



*Faith Presbyterian Church*  
***Faith Family News***  
*Monthly Newsletter*



## *Pastor's Ponderings*

By Chris Lenocker

Many of you know that my father-in-law, George Johnson, died on Wednesday, May 20. Martha and I want to thank all of you for the messages of support, care and love. Being able to spend time with family and walk those first few days together was a special gift that not everyone can have – thank you. I am indebted to all those who stepped in to make sure that my responsibilities were covered. I know the same thing happened at Martha's school. We are blessed to be part of very supportive communities in the midst of our vocations.

I have walked with other families through the days after a death in the family, but it is very different when it is your family. Phone calls come in and people stop by and they offer their words of comfort and support. As Martha and I listened to what people said and as family reflected about George's life, I was impacted by what people had to say and reflected back upon how other families would recount memories and feeling about their loved one. Much was said about their accomplishments, career and volunteer work and the quality of their character – all wonderful stories that helped describe the uniqueness of the individual.

As I think about these experiences and the conversations that take place, I am urged to think about people in a deeper way than what might be listed in a résumé or a dossier. There is so much more to what makes a person than what they have done. Maybe it is more fully described by who they are as a person who impacts the world in which they live for the common good of that world. I have met some impressive people whose résumé would be the envy of all, yet they were, for lack of a better term, a "jerk." Their endeavors may have provided advancements in their field of expertise, but something

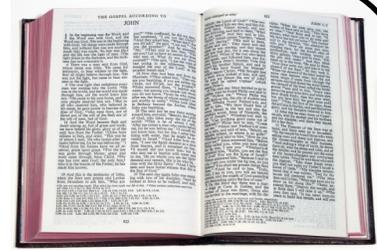
was missing: A sense of humility that put their achievements into perspective. Their world was too small. It revolved around their achievements and those who recognized those achievements.

People, like my father-in-law, saw the world and life as a gift to be cherished and nurtured, not solely for himself, but for all the world. He was accomplished in his profession and yet his greatest joy was how what he did benefited his community and those who lived there – and the possibility that his efforts might even help others beyond his community and across the world. I believe this sense of responsibility came from his deep faith and understanding that he was put on this earth to redeem our world and the people in it for the sake of God's love for the world and us.

How full and rich our lives can be, if we also could understand that we have been put on this earth to bring our gifts, talents and skills to redeem the world in which we live and the lives of those who occupy this beautiful earth. As I think back on all the people I have been privileged to meet and especially those I have shared end of life journeys, I feel overwhelmingly blessed. So many gifted and talented people that understood the humble service for the redeeming of the world. God's intent in sending his son, Jesus, was to redeem all of creation. We have the opportunity, in all we do, to follow Jesus in that redemptive work and humbly serve the purposes of God. What an amazing opportunity and responsibility. We each can live in ways that work for the common good of our world and demonstrate the transformative power of God at work in our lives. Wow! What a blessing.

*Shalom,*  
*Chris*

## **SERMONS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS**



### **June 7 – “Appearance and Reality”**

**2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35**

Often, things are not what they seem: Our perspective is flawed and our understanding is limited. We are constantly challenged by God to see things from God’s perspective, not from our own limited vantage point.

### **June 14 – “The Way Faith Operates”**

**2 Corinthians 5:6-17, Mark 4:26-34**

Faith always operates in a realm of risk. We are not the final arbiters of reality as if our strategies, goals and objectives dictate reality. It is God who triumphs over human mistakes and sin.

### **June 21 – “Taming the Chaos”**

**1 Samuel 17:32-49, Mark 4:35-41**

Whenever things start going sideways and chaos reigns, we can trust God to be present and active to overcome any injustice, any oppression and bring holy order to the situation.

### **June 28 – “Prosperity Gospel”**

**2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 5:21-43**

What does it mean to be really rich – like rich, rich? Jesus leads Paul to raise an interesting perspective that challenges us today in powerful ways.



