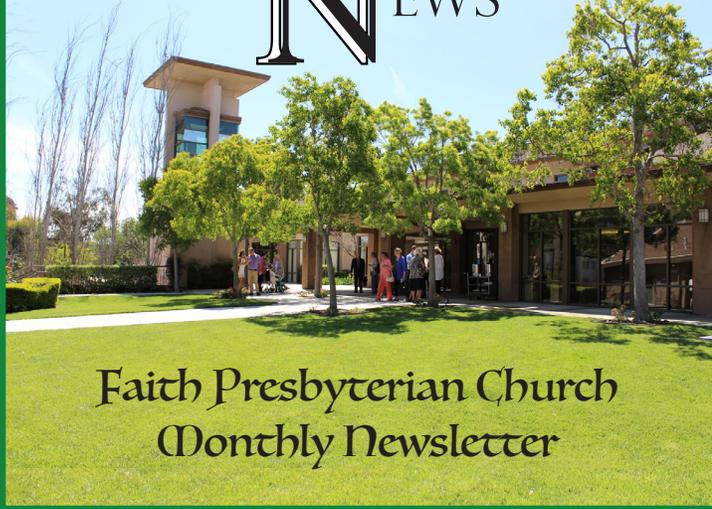


FAITH FAMILY NEWS



Faith Presbyterian Church Monthly Newsletter

From Pastor Sam

Becoming a Matthew 25 Church

In recent weeks, we have seen and felt the pain of Black communities as they have grieved and expressed deep frustration with continual patterns of violence. Systemic and institutional racism and injustice have been laid bare. While these are indeed not new realities, our attention and energy have been focused on these challenges we face as local communities and as a country. It is important that local congregations thoughtfully engage these realities through education, worship, and mission.

As part of our Presbyterian Book of Confessions, the Confession of Belhar states,

“We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others” (10.7)

We know racism is sin and injustice is sin. But what do we do now?

At Faith, we are committing to become a Matthew 25 church. Below, I share the ways in which Presbyterian Mission describes the call of becoming a Matthew 25 church. We are called to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned, and poor. By joining this journey, we are uniting in common mission with Presbyterians across the country to become a more relevant presence in the world. At Faith, our focus will be on dismantling structural racism.

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

By accepting the Matthew 25 invitation, we are participating with our denomination to become a more relevant presence in the world. We recognize Christ’s urgent call to be a church of action, where God’s love, justice, and mercy shine forth and are contagious.



The circular shape of the above symbol represents unity and equality. Like God, a circle has no beginning and no end, and it symbolizes our continuing effort to help one another. The shape also suggests a globe that points to our engagement with the world. The three interlocking figures represent the equality of all people without gender or race bias. They have their arms around each other, symbolizing friendship, protection and service. The number three suggests the three focus areas of congregational vitality, structural racism and systemic poverty, as well as the Trinity.

In the month of August on Tuesday evenings,
continued on page 2

**NO IN-PERSON MEETINGS OF
OUR FELLOWSHIP GROUPS
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Men's Breakfast
Monday Mornings

Tuesday Eves
Every Other Tuesday

Bible Study
Wednesday Mornings

Women's Circle
Second Thursday of the Month

Women's Group Bible Study
Third Saturday of the Month



Be On The Lookout

Virtual VBS is coming

Be on the lookout for our Virtual Vacation Bible School coming in August! The Faith Development and Nurture committee is leading the way in producing our very own VBS to enjoy at home. More information coming soon.

FROM PASTOR SAM continued from page 1

we will be gathering on Zoom to join in conversation with the book *Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*. You will be responsible for acquiring a copy of the book. The co-moderators of the General Assembly recommended this book to all churches in 2017. This will be a starting point for us as we become a Matthew 25 Church focusing on dismantling structural racism.

I do hope this will be a journey that puts our faith in action and fosters a positive impact in our community.

