



ESCALON  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

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2015 ANNUAL REPORT

*There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2016

EPC FAITH CENTER

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# Pastor

## Troy J. Onsager

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### **Pastoral**

I continue to love my role as a pastor - and as your pastor I do wear many hats but the most important hat is that of *pastor* - to shepherd a local congregation in faith and life.

As Eugene Peterson writes: “The biblical fact is that there are no successful churches. There are, instead, communities of sinners, gathered before God week after week in towns and villages all over the world. The Holy Spirit gathers them and does his work in them. In these communities of sinners, one of the sinners is called pastor and given a designated responsibility in the community. The pastor’s responsibility is to keep the community attentive to God.”

We are not, nor need we be “successful” in a worldly sense, but we are most certainly a church in the biblical sense - sinners who covenant together to stay attentive to God, love one another, and grow in our faith. As I write each year, when I look at my calendar and see the names of those I have met with, I am reminded of the conversations that unfolded from your pain, anger, sadness, confusion, grief, surprise, joy, critique and encouragement. Looking back, I continue to pray for you once again and hope that your strength is found in Christ. Please continue to pray for me to grow in faith, understanding and maturity.

### **Preaching**

To begin the year, we embarked on a 13-week journey on the Essential Tenets of our Denomination - covering important basic beliefs such as the authority of Scripture, the Trinity, God’s Grace in Christ. In the summer, we spent our time looking at the first three chapters of the Book of Ephesians in a series called: Practice Resurrection - Growing Up in Christ. This fall we walked through the first nine chapters of Genesis in a series called The Gospel of Genesis. Throughout the year we had a variety of guest preachers, including our friends Brian Ralston, Julia Leeth, Bill David and Scott Vance.

### **Leadership**

In 2015, I served in the following leadership capacities: member of the Escalon Ministerial Association; member of the Ordination Team for the local Presbytery of Northern California and Nevada (ECO); member of the National Theological Task Force (ECO); Co-Director of the West Coast Presbyterian Pastor’s Conference; ECO minister board member of Calvin Crest Camps and Conferences.

### **Study Leave**

I attended the ECO Theology Conference in San Diego in January. I attended and helped lead the West Coast Presbyterian Pastor’s Conference in April. I attended two meetings of the ECO Theological Task Force in Dallas (May/November). I attended a Karl Barth Conference at Princeton Theological Seminary

## Continued

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in June, spending extra time in the library for PhD study. Per the arrangements for my sabbatical, I continued to spend one day per week reading and now writing initial chapters for my dissertation, as well as connecting regularly with my supervisor via internet video-conferencing. My topic is the confessional unity of the church (ecclesiology - the study of the ecclesia, the church).

### **Vacation**

This summer we flew to Montana for a few weeks to visit with my family and friends - apart from missing our return flight for absurd reasons - it was a thoroughly restful and enjoyable getaway. Leslie and the boys were able to visit her parents a number of times in their new home in the beautiful area of Avila Beach and I was able to join them one of those visits as well. Leslie and I celebrated our tenth wedding anniversary this year and we were able to spend a few days away together.

### **Presbytery**

The Presbytery of Northern California and Nevada gathered four times for their Stated Meetings. The Presbytery of Northern California and Nevada has grown so much that we are going to be splitting into two Presbyteries in 2016. I presented on behalf of the Theological Task Force to the November meeting concerning a process of discernment related to our confessions of faith. The growth of our denomination, ECO, has been remarkable, as we ended the year with now 252 churches in a denomination less than four years old (with many more now in process).

### **Remembering**

In 2015 we said goodbye with the hope of the resurrection to come to good friends of EPC. Bob Golden passed away in February this year. Bob was on the Session when I first arrived in Escalon and he was a wonderful Christian man. He was tremendously supportive, encouraging and a delight to be around - I miss him greatly.

### **Forward in Faith**

Last year in this section I wrote: "we are embarking together on a Capital Campaign, proposing to fund the first phase of our Master Plan." As we begin 2016 we do so in anticipation of the final bids from contractors to build Phase One. How was this possible? Through the generosity of the congregation, who responded to the Forward in Faith Campaign to pledge almost \$1.2 million to Phase One of our Master Plan. See the section on Forward in Faith for more information about this wonderful development. It was for me, on a faith level, one of the most memorable experiences of my time here at EPC.

Read on Ahead In the following pages you will read about the mission and ministry of our church from our church family. I am grateful and blessed by their committed faith, missional dedication and love for EPC.

# Forward in Faith

## Pastor Troy Onsager

It was a pleasure for our congregation to work with Don Goehner of the Goehner Group, who advised us in the process of a Capital Campaign. His group was a perfect fit for our congregation's ethos. The following is a brief overview of the capital campaign, with gratitude given to the servant leaders and a section devoted to the building team as well:

### Forward in Faith Campaign

In terms of our schedule, we kicked off our Forward in Faith Campaign on February 11 with an All-Church Prayer Day. From February 26 to March 10 the entire church participated in a series of desserts hosted in homes and at the church, in order to present the details of the campaign and hear your questions. During this time I led 14 total desserts, in which 156 members/friends contacted and 109 attended a Dessert Meeting. (70%).