*Make every effort to keep the unity of  
the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

*Ephesians 4:3*

### **NOTE THESE IMPORTANT DATES:**

- ◆ **June 12-14.** Women’s Retreat—Prince of Peace Abby in Oceanside
- ◆ **June 27. 5-8pm.** Parents Night Out
- ◆ **July 4.** Independence Day Office is closed.
- ◆ **August 3-7. 9AM-Noon** VBS

# College Park Preschool News

By Kathie Baldwin,  
Preschool Director

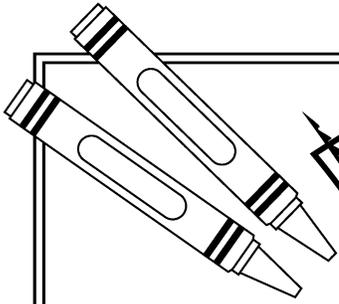
One of the dads in the Wild Things class came to share his drawing talents with the children. They wanted a superhero drawing. Mr. Nunez asked the class for their ideas about what the superhero should like and what characteristics (abilities, powers, etc.) it should have. The children were very focused for about 45 minutes. This is a long time for young 3-year-olds. Superhero play is very common in preschool. It is a way of trying out roles of power, control and authority. Mr. Nunez drew 2 superheroes: Rocketman “who can go super-fast to rescue people” and Mind Mover girl “who is really smart and can make things move using her mind.”



The annual Spring Sing and Fundraiser went very well. The parents loved hearing the children sing and took LOTS of pictures and videos.

On the playground a large group of children decided to make a party for Santa Claus because he was too busy at Christmas time to have fun. They decorated the large musical instruments with fabric strips, made cakes for Santa and his friends, and asked the teacher to make a sign with a package on it.





# PUZZLE

## Written for our learning

Not only did God give us the Bible as his Word, but he also gives us many people to teach us his ways. Our greatest teacher is Jesus, God's Son.

*Directions: Complete Matthew 19:16-17 by filling in the blanks (using words from the Word Bank) and then unscrambling the three words and writing them on the tablets.*

<b>WORD BANK</b>	ask	do	eternal	if	good	good	Why
	good	Jesus	life	man	One	Teacher	

A \_\_\_\_\_ came up to \_\_\_\_\_ and asked,  
 “\_\_\_\_\_, what \_\_\_\_\_ thing must I \_\_\_\_\_  
 to get \_\_\_\_\_ life?” “\_\_\_\_\_ do you  
 \_\_\_\_\_ me about what is \_\_\_\_\_?” Jesus replied.  
 “There is only \_\_\_\_\_ who is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ you want to enter \_\_\_\_\_ ...

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Matthew 19:16-17, NIV

Answers: A man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?” “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life ... obey the commands.”



## “SUNDAE” PARTY

Invite your Sunday school teacher(s) to a special thank-you celebration.

### What you need to make a card:

- 8" x 11" cardstock (or blank cards)
- Crayons or markers

### What you do:

1. Fold the cardstock like a card. On the outside, write “Thanks for being my teacher!”
2. On the inside, write a personal message and sign your name.

### Celebration options:

- Buy a gift card from a local ice cream parlor and tape it inside the card.
- Invite your Sunday school class to bring all the makings for sundaes for your teacher(s).
- Invite your teacher to an ice cream parlor or to your house to enjoy sundaes together.

