



Capital News-- January 23, 2023

## Caring for God's House - Together



Painting your favorite puppy!

### Paint Night #2 Feb 3rd, 6-8:30pm

A Valentine Paint Night to support the Capital Campaign has been set for Friday, Feb 3rd, from 6:30pm.

Recommended donation is \$15 per person. All materials needed to complete the project (including a template of the puppy) will be supplied. There will be time for fellowship with your fellow painters with salad, sparkling cider, desserts, and chocolates.

**Two ways to register:** sign up in the Narthex or text Amanda at (505) 269-6902.

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## Important Annual Meeting

Our guest at the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday Jan.29 will be **Maggie Harmon**, the Ministry Relations Officer for the Southwest. She works with congregations to create a culture of generosity.

Maggie offers seminars and workshops, develops gifts and fundraising plans for ministries and provides coaching to leadership, finance, stewardship and endowment committees. The capital campaign committee has had phone conversations with her through the fall, and they are anxious to meet her this weekend.

**“I believe that philanthropy is much more than just giving. It is our opportunity to respond to God’s commandment to care for each other, for this planet, and to ensure that our values live on for generations,” says Maggie.**

Maggie’s experience includes 20 years of legal practice, management consulting, and leadership coaching. She is a certified Six Sigma Black Belt and has extensive training in social science-based organizational development. Maggie brings all this experience to her work through holistic organizational planning, helping churches create programs that meet their unique needs. She is an active member of Montclair Presbyterian Church in Oakland, Calif.

Maggie holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California—Davis and a Juris Doctorate from the Santa Clara University School of Law. She also has certification in leadership, organizational growth, and social science from Stanford’s School of Business.

So what is this **culture of generosity**? “Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” *1 Peter 4:9,10* Joyful, responsive giving in proportion to what gifts God has sent to each of us.

We know, for example, that unless we care for one another, we are failing to fulfill the commandment to love one another. Our building, this sanctuary expresses the inclusive nature of God’s love and the beauty of God’s presence in our lives. RRPC shares our sanctuary with several community based groups and in this we enhance our ministry. Lives are saved through AA, Al Anon, Share your Care. The monthly men’s breakfast has resumed (post Covid) and the Presbyterian Women are meeting, both groups providing fellowship. Caring for one another is a year round endeavor – not something that happens only in the fall through the stewardship drives! We are invited to be part of something bigger when we participate in RRPC.

It's radical generosity! Be hopeful and willing. Be joyful. Untangle your feet and you'll be able to dance!

You have heard the saying "it takes a village to raise the children." The church is a key portion of that village, offering many 'aunts' and "uncles" and "grandparents" to help with the work throughout the year. We're in this together! Jesus is in charge after all.

Belonging to this community does not breed uniformity of thought or action. Instead belonging will help each of us to define what we really believe and value. We learn how best to participate and belong. Participating with time, talent and treasure helps us see the value offered in each of the age generations within the congregation. This is transformational for us! We are surrounded by God's love!

Ask "*How can we advance God's realm with all the gifts he has given to us?*" We share our abundance. God did not create the church to have a successful **institution**, but rather a **community**. Be excited about more people building the community, coming to be shaped by the love that is God and the Holy Spirit. We are all invited into the church family. This is the result of our radical generosity – which transforms all of us.

1 Peter 4 "Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

*(Thoughts gathered from Stewardship Kaleidoscope, Thriving Churches, Carey Nieuwhof - podcasts and webinars) - by Capital News Editor S. Scott)*

***Thank you for your support!***

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