Grace and peace,

Sam



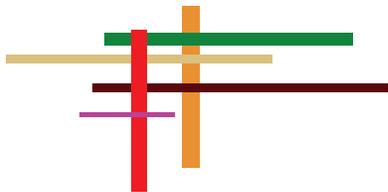
This Is Us

Faith Presbyterian Church gathers in the College Area from all across San Diego. We desire to embody beloved community. We are diverse. We are people of color, white, gay, straight, married, single, parents, old, young, and with various abilities. We share a common life characterized by concern for justice, delight in education, and excellence in music through all stages of life. We carry living traditions with us as we grow in faith, with the triune God as our best expression.

Faith Family Life



Look for the Sunday Service video link and the 11:00am Coffee Time zoom link in Pastor Sam's emails.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Greyson Baker - 3rd
Jack Shelver - 3rd
Stacy Volkert - 5th
Peter Way - 11th
Marilyn Helken - 13th
Ruth Juleen - 19th
Kim Wehmeyer - 19th
Joan Madler - 21st
George Crownhart - 26th
Ezra Codington - 28th

If you would like to see your birthday listed in the newsletter with just the day, not the year, please email that information to Joe Rodriguez (jcr14@att.net).

DEATHS

Nanette Christ Pierce
Passed away on May 14th
Curtis McKee
Passed away on May 29th
Jeff Williams
Passed away on May 29th
Stu Elder
Passed away on June 7th
Jim Weir
Passed away on June 23rd

It's a tough time! Reach out to someone and make a huge difference in their day-and yours!

DATES TO REMEMBER

NO ACTIVITIES IN-PERSON UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

July 15th - Session Meeting - 7:00pm (ZOOM)
July 23rd - Newsletter Deadline

COME

TRY OUR WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
LED BY PASTOR SAM
TUNE IN ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS ON OUR WEBSITE

Financial Report 05/31/2020

Envelope Offering for May 2020 was \$46,106.05

Envelope Offering monthly budget 2020 is \$21,721.00 per month

2020 Per Capita Assessment is \$6,874.60

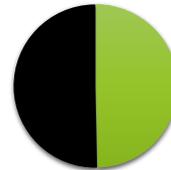
Members we are not doing as well as last year in paying our Per Capita! Please mail it in if you have not, thank you.

Per Capita collected to the end of May was \$3,460.00! About 50%

Please pay your \$40.00 per member Per Capita!

Budget

% of Per Capita



50%

Summary

Total Per Capita
\$6,875
Total Income as of 05/31/2020
\$3,460

PLEDGE UPDATE

Thank you to all members who have kept their pledges current during this unique period. Anyone who would like an update on where they stand with their contributions may contact Beverly Martyn at 619-582-2186 or email at beamartyn@cox.net.

Thank you for sending your pledges and donations by mail!

You make the ministries of the church possible.

SERMONS FOR JULY

July 5th Pastor Sam - *Citizenship*

July 12th Pastor Sam - *Perseverance*

July 19th Pastor Sam - *Contentment*

July 26th Pastor Sam - *Gratitude*

Philippians 3:17-21

Philippians 4:1-9

Philippians 4:10-14

Philippians 4:15-23

WE HAVE ONLINE SERVICES TO HELP GROW YOUR FAITH:

<https://faithchurchsandiego.org/sermons-2/>

WE HAVE ONLINE WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES TO HELP GROW YOUR FAITH:

<https://faithchurchsandiego.org/bible-study/>

LOOKING AT THE "FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT"

A Study for Faith Families

Cara Ann Maeda

Our summer series is going along nicely and we will continue to focus on the Fruit of the Spirit through July. The families have gathered on Zoom to share some of our discoveries while also keeping in contact through Facebook and email.

We will continue to journey through the Fruit of the Spirit with each week focusing on one "fruit" of the Spirit, from Sunday through Saturday:

- ◆ July 5th - Kindness
- ◆ July 12th - Generosity
- ◆ July 19th - Faithfulness
- ◆ July 26th - Goodness
- ◆ August 2nd - Self-Control

With each week's fruit, we will have three reflective questions to help us be more attentive to the Holy Spirit's presence:

1. Where do we see this fruit in the Bible?
(Where do we see *love* in the Bible?)
2. Where have you seen the presence of the Holy Spirit through this fruit?
(Where have you seen *love* around you? How have you experienced *love*?)
3. How have you and your family shown this fruit?
(How have you and your family shown *love*?)