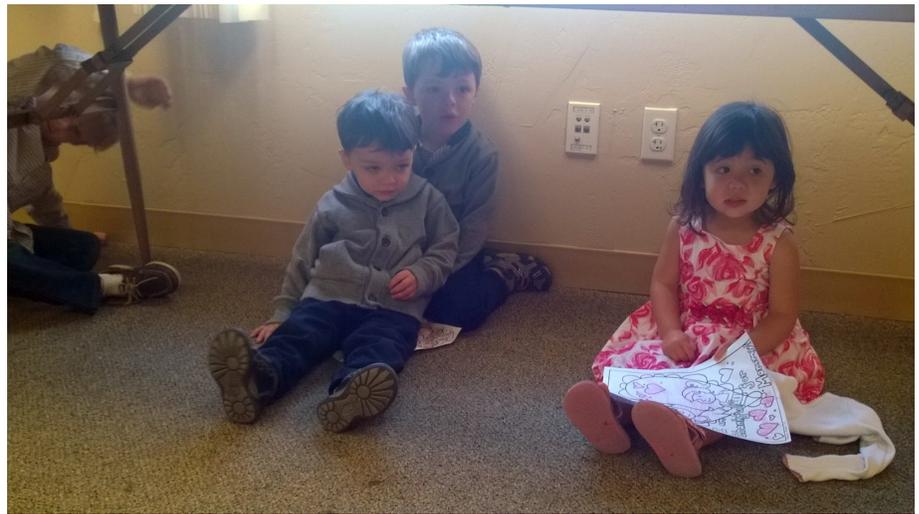
# Sunday School News

By Emilia Modrušan

Our teachers for the younger class this month have been Paula Carmack, Bree Bashaw-Wood, and Michelle Crownhart. Our teachers for the older class have been Rich Volkert, Bonnie Koehler, and Carolyn Taxer. Our helpers were Alex Crownhart and Nathan Powers. We are so grateful for you all!

We're finishing up our Spring curriculum and moving into our Summer period. We will most likely be combining classes during the summer months due to fewer children. If you would like to volunteer in any way, let me know! We can always use the extra help.

Below are pictures of the children during Sunday School – playing under the table and making crafts!

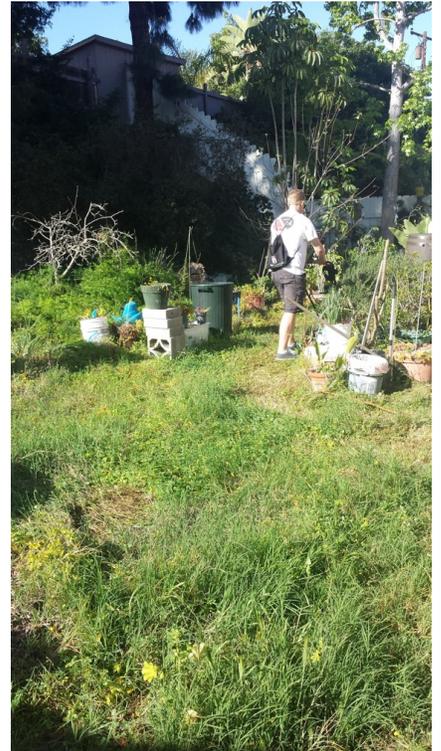


# College Ministry

Photos from Cara Ann Maeda



## Service Project



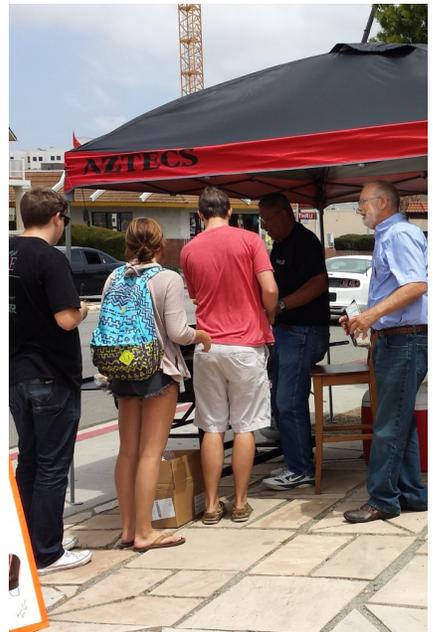
## Beacon



## End-of-Semester Game Night



## Hot Dog Stand





# Congregational Life

## Financial Report of Monthly Pledges

	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
Budgeted:	\$29,167	\$29,167
Actual:	\$35,064	\$32,266

## Church and Society

It's coming back, starting on Sunday June 7. We'll meet about 8:30 in the library to discuss various public policy advocacy issues using newsletters from places like the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness, the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the Presbyterian United Nations Office, and the California Council of Churches.