I wrote the following words to the Dessert planning team towards the end of this experience, which for me was a spiritually rich experience:

*These desserts have been a wonderful experience for me. As exhausted as I am right now, and needing to play catch up on many fronts, I wouldn't trade this experience for anything.*

*Those who have attended these desserts have told me they didn't know what to expect, and had, at times, a certain degree of anxiety. But the informal gathering in homes enabled them to ask questions, to have the process clarified, and at many desserts, developed into a conversation about what this church means to*

*them. Anxiety was obliterated with these gatherings. This has been rich. A coalescing of the responses given at the desserts would have these highlights:*

- *Excitement that we have this problem of space for youth and our congregation*
- *Excitement that the youth programs of all ages are growing significantly*
- *Deep appreciation for the fiscal responsibility of the campaign to be 1) phases financially 2) not incur longterm debt, 3) continue to reduce costs where possible*
- *Excitement about the design of the master plan - many, prior to the reveal last fall, were concerned about the master plan from architectural and financial perspectives. Virtual unanimous excitement about the final perspectives, floor plans and phased approach.*
- *All desserts really enjoyed the video put together by Bob Shatswell. It really felt like it captured "us" as a congregation while communicating the vision of the campaign. The congregational photos in the brochure were also very well received.*
- *There have been, at times, tears shed about what this church means to them and excitement about its future.*
- *Finally, a deep belief from most, if not all, that 1) we need to do this now, and that 2) we can.*

*So, I stand here really encouraged.*

I'd like to thank Jerry Barton and his team: Laura Alcantor, Janet Barton, Charlie Dodge, Tom and Marsha Love, Sandy Thompson, for coordinating these important home visits with excellence and energy. Thank you to so many of you for hosting these desserts in your homes.

## Continued

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Our Campaign continued with Celebration Sunday on March 29 in which our entire Congregation gathered in the Faith Center after worship for lunch to hear for the final time the vision for our Capital Campaign and to hear the financial commitment of the leadership, including the blessing of the generous matching gift. The congregation was encouraged to take home commitment cards for personal prayer and discernment.

I'd like to thank Jerry Hougland and his team, Rick Guevara and Corinne Thompson for their hard work in their presentation for Celebration Sunday and their encouraging call to the congregation that we can, in fact "do this!"

Our Campaign continued on April 19 in which we celebrated Victory Sunday in which we receive the congregations prayerfully considered pledges towards the Capital Campaign in a service of worship. You could feel the excitement continuing to build.

Finally, on May 10, FIF chairs Jerry Hougland and Jerry Barton, revealed to the congregation that we had \$1,150,000 in donations and pledges towards the construction of the new multi-purpose building with anticipated giving pushing that number potentially over \$1.2 million. Our congregation was greatly excited by this wonderful news.

I'd like to thank Don Goehner for his guidance and leadership as well as Jerry Hougland and Jerry Barton for their expertise and enthusiasm in making this Forward in Faith campaign a success. I'd also like to thank Diane Hougland for her necessary expertise and dedication as our Treasurer in the process.

### **Building Team**

Continuing all through the year of 2015, the Facilities Master Plan team continued to meet, and as a result of the successful Forward in Faith campaign the team transitioned into a Building Team phase. Bob McCune continued his leadership of this team, with Rick Dodge, Jerry Barton, Jerry Hougland and Leslie Onsager meeting together to advise and provide feedback to the architect in the development of full-construction drawings. When the year began I transitioned off the Task Force to focus on the campaign and have stayed away - for I have complete trust this group of five to act on behalf of the interests of the congregation as well as bring this project to completion. I cannot thank them enough for their dedication to our church for over five years now! I'd like to thank so many of you who have participated in the Master Plan process over these years.

In particular I'd like to thank Bob McCune for his excellent leadership of the building team as well as Leslie Onsager as the appointed point person for the team, as they both have interfaced extensively with the architectural firm, the city, potential contractors and other necessary agencies in the completion of the architectural drawings and the transition to the proposed building phase.

There is more to come - but looking back at this point to the blessings of God in 2015, we simply have much to be grateful for! A Church that stepped forward in faith. A Church that is committed to the future ministry of EPC. A Church that loves each other and has an unbelievable army of volunteers who love serving God's Church and God's people.

# Music

## Joel Adams - Director of Music

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I am proud to lead the fine music ministers of Escalon Presbyterian Church. We endeavor to lead with heart and skill, making our music excellent for the Glory of God, the encouragement of the congregation, and the enrichment of our own lives. Although our roles, instruments, and styles vary, we all gather around the same mission. With this God centered focus, we pray to continue leading and facilitating worship through music.

In 2015 we continued our tradition of special services centered on Good Friday and Christmas. Each year's performances are unique and tell the ancient stories with fresh inspiration. This year was exceptional, including piano, organ, and instrumental ensembles. The core of what we do is surrounding music for our weekly Sunday morning worship service. Our choir has continued to provide creative and inspiring introits and anthems throughout the year. Our accompaniment has been diverse, with piano, organ, percussion, flute, strings, oboe, and trumpet. The praise team leads our modern and contemporary songs for congregation and special music with incredible skill and obvious passion. Our service music has been a blessing, with preludes, offertories, and postludes primarily by organ and supplemented with piano. With musical selections, instrumentalists, and vocalists, we continue to strive for a variety that honors and celebrates classic and contemporary music within various genres and in a unique, acoustically vibrant setting at EPC.

