

Highlights

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SAN LEANDRO

All Church Picnic and Deacon Meet & Greet – Sunday Aug. 28 at Chabot Park

The annual All-Church Picnic will take place Sunday, **Aug. 28** at 11:00 am. We will gather at the Chabot Park picnic area, at the lower east end of Lake Chabot, just off Estudillo Ave. for fellowship, food and fun. Additionally, this year the Deacons will be hosting their annual Meet & Greet as part of the picnic.

Upon arrival at the picnic area, please check in and pick up a name tag that indicates your assigned Parish. Then find your Parish gathering for a time to get to know each other and fellowship. After the Meet & Greet we will have our traditional BBQ lunch, followed by games that can be enjoyed by all ages! And since we will be outdoors, masks will be optional. Plan to come, so that you can meet and greet those in your parish as well as enjoy a picnic with our entire church family.



In-Person Worship Update

At their meeting on August 16, the Session voted to make a change in our church policy regarding worship attendance requirements, effective Sunday, August 28. In response to the current Covid-19 situation, we will **no longer require vaccinations/boosters for worship attendees.**



In-Person WORSHIP SERVICE

We will continue to take attendance as worshippers arrive for the Sunday service. Also, we will continue to wear masks during worship, which protect not only ourselves, but also those around us who may be at high risk of serious illness if they get Covid.

Following worship, you are invited to come into Fellowship Hall for Coffee Fellowship. We ask that you keep your mask on, except when you are eating/drinking. Thank you.

Worship Recordings

The recording of our morning worship service continues to be posted on our church webpage Sunday afternoon, so for those of you who have underlying health issues or are not comfortable coming back to worship yet, you may continue to listen to the service online.

We will also be posting a copy of the order of worship, so you may follow along.





2022 All Star Weekend All Church Retreat

Come Play Ball! at the 2022 All Star Weekend All-Church Retreat to be held at The Woods home field, **September 9-11**. In addition to intergenerational sessions of teaching, learning and discussion focused on the Genesis account of the BIG inning, we will have plenty of fun, fellowship, food and of course Sunday worship.

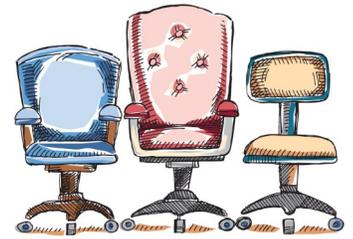
The weekend will also include the following:

- * A Bay Bridge Bible Series of friendly competitions between the O.T. Giant Slayers and the N.T. Apostles.
- * An outdoor physical All-Star Baseball game adapted for all ages and skill levels.
- * An indoor Bible (trivia) Baseball game.
- * An optional late night family-friendly Baseball movie.
- * And of course there will be peanuts, cracker jacks, and (root) beer.
- * And a possible pre-retreat Tailgate BBQ on Friday night.

Don't be left sitting on the bench... register on Sunday morning or call the church office. Then grab your equipment bag and pack your favorite baseball team colors, tee shirt, baseball cap, sweatshirt, jacket, jersey, any baseball uniform and all your super fan paraphernalia as well as any baseball equipment. If you want to think outside of the batter's box, you might get really creative and dress up as a team mascot, umpire, stadium worker, or...



And as always, scholarship help is available – please see Anne Swanson or Lou Pennebaker for details.



STAFF CHANGES

New Administrative Manager

We are delighted to announce that Tessa Gaerlan, who has been serving as our church receptionist, has become our new Administrative Manager! Tessa has her Bachelor's degree in accounting, and has years of experience in office management and accounts receivable. We are happy that she is able to move into the Administrative Manager position.

She is also continuing to prepare our worship bulletins and make other arrangements for our Sunday morning worship. Tessa will be present in the church office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9 am to 2 pm, and on Friday, 9 am to 1 pm.



Flowers for the Sanctuary

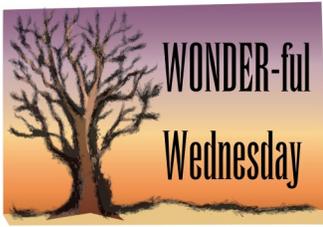
If you would like to purchase a floral arrangement (\$65) for a special occasion or in honor/memory of someone, you may sign up on the Flower Calendar posted in the Fellowship Hall, or you may call Mollie Wakeman or the church office. Mollie will make arrangements with Lyal Nickals Florist to deliver your arrangement prior to Sunday morning worship, and you may take it home after worship or donate it for Deacons to distribute to some of our Friends at Home.

Adult Education Class

The Monday afternoon adult Bible class, which meets on Zoom, will be resuming on Monday, September 19 at 4:00 pm. They will begin a 6-week study, Jesus Revealed - The "I Am" Statements in the Gospel of John by Matt Rawle for their first fall class. Newcomers are always welcome. Please contact Sue Goodnow or Jane Kraut if you wish to join the class. They will send you a Zoom link for the one-hour class, which meets on Monday afternoons.



Do you **WONDER...**



... what's happening **ON WEDNESDAYS** at the church this fall?

For the past few years during the COVID-19 pandemic, WOW (Wonders on Wednesdays), our midweek Logos program for children and youth, had to first be canceled, then offered only in a limited capacity. As the pandemic restrictions continue to lessen, we would like to once again offer a full midweek program for children and youth, but we **WONDER** what to offer **ON WEDNESDAYS**... Who will

come? What do they need or want?