Continue to keep a written or photo journal of your answers to these questions. Please share your journey with us through email or on our church's Facebook page. Join us as we become more aware of the Holy Spirit in our lives!



Do you LOVE books?

If you've ever wanted to be a librarian with your own library, this is your chance! Our church library needs a new librarian to take charge of it and give it lots of love.

If you can help, please contact Sharon Gehl at 619-299-9606

Ruthe-Anne Christ - Note of Thanks

Dear Faith family,

Thank you for the many calls, cards and emails of sympathy sent to our family. They have given all of us much comfort.

Our daughter/sister, Nan's life's was a life in service to humanity. In her early years she served in the child welfare area and oversaw abused children for Arizona state. Her last 15 plus years serving as a Hospice nurse. The family cherish and treasure the rich memories of Nan's life.

Our family plans a memorial service in the future when the Covid Virus allows freedom to gather.

Again, many thanks for your condolences.

In Christian Love,

The Herb Christ family



From Kathleen Williams

Kathleen's husband Jeff died May 29th, after many years of illness with lymphoma. She and Abbey were able to be with him when he died. As you know, Kathleen and Abbey (who is now 18 years old) were members of Faith prior to moving to New York City 8 years ago. Kathleen told me that she and Abbey would appreciate prayers as they navigate this loss. I asked her permission to share this information and she readily gave it.

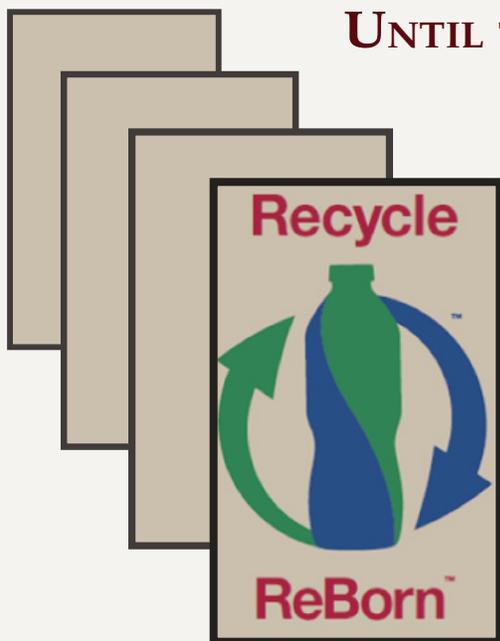
From Irene Elder

My family and I appreciate greatly all the cards, calls, prayers we received and the beautiful and thoughtful gifts of concern. It's so comforting to feel the love of our Faith family. We are blessed to have your support.

With love,

Irene Elder and family

UNTIL THE CHURCH CAMPUS REOPENS



The Deacons are continuing to collect recycling. Please contact Nancy Flynn at (619) 813-7063 or email at esch46@hotmail.com to make arrangements for her to meet you in the church parking lot. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing when you transfer the bags from your vehicle to hers.

The money goes directly to the Deacons' fund.

Aluminum cans - Plastic bottles - Glass bottles (CRV) - Water jugs

Ruth Juleen, born July 19, 1918 in the state of Montana. She lived with her parents and two sisters. They moved around a lot for her father's job in the elevator business.

Ruth graduated from business college and landed a job in that field until she was married at the age of 24. She was married to Ray for over 50 years as he passed away in 1997. Ruth has one daughter who resides in Alpine and two sons who have houses next door, so Ruth always has company. She has two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and one new great-grandchild coming in September.

Ruth lived on Vista Grande Drive which was closer to the church than Alpine is for over 60 years. She was a member of the Rolando Woman's Club where she, Ray, and two friends had their little band. She played saxophone and Ray played the accordion. They played at the San Diego Army Reunion.

Ruth made most of her daughter's clothes as a child, shirts for the boys, and also her clothes. She spent a lot of time sitting on the floor cutting out material that was attached to the Simplicity patterns (remember those!!).

"I think what kept my mother in shape was the walking she did with all her friends at Chollas Lake and exercising at Joan Kroc Center which to this day is missed by my mother."