## The Tree of Life



### Marriage:

May 9 — Gordon Lillie and Margarita Carmona

### Death:

May 20 — George Johnson

## From the Deacons

The TLC birthday celebrations in June are:



**Kathleen Orton** - June 1

**Jim Simonton** - June 9

**Betty Birdsell** - June 12

**Jean Messervé** - June 20



*All Women – All ages!*

*Women's Retreat*

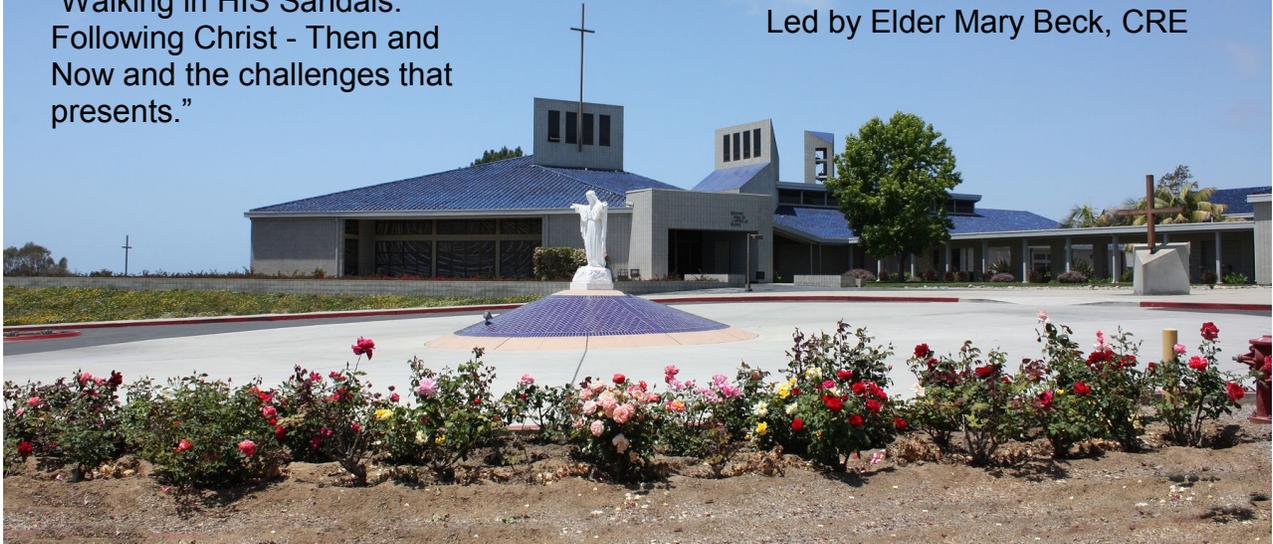
*June 12-14*

*Prince of Peace Abby in Oceanside*

*Cost is \$175 and includes 6 meals.*

“Walking in HIS Sandals.  
Following Christ - Then and  
Now and the challenges that  
presents.”

Led by Elder Mary Beck, CRE

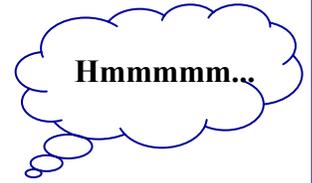


Sign-ups continue until June 7. Call or see Mary-Margaret Allen with any questions.



# Food for Thought

(A helping of words)



## Reflections by Joan Madler

I'm more aware of Father's Day this year than usual as it falls on my birthday. My Dad was a great Dad and very supportive; however I've been trying to remember one-on-one times with Dad when I was growing up. I have great memories of family times, especially our camping trips, but I don't remember anything that was a father-daughter time until he taught me how to drive. I'm betting if I asked my children their memories would mirror mine in many respects.

The memories of today's children, when they grow up, will be quite different. Keith and Granddaughter Kyla, age 12, have gone fishing together for several years, even ice fishing in the winter. Granddaughter Tori, age 14, helps Keith collect sap from the maple trees and likes to be in the sugar shack as they make maple syrup. Both Matora and Keith have read to the girls from the time they were very little until recently.

