

The Window

First
Presbyterian
Church of
Santa Monica

October 2017



Join us for fun, food, and games at the Fall Harvest Festival.
Your ticket includes: a petting zoo, mini pumpkins,
a bounce house and slide, face painting, balloon twisting,
family photos, arts & crafts, snow cones, and games & prizes.
We will also have pumpkins of all sizes for sale, a taco bar, drinks, and treats.

Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

It is wonderful to be sharing in ministry with you. I am honored and excited to help you in charting your future and searching for the pastoral leadership that will make that future possible.

As the Transitional Pastor, I look forward to continuing the worship, programs and experiences that have been vital to the life and ministry of our church. One of the opportunities we have in this interim period is to take stock of our ministry following the two decade leadership of Dr. Wood. Together we will explore who we are as a church. We will be scheduling soon some occasions for you and other members of our congregation to reflect about who we are. In preparation for these conversations, I invite you to think about these questions: What brought you to First Presbyterian and made you decide to become a member? What are the events, programs or connections that have been most important to you? What would you identify as the distinctive qualities of our church? What are the key values of our church and how are they expressed in our church's life and ministry?

After clarifying who we are, we will also explore what God is calling us to become. This will start by examining the Bible's description of what God is commissioning us to be and do. It will also entail discovering the opportunities and constraints of our culture and community. We will be looking to specifying our uniting purpose that gives context to what we are doing as church members.

Finally, we will describe the essential leadership characteristics that we will need in our next pastor so that our vision can become reality. The Pastor Search Committee will be equipped with these guidelines to identify the person to recommend to the congregation as the one they believe God is calling to pastor our church.

It will be an intensive but exciting process. It will shape not only the pastoral call process but who we are as disciples of Jesus working together in this family of faith. I am convinced that God's Spirit is at work in and through this church. I am grateful for the invitation to walk this journey with you.

Your companion and friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim".

October 2017 Calendar

October 1st

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Inquirer's Class, Library

October 6th

6:30 p.m. Vawters' Daughters, Off-site

October 7th

1:00 p.m. Santa Monica Conservancy Tour, various locations in Santa Monica

October 8th

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Congregational Life Team meeting, Conference Room

11:15 a.m. Mission Team meeting, Library

11:15 a.m. Deacon Team meeting, Outreach Office

October 15th

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Fall Harvest Festival, Patio and Big Yard

October 17th

5:30 p.m. Investment Team meeting, Library

6:30 p.m. Finance Team meeting, Library

7:15 p.m. Session meeting, Library

October 21st

8:00 p.m. Jacaranda Concert, Sanctuary

October 22nd

11:00 a.m. Election Meeting of the Congregation, Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Children's and Family Ministry Team meeting, Library

October 28th

12:00 p.m. Solemates, Big Yard

4:00 p.m. Vicente Orchestra, Sanctuary

October 29th

2:00 p.m. Kaleidoscope Concert, Sanctuary

WEEKLY AT FIRST PRES

Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Gathering, Wictum Hall

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Church Mice, Church Mice Room; C.E. Building

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Youth Study Hall, Youth Lounge

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Midweek Groups Dinner, Youth Lounge

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Midweek Groups Activities

7:00 p.m. Yoga, Renaissance Room

Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study, Library

Sundays: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary

Ministry Team Updates

Giving/Budget Team

Building our Future

Our giving emphasis this year is “building our future”. As we navigate this time of change in our church, we use the past as a touchstone and foundation for how we continue to move forward and become the congregation God would have us be. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you can be a part of this growth via your financial contribution, enabling the myriad programs, experiences, and blessings our church empowers for so many. Please prayerfully consider what you will give to our church in the next year as an expression of your commitment to be a disciple of Christ.

Please be sure to respond to our 2018 pledge campaign by returning your pledge card when it's complete.

The Giving Team
Hywook Chiang, Nikki Cross-Patrick, and Amy Wiwuga

Mission Team

Solemates

Solemates is getting a 21st century look this year. Just as in the past, we have the opportunity to provide school shoes for families in need by working with One Voice. Different this year, the 20 students will let us know their need for footwear ahead of time and you can purchase it on your own and send it to the church or you can provide us with the cost of the shoes and the mission team will purchase the shoes. Sign-ups will begin on October 1st after service.