After recovering from open-heart surgery in 1983, Ruth and Roy were off to Australia. Nothing kept her down and that is why she is with us today.

Ruth and Ray Juleen were members of the church (East San Diego Presbyterian) when it was up on the hill by Colina Park and then moved to Campanile Drive.

Thank you to everyone at the church, you were always there for both of our parents.

Happy 102nd Birthday!

Cheryl Finch (Ruth Juleen's daughter)



RUTH JULEEN
TURNS
102
THIS
MONTH

NEW DAY Urban Ministries

In a Christ-centered environment, New Day Urban Ministries restores lives by equipping those in need to move forward with hope by providing essential services to the homeless, urban poor, veterans and those recently released from prison in a safe, home-like setting where people are treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

Our ministry is open and is helping the community with essential services such as food bags, snack bags, hygiene kits, diapers and mailing service. We are preparing the caseworkers office with flexi-glass and protocols to be able to start with casework in the beginning of July 2020.

FOOD DONATION FROM OUR SISTER CHURCHES



UPDATE ON CAMPUS CLOSURE

While the campus continues to be closed, staff returned to campus on June 17th for partial days, Monday-Thursday, 9am-1pm. At this time, only the staff have returned to campus.

Many of us are really longing to be together again in person, but the campus continues to be closed to gathering in person. Please do not put staff in the awkward position of reminding you that the campus is still closed for church members, friends, families, and the surrounding community. That said, feel free to call the office.

There will be graveside committal services at the church columbarium limited to family only.

The task force overseeing the church's campus closure is in regular conversation with the church's session. The task force is exploring what it will look like for the congregation to gather in person for Sunday morning worship services outside initially.

Though we have not set a start date, these outdoor services will be quite different than what we are accustomed to.

We will take precautionary measures. Everyone attending will wear masks and sit six feet apart. There will not be congregational singing or choral music. There will also not be in person communion until further notice; communion will continue to be celebrated online on the first Sunday of each month. Rather than passing an offering plate, donations will be dropped in a box.

You may think of these worship services as contemplative prayer services. There will be music, Scripture readings, preaching, quiet reflection, and prayer. You will be invited to use this quiet space for personal conversation and attentiveness with God.

This has been a year unlike any other. We will get through this.



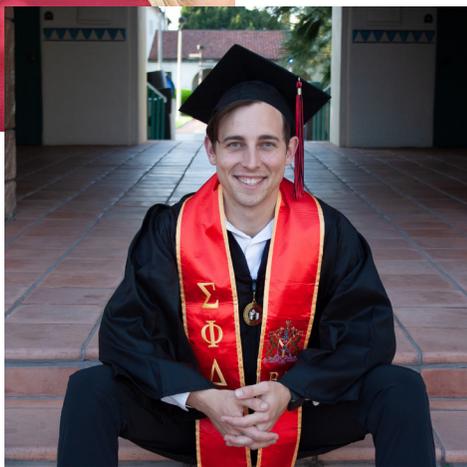
PER CAPITA PLEA FROM STEWARDSHIP

Per Capita- Last year we were really good at having all members chip and pay their share of the Per Capita expenses that Faith pays to our Denomination and we're calling for your help in doing this again. At the moment we are down around less than 50% having paid. As you know, our Church will pay the \$40 per person owed for every member to the Denomination this year as we have for years, if needed from our general funds. The reason for this is we receive valuable services and guidance from the Presbytery and this is how the Denomination is funded to provide those services. These services include having helped us in our search for the Pastor, help us in drafting required legal documentation and managing issues associated with our staff and the churches operations on a daily basis. Normally paying Per Capita is as easy as writing another check and placing it in the Blue Envelope. However, as we're now mailing this in, it's easy to only send on the one check and forget about that little blue envelope in your envelope packet. As Stewardship we would ask you to dig out that envelope and prayerfully consider sending in your per person per capita amounts to help reduce the impact on the general funds the church has available.

