

Highlights

Volume 22 Issue 5

MAY 2021

Pentecost Sunday – May 23, 2021

On the day of Pentecost, a great sound of rushing wind filled the upper room where the disciples met. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that came to rest upon each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (or languages) as the Spirit enabled them.

The Spirit of God was poured out on the church that day, and is still God's gift to all believers. This year, Pentecost Sunday is on **May 23**, and in our worship recording we will celebrate the pouring out of the Holy Spirit by hearing the Scripture proclaimed in various languages, just as it happened many years ago. Faye Wilson will be coordinating this effort with the worship team leaders.

Also on Pentecost, our church will be participating in the Presbyterian Church USA Pentecost Offering. This offering will be used for children at risk and for ministry with youth and young adults. Our congregation will keep 40 percent of the offering for use here, and send the remainder to Presbytery and General Assembly for their use.

A Note from Our Stewardship Elder

So far this year - January through March - we find ourselves in a healthy financial position, well in the black, with our income exceeding our expenses. Of course our expenses, year to date, are lower than usual, since we are not paying an associate pastor, nor operating some programs that we've budgeted. Our total income is down just a bit, which may be due to our being unable to meet together. Considering all the challenges this past year has presented, I believe we have shown wonderful commitment to the work of His church. Thanks to everyone for your continued support! Hopefully, we can begin meeting together sooner than later and renew our commitment face to face.

~Jim Watts, Stewardship Elder

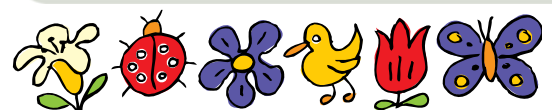
VISIT US ONLINE firstpresbyterianchurchsl.org



MONDAY Zoom Bible Class

The Monday Adult Bible Class meets each Monday afternoon at 4:00 pm by Zoom. It is currently engaged in a study of the Gospel of John, known as "The Gospel of Light and Life." It includes a video presentation by Rev. Adam Hamilton, followed by discussion on Zoom, led by Sue Goodnow. The class is studying the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus through the Gospel of John, and presents information on some of the best-known verses in the New Testament.

If you would like to attend these Zoom classes, please call Jane Kraut at 510-537-2369, and she will send you a Zoom invitation by email. Newcomers are welcome!



Session Task Force on Resuming In-Person Worship

This past month, a Task Force made up of four current elders on the Session met with our pastor and music director to begin discussion about how our church can resume in-person worship in the coming months. They began considering ways that we can gather for worship in our sanctuary and keep everyone safe. Plans are being discussed to include reservations, seating, worship format, and more. No specific date has been set for worship to resume, but we are hopeful that sometime this summer will be a prudent time to gather. The Task Force will meet again in early May to continue their planning.



Please help us out, by getting fully vaccinated if you have not yet done so. If you are having difficulty getting an appointment, contact the church office, as we have received some specific, one-time codes that can be used to secure an appointment. Remember, you are not only protecting yourself, but you are protecting those around you who may be vulnerable to serious consequences from coronavirus. We are called to Love our Neighbors, and this is one way we can do that!

Summer Camp Plans at Westminster Woods

We have great news! Westminster Woods is having Summer Camp this year! For campers entering 2nd grade through finishing 12th grade, there will be camp activities run by camp staff during the daytime, and overnight arrangements will be made either with your own family cabin (which can include parents and/or grandparents, and younger children who may stay with the family while the children/youth have their programs with camp staff) OR, campers can attend and we will have a local church member as cabin supervisor. We will arrange our own cabin groups consisting of a small "bubble" of children from our church, along with one or two adults in each cabin .



The summer camp dates for our church will be **July 8-14** (for the full week program), or **July 8-11** for a half-week program. Camp activities will include Bible lessons, crafts, challenge course, archery, nature exploration, and more. Meals will be provided by camp staff, and will be served outdoors in cabin groups. We have campership money available to ensure that every child who wants to go to summer camp will have that opportunity. Contact Jane Kraut for more information.

Rose Show



This year, you are invited to show off a beautiful rose or other flower/plant from your garden at our Zoom Coffee Fellowship on Mother's Day, **May 9 at 11 am**. Just sign onto Zoom and have your flower or plant nearby, so that you can share it for everyone's enjoyment!

(If you are not currently on our Zoom Coffee Fellowship email list, please call the church office or send an email to Anne@FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org so that we can add you to our Zoom invitation list.)

MAY 2021



A Musical Offering for You

Mollie Wakeman, Leland Morine and Jane Kraut have put together a lovely musical offering, entitled "His Music," sharing their talents and giving encouragement to us. It includes favorite hymn tunes and some other surprises! The music is a testimony to our relationship with Jesus: where He leads us, encourages us, and always surprises us. They hope it will minister to you, until we can see each other again in person. You will find it on our church website (www.firstpresbyterianchurchsl.org) for your enjoyment in the coming weeks.



