

First Presbyterian Church San Leandro

Highlights

Volume 23 Issue 5

MAY 2022

The Season of Eastertide

You may have noticed at the top of our worship bulletin that each week tells us where we are in the church liturgical year. Currently we are in the Season after Easter, also known as "Eastertide." For Christians, Easter is not just one day, but rather a 50-day period. Eastertide begins at sunset on the eve of Easter, and ends on Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

Easter is more than just an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. In the early church, Lent was a time for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. The initial purpose of the 50-day Eastertide season was to continue the faith formation of new Christians. Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. We remember our baptisms and how we are a part of Christ's mighty acts of salvation! The Easter candle, which remains lit after the Tenebrae service, will remain in our sanctuary throughout this season of Eastertide, reminding us that Christ is alive!



Eastertide

The Church Officer Nominating Committee

The Church Officer Nominating Committee invites you to submit names for their consideration as they begin the process to nominate elders and deacons for the class of 2025. Please pray for them, as they seek God's leading in this important task, and see Laura Gile, Gigi MacLeod, Bill Nelson, Kathy Pearson, Lynne Ondo, Lynn Roman, or Sylvia Smith with your suggestions. Thank you.

Monday Zoom Bible Class

The adult education class, which meets on Monday afternoons at 4:00 pm (by Zoom), is beginning a new series on **May 9**. They will be using the book First Corinthians: Searching the Depths of God as their guide. The six-week study will include a DVD presentation by Rev. Dr. Jaime Clark-Soles (professor of New Testament at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University) which explores the awe-inspiring, breathtaking world of the first-century church. They will examine the teachings of the apostle Paul, considering church history, the logic of the cross, spiritual gifts, death, afterlife and the resurrection, human sexuality, and the joys and challenges of living in community.

If you would like to attend these Zoom classes, please call the church office (510-483-2772), or see Jane Kraut or Sue Goodnow, and they will send you a Zoom invitation by email. Newcomers are welcome!



Update on Worship and Church Activities



We continue to be thankful that our church family members have taken the important step of being safe and loving their neighbors, by being fully up-to-date with their vaccines against the Covid-19 virus (including at least one booster shot).

We are very happy to see many of you coming to worship, spreading out in the sanctuary and wearing upgraded masks which provide better protection. This past month, we resumed

congregational singing as well as participating in the spoken prayers and responses during worship. We will continue to wear masks in worship, in accordance with the CDC recommendation for indoor gatherings.

We have resumed Coffee Fellowship, following our worship service each Sunday morning. As we enjoy fellowship with one another in the Fellowship Hall, everyone is encouraged to wear their mask except when eating or drinking. This way we can keep our more vulnerable members safe from any accidental exposure to Covid.

Because the Alameda County case count and hospitalization rates have stayed low, we were able to resume our Young at Heart Luncheon this past month. And we are happy to have the Men's Breakfast and Bible Study, and the Women's Fellowship Breakfast, resume in early May.

For those of you who prefer to not attend worship in-person at this time, you will continue to find our weekly worship recording on our church website: www.firstpresbyterianchurchsl.org Also, you will find the order of worship posted, if you wish to follow along.

Our Gratitude to Jane Kraut

We want to extend our deep gratitude to Jane Kraut, who has been serving as the Interim Director for Children's Ministry since October 2020. Jane graciously agreed to step in and direct the children's ministry program, while our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee did the search for a new associate pastor or director of Christian Education. During the past 20 months, Jane has led our Wonders on Wednesday and Peak program, coordinated summer daycamp, worked with families to get their children to summer camp at Westminster Woods last summer, and planned many fun, seasonal activities for our children and youth!

Now that Lou Pennebaker has begun her work as our new Director of Christian Education, Jane is providing a smooth transition for the children and she is continuing to lead the WOW and Peak program during the month of May. We are so blessed by Jane's ministry! And thankfully, Jane will continue to be involved in our children's ministry programs in the future (but she won't have to be in charge!). We deeply appreciate you, Jane!



Young at Heart – Thursday, May 19

Our Young at Heart group will be meeting on Thursday, **May 19** at 11:30 a.m. for fellowship and a delicious luncheon. Reservations are required, and space is limited, so please call the church office to sign up. We will have a special program after our luncheon. Masks must be worn (except when eating and drinking). All participants must be up to date on their vaccinations and booster shot.



Our Thanks to the Chancel Guild

We are so grateful to our Chancel Guild members, who prepare the sanctuary each Sunday for worship. We especially appreciated their work to transform the sanctuary on Palm Sunday and on Easter! The Easter Lilies were beautiful, and enjoyed by our Friends-at-Home after the service. We appreciate everyone who contributed an Easter Lily to beautify the sanctuary.

Flower Arrangements for the Sanctuary

If you would like to provide a flower arrangement for the Communion Table in the sanctuary on a Sunday in the coming months, please sign up on the Flower Chart in the Fellowship Hall, or contact Mollie Wakeman through the church office (510-483-2772). The cost for an arrangement from Lyal Nickals Florist is \$65. Thank you!