Yours in Christ – Rich Volkert



Graduations

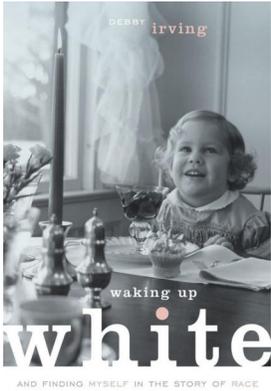


Lauren Haneke-Hopps - University of Alabama, Bachelor of Science in Education in the field of Human Performance Exercise Science. She will be pursuing a master's degree starting in the fall in Kinesiology at the University of Alabama while continuing to play wheelchair tennis for the university.

Nikola Modrusan - San Diego State University, degree in Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering

Allison Castillo Pham - San Diego State University, degree in Biology. She will be continuing her studies and plans to get a second degree in Architecture.

Korrin Goode has been accepted to Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona and will be starting in the fall pursuing a Doctor of Optometry degree.



A Book Studying with *Waking Up White* Debby Irving, author

As we become a Matthew 25 Church focusing on dismantling structural racism through our education, worship, and mission, we will be sharing in a conversation with the Debby Irving's book *Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*.

We will share in these conversations on Zoom at **7pm on Tuesdays, August 4th-25th**.

From the back cover: "For twenty-five years, Debby Irving senses inexplicable racial tensions in her personal and professional relationships. As a colleague and neighbor, she worried about offending people she dearly wanted to befriend. As an arts administrator, she didn't understand why her diversity efforts lacked traction. As a teacher, she found her best efforts to reach out to students and families of color left her wondering what she was missing. Then, in 2009, one 'aha!' moment launched an adventure of discovery and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and upended her life plan."

You are invited to join the conversation. You will be responsible for acquiring a copy of the book for yourself, and you may want to begin reading it soon and reflecting on its content before we gather for conversation. A reading outline for when chapters will be discussed will be provided.

THE WOMEN'S RETREAT 2020 HAS BEEN POSTPONED

Women of Faith the Women's retreat that was scheduled for the middle of July has been postponed until April 30 – May 2 of 2021. Once we determined that July was too soon, I had hoped to hold it sometime in the Fall. However, I have noticed that a lot of groups are moving activities to the Fall, and schedules were already beginning to get busy. I really hope that you will put this on your calendars, especially if you have not experienced one of our retreats before. Mary Elva Smith is a fantastic spiritual and retreat leader, who also likes to add a bit of mischief into the mix. The Abbey grounds are beautiful, restful and perfect for a weekend to relax, study and feel close to God and to each other. Join us!!! Any questions, don't hesitate to ask. Mary Margaret

**Save
the
Date**

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2021

**NEXT YEAR'S WOMEN'S RETREAT
WILL ONCE AGAIN BE HELD AT THE
PRINCE OF PEACE ABBEY**

**THE DATE: April 30th - MAY 2nd
THE COST: \$190.00**



Mary Elva says of herself, "I am a risk taker, love adventures and avoid getting up early! I have been involved in the church all my life and called by the church for many years. I love God and still have more questions about my faith than answers. I am an educator/administrator with 'an attitude' of faithful hope. Now happily retired I am able to be a 'volunteer' in the arenas of service for which I continue to have passion and hope.

UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.



WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.



Water changes to

JOHN 2:1-11



Heals a man born

JOHN 9



Calms a

MATTHEW 8:23-27



Catch of

LUKE 5:1-11



Walks on

MATTHEW 14:22-33

Answers: wine, blind, storm, fish, water

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5075 Campanile Drive
San Diego CA 92115

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Parish Associate: Cara Ann Maeda

Spiritual Director: David Helkenn

Director of Music Ministry: Joe Rodriguez

Media Director: Betsy Bestoso

Preschool Director: Nancy McGeath

Custodial/Maintenance Worker: Roger Moses

Sexton: Robin Craig

Office Administrator: Lou Castillo

Newsletter Editor: Joe Rodriguez

GIVE THANKS TO
THE LORD, FOR
HE IS GOOD.
HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.
PSALM 136:1

Send all submissions to
Joe Rodriguez, editor
jcr14@att.net

DEADLINE FOR
NEXT
MONTH



JUL
23