### **Music Ministers:**

#### **Organ**

Linda Bustle

#### **Piano**

Linda Bustle, Tisha DeHaven, Troy Onsager, Shannon Stanley (choir accompanist)

#### **Guitar**

Iain McCullough, Troy Onsager, Shelby McCune, Chris Thompson, Richard Thompson (lead)

#### **Percussion**

Troy Onsager, Tyler Hood, Mike Stewart

#### **Instrumental Guests**

Juan Gutierrez, Violin

Elizabeth Kidwell, Violin

Anne Martin, Viola

Ira Lehn, Cello

Susan Kennelly, Flute

John Arnold, Oboe

Jeff Jarchow, Trumpet

#### **Praise Vocals**

Julie Bottoms, Vanessa Holcombe, Diane Hougland, Leslie Onsager, Sharie Roark, Shannon Stanley, Richard Thompson, Nel Vieira

#### **Chancel Choir**

**Soprano** – Mary Adams, Barbara Jones, Patti Duncan, Sharie Roark, Dicksie Woodward

**Alto** – Diane Hougland, Jeanne Meil, Leslie Pettinger, Toney Rose

**Tenor** – Dan Adams, Janet Barton, Phil Brown, Jeff Hood, Nel Vieira

**Bass** – Jerry Barton, Rick Dodge, Tom Love, Grant Thompson

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# Youth Group

## Mike Fahey - Director of Youth

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2015 was kicked off with a Youth Sunday that was a blessing to all that attended and participated. Followed up with kids serving at the Salvation Army dinners and a spring retreat with special guest speaker Brant and Amanda Rose. And of course there was the usual games with disgusting food being consumed by those brave enough to have their minds over ride their taste buds. Nights at the Fahey's playing GaGa ball, watching movies and playing dodge ball was fun. Who can forget the night we tried to see what type of food would stick to Jenn. Needless to say, we had a lot of fun this past year. The kids enjoyed another trip to summer camp. We sent 52 kids to summer camp ranging from 4 grade through 12th grade.

Most importantly, we learned about Jesus with Bible studies that took us through many New Testament books, Proverbs and Psalms. Kids made commitments to God and many were baptized this year. For as much fun and blessing we've experienced this year, we have also seen some kids face the challenges of life which draw them away from God. Your prayers are needed as always. This ministry thrives on your prayer and support. We saw Jenn go off to the mission field and have been blessed with adding Amanda to the youth staff. I am excited to see what 2016 brings our way. Hopefully a new building will allow youth room expansion and give us a little more room; our noses are counting on it. Thanks to Jenn, Amanda, Brant, Don, Jordan and Taylor for serving the kids

this year. Keep praying for us and if you feel the need to support the youth ministry, prayer is always welcomed and we can always use more adults to keep an eye on kids and help out.

Thanks again for all the support  
Mike

# Adult Ministries

## Dan Adams, Patty Mayfield

As directors of Adult Ministries, it has been an honor serving the Escalon Presbyterian Church this past year. We have been privileged to serve communion and assist in counting the offering on a rotating basis with other Session members.

Last January, Escalon Presbyterian hosted a mini retreat with Rhonda Stoppe as our guest speaker. It was well attended by women throughout the community.

In February, we helped organize the Day of Prayer, to seek God's guidance in planning the new Multi-Purpose Building.

### **Bible Studies:**

Last fall, Patty Mayfield started the Women of the Word (W.O.W.) Bible study that meets on Monday nights at 7:00, and Sandy Thompson & April Adams began the Women of Faith Bible study on Wednesday nights at 6:00. Diane Hougland continues to lead the Women's Bible study that meets on Mondays once a month.

Dan Adams teaches the men's Bible study on Saturdays at 7 a.m. and mentors two men at the Modesto Gospel Mission on Thursday evenings.

Volunteers led the adult Sunday school class; the lessons were so well received that we continued through the summer.

Ray Vander Laan Series (Tom & Marsha Love, Randy & Nancy Schimdt, Patty Mayfield, Margy Sawyer, Dan Adams, & Dick Nelson)

The Book of Mark (Dick Nelson & Dan Adams)

Experiencing God (Dan Adams & Margy Sawyer)

### **Continuing Education:**

March, Patty attended the Mission Affinity Group at Trinity Presbyterian in Modesto.

November, Patty participated in the Presbytery Meeting in Milpitas.

December, Patty attended the EPC Leadership class for Elders & Deacons led by Pastor Troy.

### **Future Endeavors:**

The Alpha Series at EPC starting February 21, Sunday evenings at 5:30.

Women's Retreat at Calvin Crest April 15-17 (see Patty Mayfield or Jen Thompson for details).

Men's Retreat at Arnold March 4-5 (see Mike Fayhe for details)

**Special thanks to Jayne Fahey for her ideas, inspiration, and encouragement in helping us minister to all of you at EPC.**

Praise be to God,

Dan Adams & Patty Mayfield

# Youth Ministries

**Sandy Thompson, Lisa McCune**

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It was another great year for Youth Ministries. We are so blessed to have a team of such willing workers and believers. There is never a dull moment as we meet to plan Sunday school, choose curriculum, set calendar events, work on church nursery times and need, set movie days, set special outreach events, Christmas programs, vacation Bible school to name just a few agenda items. Each team member brings their gifts, opinions and enthusiasm as we strive to seek and to honor God's will in all we do.

Many of our outreach events continued this past year as we strived to encourage our students to look beyond their own church community. Included were the ever-popular Chili Cook Off and Talent Show; in November, the Father-Daughter Dance in February, "Third Wednesday" dinners before Youth Group and our summer-sports-themed vacation Bible school. Our team continued to be blessed by EPC support for all of these events! Our VBS program was once again a tremendous outreach made possible by great leadership, wonderful helpers and faithful attenders! It was indeed a blessed time!

Our Sunday school program continued to grow as our teachers provided Biblical training and enthusiasm for God's word each and every Sunday. Our store supported our students in their attendance, Biblical knowledge and memorization by allowing them to earn "Bucks" which can be spent there every few months. Special events observed by our students included Valentines day, Mothers day, Fathers day, 4th of July and Veterans day.

This last years Christmas musical, Angels Aware was presented during church on Sunday, December 13. Our students did a great job in presenting this program after many hours of hard work and dedication. Thanks to all of those who made this a true "Christmas gift" for our Congregation.

