

# *Banner*

*We are a sharing, loving fellowship of Christian believers, rooted in biblical faith, that actively seeks and celebrates God. We desire to praise, love and serve with all our hearts in our faith community and to reach out to our neighbors, continuing the work of Jesus peacefully, simply, together. In God we find the source of all our joy.*

*Hallelujah!*

March 2024

Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren

Vol. 51 No. 03

## *A Word From Our Pastor*

Hello, Church Family!

I am simply overjoyed that we will be working together in God's good work! I have given much of my prayer time in gratitude for this fortuitous event. Most of you have known me for years but let me offer a brief introduction. I was born into this church and grew up in La Verne; being formed by many of you. I attended University of La Verne, for undergrad, teaching credential and ultimately for a M.Ed. I taught for nearly 15 years in the Bonita and Walnut School Districts from Kinder to eighth grade science.

I married right out of college, had two children, and then my husband died after 6 years. After a number of years, I remarried a widower with two children. This relationship was fraught with enough challenges to have it end. Seven years ago I married Dennis Wallstrom and we moved to Pomona. What a blessing a good marriage is!

All that said, I would love to “meet” each and every one of you in an informal way – perhaps we could get coffee or lunch or take a walk together. Although I know many of you, this role is entirely different and I am interested in your life and family, your spiritual life, and your hopes and dreams for the church.

Let's touch base!

Pastor Julie Wheeler





those limited or confined for health reasons: **Cathy Banks, Marcheta Pletcher.**

We also uphold these members, friends and family members of our congregation who have prayer concerns:

**Bill Lemon**  
**Chuck Snyder**

**PFCOB STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION  
Through January 2024**

<b>2024 Annual Budget</b>	<b>\$186,267.00</b>
<b>Total Budget Income thru January</b>	<b>\$8,028.31</b>
Giving '24	\$6,620.00
Interest & Other Income '24	\$1,408.31
<b>Total Budget Expense thru January</b>	<b>\$(8,365.68)</b>
<b>Budget Balance thru January</b>	<b>(\$337.37)</b>
<b>January Special Non-Budget Offerings</b>	
Inland Valley Hope Partners Beta	\$55.00
Messenger	\$14.50

**February Worship Schedule**

- March 3**, Wandering Heart: "Praise the mount"
- March 10**, Wandering Heart: "I'm fixed upon it"
- March 17**, Wandering Heart: "Teach me"
- March 24**, Wandering Heart: "Songs of Loudest Praise" Dennis Wallstrom Preaching
- March 31**, Wandering Heart: "And I hope"

**Upcoming Meetings**

- Stewards**, Tuesday March 5 at 3:30pm
- Service & Outreach**, Tuesday March 12 at 9:30am
- Music & Worship**, Wednesday March 13 at 11:00am
- Executive Committee**, Thursday March 14 at 6:30pm
- Church Board**, Thursday March 21 at 6:30pm

Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., **Bible Study** over Google Meet. Contact Sander Eller for details.



*Birthdays*

- Paul Lovelace on the 7th
- Diane Deal on the 11th
- Sandi Brooks on the 20<sup>th</sup>
- Mary Hines on the 23rd
- Laura Lovelace on the 28th
- Don Overholser on the 31st

*Anniversaries*

- Richard & Linda Hart on the 20<sup>th</sup>

# Service & Outreach News & Updates

## Giving Emphases for the month of March

Thank you for your continued response in our effort to support the local food bank. Our food emphases for **March are Meat and Pasta.** Canned meat, dry meat or “tuna in a bag” are wonderful options. For all canned food please provide Pop-Top cans. As always, staple items are always needed and welcome.



Our giving emphasis for March is **The Easter Egg Hunt we are Cohosting with St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

## Commission News

March is roaring in like the proverbial lion, a wet one at that, to invite you to share- in a number of outreach activities. Among them are:

**The Easter Egg Hunt and Celebration,** which we will do with St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Saturday, March 30th, the day before Easter, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Besides hunting for Easter eggs there will be crafts, the telling of the Easter story, refreshments, and even a chance to have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny.

**The Newcomers Access Center** is having a dinner and auction at the DoubleTree by Hilton. 222 North Vineyard, Ontario, on Sunday, April 21, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., to benefit local refugees and immigrants. Tickets are \$125 each, but the Early Bird special is just \$100 if purchased by March 31. Flyers are available at church, see Jerry Davis, or contact the church office for more details. Several people have already indicated support, so carpooling is a possibility.