So we are inviting ANY and ALL children, youth, parents and even interested volunteers to an evening of **WONDERing** together **ON WEDNESDAY**, Sept. 14 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the church. We will have some fun together, eat dinner and have separate opportunities for children, youth and parents to share and discuss their hopes and desires for the future ministry to children and youth at First Presbyterian Church. If you are a child or youth, if you have a child and/or youth or if you want to be a part of the church's ministry to children and youth, please plan to join us and come with your questions, thoughts, ideas, hopes and dreams – we want to hear them! So that we know how many tables to set for dinner, please be sure to R.S.V.P. by Sunday, September 11 either by emailing Lou@firstpresbyterianchurchsl.org or calling the church office.

Young at Heart Luncheon

The Young at Heart group will be meeting on Thursday, **September 15** at 11:30 am for a delicious luncheon, followed by a lovely program. We are looking forward to having a musical program, featuring Yakov Stanislavsky, who is a violinist and pianist. Reservations are required – please sign up on Sunday mornings or call the church office.

Widows/Widowers Grief Recovery Group

We are happy to be able to host a widows/widowers grief recovery class and support group at our church beginning on **Friday, September 16, 2022**. The group will meet for 10 weeks on Friday afternoons, 1:00 – 3:30 pm. It will be led by Merrilee Mitchell, and will include topics such as Facing Loss, Understanding Grief, Letting Go of the Past, and Getting Back in Balance.

The group is open to widows and widowers of all ages, no matter how far along you are in your grief process; however, it is recommended that you wait until at least 6 months after the actual loss in order to be able to handle the homework, etc. Whether you lost a spouse this past year, or even years ago, all who are interested in working through their grief are welcome. Please call Merrilee at (510) 482-5296 for further information (and leave a message if she doesn't pick up the phone). Or you may stop by the church office for a brochure. (There are other groups that will be meeting in the Berkeley, Pleasanton and Walnut Creek areas, so feel free to ask Merrilee about those if you are interested.)



Women's Book Club

On Tuesday, **September 20**, the Book Club will be gathering to discuss **Boys in the Boats**. We will meet at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room at the church. If you are interested in watching a rowing team practice, we can coordinate with Susan Fitzgerald for a different morning to visit. Our next title for November will be **West with Giraffes** by Lynda Rutledge.



Women's Shelter – Help Needed

We have a small group of people who deliver a dinner once a month to the San Leandro Women's Shelter. We routinely prepare a green salad, entree, bread rolls, dessert and beverage, and deliver it to the Shelter for them to serve. We are looking for a few more helping hands. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact Suzanne Yee, suzgyee@gmail.com.

Food Donations for Davis Street Family Resource Center

On Communion Sundays, you are encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations into the narthex, and place them in our food barrels which will then be picked up by the Davis Street Family Resource Center of San Leandro. Their food pantry continues to provide food to Alameda County residents who are in need of support during these difficult times. Thank you for your ongoing support!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Westminster Woods Fall Youth Weekends

Mark your calendars now! Westminster Woods will be hosting two youth retreats in the coming months:

For Middle School students (grades 6-8), there is November Bash, on **November 18-20**.

For Senior High students (grades 9-12), there is December Fest, on **December 2-4**.

We have campership money available, so be sure to talk with Lou Pennebaker and get set for a wonderful weekend! We hope to send students to each of these weekends!

Men's and Women's Breakfast Groups Resume

On Saturday, **September 3**, our Men's Bible Study and Breakfast group will be meeting at 7:30 am in the Fireside Room. We will begin a new study, with George Swanson leading the discussion, and we will have a delicious breakfast prepared by Janine Kline! Please sign up ahead of time, and bring \$10 to cover the cost.

Also on **September 3**, our Women's Fellowship Group will be gathering in Fellowship Hall for conversation and breakfast. Please make a reservation ahead of time, and bring \$10 to cover the cost. We look forward to gathering regularly, on the first Saturday of each month!



September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30 am In-Person Worship Service (No Coffee Fellowship) 11:00 am ALL CHURCH PICNIC 	29  BELL CAMP 6:15 pm Summer Bell Camp	30 6:15 pm Summer Bell Camp	31	1	2	3 7:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study; Women's Fellowship Breakfast 
4 9:30 am In-Person Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship/Donuts 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	5	6 7:00 pm Chr. Ed, Church in the World, Group Life & Worship Committees	7	8 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	9 5:00 pm All Church Retreat - Westminster Woods	10 ALL CHURCH RETREAT WESTMINSTER WOODS
11 9:30 am In-Person Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship	12 6:30 pm Chancel Bells	13	14  5:00 pm Evening of Wonder	15  11:30 am Young at Heart Luncheon & Program 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	16 1:00 pm Widows/Widowers Grief Recovery Group	17
18 9:30 am In-Person Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship and Donuts  DONUTS <i>for Camperships</i>	19 4:00 pm Adult Bible Class 6:30 pm Chancel Bells	20 10:00 am Book Club  7:00 pm Session	21	22  7:00 pm Chancel Choir	23 1:00 pm Widows/Widowers Grief Recovery Group 	24
25 9:30 am In-Person Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship	26 4:00 pm Adult Bible Class 6:30 pm Chancel Bells	27	28	29 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	30 1:00 pm Widows/Widowers Grief Recovery Group	1 7:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:30 am Women's Fellowship Breakfast