Our nursery time during church continued to serve the very young members of our congregation. Activity bags were provided for the older students who remain in church for the Sunday message. Movie Sundays continued to be offered every six or so weeks.

Middle school and High school students continued to meet at their scheduled times every Wednesday evening. There were also special events and outreaches planned through out the year. Thanks to Mike and his dedicated team for their hard work. Camps for the students including some elementary students were well attended this past summer.

Our 3rd Wednesday program continued through the spring but was not continued in the Fall due to the time changes for Youth Groups.

We are excited to look ahead as the new building begins to take shape. It is always our prayer that we can stretch our vision and strive to enlarge our service as we seek God's will for Youth Ministries at EPC. As always we continue to be grateful for the wonderful support that our EPC congregation provides. Your prayers and encouragement do not go unnoticed and we experience great joy in serving!

# Church Life

## Jenn Thompson, Lorie Macsenti

With the ending of 2015 comes the close of another great year for Church Life at Escalon Presbyterian Church. As we look forward to the coming year and all of the fun and food it will bring, we'd like to reflect on all that we enjoyed and accomplished this past year.

Our weekly fellowships following the church service are such a huge part of our church life. Being able to come together as a church family, enjoying a simple snack or an elaborate luncheon, is such a blessing. I love looking out from the window and seeing the kids, my son included, enjoying spending time together just as much as the adults do. It truly shows what a close-knit "family" we really all are, with the majority of church attenders continuing their Sunday together in the Fellowship Hall. I would like to take the time to thank our faithful kitchen helpers Patti Farhat, Pat Brown, Laura Alcantor, and my Church Life teammate Lorie Macsenti for all of their hard work, and we as a group would like to thank everyone who helps with setup, cleanup or to provide our fellowship each week. We welcome any and all to sign up for a fellowship on an up-coming Sunday, whether it be as an individual, as a joint effort with another family, or with a donation so Church Life can do the shopping for you. Without you, our Sunday afternoons would not be the same.

Outside of the weekly fellowships, Church Life planned and executed a number of fun and Christ-filled events. We had the blessing of throwing a baby shower for one new baby this past year, Addison Grace DeSa, as well as birthday celebrations for not one, but TWO members who turned 99 years old, Tom Hagen and Arlene Smith. Church Life also worked with Adult Ministries to provide a delicious

luncheon for those ladies who attended our Women's Retreat last January, with special speaker Rhonda Stoppe. Other events included our Capital Campaign luncheon, youth pancake breakfast, our Church Picnic and BBQ, (which included the whole service this year!) and our 8th annual Christmas Dinner at the Community Center. Without your help, donations and prayers, none of this would have been possible. A special thank you to Amy McCulloch for providing gluten-free dessert at our Christmas Dinner, to Lisa McCune and Leslie Onsager for heading up the kitchen and to everyone who helped decorate, cook or clean. You are the reason the event is always such a success. And, as always, special thanks to Rick Dodge for making the coffee for us most Sunday mornings.

It is with great joy and with the love of our Lord in our hearts that we plan and put on these events of fellowship for you, and we hope that it shows. We look forward to continuing to serve our church family, providing a space where love and friendships can blossom and fun abounds. And we look forward to (hopefully!) being in our new building for next year's Christmas Dinner!

"With all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:2-3

Respectfully Submitted in Christ,  
Jenny Thompson & Lorie Macsenti  
Church Life

# Mission Outreach

## Dave Hall, Mervin Bruns

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**Salvation Army:** We had four meals served last year at the center at 9th and D Street in Modesto in 2015. We would like to thank those that donated their time to making this a great worthwhile event. We had a group that donated their time to provide music while the meal was being served and what a difference that made. It was a mix of old standby hymns that we all heard growing up and new gospel music that praises God. We had many that came up after they ate to sing along and enjoy His word. The dates for this year are the following:

January 23, February 27, March 26, April 30

We hope that all of you who are interested will be able to attend a meal. Sign up sheets are available in the Faith Center.

**Feed My Starving Children:** This was our second year of attending the event to pack meals for this organization. It was held at the Hilmar Covenant Church on February 21. Food packed by them is distributed to over 80 different countries around the world. This is a great event for everyone to participate in, age 5 and up, and it's only for two hours. This is an opportunity not only for our church family but also a chance to invite neighbors and friends to be part of a worldwide mission. We look forward to being able to organize another event this year if one is to be held locally. We are excited about our new Faith Center being built where we would be able to host this event in the future.

**YWAM:** Jennifer Schmidt approached us this year about attending a YWAM training which would allow her to do a 2 month mission in Africa with orphans. A golf fundraiser for this training was organized with the help of Escalon Golf and turned out well. Jennifer also raised funds and asked her church family to contribute as they felt led. Missions contributed funds from the Mission budget to make this worthwhile trip a reality. We look forward to hearing from Jennifer upon her return and to see what God has planned for her in the future.

# Finance

## Jeff Hood, Rick Guevara

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Escalon Presbyterian Church has witnessed the benefit of annual budget planning process, accepted just 8 years ago, that continues to prove itself. The process engages all Ministry Teams and is inclusive of projects and needs to be undertaken for the year ahead. Combining the oversight of many Finance Team members (past and present), Session, and our Treasurer/Financial Coordinator, our annual budget has grown just over 35% in that period of time.

At the beginning of this century, our budget was approximately half of what the 2016 budget is planned to be. What an exceptional validation of our 103 year old Congregation. All made possible with the blessings of everyone's commitment to the continuation of what Escalon Presbyterian Church means to each of us and the many we serve.