Should we on Father's Day perhaps pay some special attention to our Heavenly Father as well as to the human one? I received the following in an email that was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton. For an assignment in third grade homework he was asked to "explain God." The assignment was in California and someone published it, a miracle in many ways.

### Danny's EXPLANATION OF GOD:

One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He makes only babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers, pray at times beside

bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista ... At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he (Jesus) had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.

You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!

If you don't believe in God, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

*(Continued)*

But you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And that's why I believe in God.

*Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does." (John 5:19).*

So be careful human fathers because what is true in heaven could be true on earth!

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## We need you!

- ◆ Teach a Sunday School Class
- ◆ Help with Parents Night Out
- ◆ Volunteer your time or talent for VBS

Faith Development and Nurture (FDN) is hosting Parent's Night Out on June 27, from 5pm to 8pm. Volunteers are needed to assist in providing this ministry to the families of our church and visiting families from the preschool and the neighborhood. We need your help to make these events successful, both as a service ministry for the families and as an outreach to our community. We are building relationships with the attending families, but that is only possible if we have volunteers.

Please contact Steve Wood if you would like to volunteer or have your children (or grandchildren) participate. Volunteers - we need you!

VBS will once again be a daytime event, from 9 to Noon on August 3-7, and we need lots of volunteers to be able to have the program. VBS is a wonderful way to reach the community and bring new families into our church, but like our other outreach events, it only works if it is well staffed by caring members of our congregation like you! Volunteers can sign up for a single day or the whole week, but we must know soon if we have enough participation from the congregation in order to host the event.

Please contact Steve Wood if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

## Pew View Julie Hudson's Viewpoint

Christmas and Easter are big important days in the Church calendar. For many of us – like Pew View – celebrations are joyfully anticipated. At Christmas, there are decorated trees and presents as well as "stockings hung by the chimney with care." Celebration is marked by one day called Christmas, but the Season of Christmas lasts for twelve days. The familiar song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" reminds us the celebration continues until Epiphany.

Easter is longer than one Sunday with Easter "bonnets," bunnies and Easter egg hunts. Season of Easter lasts for seven weeks. The 40 dark days of Lent are passed and the sad days of Holy Week are over. The empty tomb on Easter Sunday challenges the disciples and us. It is a time of mystery and wonder. For seven weeks, the Season of Easter allows time to grieve and contemplate "what shall we do now?" Then, the Holy Spirit comes. The Season of Easter ends with Pentecost. Some people mark Pentecost as the beginning of the Church.

For the disciples, Pentecost was a surprise. Jesus promised he would not leave them comfortless. After Calvary, they were sad; seeing the empty tomb, they were bewildered. They doubted, felt lonely and confused. The seven weeks of Easter Season was a time to grieve and consider living without their leader and friend. The book of Acts describes the coming of the Holy Spirit with rushing wind and fire. The disciples being assured and confident, began a new way of life preaching in the name of the risen Christ. The Church was born; the disciples taught and lived the Good News.

God has the last word which is love. Using words from Beuchner:

*"Death is not the end; the end is life.--  
Existence has greater depths of beauty, mystery  
and benediction than the wildest visionary has  
ever dared to dream. Christ our Lord has risen."*

Pentecost – God with us for comfort and for strength.

Thanks be to God.

# *Faith Presbyterian Church*

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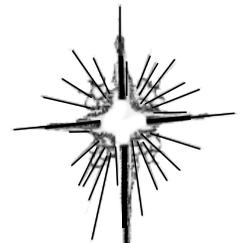


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**Spiritual Director:** David Helkenn  
**Director of Music Ministry:** Joe Rodriguez  
**Accompanist:** Rhonda Fleming  
**Media Ministry Director:** Kevin Maeda  
**Preschool Director:** Kathie Baldwin  
**Custodian:** Jesus Esquivel  
**Sexton:** Robin Craig  
**Office Administrator:** Lou Castillo  
**Newsletter Editor:** Flower Harvey

How we walk with the broken  
speaks louder than how we sit  
with the great.

— Zig Ziglar

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH:**

**JUNE 18**