Violence has unfortunately become part of our lives, and so S&O is beginning to look into **Ways to Address Violence.** This includes the kinds of violence as well as ways to mitigate its effects. There are some Church of the Brethren sponsored Zoom meetings this spring on this topic that will be advertised. Your comments and concerns would be appreciated by S&O members.

Written By Phyllis Eller



## *The Peace Pole*



Dedicating a Peace Pole? Why do we have them? What makes them so special?

The first Peace Poles were in Ishikawa, Japan and came from the peace movement that Masahisa Goi founded. Masahisa Goi was born in 1916 in Tokyo, Japan. After witnessing WWII and the aftermath of the nuclear bombs dropped on Japan his life and what he saw meaning in changed. His purpose in life was to dedicate himself to humanitarian service with a vision of global peace and harmony among all cultures and beliefs. In a vision he heard the phrase “May Peace Prevail on Earth” which became the

focus of his work. Masahisa believed that words, phrases, thoughts, actions, and intentions carry an energy and if we lean into that energy those thoughts, actions, etc. can spread to all living things and spread throughout the world.

Masha began talking about his vision and beliefs in cities and towns and was known as one of the great minds of his field.

He began gained a following as he went around and talked about his philosophy and visions of a better world. The small gatherings began to get larger as the movement began to spread by word of mouth and the stickers and posters people would pass out and put up all over the towns and subway stations. In his teachings and messages he encouraged creative thought and ideas to spread his message to a greater number of people. The thought of placing his message, May Peace Prevail on Earth, on a pole in 1976 created the Peace Pole we have today and the birth of the Peace Pole Project. Masahisa died in

1983 and left his project and vision in the hands of his daughter. Masami Saionji became the Chair of the project and worked to spread the movement beyond the borders of Japan. She created the Ceremony for the world peace flag and prayer in 1983 with it being used outside Japan in 1986. Since then The Peace Pole project has been established throughout the world and the Peace Pole has become an International symbol of Peace with over 200,000 locations. Our Peace Pole was first dedicated in the 1990s by Myrna Wheeler on our church grounds in on Orange grove in Pomona CA. We sold our building and held a decentration service in 2021 and moved our Peace Pole to our new location on Alvarado St. in Pomona CA and where Julie Wheeler, Myrna's daughter, dedicated our Peace Pole with the hope that peace will spread throughout our new neighborhood, the city, and beyond

Written by Laura Lovelace with the help of the Peace Project website [worldpeace.org](http://worldpeace.org)

*Banner* articles are due by March 20<sup>th</sup>

The *Banner* is published by the Pomona Fellowship Church of the Brethren  
Address: 242 E. Alvarado St.  
Pomona, CA 91767  
(909) 629-2548

**Email: [office@mypomonachurch.org](mailto:office@mypomonachurch.org)**  
**[pastorjulie@mypomonachurch.org](mailto:pastorjulie@mypomonachurch.org)**  
**Website: [mypomonachurch.org](http://mypomonachurch.org)**

Services & Activities

Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall

Bible Study on Google Meet Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Julie Wheeler	Pastor
Janet Short	Moderator
Laura Lovelace	Admin. Assistant

The *Banner* is published once a month. Articles and announcements to appear in the next issue of the *Banner* are due in the church office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.



SUN MON TUES WED THUR FRI SAT

					<b>1</b> Pastor Julie Starts	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Wandering Heart: "Praise the mount"	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Stewards 3:30pm  Google Meets Bible Study 7:30pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Wandering Heart: "I'm fixed upon it"  Daylight Savings time begins	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Service & Outreach 9:3am  Google Meets Bible Study 7:30pm	<b>13</b> Music & Worship 11:00am	<b>14</b> Executive Committee 6:30pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> St. Paul's Work Day 8:00am- 12:00pm
<b>17</b> Wandering Heart: "Teach me"  St Patrick's Day	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> First day of Spring  Google Meets Bible Study 7:30pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Church Board 6:30pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Wandering Heart: "Songs of Loudest Praise"  Palm Sunday	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Food Bank in Parking Lot 9:00am- 11:00am	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Maundy Thursday Service	<b>29</b> Good Friday	<b>30</b> Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am- 11:30am
<b>31</b> Wandering Heart: "And I hope"  Easter Sunday						