Looking forward, we present the 2016 budget of \$268,398 which has been established from all of our pledges. As with past budgets, it is our expectation that 2016 will be another consecutive year of success to being at, or under, plan.

With a focus to how the Lord guides us, we've set to plans (over the years) that have enabled us to take advantage of unexpected opportunities and brought us to, and through, some large and difficult decisions. With the proposed growth, and building plans to further the blessings we've enjoyed, 2016 has similar opportunity to be an exciting and wonderful year for EPC.

There is a tremendous amount of support to the Finance Team. It goes without saying, though we will say it here, how greatly appreciated is the time and talent of all who have directly supported Finance. Not solely this past year, inclusive of the previous year's when the current methods had been embraced to our on-going growth;

Lisa McCune & Nancy Schmidt, The Session Elders who have also supported monthly assistance to Lisa & Nancy, Diane Hougland, Jerry Hougland, Michele Hood, Jeff Jarchow, Steve Reader, and Bob Whitt.

It isn't, as much, counting the gifts and contributions as the blessing that these provide enabling EPC to be an active partner within the Local, Regional and World Community.

Humbly and Gratefully Submitted,

Rick Guevara & Jeff Hood  
EPC Finance Team

# Trustees

## Rick Dodge, Rich Branscombe

The Trustee leadership consisted of two Elders, Rick Dodge and Rich Branscombe.

Members of the Trustee Committee and advisors to the leadership during the year were: Richard Hogue, Rick Jones, Rick Guevara, Bob McCune, Dave Hall, Jason Jericoff and Cookie Martin.

As Trustees, our primary responsibilities to the church family are to oversee the following items: maintenance of Church facilities and grounds, personnel matters, review of contracts (janitorial, landscape, insurance, utilities, etc.), acquisition of new equipment and review certain Church policies as they relate to the care and use of our facilities . In addition, we review and prepare the annual trustee and personnel budgets.

In 2015, one part-time staff position was left vacant with Jennifer Schmidt leaving for Missionary Training. She was replaced with Amanda (Mandy) , Rose to assist Mike Fahey.

### **The following projects were carried out by or approved by the Trustees this past year:**

1. Two trees were taken down on the Manse property and road base was applied for parking.
2. 12 new Assisted Hearing units were purchased to replace the antique one that began failing.

3. Most of the lights on our campus have been replaced with LED lights.

4. Cookie Martin and Richard Branscombe replaced the lighting system in our sign along Hwy 120 to LED lighting.

5. Jerry Barton was instrumental in having Hogan Manufacturing assist us in moving the storage container to clear the way for the new fellowship hall.

6. Trees along 1st received a major trimming and the Fellowship Hall was stripped and waxed during the fall cleaning/work day by volunteers.

The janitorial staff was released and Lynnette Desa was hired in October.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rick Dodge, Rich Branscombe

# Board of Deacons

## Barbara Jones - Chair

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As usual, EPC Deacons were a busy group in 2015. We are charged with supplying lay readers, greeters, and flowers each Sunday. A Deacon sets the Communion table on communion Sundays. Deacons ensure there is water for Pastor Troy, our pianist, organist and worship leader. Do you ever wonder why that person walks up the side aisles during worship? That's a deacon counting every person, including those little ones under the pews. Check the calendar on the sound booth if you are ever interested in our attendance.

In February we lost our dear friend, Bob Golden. A service and luncheon was held in the fellowship hall. The Deacon shepherding committee instituted a web site called "Take Them a Meal". This program enables the congregation to sign up to take meals to those who are in need of temporary help after surgery or difficult times. If you are in need of this service, contact a deacon.

In October we held our major fund raiser, the Deacon's Yard Sale. This is an awfully lot of work, but it's also a fun event for all who attend; either to shop or "work". We have made friends of shoppers who come from the bay area especially to purchase at our sale. We are known and appreciated, especially by teachers looking to increase their classroom libraries. This year we were especially happy to donate some of our "left-overs" to Modesto's Church in the Park, a ministry in parks frequented by the homeless. The Discovery Shop in Modesto asked for "career wear" for men and women who need to find jobs and proper clothes for the job search. The library in Escalon was also a beneficiary of books left

from the sale. We were very happy to help minister to the community in this way.

In December we decorated the church and fellowship hall with Poinsettias, electric candles and lights. Our December Giving Tree was decorated with gift tags from local schools. Our congregation purchased the gifts and they were delivered the week before Christmas.

This was a difficult December. We were approached by three families, not associated with our church, who were in need of help with rent, food and clothes. After discussion with the families and Pastor Troy, we were able to help. Deacons were able to help these people because of your generosity on Deacon Sunday as well as your donations for the yard sale.

We thank you, the congregation, for making it possible for us to continue our work as Deacons of Escalon Presbyterian.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Jones, Deacon Chair

## 2015 Deacon Treasurer Report

### CHECKING ACCOUNT SUMMARY

<b>Beginning Balance, Checking (1/1/15)</b>	\$	<u>4,876.31</u>
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Deacon Sunday donations		2,748.00
Miscellaneous donations		770.00
Deacon Yard Sale		1,998.49
Total Income		<u>5,516.49</u>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Shepherding		842.39
Fellowship		91.98
Pastor's Discretionary Fund		1,184.13
Mission & Community Outreach		900.00
Deacon Yard Sale		457.21
Greeting Cards		144.91
Postage		411.60
Christmas Flowers, Décor & Worship Supplies		369.62
Miscellaneous		8.38
Total Expenses		<u>4,410.22</u>
Net Income		<u>1,106.27</u>
<b>Ending Balance, Checking (12/31/15)</b>	\$	<u><u>5,982.58</u></u>

