

Pastor's Ponderings

I love September and the fall season beginning. Get out your pens and update your plans and calendars! Following our yummy and cool indoor picnic on Sunday, August 31, this month we're launching back into the full orb of ministries and gatherings. The mid-week Bible Study on Wednesdays at noon led by Carla Euliss will resume on Sept 3. Beginning Sept 7, we'll enjoy delicious cake and fellowship as we welcome back our awesome choir. Elder Jill Gustafson will begin leading a wonderful study on Walter Bruggemann's book Sabbath as Resistance-Saying No to the Culture of Now. After the first study, our Mission Committee is leading a Congregational Seminar of congregational discernment looking at 3 major pillars of our church family community, what to hold on to, what we should surrender & what we'd like to improve. Our Deacons and Elders will regather in their respective meetings to synchronize their ministries of care and leadership for the church. Some of us will participate in New Day Urban Ministries 16th Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner & Auction Golf for Good at the La Valle Coastal Club in Rancho Santa Fe on Sept 29.

Remember brothers and sisters, God is near us, not distant from us. This is why the apostle Paul can say with authority: Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35-39).

May the good Lord bless and keep us as we continue on, day by day, walking by faith and not by sight alone.

Faithfully, Yours in Christ, Pastor Gary





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.

MEETINGS of Our Fellowship Groups

Wednesday Bible Study

Resumes on September 17 FPC, Room #2 at 12noon - 1:00pm

Tuesday Eves

Second Saturday of the Month Saturday, September 13th FPC, Library at 2:00pm

Women's Circle

Thursday, September 11th FPC, Room #3 at 10:00am

Women's Group Bible Study

Saturday, September 20th FPC, Library at 3:00pm

CONGREGATIONAL SEMINAR

As part of our congregational discernment on our way ahead finding a new pastor, the Mission Study Committee is conducting a congregational seminar after worship on Sept 7, from 11:30am to no later than 1:30pm. Members and long-time worshippers within our community are invited! There will be light noshes. During the seminar we'll discern the three major pillars around which we find our balance as a community. We'll consider things we should hold on to. things we should surrender, and things we'd like to improve with each of these pillars. We'll discern a short list of things we should decide soon as a congregation and things we should do soon. We'll do all of this through a mix of whole group and small group discussions.

In preparation, think about your top one or two most uplifting experiences you've had with the church and our church family in the last three years. Also, think about something you think we need to decide soon, something you think we need to do soon, and something you think we should surrender.

We look forward to seeing you there!

UPDATE FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Last month we told you we were working to finish the Ministry Discernment Profile document needed to start the search. That has been completed, sent to Louisville and is being used to try and match what we are seeking with any pastor who might be looking for what we have to offer. Unfortunately this is not easy, and there is a scarcity of trained interims who are available. However we have received several profiles and are in the process of contacting those people to see if they are still looking. We hope to find several that we can schedule interviews with soon. While this is going on, Joe Huffaker is working with a group to put together our Mission Study---telling who we are, what we are about, and where we see Faith going in the future. This document will be a key part of what the Pastor Nominating Committee will need as they search for a permanent pastor. Joe and Nancy Harber continue to lead the Interim Search Committee and Jill Gustafson, Kathy Hays, and Stacy Volkert are key parts of that group. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any of these members. And keep all of them in your prayers as they continue this important work for our church.



Aluminum cans Plastic bottles Glass bottles Water jugs

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.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Cara Ann Maeda - 5th Ruthe Anne Christ - 10th Landon Lafferty - 10th Joe Huffaker - 20th Steve Wood - 22nd

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).

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS



THE FLOWER CHART IS UP IN THE NARTHEX.
THE CURRENT PRICE IS \$90.00.
JUST A REMINDER THAT
THE COST OF THE FLORAL
ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE SPLIT
WITH ANOTHER MEMBER.

DEBBIE LENART, FLOWER MINISTRY

DEATHS

Kim Stiles died August 7th. 2025

FURNITURE GIVE-AWAY

We sent about a dozen pieces of furniture back out into the student community.





DATES TO REMEMBER

September 1st - Labor Day, Office Closed
September 7th - Congregational Seminar, 11am, Faith Family Center
September 14th - Deacons Meeting, 11:00am, Room 2
September 18th - Submission Deadline for October Newsletter
September 21st - Session Meeting, 11:00am, Room 2

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 10:00am – 3:00pm

Please note that the office is closed on Fridays

July 31, 2025



Envelope Offering for July 2025 was \$14,873.84 Envelope Offering monthly budget 2025 is \$19,666.92 per month



The Gas & Electric for July was \$3,479.86 Gardening Services for three months was \$2,850.00

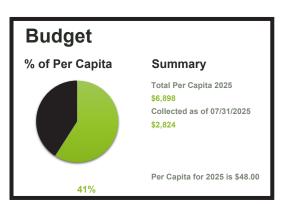
Mortgage Balance was \$603,916.20



No Per Capita was given in July!

