

From Pastor Sam

From Mourning to Dancing

About eight years ago, in North Carolina, an older lady approaching the end of life invited me to visit and talk. She wanted to receive communion and prayer. She lived alone in her house, and she was blind.

When I arrived, she invited me into her living room, and as we talked, she described how quiet and lonely the long nights felt. And then, she quoted Psalm thirty to me, "Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning."

I will not soon forget that moment. She embodied Psalm thirty. I was so deeply moved by her trust and hope in God, even as she felt such deep loneliness. She was preparing to breathe her last and meet her God. Several months later, she died. I am grateful to have known her.

During the months of July and August, on Sunday mornings during the worship service, we are reading select Psalms and exploring a theology of joy. The Psalms are continually reminding me that heartache and hope, sorrow and joy are often intermingled with each other.

Psalm thirty expresses one of the grand themes of the Bible, namely God's transformative act of turning sorrow into joy. I think of Miriam singing and dancing with a tambourine after being delivered from Egypt (Exodus 15), Esther saving the Israelites from genocide in Persia (Esther 9), Jeremiah envisioning the Israelites eventual return to Jerusalem after exile (Jeremiah 31), and Jesus' reassurance that the disciples' pain will turn to joy (John 16).

But the Psalms are not only relics of an ancient past that embody grand biblical themes. The Psalms express the vast experience of the human heart, the heights of celebration and the depths of despair. There are few experiences of the human heart that the psalms do not embody and express.

One of the reasons I resonate most deeply with the Psalms is that they convey an honest faith. The Psalms do not gloss over the harsh realities of life. The Psalms invite me into honesty as much as they invite me into faith.

I hope you find some encouragement as we read the Psalms together.

Grace and peace,

Sam



"The joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10 (NRSV)

MEETINGS OF OUR FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Book Study
Every Tuesday of the Month
Resumes August 1st

Wednesday Bible Study FPC, Room #2 at 12noon - 1:00pm

Tuesday Eves Second Saturday of the Month No Meeting in August FPC, Library at 2:00pm

Women's Circle No meeting in August FPC, Room #3 at 10:00am

Women's Group Bible Study
Third Saturday of the Month
August 19th
FPC, Library at 3:00pm

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.





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.

The money goes directly to the Deacons' fund.

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

Faith Family Life

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Fannie Morgan - 1st
Barbara Reisweber - 3rd
Skip Deahl - 3rd
Ivan Pedersen - 9th
Donna Koehler - 14th
Janet Sansom - 24th
Sharon Cameron - 31^{2t}

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).

We will celebrate Ivan's 95th birthday with cake after the morning service on August 6th.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS



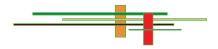
THE FLOWER
CHART IS UP
IN THE NARTHEX

THE CURRENT
PRICE IS \$75.00.

JUST A REMINDER
THAT THE COST OF THE
FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS
CAN BE SPLIT WITH
ANOTHER MEMBER.

DEBBIE LENART, FLOWER MINISTRY



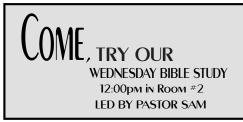


DATES TO REMEMBER

August 3rd thru 6th - Music and Arts Camp August 6th - Annual Indoor Church Picnic - 11am, FFC August 24th - Newsletter Deadline August 27th - Church in Context - 11am, Room #1

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00am – 12:00noon, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Please note that office is closed on Fridays





June 30, 2023

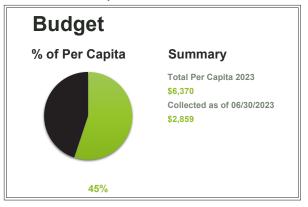
Envelope Offering for June 2023 was \$22,137.04 Envelope Offering monthly budget 2023 is \$18,939.00 per month

Pentecost offering as of June 30th was \$1,160.00

Mortgage Balance as of June 30th was \$724,505.03

Please pay your Per Capita, it is \$42.00 per member.









Life in Color: A Theology of Joy

During the months of July and August, we will explore a theology of joy. Throughout the Bible people experience joy in varying circumstances, sometimes celebratory and sometimes excruciatingly hard. When he was teaching his disciples not long before his arrest and execution, Jesus said, "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Jesus desired to share his joy with his disciples. For this sermon series on joy, we will read select Psalms together. We hope this sermon series encourages you as we seek to share in joy together as a church family.

