



A Word from Our Stewardship Elder

During the month of March, our income was down by \$10,000 (mostly due to our not gathering for worship on March 15, 22 and 29). We do not have the April figures yet, as this Highlights goes to press. We really appreciate that many of you have been mailing your tithes and offerings to the church office, or giving online, and we would encourage everyone to be faithful in their giving during this difficult time. (Checks received by mail are deposited weekly by our church administrator.)

Our Session has voted to continue to pay all of our staff, and we are committed to supporting each one of them as we have in the past. We are trusting in God to provide for us as we make our way through the pandemic. Thank you for your prayers and your ongoing support.

~Jim Watts



The **Nominating Committee** is getting ready to begin their important work, and they want to invite you to submit names for their consideration as they begin the process to nominate elders and deacons for the class of 2023. Please pray for them, as they seek God's leading in this important task. You may contact Gary Calame, Gil DeHoyos, Jane Kraut, Bill Gile, Sue Goodnow, Michele Johnson or Lynn Roman with your suggestions. Thank you.

Worship and Holy Communion

It is the responsibility of Session to authorize the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and to determine when emergency circumstances require the church to take action contrary to normal practice. Our Session met by Zoom on April 21, and they voted to invite our church family to participate in Holy Communion in their homes, if they wish, while listening to the **May 3** worship service online.



You may gather "common and ordinary" elements (bread, crackers, juice, wine) as you have available, and partake of the elements after the Word is preached during the recorded worship service.

There are several ways to access the worship service:

- 1) you may go to our webpage www.FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org and click on the link on the home page (scroll down to find the link);
- 2) you may click on the link on our church Facebook page, and it will take you to a special link to the worship service;
- 3) or, at 9:30 am on Sunday morning, you may call 1-669-900-9128. When prompted for the meeting ID, dial 861 5833 0947 (then #), and when prompted for the password dial 4562580 (then #). You will be able to listen to the worship service through your phone (but no one will be able to hear you). You might want to call in a few moments before 9:30 am, perhaps around 9:25 so you can be all set by the time the service starts. This option to listen to our worship service will remain available until further notice - not just on May 3rd, but any Sunday!

There is a Worship Bulletin insert in this Highlights, which you may use as you worship on Sunday, May 3. We hope this will be a meaningful time for ALL of our church family!

Looking Ahead: Plans for Worship

In looking ahead to the coming months, the Session discussed a plan for worship when we are able to resume gathering in our sanctuary. We plan to have two worship services, in order that we can practice social distancing in the sanctuary as we worship together. The two services will be identical; people may select which service they wish to attend.

The following schedule is being considered:

9:00 a.m. – First Worship Service

10:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship (possibly in two locations, so that we can keep safe distances between one another)

10:30 a.m. – Second Worship Service

11:30 a.m. – Adult Education Class

We look forward to the day when we will be able to safely gather together for worship!



Facebook Information

While we miss seeing you in person, we are glad to connect with some of you on Facebook! If you're on Facebook and haven't found our page before, search for "First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro" and be sure to "like" or "follow" our page. If you don't see updates from the church on your feed, search for our page and double check that you've chosen to "like" or "follow", and then scroll through some of our posts and "like" them or comment on them. Liking and commenting teaches Facebook you want to see the things we post. Also, it teaches Facebook that other people might also be interested in them, and that helps our posts to be found by others.

Here's what you can expect to find on Facebook each week:

- A **Tuesday devotional-style video** from Lauren (and Lauren is taking questions from YOU for those videos! If you have something about our faith or the Bible that you've always wondered about, call the church phone with your question or email Lauren@FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org).
- A reminder to all of us to pause and **Pray on Fridays @ Noon**.

Wednesday Bible Class Via Zoom

Each Wednesday we meet on Zoom at 4 pm for Bible study. We are currently studying the book of Ephesians. We have a wonderful time fellowshiping with each other and digging in to this book full of rich reminders of God's grace and sovereignty. You're welcome to join us! If you're curious about getting set up on Zoom, let Lauren know (call the church office or email Lauren@FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org).

Or you can participate by phone, from any phone (cell phone or landline)! If you want to join in, on Wednesday afternoon a few minutes before 4 pm:

- dial 1-669-900-9128 (then #)
- when prompted for the meeting ID, dial 815 7605 1473 (then #)
- then you might hear a prompt to put in your user ID OR to simply press #, so just press #
- and finally, you'll be asked for a password, which is 4562580 (then #)

If you would like to practice the above steps before Wednesday, let Lauren know and she'll set up a time to practice.

How Is Sheltering in Place Impacting Our Youth?

At first, sheltering in place was a relief for me because I was able to relax and focus on all the things I needed to do before finishing my senior year. Now, looking back, I didn't really value all the things I did and the people I saw everyday. The more time passed, the more I missed the little everyday things such as walking to school and seeing classmates. As of now, sheltering in place is very fortunate, not only for me but for millions of others. Right now I know I need to be patient and hopeful that our situation gets better.