### SAVINGS ACCOUNT SUMMARY

<b>Beginning Balance, Savings (1/1/15)</b>	\$	<u>1,695.16</u>
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Interest earned, 1/1/15 - 12/31/15		<u>0.12</u>
<b>Ending Balance, Checking (12/31/15)</b>	\$	<u><u>1,695.28</u></u>

### TOTAL FUNDS

Beginning Balance, 1/1/15	\$	6,571.47
Income		5,516.61
Expenses		(4,410.22)
Ending Balance, 12/31/15	\$	<u><u>7,677.86</u></u>

# Clerk of Session

## Cheryl Hall

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**As we welcome in 2016, we take a look back at the year 2015 and count the many blessings God has provided for us this year.**

### **Escalon Presbyterian Church Officers Leaving Office in 2015**

**Session Elders:** Richard Dodge, Dave Hall, Jeff Hood

**Deacons:** Stephanie Bruns, Linda Gentry, Steve Reader.

We thank them for their faithful service to EPC and our community.

### **2015 Highlights**

- Our weekly attendance at Sunday Services averaged 129.
- We served Communion to an average of 107 people on the first Sunday of each month.
- We served 350 meals at Salvation Army in Modesto, and provided live music at all each of our three visits.
- EPC provided continued support to our local food bank C.A.R.E., mission support to Jen Schmidt's YWAM Training, ECO (Church planting in Oregon), Haven of Peace Women's Shelter Bible Studies, VBS

with over 200 Children attending, and a growing Middle & High School Ministry.

- Mission Outreach also provided an opportunity for our congregation to participate in the "Feed My Starving Children" program.
- EPC "Moved Forward in Faith" with the plans for a new multi-use building and remodeling plan.
- We celebrated and enjoyed fellowship time together at the Annual Picnic and Worship Service in the park and Christmas Dinner.

We began this year with 119 members. We added 7 (seven) new members. Through passing, transfer of membership or roll reduction we lost 19 (nineteen) members. We closed 2015 with 108 members.

It has been an amazing year and we look forward to continuing the work of our Lord.

Respectfully Submitted Cheryl Hall  
Clerk of Session

## 2015 Statistical Report

<b>Active Membership January 1, 2015</b>		<b>120</b>
<b>Gains</b>		
<i>*Jan Brown, Phil Brown, Laura Kay, Leslie Onsager, Ian Turner Whitney Turner, Dottie Wood</i>		
By Affirmation-December 15 Session approval	7	
By Re-Affirmation		
By Restoration to Active Roll		
By Certificate of Transfer		
By Baptism		
<b>Total Gains</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>Losses</b>		
	19	
By Death	1	
<i>*Bob Golden(February 17, 2015)</i>		
By Transfer to Inactive Roll	18	
<i>* Cynthia Byrd, Jessica Byrd, Trevor Fourmont, Cynthia Hood, Ralph Ingle, Amy Jarchow, Jeff Jarchow, Troy O'Toole, Crystal Pascale-Groves, Ruth Paz, Victor Paz, Susan Poole, Patricia Rollins, Steven Sawyer, Cindy Sipes, Barbara Voorhees, Robert Whitt, and Melody Wilkerson</i>		
By Letter of Transfer		
By Deletion from Roll		
<b>Total Losses</b>		<b>19</b>
<b>Active Membership December 31, 2015</b>		<b>108</b>
<b>Church Life Events:</b>		
<b>Births:</b>	1	
<i>*Addison DeSa -Parents Jordan &amp; Tayler DeSa, Aug 1, 2015</i>		
<b>Memorials:</b>		
<i>*Bob Golden</i>	February 21, 2015	
<b>Baptism:</b>		
Infant/Child Baptism	1	
<i>*Joey Thompson, January 11, 2015</i>		
Youth-Adult Baptisms	7	
<i>*Mark DeHaven, Sarah Abraham, Elijah Lattig, Nicholas Lattig, Timothy Megenney, Michael Megenney and Madelyn Fahey. Reaffirmation of baptism will be Charlie Stewart and Grant Thompson.</i>		
<b>Weddings</b>	1	
<i>*Andrew Schmidt and Phoebe Jaboli, August 2, 2015</i>		
<i>*Kevin &amp; Sachiko Miller Wedding reception at ECC on August 23, 2015</i>		
<b>Funerals</b>	1	
<i>*Bob Golden(February 17, 2015) Service date: February 21, 2015</i>		

## 2015 Balance Sheet

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### ASSETS

#### CASH

Bank of the West Checking Account	\$ 608,253.94
Vanguard	\$ 671,201.05
New Covenant-B	\$ 8,558.37
New Covenant-H	\$ 4,429.61
New Covenant-R & P	\$ 17,525.33
New Covenant-Downer	<u>\$ 60,514.98</u>
Subtotal Cash	\$ 1,370,483.28

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 1,370,483.28

#### LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	
Taxes Payable-Payroll	\$ 3,088.68
Long Term Liabilities	
Notes Payable	<u>\$ 300,000.00</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$ 303,088.68

