch.org). You can also put printed copies on her desk. Thank you!

Food for Thought...

"It is curious that we Americans have a holiday – Thanksgiving – that's all about people who left their homes for a life of their own choosing, a life that was different from their parents' lives. And how do we celebrate it? By hanging out with our parents! It's as if on the Fourth of July we honored our independence from the British by barbecuing crumpets." –Sarah Vowell

"I celebrated Thanksgiving in an old-fashioned way. I invited everyone in my neighborhood to my house, we had an enormous feast, and then I killed them and took their land." –Jon Stewart

"When people come to my act any time after Thanksgiving, I usually say, You shouldn't be here. You should be shopping. Our economy depends on you! You should be out there buying stuff." –Lewis Black

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." –G.K. Chesterton