On October 28th at noon we will have a celebration lunch for everyone participating in order to distribute the gifts. All shoes will need to be at the church by October 23rd. We look forward to putting together gift bags of shoes, socks and shoe cleaner.

Shopping on the promenade has become too limiting for this event to be done in the same method as in the past and the Headstart program no longer operates in Santa Monica so we will be helping students of all ages this year. As with all changes we will need to evaluate the process and appreciate your feedback.



Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry

October 2017

SUNDAY FAITH GROUPS

Children and youth leave worship following Time for Children and go to classrooms for fellowship and Bible study.

Church Mice (Preschool – Kinder)

October 1 – *God makes a garden home*
October 8 – *God cares for Noah*
October 15 – *The tower of Babel*
October 22 – *God call Abram and Sarai*
October 29 – *Abram shares with Lot*

Faith Discovers (1st-2nd Grade)

Faith Explorers (3rd-5th Grade)

October 1 – *God tends a garden in Eden*
October 8 – *Trouble in the garden*
October 15 – *Noah and God's promises*
October 22 – *The Tower of Babel*
October 29 – *Abram, Sarai, and Lot*

Middle School Youth (6th-8th Grade)

High School Youth (9th-12th Grade)

October 1 – *Stay in worship service*
October 8 – *Moses – The frustrated leader*
October 15 – *Fall Harvest Festival*
October 22 – *Rahab - The faithful opportunist*
October 29 – *Deborah – The exasperated matriarch*

MIDWEEK FAITH GROUPS

Children and youth meet on Wednesdays for fellowship, games, and Bible study activities.

Church Mice (Preschool – Kinder)

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Church Mice Room, C.E. Building

Faith Discoverers (1st-2nd Grade)

Faith Explorers (3rd-5th Grade)

5:30 p.m. Dinner in Youth Lounge
6:00 p.m. Meet for activities, Wictum Hall/Big Yard

Youth Group (Mid High and Sr. High)

4:30 p.m. Youth Group Free Time in Youth Lounge
5:30 p.m. Dinner in Youth Lounge
6:00 p.m. Meet for activities, Youth Lounge

Nurturing the Faith of Middle School Youth

From the book, "Families at the Center of Faith Formation", published by Lifelong Faith Associates in 2016, here are some important "Faith Factors" to help parents understand the spiritual life of younger youth (ages 11-14).

1. Younger youth yearn to be a part of a group that matters

Middle school youth want to belong to a group of friends that accept and care about them. Most parents, however, worry about the negative influences of peer pressure. But peers can also exert positive influences and parents need to encourage those relationships. Christian faith is formed in younger youth through their peer and adult affiliations that help them to move beyond their parent's faith to a faith they can call their own. Because groups and group activities matter so much to these youth, it is important that the church provide, and youth participate in, activities like youth group meetings, lock-ins, camps, mission trips, and other group outings.

2. Younger youth both want support and fight it

Forming faith in youth requires that youth themselves learn to develop and maintain caring relationships. But for younger youth, balancing their growing desire for independence with their need for acceptance and support results in an awkward longing for both closeness to parents and distance – often at the same time. For parents, these mixed messages frequently cause them to pull back, leaving their teenager thinking that they are not that important to them when, in fact, parents are trying to convey the exact opposite. That's why the spiritual development of younger youth often feels like a struggle for parents. They just don't know when to offer support and when to allow space for their youth to grow. While there is no easy answer to this parenting dilemma, recent studies show that most youth want to spend more time, not less, with their parents. This should be encouraging news to parents as they seek to find a healthy balance between spending time with their youth and finding time for all their other responsibilities.

3. Younger youth long for meaning while wondering about it

A key aspect of faith for youth is to find purpose and meaning in life. Teenagers are in fact spiritual people. So while milestone events like confirmation are important in helping youth understand the content of the Christian faith, what helps them most to grow spiritually is to connect with adult mentors of faith who can provide their own testimony and show by example how the Christian faith has helped them to find purpose and meaning in life. In addition, emphasizing to younger youth that they are on a faith journey that involves a lifetime of discovery and growth helps them to bring perspective to the daily ups and downs of life.