TOTAL FUND BALANCE \$ 1,067,394.60

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE \$ 1,370,483.28

## 2015 Fund Balances

<u>FUND DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BALANCE @ JAN. 1, 2015</u>	<u>YTD INCOME</u>	<u>YTD EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE @ DEC. 31, 2015</u>
General Fund	\$ 60,013.96	\$ 287,075.43	\$ 264,150.59	\$ 82,938.80
Missions Fund	\$ 3,186.64	\$ 5,837.56	\$ 8,350.70	\$ 673.50
Memorial Fund	\$ 505.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,005.00
Organ Fund	\$ 13,869.60	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 15,369.60
Music Fund	\$ 50.78	\$ 810.00	\$ 810.00	\$ 50.78
Reserve Fund	\$ 125,187.71	\$ (14.14)	\$ -	\$ 125,173.57
Miscellaneous Fund	\$ 478.20	\$ 10,321.04	\$ 7,876.18	\$ 2,923.06
Pastor Housing Fund	\$ 62,280.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,280.32
Gus Harris Memorial Fund	\$ 975.71	\$ (2.39)	\$ 726.74	\$ 246.58
Lloyd Engel Memorial Fund	\$ 88,761.95	\$ -	\$ 996.68	\$ 87,765.27
Youth Scholarship Fund	\$ 233.00	\$ 11,444.33	\$ 11,677.33	\$ -
Pastor Study Leave Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Youth Fund	\$ 2,536.61	\$ 1,610.00	\$ -	\$ 4,146.61
Building Expansion Fund	\$ 227,331.67	\$ 282,720.68	\$ 57,055.13	\$ 452,997.22
Downer Fund	\$ 242,110.74	\$ (477.28)	\$ 9,809.17	\$ 231,824.29
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 827,521.89</b>	<b>\$ 601,325.23</b>	<b>\$ 361,452.52</b>	<b>\$ 1,067,394.60</b>

## 2015 Receipts and Disbursements

### RECEIPTS

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND	\$	287,092.64	
MISSIONS	\$	5,837.56	
MEMORIALS	\$	500.00	
ORGAN FUND	\$	1,500.00	
MUSIC FUND	\$	810.00	
MISCELLANEOUS FUND	\$	10,321.04	
ENGEL MEMORIAL FUND	\$	-	
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS	\$	11,444.33	
PASTOR STUDY LEAVE FUND	\$	-	
DOWNER FUND	\$	-	
YOUTH FUND	\$	1,610.00	
HARRIS MEMORIAL	\$	-	
PASTOR HOUSING	\$	-	
BUILDING EXPANSION FUND	\$	282,925.88	
RESERVE FUND	\$	-	
SUBTOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$	602,041.45	\$ 602,041.45

#### OTHER INCOME

MISCELLANEOUS	\$	1,573.47	
SUBTOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$	1,573.47	\$ 1,573.47

#### INVESTMENT INCOME

INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	\$	9,149.97	
CHANGE IN VALUE-EQUITY ACCTS	\$	(11,439.66)	
SUBTOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	\$	(2,289.69)	\$ (2,289.69)

#### TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

\$ -

#### TOTAL INCOME AND TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

\$ 601,325.23

### DISBURSEMENTS

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

PERSONNEL	\$	173,808.86
TRUSTEES	\$	39,172.46
CHURCH LIFE	\$	2,908.35
ADULT MINISTRIES	\$	1,285.14
MISSION OUTREACH	\$	636.96
MISSION SUPPORT	\$	2,100.00
WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$	12,963.23
YOUTH MINISTRIES	\$	5,709.77
FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP	\$	1,807.45
SESSION	\$	23,758.37

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$ 264,150.59 \$ 264,150.59

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS \$ -  
DESIGNATED FUNDS & MISSIONS \$ 97,301.93

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ 361,452.52

## 2016 Budget - Page I

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	Budget Difference
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
CONTRIBUTIONS -Genl Fund -Pledged	219,204	222,075	211,942	-10,133
CONTRIBUTIONS -Genl Fund-Non Pledged	28,883	32,811	48,982	16,171
CONTRIBUTIONS-Loose Offering	6,101	5,859	6,050	191
OTHER INCOME-Genl Fund	1,901	943	1,374	431
INTEREST INCOME-General Fund	55	50	50	0
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b>256,144</b>	<b>261,738</b>	<b>268,398</b>	<b>6,660</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>				
<b><u>PERSONNEL</u></b>				
<b>MINISTERIAL PERSONNEL</b>				
SALARY EXP - Pastor	46,059	46,059	46,059	0
HOUSING EXPENSE - Pastor	29,500	29,500	29,500	0
GIFT/BONUS	3,000	0	0	0
RETIREMENT-ECO	7,856	7,556	7,556	0
HEALTH/LIFE/DISABILITY ECO	23,181	23,203	24,110	907
MILEAGE REIMBURSE -Pastor	2,659	2,200	2,200	0
STUDY LEAVE - Pastor	1,120	1,000	1,000	0
PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY	285	300	300	0
CELL PHONE-pastor	660	660	660	0
SALARY EXPENSE- Secretary	16,915	17,073	17,073	0
PAYROLL TAX- Secretary	1,294	1,306	1,306	0
WORKERS COMP (all employees)	2,238	898	1,517	619
<b>Total</b>	<b>134,767</b>	<b>129,755</b>	<b>131,281</b>	<b>1,526</b>
<b>MUSIC PERSONNEL</b>				
SALARY - Organist	0	0	0	0
PAYROLL TAX-Organist	0	0	0	0
SALARY - Accompanist	6,625	7,900	7,900	0
PAYROLL TAX -Accompanist	488	604	604	0
SALARY- Music Director	14,241	14,241	14,241	0
PAYROLL TAX-Music Director	1,089	1,089	1,089	0
CONTINUING ED-Music Director	500	500	500	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,943</b>	<b>24,334</b>	<b>24,334</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OTHER PERSONNEL</b>				
SALARY-Janitorial	0	0	8,200	8,200
PAYROLL TAX-Janitorial	0	0	627	627
LIVESCAN (Fingerprints)	0	250	250	0
	<b>0</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>9,077</b>	<b>8,827</b>
<b>YOUTH MINISTRY PERSONNEL</b>				
SALARY - Youth Worker	11,526	11,526	11,526	0
PAYROLL TAX-Youth Worker	882	882	882	0
CONTINUING ED-Youth Director	58	500	500	0
SALARY - Youth Assistant	3,375	3,900	3,900	0
PAYROLL TAX-Youth Assistant	258	298	298	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,099</b>	<b>17,106</b>	<b>17,106</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>TOTAL PERSONNEL</u></b>	<b>173,809</b>	<b>171,445</b>	<b>181,799</b>	<b>10,354</b>