- Ndid Godwin, High School Senior

WORSHIP BULLETIN for Sunday, May 3, 2020

"Eyes That See"

Organ Prelude

Toni DiCapua

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (words on other side)

no. 376

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Loving God, we confess that we don't always have eyes that see. Help us to see You; help us to see the needs of others. Forgive us when we are blind. Hear us now as we silently confess our sins.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Greetings and Announcements

Anthem: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" ... Hughes-Larson
Mollie Wakeman, accompanist
(previously recorded, used with permission CCLI #20405356)

Chancel Choir

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 116:1-7

Hymn of Preparation: Emmaus-Bound on Easter Day (words on other side)
(copyright 2009, Carolyn Winfrey Gillette; used with permission)

New Testament Reading: Luke 24:13-33

Sermon: "Broken Bread for a Broken World"

Rev. George Swanson

Holy Communion

Special Music: "Let Us Break Bread Together"

Bob Kraut

Prayers of the People

Rev. Anne Swanson

Closing Hymn: The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Congregational Response: Go Now in Peace

Postlude

Mary Mackie

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation, perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

EMMAUS-BOUND ON EASTER DAY

Emmaus-bound on Easter Day, two travelers walked along the way.
They'd once had hope, but hope had died, when You, O Lord, were crucified.

When you appeared beside the two, they could not see that it was you;
But as they talked and shared their pain, You gave them hope and joy again.

For as you spoke to them God's word, explaining all they'd seen and heard,
They understood what God had done, and that a new day had begun.

They shared their home; you broke the bread. They saw you, risen from the dead!
That moment's grace helped them to see, the gift of God's eternity.

In scripture and at table, too, O Risen Lord, may we know You.
And may your presence give us grace, to share God's love in every place.

It has been such a delight to connect with so many of you on Sundays at 11 am for Zoom Coffee Fellowship! We have a wonderful time catching up with each other and sharing ways that we can pray for and encourage one another.

If you're curious about getting set up on Zoom, let Lauren know (call the church office and leave a message, or email Lauren@FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org).

Or you can participate by phone, from any phone (cell phone or landline)!
If you want to join in, on Sunday morning a few minutes before 11:00 am:

- dial 1-669-900-9128 (then #)
- when prompted for the meeting ID, dial 821 3242 9852 (then #)
- then you might hear a prompt to put in your user ID OR to simply press #, so just press #
- and finally, you'll be asked for a password, which is 4562580 (then #)



If you would like to practice the above steps before Sunday, let Lauren know and she'll set up a time to practice.
All are welcome!

Celebrating Another Great Year of Wonders on Wednesday

Wonders on Wednesdays had a wonderful, though shorter than usual, year! We are grateful to spend time with the amazing kids and watch them grow and learn about God. And we are incredibly grateful for the volunteers who make this ministry possible. This year we enjoyed wonderful parties, child-led worship services, and lots of fun during Holy Hilarity, choir, fellowship, recreation, dinner and Bible study!

We want to thank the following people, who have faithfully and generously shared their time and talents with our young people:

Dinner Coordinator: Sue Goodnow

Dinner Dean: George Swanson

Bible Study Teachers: Loretta Botosh, Keith Johnson, Michele Johnson, Bob Kraut, Jane Kraut, Lauren Patrus-Betzel, & Alta Young

Arts and Crafts: Jane Kraut

Elementary Recreation: Cindy Eichelberger

Special Events: Jeanette Rauscher, Cheryl Perenon

Treasurer: Scott Crosbie

Choir Director: Anne Swanson

Choir Accompanist: Mollie Wakeman

Choir Assistant: Melissa Seaton

Cook Team Leaders: Janine Kline, Bob Kraut, Anne and Conrad Milner, Sheila Warbasse

Cook Team Members: Gary Calame, Maria Carter, Kathie Cayere, Cassie Clark, Scott Crosbie, Bill Gile, Doug Herren, Georgie Hickey, Lowell Hickey, Tracy Kuczak, Tracie McDonald, Leland Morine, Lynne Ondo, Kathy Pearson, Jennifer Spadoni

Table Parents: Cindy Eichelberger, Linda Gizzi, Sue Goodnow, Keith Johnson, Michele Johnson, Bob Kraut, Jane Kraut, Lauren Patrus-Betzel, Dick Rauscher, Joanne Rauscher, Melissa Seaton, Anne Swanson

Acolyte & Worship Coordinator: Linda Pollard

Videographer: Conrad Milner

Each of these individuals has invested far more in the lives of the children and youth of this church than this list indicates. Being present for our kids each week is an incredible demonstration of God's love for them. Thank you so much for a wonderful year!





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Mission Updates

When the Session met (by Zoom) on April 21, the elders affirmed the importance of continuing our mission giving during this critical time! They voted during the month of April to support the following three missions:

Rise Against Hunger - \$500, to support their distribution of meals already packaged and ready to be sent to places of extreme need around the world.

Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley - \$500, to support expenses related to continued construction work in the Bay Area for those in need of housing, especially since volunteers cannot work at this time.

Westminster Woods - \$1000, to support the Woods during this time when they have no income, due to the cancellation of all Outdoor Education camps and weekend retreats which cannot be held at this time.

Each month, the Session plans to give \$1500 - \$2000 to the mission projects that we support. Thank you for your continued giving, which allows our church to reach out and support others in need, in our own communities and around the world!

No Recycle At This Time

We are sorry to say that our local recycling center is closed to the general public, until further notice. Please do not bring any cans or plastic bottles to the church at this time. Thank you.

Programs Postponed

At this time, we do not expect to be gathering during May, so the Rose Show and the Young at Heart Luncheon/program have been postponed.

Summer Daycamp & Camp At Westminster Woods

We are still hoping that we will be able to have our Summer Daycamp program, but we may need to move it to a later time in the summer. Likewise, we hope that the various summer camps at Westminster Woods will be operating, but we will need to wait and see.

Peak Mission Trip Plans

Our senior high youth had planned to go to Mexico this year, to serve with the Presbyterian Border Region Outreach toward the end of June. However, it is unlikely that we will be able to participate in this program this year. Looking ahead, we shall see about other mission opportunities for our senior highs.