August 6th	Pastor Sam	Celebrating the Gifts of Children: Music and Arts Camp	
August 13th	Pastor Sam	Joy in Forgiveness	Psalm 32
August 20th	Pastor Sam	Joy in Healing	Psalm 147
August 27th	Pastor Sam	Joy in the Family of God	Psalm 122



Monday, September 18, 2023. At Carlton Oaks Golf Course in Santee

The 14th annual NewDay Urban Ministries Golf4Good fundraiser event will occur on Monday, September 18, 2023 at the Carlton Oaks Golf Course. This event is the major fund-raiser for New Day. There are many opportunities for us to support this important fundraiser.

Golfers who wish to participate in the event can register online at www. newdayurbanministries.org/golf4good or contact your Golf4Good Ambassador Raul Palomino, director@newdayurbanministries.org who has additional information and registration by mail forms. Non-golfers who want to support the event can attend only the awards banquet that includes raffles, live and silent auctions for a donation of \$52.00. You can also support the event by volunteering to work a 4 hour shift at the event. All event proceeds will go directly to New Day Urban Ministries, a 501(c) (3) mission of the Presbytery of San Diego, which serves as a Christ-centered outreach to the homeless, the inner city poor and those just released from prison.

Keeping Up With Joan Madler

It seems like all I've done since leaving San Diego is move; however, the plan now is this will be my forever home. It's a senior living facility with 3 buildings - Independent living which is where I live - we get meals, housekeeping and some gardening help in my small patio area. I love not having to cook or clean. Then there is a dependent building where help is available for physical and mental problems when necessary and the third building is for memory care- hopefully I won't need that any time soon. :-) The best thing though is my daughter Matora only lives 4 miles down the road. I had a great time at Faith, some weeks ago, enjoying the service - especially the bells and choir and I got so many hugs - I really felt loved. Then lunch with 14 friends and Joe was wonderful. So fun to be able to chat with Kathy sitting beside me and especially Joe across the table. A little sad at times seeing some of my friends struggling with health issues.

Love belonging to Grace Presbyterian and Pastor Neal is just great. So lucky to have found such a great church and just a 10 minute drive away. As you hopefully can tell - life is good and I am happy and Healthy!! Blessings,

Joan

College Park Preschool

IVANIA RODAS
DIRECTOR



Symmetr Fun

Another summer fun season is in the books and the transition back to school has begun. Our hearts are full of gratitude for CPP staff, for our students and particularly for our parents who have entrusted their children to us.

Because the children's days spent at summer fun, they have acquired an increase in confidence, a deeper connection to nature, and a greater sense of their own independence.

What a wonderful summer!

Ivania Rodas

Director at College Park Preschool



'TRULY I TELL YOU, JUST AS YOU DID IT TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY, YOU DID IT TO ME.'

FROM MATTHEW 25:40 (NRSV)



Summer Music and Arts Camp

Earth Care

For Rising K-5th grade singing, music, dance, painting, acts of service

August 3-6
9am-Noon

Faith Presbyterian Church 5075 Campanile Dr. San Diego CA 92115



The All Church Indoor Picnic

-- COMING UP --



ALL CHURCH INDOOR PICNIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 6TH
FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP
pictures are from 2019



THE ALL CHURCH-INDOOR/OUTDOOR SUMMER PICNIC IS BACK!!

Save the date! The Summer Picnic will be held on August 6th. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and drinks will be provided. Signup to bring your favorite salad, side dish or dessert. Please call the church office to signup.

THE ANNUAL MOM



Money donations are still being accepted. For more information or questions, please call:

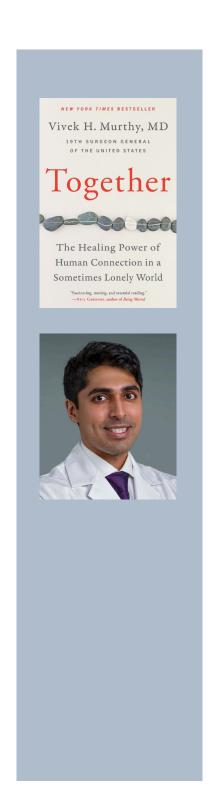
MOM @
619-461-4164

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED!

lunch bag - pencilbox or pouch
highlighters - glue stick - 1 subject notebook
zipper binder - crayons - index cards - book covers
#2 pencil - sharpener - pens - 12-inch ruler
4 oz. glue - markers - rulers & stapler
composition notebook
compass with measuring guide
tissues & antibacterial hand sanitizer - eraser
paper colored pencils - 5-inch school scissors
wide-ruled 3-ring binder - watercolor paint - notebooks

Supplies will be distributed to military children of San Diego.

NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL!
BRING TO THE NARTHEX BY SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH



Resumes in August

Book Study Resumes August 1st!

Together: The Healing Power of Human
Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World

By Vivek H. Murthy, MD Harper Wave, Paperback, 2023

We will begin a new book on Tuesday, **August 1st** at 7pm on Zoom.

From the back cover: "Loneliness is a root cause and contributor to many of the epidemics sweeping the world today – from alcohol and drug addiction to violence, depression, and anxiety. It affects not only our health but also how our children experience school, how we perform at work, and the sense of division and polarization in our society. Despite our progress in talking about mental health, we are still ashamed of feeling lonely. Dr. Murthy explores our need to belong what happens when we find ourselves untethered.

But there is hope in our true nature as social animals. Our desire to forge lasting bonds, help one another, and share life experiences also provides the starting point for curing this epidemic of loneliness. Together we are simply better. In *Together*, Dr. Murthy recounts inspiring and encouraging stories of individuals and communities that are making great strides in helping us understand that we are not alone and offers simple yet effective solutions we can use today to heal ourselves, one another, and build stronger communities. Told with great compassion and hope, Dr. Murthy makes a powerful and convincing argument for why we can and must build a more connected world."

From the back cover: "Vivek H. Murthy, MD, is the surgeon general of the United States. He received his bachelor's degree from Harvard and his MD and MBA from Yale. He completed his internal medicine residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, where he later joined the faculty. Dr. Murthy resides in Washington, DC, with his wife, Dr. Alice Chen, and their two children."



UPCOMING CONVERSATIONS!

Church in Context: listening, learning, and growing together with leaders from around San Diego and California.

On Sundays at 11am in Room #1

August 27th: Rev. Darin Johnson of Agape House, Campus Ministry at San Diego State University.

September 24th: Michael Gaulden, author of *My Way Home: Growing Up Homeless in America*.

October 22nd: Rev. Joel Drenkpohl of Front Porch, Campus Ministry Coffee House at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, CA.

FUN FOR THE KIDS



Godly, biblical wisdom is more valuable than gold or silver. Make this do-it-yourself toy to practice your searching skills.

What you need:

- · 12 small, smooth rocks
- · An empty, clean egg carton
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic paint (gold or silver)
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

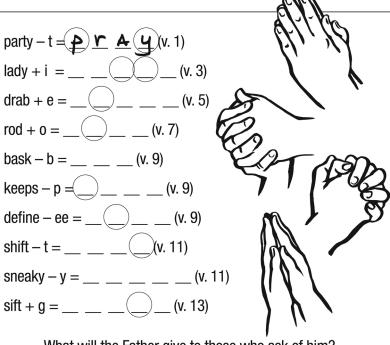
- Clean the rocks and egg carton. Place newspaper on a table to protect it from paint.
- Paint all sides of the rocks and carton. Let dry. Add a second coat, if desired.
- When rocks are dry, number each rock (1-12) with marker. Place rocks in the carton.
- Play hide-and-seek with a friend. Take turns hiding the rocks in a room, sandbox or backyard. Give clues, if needed, and count the rocks as they're returned.
- Use your imagination to incorporate a treasure hunt into study time or family devotions.



Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

__ _ _ _ _ (v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, ask, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts; Holy Spirit

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5075 Campanile Drive San Diego CA 92115

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5075 Campanile Drive
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(619) 582-8480
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Spiritual Director: Mary Elva Smith
Director of Music Ministry: Joe Rodriguez
Media Director: Stephen Dichiera
Preschool Director: Ivania Rodas
Custodian: Agustin Urueta
Sexton: Robin Craig
Office Administrator: Lou Castillo
Newsletter Editor: Joe Rodriguez



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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT

MONTH



AUG 24