If you have not paid your Per Capita, please do so.

Per Capita for 2025 is \$48.00 per member.





September 7th	Rev. Dr. Gary Ziccardi	The Cost of Discipleship	Luke 14:25-33
September 14th	Rev. Dr. Gary Ziccardi	Lost & Found	Luke 15:1-10
September 21st	Rev. Dr. Gary Ziccardi	Extravagant Love	Luke 16:1-13
September 28th	Rev. Dr. Gary Ziccardi	Proactive Love	Luke 16:19-31



COLLEGE PARK PRESCHOOL

WHERE IMAGINATION SOARS

Meghan Stubbs, Assistant Preschool Director

The 2025-2026 school year has begun! Our school year started a month early to align with San Diego Unified. Before we welcomed children on August 11th, all environments went through a makeover. The Outdoor Classroom now has beautiful turf, instead of woodchips.

While exploring the Outdoor Classroom, there are opportunities for children to experience large motor play (tricycles, climbing, construction, sandbox, and yoga and step aerobics sections), quiet, fine motor play (table activities like manipulatives, water table play, writing center), and socialization activities (dramatic play in the playhouse).



Classrooms are intended to include large group play, small group play, and individual spaces. Spaces are inviting, promote social learning, creativity, and exploration. Classrooms emulate homes, with softer lighting, rugs, pillows, blankets, etc.







Clasrroom 3 (The Butterflies) are all ready to explore the Nature Space! All the children have rainboots to wear while exploring water and mud.

ROM OUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR Mary Elva Smith

Ghe "magic" of Life

#3

Meaning ... From another point of view ...

"It's really a lot less complicated than we usually think ...

Life is playfulness. Children know this ..."

Looking back, I remember the moon following me home ...

Every day there was at least one thing to laugh at ...

Mardships help us discover

our inner strengths & resources ...

If we appreciate & respect the children that we were, the spirit of the child within each of us can emerge.

Flora Colao, social worker, specializes in child-abuse treatment

Recalling the magic of life ... what did you recall from your childhood play? Where do you find playfulness today?

We are children of a living God ... open your hands, be still ...
let your memories come ...
Listen for the Spirit within you ...
we are created out of God's love ...
for all creation and its creatures!

From a first grader's Sunday School class:

Looking intensely at his teacher, he says with a slight lisp:
So you mean I'm a cweat'ur too?

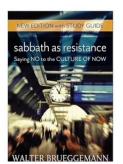
She simply responded with a smile on her lips,
"Yes I Do!"

David Friend and the Editors of LIFE

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Fiture All-Church Events

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH - BAKED POTATO LUNCHEON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH - CHRISTMAS DINNER



New Book Study Class

Are you finding yourself caught up in society's emphasis on consumption, production and performance? Do you ever wish you could find some holy ground in the midst of the chaos? For 6 weeks starting September 7th, we will be doing a study using Walter Brueggermann's book "Sabbath as Resistance—Saying NO to the Culture of Now"

This is a hybrid self-study/group-study. For those who wish to participate but did not make the deadline for the group order for books, the book is widely available, including on Kindle. Make sure you get the edition that includes the self-study guide. To participate in the group discussion, meet in the Sunday school room immediately after church. We will be ending promptly at 11:30.

Paper Pew Fans

The Sunday schoolers are proving that even the youngest ones among us have something to contribute to the Faith Family. They have decorated paper fans which you may find in the pew racks over the next couple of months. Please enjoy them as needed, and replace them when the service ends. And be sure to thank the little ones for sharing their art and joy with the rest of us.

Tee It Up With Pastor Gary!

"Help Us Restore Lives" is the theme for the New Day Urban Ministries 16th Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner & Auction Golf for Good at the La Valle Coastal Club in Rancho Santa Fe on Sept 29. Here is the sign up to join Pastor Gary for this awesome fellowship and event:

https://newdayurbanministries.org/golf4good/golf4good-shop/

For those participating from the Faith PC family, please shoot Pastor Gary a heads up: gziccardi@fpsd.org (see more on page 8)

2459 Market St, San Diego, CA 92102





To register online, use QR code or visit: www.newdayurbanministries.org/golf 4good/golf4good-shop/



IN LOVING MEMORY OF KIM STILES

We are saddened to share the news that our beloved sister in Christ, Kim Stiles, passed away on August 7. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His faithful ones." – Psalm 116:15

Kim was a devoted member of our church family, serving faithfully as a Deacon and singing in the choir with a sweet and loving spirit. In accordance with her wishes, Kim will be cremated and laid to rest next to her mother in Massachusetts. A service to celebrate her life will be held on the East Coast. Kim's family will share the date and time once they have set it. We hope to offer a virtual way (such as Zoom) for those unable to travel to still participate in honoring Kim's life.