4. Younger youth need active, engaged parents

Parents are essential in helping their younger youth work through their faith development. Yet the relationship between youth and parents is often strained and frustrating. Youth are volatile and push boundaries as they clumsily take steps toward independence. But that is exactly why parents need to stay engaged and involved. As younger youth experiment with different identities and explore Christian faith for themselves, parents need to find new ways to interact with them while continuing to encourage them to develop a personal faith. This will require patience, understanding, and the maintenance of a calm demeanor even amidst early adolescent angst, defensive reactions, and defiant mood swings. But by staying engaged and involved, parents help their young adolescents to grow deeper in their faith.

Blessings,

Peter



Children and Youth MUSIC

Xylophone and Glockenspiel Jam (Sundays, October 1 & October 8)

Grades 1-5

Join us in testing out the church Xylophones and Glockenspiels as we musically explore the things we are thankful for.

Fall Harvest Festival Ring (continues Wednesdays, October 4 & 11 and Sunday, October 15)

Grades 6-12

Get your hands on some Handbells as we practice a few fun techniques like plucking and martellato lift. We will share these techniques on the Sunday of Fall Festival by playing Etudes 4 and 5 by M.L. Thompson



Christmas Pageant (Sundays, October 29 – December 17)

Children (3 and up)

Our annual Christmas Pageant is a fun musical experience allowing our children to retell the story of the nativity. The Pageant occurs during our Sunday morning worship service. Speaking parts are available for our elementary aged participants. Non-speaking parts are available for our younger cast members.

Winter Ring (Sundays and Wednesdays, November 12 – December 17)

Grades 6-12

Our Youth Handbell group will be preparing to perform *We Three Kings* and to accompany the hymn *O Come All Ye Faithful*. We plan to share these at the annual Christmas Pageant and possibly at the Advent Celebration Lunch. We hope to see participation from new ringers and previous ringers alike.

Interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica?

If you want to become a member, or find out who we are, what we do, and what it can mean in your life, please come to an Inquirer's class. We will talk about what being a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of First Pres is about. Please call the church office for information on class dates.

Fall Harvest Festival

Hello First Pres Members, Families, and Friends,

The Children's and Family Ministry Team is excited to announce our 11th Annual Fall Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. We look forward to celebrating the day with you and your family while at the same time raising money for the Children's and Family Ministry's Rebecca Hall Fund.

This year you're not going to want to miss out on all the fun! Join us for pumpkin painting, an awesome inflatable obstacle course, a bounce house, face painting, balloon twisting, an amazing petting zoo, carnival games and prizes, arts and crafts, snow cones, and tacos in the Food Garden. There will be pumpkins to purchase in the Pumpkin Patch and an opportunity to take a family photo in the Photo Booth.

As part of our fundraising effort this year, we are asking everyone to consider supporting Children's and Family Ministry by sponsoring one of the many activities at the festival. You can even split the cost of a sponsorship with another family or friend. Below are the activities and their respective costs available for sponsorship. If you email your sponsorship request, please indicate a second and a third alternative activity that you wish to sponsor in case your first choice is already taken. **All sponsorships of \$200 or more receive 2 free children's wristbands.**

Face Painting - \$275
Balloon Twisting - \$275
Obstacle Course - \$300
Bounce House - \$100
Pumpkin Patch - \$400
Pumpkin Painting - \$75
Petting Zoo - \$450
Food Garden - \$500
Carnival Games & Prizes - \$300
Arts & Crafts - \$200
Snow Cones - \$75
Photo Booth - \$400

Signs listing the sponsor's name and expressing appreciation from Children's and Family Ministry will be placed by the sponsored activities on the day of the festival. In addition, each sponsor will receive one free medium pumpkin.

Sunday, October 15 is going to be a great day at the 11th Annual Fall Harvest Festival. Your generosity in making the festival a success is greatly appreciated. To sponsor a festival activity, to volunteer to help at the festival, or if you have any questions, please contact Peter Earhart at peter@fpcsantamonica.org.