Fun in the SON



Summer Daycamp – June 20-24, 2022

Daycamp this summer at First Presbyterian will be a week of *Fun in the SON*, as we *Picnic, Sail, Fish, Garden and Live in the SON*. Each day will include large group lessons with skits and songs, small group activities and discussions, a memory verse, crafts, games and snacks all focusing on the different daily Bible story about Jesus, the *Son of God*. The Daycamp Planning Team had their first meeting last month and are now hard at work planning and preparing for summer Daycamp. We are excited to be able to once again offer a full week of Daycamp for children and are working to make it a safe and fun week for all.

We don't know all of the details just yet, but here is what we do know. Daycamp will take place the week of **June 20 – 24** in person, at the church in the

afternoon. There will be NO cost to attend Daycamp and any child who is an incoming K-6th grader is welcome to attend. All students who are incoming 7th graders – college students are encouraged to serve as Daycamp counselors. We hope to be able to offer lunch each day and the traditional family barbeque and swimming at the end of the week but these details are still being worked out.

Daycamp brochures with registration forms as well as Counselor applications will be available this month. If you have questions regarding Daycamp or if you would like to volunteer or register a child for Daycamp, please email Lou@firstpresbyterianchurchsl.org



Summer Camp News

We are excited to announce that there will be Summer Camp at Westminster Woods! They are offering four weeks of camp – beginning June 26 through July 23. Most of our children and youth plan to go Week 3 (which is July 10-16, Sherwood Forest and Elevation) or Week 4 (which is July 17-23, Buccaneer and High School Camp). Lou Pennebaker, along with Jane and Bob Kraut, will be volunteering during the summer.

Summer Camp



We have campership money available, so make your plans and sign up online (www.westminsterwoods.org). If you have any questions, you may reach out to Lou Pennebaker or Jane Kraut at the church office (510-483-2772).

A big thanks to everyone in the congregation who supports our campership fundraisers, including the return of Sunday morning donuts at Coffee Fellowship! We couldn't do it without you!



Thank you

In our worship service on Sunday, March 20, Jim Watts (our Stewardship elder) thanked Helen Fortner for her many years of service as our Church Treasurer, from 1999 – 2021. As a token of our appreciation, she was presented with a hand-turned pen/pencil set (made by Art Walton) and an olive wood case from Jerusalem.



Below is a note that Helen sent to all of us:

March 25, 2022

Anne, & George, Jim Watts, and so Many More of my Church Family:

Thank you all for honoring me last Sunday! I will cherish the beautiful olive wood pen/pencil set and case always (and get over your embarrassing me ☺).

Much love to all my wonderful Church Family and for so much support.

Helen Fortner

Helen is working closely with our new Treasurer, Michele Johnson, and supporting us in the transition. And of course, Helen continues to be involved in so many ways at the church – we appreciate you, Helen!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship/Donuts 11:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 	2 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	3  7:00 PM Chr. Ed, Church in the World, Group Life and Worship Committees (Zoom)	4 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM WOW and Peak Program	5 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	6 	7 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study and Breakfast  7:30 AM Women's Fellowship Breakfast
8 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	9 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom) 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	10 	11 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM WOW and Peak Program	12 3:00 PM Nominating Committee 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	13 	14
15 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship/Donuts 	16 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom) 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	17 7:00 PM Session (Zoom)	18 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM WOW and Peak Program	19 11:30 am Young at Heart Luncheon 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	20 	21 
22 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	23 4:00 PM Adult Bible Class (Zoom) 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	24 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting (Zoom)	25 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM WOW and Peak Program	26  7:00 PM Chancel Choir	27 	28
29 9:30 AM In-Person Worship Service 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship	30  4 PM Bible Class (Zoom) 6:30 PM Chancel Bells	31 	1 	2 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	3 	4 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study & Breakfast 7:30 AM Women's Fellowship Breakfast



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

180 Estudillo Avenue
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Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

The Men's Breakfast and Bible Study will be meeting on Saturday, **May 7** at 7:30 am in the Fireside Room. We will be resuming our study of The Beatitudes, led by George Swanson. Janine Kline will be preparing breakfast for us, and each person is asked to make a \$10 donation. Reservations are required, and space is limited. Everyone must be up-to-date on vaccinations and a booster shot, and we will be wearing masks (except while eating and drinking).



Women's Fellowship Breakfast

The Women's Fellowship Breakfast will be meeting on Saturday, **May 7** at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Janine Kline will be preparing a delicious breakfast for us, and everyone is asked to make a \$10 donation. Reservations are required, and space is limited. Everyone must be up-to-date on vaccinations and a booster shot, and we will be wearing masks (except while eating and drinking).

WOW and Peak Plans

WOW and Peak will continue to meet in May on Wednesdays from 4:00 -5:30. The last day of the semester will be May 25. We will celebrate the season of Eastertide by studying the lessons of Jesus. Please enjoy the pictures in Fellowship Hall. They show many of the fun times we have had together this year.

Thank you, the First Presbyterian Church of San Leandro Church Family, for all the support you have shown our children and youth as we navigate through these challenging times.



All-Church Retreat – September 9-11, 2022

Save the date! Our All-Church Retreat is scheduled for September 9-11 at Westminster Woods, and we are in for another fantastic weekend!

A great program is being planned for all ages! For overnight accommodations, we'll have our usual cabins, along with some deluxe housing that includes restrooms in the same building. Camperships are available, so that everyone can afford to come. Sign-ups will begin in June – we hope you will join us!