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 2024. Please pray for them, as they seek God's leading in this important task. You may contact Sue Goodnow, Michele Johnson, Jane Kraut, Cheryl Perenon, Don Pollard, Alan Sobaje or Mary Woolsey with your suggestions. Thank you.

may

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:30 AM Online Worship Service 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship by ZOOM	26 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom)	27	28 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	29	30 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open	1
2 9:30 AM Online Worship Service 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship by ZOOM  2:00 PM Greet and Give Food Drive	3 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom)	4	5 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	6	7 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open	8 
9 9:30 AM Online Worship Service 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship and ROSE SHOW (Zoom) 	10 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom)	11	12 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	13	14 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open	15
16 9:30 AM Online Worship Service 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship by ZOOM	 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom)	18 7:00 PM Session (Zoom)	19 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	20	21 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open	22
 9:30 AM Online Worship Service 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship by ZOOM	24 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom)	25 7:00 PM Deacons (Zoom)	26 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	27	28 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open	29 
30 9:30 AM Online Worship Service 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship by ZOOM	31 MEMORIAL DAY 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom)	1	2 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	3	4 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Church Office Open	5

Summer Day Camp: Davey and Goliath's Camp Creation

Brochures are now available for our upcoming summer daycamp! This year, the daycamp program will be held outside in our church parking lot, and will meet from 1 – 4 pm on the following days: **Monday, July 26; Wednesday, July 28; Friday, July 30; Monday, August 2; and Wednesday, August 4.** Then on **Saturday, August 7**, we will have our family barbecue and swim party at Cull Canyon Lagoon in Castro Valley.



The theme this year is “Davey and Goliath’s Camp Creation” which focuses on Psalm 24: *The earth and everything on it belong to the Lord.* We will be learning that God gives life, love, gifts, sharing and caring. Daycamp is for children who are 4-years old through incoming sixth grade. Incoming seventh grade through high school may serve as Youth Counselors. You may contact Jane Kraut for further information.

Looking Ahead

All-Church Picnic

Be sure to update your calendars, as we look ahead to two of our favorite all-church activities!

The **All-Church Picnic** is planned for **Sunday, August 29** at 11:00 am. We expect to be able to have this gathering at the lower end of Lake Chabot picnic area (which is just off Estudillo Avenue). Hopefully we can enjoy a cookout and other special food items as we gather outdoors for fellowship!



Family Camp

All-Church Retreat

The **All-Church Retreat** has been tentatively scheduled at Westminster Woods for **September 10-12**. We have requested this weekend, so that the weather will be warmer than our usual mid-October retreat, and we will plan to have outdoor programs and eat our meals outside on the patio. Families will each be housed in their own cabin, so as to be safe for everyone. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

Communion Sunday

May 2, 2021



**Sunday,
MAY 2**
**Listen to the
Service online**

On Sunday, **May 2**, we will participate in Holy Communion in our homes while listening to the worship service online. If you wish, 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. Internet is NOT required to participate in worship! Using your phone:
 - 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 #)
 - When asked for User ID or press #, just press #
 - When prompted for a 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).

2. You may go to our webpage www.FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org and click on the link on the home page (scroll down to find the link);
3. You may click on the link on our church Facebook page, and it will take you to our webpage.

Zoom Coffee Fellowship

We continue to enjoy connecting with one another at our weekly Zoom Coffee Fellowship at 11:00 am on Sundays. If you would like to receive an invitation, please call the church office or email Anne at Anne@FirstPresbyterianChurchSL.org.

You may participate by Zoom, or you can participate by 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 #)

Sundays
11:00 AM



Time to Bloom!



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Greet and Give – Sunday, May 2

The need for food support for many of our neighbors continues to be great. We appreciate our church family's generous response to our "Greet and Give" food collection drives! Our "Greet and Give" will take place on **Sunday, May 2**, from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. The following non-perishable food items are especially needed: canned soups, pasta noodles, canned fruits or vegetables, canned meats, and boxed side dishes. Also, if you have unopened utensil packets which you have received with take-out food, bring those along as well.


The food will be taken to the San Lorenzo Family Help Center to help those in need throughout Alameda County. If you have any questions, please call Anne Milner or the church office.

Manna Meals will be available for purchase - please bring along \$5 cash for each bag you wish to purchase. And you may bring **ink cartridges, aluminum cans and plastic bottles** for recycling, and drop them off at the same time. Please separate the cans from the plastic bottles, into two separate bags. Thank you.

GREET & GIVE
First Sunday of Each Month 2pm - 3pm
FPC San Leandro 180 Estudillo



We're collecting nonperishable food donations for the San Lorenzo Food Pantry!
You're invited to drive through the church parking lot anytime between 2pm and 3pm on the first Sunday of each month.
We'll grab the donations out of your car (you stay in your car) and say hello!
Please wear a mask!



Church Office Hours

Wednesdays and Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
(Please wear a mask and stay 6 feet apart from others.)