## 2016 Budget - Page 2

	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	Budget Difference
<b><u>MINISTRY TEAM EXPENSES</u></b>				
<b>TRUSTEES</b>				
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,896	1,400	1,700	300
CUSTODIAL/GARDEN SUPPLIES	547	700	700	0
POSTAGE	119	300	300	0
TECHNOLOGY EXPENSE	690	1,000	1,000	0
UTILITIES	5,590	6,000	6,500	500
TELEPHONE/DSL INTERNET	1,350	1,440	1,440	0
WATER, GARBAGE, & SEWER	1,220	1,600	1,600	0
GARDENING SERVICES	3,300	3,600	3,600	0
JANITORIAL SERVICES	7,600	7,000	0	-7,000
LIABILITY/PROPERTY INSURANCE	4,238	4,490	5,500	1,010
MAINTENANCE-CHURCH-Minor	1,282	2,000	2,000	0
MAINTENANCE-COPY MACHINE	4,848	6,148	6,148	0
MAINTENANCE-CHURCH-Major	1,747	4,500	4,500	0
CARPET CLEANING	0	1,200	1,200	0
ECO DUES	2,568	2,592	2,657	65
PROPERTY TAXES	1,689	1,676	1,689	13
MISCELLANEOUS	486	300	500	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,170</b>	<b>45,946</b>	<b>41,034</b>	<b>-4,912</b>
<b>CHURCH LIFE</b>				
ACTIVITIES & SUPPLIES (KITCHEN)	2,908	3,500	3,500	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,908</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ADULT MINISTRIES</b>				
CURRICULUM	1,160	1,200	1,200	0
EVENTS	83	500	500	0
SUPPLIES	43	200	200	0
CHILD CARE	0	100	100	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>MISSION OUTREACH</b>				
OUTREACH PROGRAMS	637	2,000	1,200	-800
YOUTH MISSION	0	2,000	2,000	0
YOUTH MISSION-2015 CARRY OVER	0	0	2,000	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>1,200</b>
<b>GENERAL MISSION</b>				
GEN MISSION SUPPORT	0	7,000	6,000	-1,000
MINISTERIAL ASSN DUES	100	100	100	0
CALVIN CREST DONATION	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
CARE	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>9,100</b>	<b>8,100</b>	<b>-1,000</b>

## 2016 Budget - Page 3

	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2016 Budget	Budget Difference
<b><u>MINISTRY TEAM EXPENSES (continued)</u></b>				
<b>WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC</b>				
WORSHIP SUPPLIES	1,583	700	700	0
PULPIT SUPPLY	600	1,100	1,100	0
PULPIT SUPPLY MILEAGE	222	330	330	0
PART TIME CONTRACT ORGANIST	4,400	4,500	4,500	0
SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST	900	600	600	0
GUEST MUSICIANS	2,225	2,300	2,300	0
MUSIC MATERIAL	2,262	1,200	1,200	0
COPYRIGHT AUTHORIZATION	381	367	385	18
MAINTENANCE-Instruments	390	1,000	1,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,963</b>	<b>12,097</b>	<b>12,115</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>FINANCE &amp; STEWARDSHIP</b>				
STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES & SUPPLIES	1,807	2,000	2,000	0
FINANCIAL SEMINARS	0	200	200	0
BACK UP ACCOUNTING SERVICE	0	300	300	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>SESSION</b>				
APPROVED NON-BUDGETED EXPENSE:	8,215	0	0	0
ECO CONFERENCES	2,723	1,500	1,500	0
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COSTS	12,821	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,759</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><u>YOUTH MINISTRIES</u></b>				
CALVIN CREST CAMP FEE	0	0	1,000	1,000
S.S. SUPPLIES & GIFTS	649	500	500	0
S.S. CURRICULUM	293	700	700	0
CHILD CARE/BABYSITTING	0	250	250	0
YOUTH FELLOW-Program Expense	2,659	4,000	4,000	0
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	1,197	3,000	3,000	0
BIBLES	498	500	500	0
CHILD & FAMILY OUTREACH	414	700	700	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,710</b>	<b>9,650</b>	<b>10,650</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY TEAM EXPENSES</b>	<b>90,340</b>	<b>90,293</b>	<b>86,599</b>	<b>-3,694</b>
<b><u>GRAND TOTAL</u></b>	<b>264,149</b>	<b>261,738</b>	<b>268,398</b>	<b>6,660</b>

# Financial Review

## 2015 Financial Review Team

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On January 18, 2016 the Financial Review Team of Patti Farhat, Bere Lindley and Jennifer Thompson examined the financial records of the Escalon Presbyterian Church, the Downer Fund for Christian Education, and the Deacon's Fund for 2015.

It is the opinion of the Financial Review Team that the financial statements correctly reflect the financial position of the Church, Downer Fund, and Deacons.

Reported as complete the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.

  
Patti Farhat

  
Bere Lindley

  
Jennifer Thompson

# OUR MISSION

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## **SEEK**

*To bring others to faith in Jesus Christ*

## **SERVE**

*In mission locally and globally*

## **SUPPORT**

*Personal growth through learning, teaching  
and sharing God's Word*

## **SUSTAIN**

*A Christ-Centered fellowship*