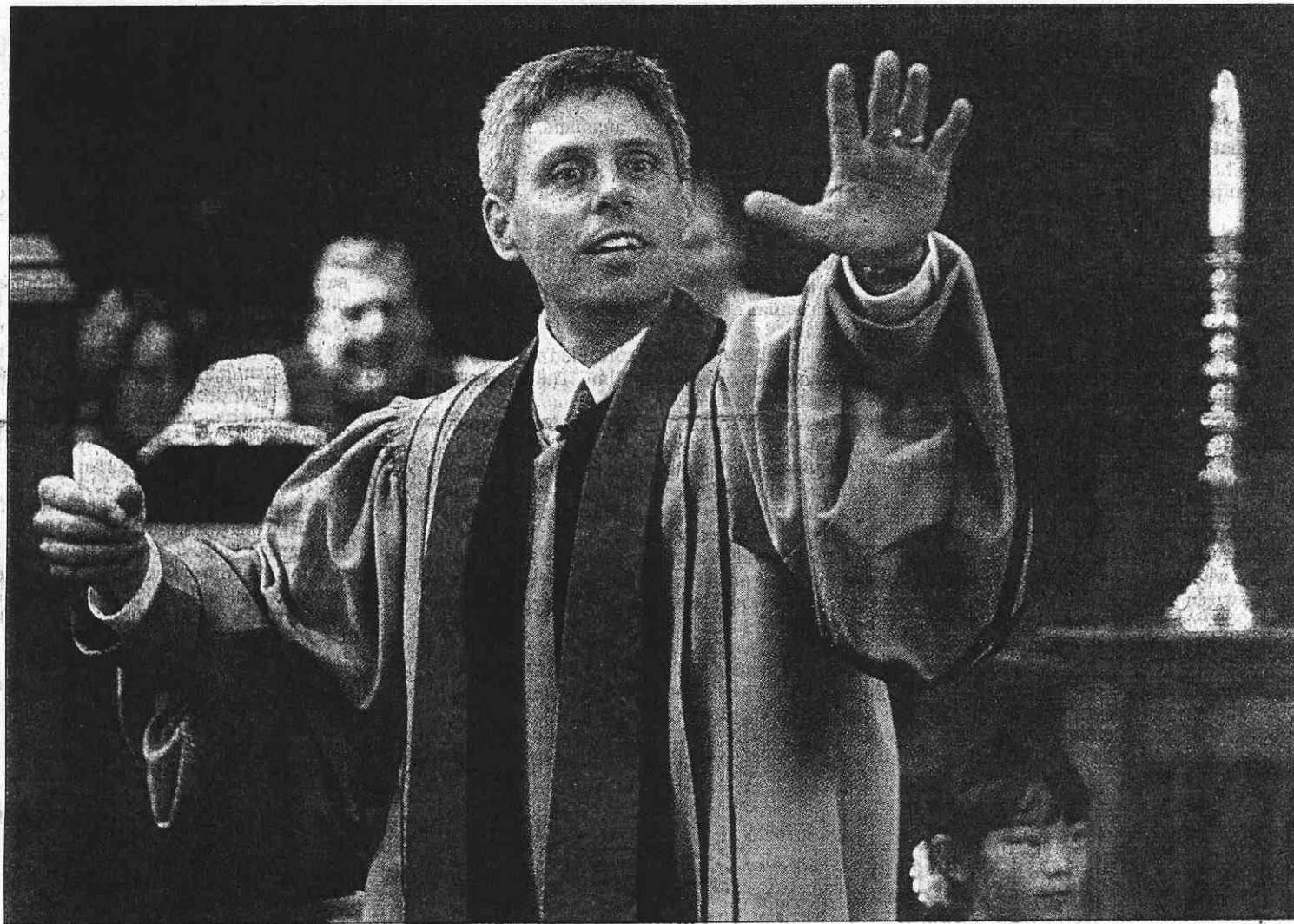


REACHING OUT

Local faith groups head to D.C. to lobby for children's health care



MATHEW SUMNER — Staff

THE REV. JAMES KECK preaches Sunday at the Congregational Church in San Mateo. He will join other members of the Peninsula Interfaith Action (PIA) next week on a trip to Washington, D.C., to lobby politicians for health coverage for children. For the full story, please see **Faith on Local 2**.

By Nicole Neroulias

STAFF WRITER

SOME believe only an act of God can get Democrats and Republicans to join forces these days.

From Daly City to Sunnyvale, 28 congregations are working on it.

Peninsula Interfaith Action, a network of faith-based organizations, unites Baptists, Catholics, Episcopalians, Jews and others to lobby for affordable housing, health insurance and other issues affecting low-income families.

"We're nonpartisan; we'll work with any government official interested in our issues," said Dan Packard, PIA community organizer. "There's support on both sides of the aisle for creating new homeownership opportunities and expanding health care for children."

PIA also participates in statewide and national campaigns through its parent organization, the Pacific Institute for Community Organizing. Last month, 3,000 members packed a Sacramento meeting to demand health coverage for every California child, regardless of immigration status.

Continued on back.



PIA Participants

Name	Affiliation	City
All Saints' Episcopal Church	Episcopal Church	Palo Alto
Bradmoor Presbyterian Church	Presbyterian Church (USA)	Daly City
Catholic Community at Stanford	Roman Catholic	Stanford
Chalice Christian Church	Disciples of Christ	Foster City
Church of the Good Shepherd	Roman Catholic	Pacifica
Community United Church of Christ	United Church of Christ	San Carlos
Congregation Beth Am	Reform Judaism	Los Altos Hills
Congregational Church of San Mateo	United Church of Christ	San Mateo
Faith Missionary Baptist Church	Missionary Baptist	East Palo Alto
First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto	Presbyterian Church (USA)	Palo Alto
Jerusalem Baptist Church	Baptist	Palo Alto
Latinos Unidos en Cristo of the First Presbyterian Church of San Mateo	Presbyterian Church (USA)	San Mateo
OneEPA	Nonprofit Organization	East Palo Alto
Sisters of Mercy	Roman Catholic Order	Burlingame
St. Athanasius Church	Roman Catholic	Mountain View
St. Bede's Episcopal Church	Episcopal Church USA	Menlo Park
St. Cyprian Church	Roman Catholic	Sunnyvale
St. Francis of Assisi Church	Roman Catholic	East Palo Alto
St. Gregory Church	Roman Catholic	San Mateo
St. Joseph Church	Roman Catholic	Mountain View
St. Mark's Episcopal Church	Episcopal Church USA	Palo Alto
St. Thomas of Aquinas Church	Roman Catholic	Palo Alto
St. Peter Church	Roman Catholic	Pacifica
St. Samuel Church of God in Christ	Church of God in Christ	East Palo Alto
St. Vincent de Paul Society, San Mateo County Council	Roman Catholic	San Mateo County
Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto	Unitarian Universalist Association	Palo Alto
Unitarian Universalist Church of San Mateo Unitarian	Unitarian Universalist Association	San Mateo
Woodside Road United Methodist Church	United Methodist Church	Redwood City

Source: Peninsula Interfaith Action, www.piapico.org