Condolences may be sent to:

David & Shannon Recco; 9 Muskett Dr N. Walpole, MA 02081 Valerie & Lindsey McGuire; 13 Morse St. East Walpole, MA 02032

FRED WILEY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Some of you may remember Fred who was a member at Faith for many years. Fred moved several years ago from El Cajon to Mississippi to be near his son and we have recently learned that Fred died on April 7th. When he left Faith he began to worship at Alpine Community Church and there will be a memorial service for him there on September 20th at 10:00am. Anyone from Faith is invited to join the family for that service. Contact our church office for directions and questions.

Every Sunday in September 8:45am Choir Practice - Sanctuary 9:30am Worship – Sanctuary 10:00am Sunday School – Room 3 10:30am Book Study – Sabbath as Resistance - 2

Faith Presbyterian Church 5075 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92115

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	LABOR DAY – OFFICE CLOSED	4:30pm 7pm SDH	3 12pm Staff Meeting – 0	4:30pm RENTAL – 1 6:30pm Bell Choir – 2 7:30 Choir – 1	N	v
8:45am Choir Practice – S 9:30am Worship – S 10:00am Sunday School – 3 10:30am Book Study – SR - 2 10:30a Cake for Choir -FFC 11:30a Congr. Seminar -FFC	8 8am Prayers & Squares - 3	4:30pm Gift of Dance – S 7pm SDHR - FFC	10	11 10am Women's Circle - 3 4:30pm RENTAL - 1 6:30pm Bell Choir - 2 7:30 Choir - 1	12	8:30am PEO K – 2 2:00pm Tuesday Eve - L
8:45am Choir Practice – S 9:30am Worship – S 10:00am Sunday School – 3 10:30am Book Study – SR - 2 11:00am Deacons – 2	15	4:30pm Gift of Dance – S 4:30pm Presbytery - RBCPC 7pm SDHR - FFC	17 12pm Bible Study – 2 12pm Staff Meeting – 0	4:30pm RENTAL – 1 6:30pm Bell Choir – 2 7:30 Choir – 1 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 3pm Women's Group – L
8:45am Choir Practice – S 9:30am Worship – S 10:00am Sunday School – 3 10:30am Book Study – SR - 2 11:00am Session – 2	22 8am Prayers & Squares - 3	23 4:30pm Gift of Dance - S 7:00pm SDHR – FFC	24 12pm Bible Study – 2	4:30pm RENTAL – 1 6:30pm Bell Choir – 2 7:30 Choir – 1	26	8am Choir Retreat -1 3pm Women's Group – L
8:45am Choir Practice – S 9:30am Worship – S 10:00am Sunday School – 3 10:30am Book Study – SR - 2	29	30 4:30pm Gift of Dance – S 7:00pm SDHR – FFC	Faith Presbyterian Church office@fpsd.org (619) 582-849 www.faithchurchsandiego.org	erian Church (619) 582-8480 chsandiego.org	Location Key FFC - Faith Family Center S - Sanctuary L - Library O - Office # - Room	n Key mily Center tuary trary fice m —

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5075 Campanile Drive San Diego CA 92115

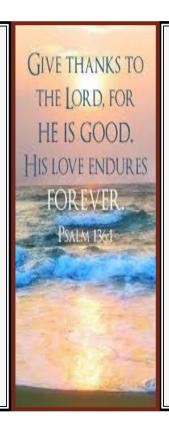
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5075 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92115
(619) 582-8480
Email: office@fpsd.org
Website: www.faithchurchsandiego.org
www.facebook.com/faithchurchsd/
www.instagram.com/faithchurchsd/

Temporary Pastor: Rev. Dr. Gary Ziccardi (thru 12/30/2025)

Spiritual Director: Mary Elva Smith
Director of Music Ministry: Joe Rodriguez
Media Director: Stephen Dichiera
Preschool Director: Kari McKinnon
Custodian: Agustin Urueta
Sexton: Robin Craig
Office Administrator: Lenore Barnhill



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

> DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH



SEP 18