New this year - Purchase your children's wristbands in advance! Wristbands will be sold at a discount on Sunday, October 1 and Sunday, October 8 in the courtyard following worship. The cost is just \$10 per child or \$30 per family.

Thanks and blessings,
Peter

Peter Earhart
Director of Children's, Youth, & Family Ministry
First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica
310.451.1303 x26
peter@fpcsantamonica.org



CELEBRATING
OUR HERITAGE
BUILDING
OUR FUTURE

Dear Friends,

2018 will be a year of anticipation. Following the retirement of Dr. Bill Wood, we will be discerning who we are, envisioning our response to God's call in the future, and beginning the process of finding leadership to help us realize that hope. We are Celebrating our Heritage and Building the Future.

In this meantime, we experience and respond to the presence of God in our worship. We grow in spiritual maturity with wisdom and grace. We build ties of friendship and encouragement. We are challenged and equipped to be God's partner in the work of making Santa Monica and our world a blessed place.

Your giving makes these ministries possible. Your pledge empowers the Session to be the wise stewards of the resources entrusted to our church to do God's work. The Session and staff of FPCSM pledge to you and God that we will carry out that mandate in ways that are effective and which bring honor to our Lord Jesus.

Please prayerfully consider what you will give to our church in the next year as an expression of your commitment to be a disciple of Christ. Please complete the enclosed pledge card and bring or mail it to the church for dedication in our worship service on October 29.

2 Corinthians 9:11 You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

Your companion and friend,

Happening at First Pres

Jacaranda Music - Saturday, October 21st at 8:00 p.m.

Jacaranda is a series of intimate concert adventures into the realm of new and rarely-heard classical music designed to awaken curiosity, passion, and discovery. jacarandamusic.org

Kaleidoscope - Sunday, October 29th at 2:00 p.m.

A conductorless chamber orchestra dedicated to enriching lives through exhilarating concert experiences, artistic excellence, musician leadership, and connecting with the diverse communities of L.A. kco.la

Vicente Chamber Orchestra - Saturday, October 28th at 4:00 p.m.

Founded in January 2016, the Vicente Chamber Orchestra is an exciting, new ensemble, located on the Westside. Largely comprised of high caliber musicians, the Vicente Chamber Orchestra meets periodically and reads through great classical repertoire. Conducted by Zain Khan, the Vicente Chamber Orchestra welcomes musicians who want to perform in a smaller, more intimate group. vincentechamberorchestra.com

Sacred Places Tour *Architecture | History | Culture*

Saturday, October 7, 1:00 - 5:00 pm: Santa Monica, CA

Fifteen historic places of worship throughout Santa Monica will be featured at our annual architectural tour. **Sacred Places** will explore the architectural beauty, history and culture of churches, chapels and a synagogue. Selected for their historical significance and cultural diversity, these sites are also located in different parts of our City.

Advance tickets: \$25 for members of the Santa Monica Conservancy, Santa Monica History Museum, and tour site congregations; \$30 for the public
At check-in: \$30 for members of the Santa Monica Conservancy, Santa Monica History Museum, and tour site congregations; \$35 for the public.



FIRST PRES COMMUNITY

Wednesday Morning Gathering

We meet on Wednesday mornings in Wictum Hall at 9:00 a.m. and have coffee at 10:00 a.m.

We are planning a mini Christmas bazaar for December 3rd and 10th. Save your money to purchase hand made items as Christmas presents. See the lovely hand made scarf below. We also need gently use jewelry to sell. Bring your items to the church office and we will put them in the bazaar.



Bible Study

Join Pastor Tim as we begin a new season exploring what it means to be a follower of Jesus by reading and discussing the Gospel According to John. 9:30 a.m., Thursdays, in the library.

Mariners Social

Mariners socials include lunch, entertainment, and informative presentations year round. This group meets one Sunday a month following the church service.

Please contact Diane Henszey at 310.470.2536.

Vawters' Daughters

Join the women of the congregation the first Friday of every month. In honor of those spunky sisters who played such a vital role in the history of the church, we are the **Vawters' Daughters**. Contact the church for more details.

Flowers

They beautify our sanctuary, honor your loved ones and provide cheer to our hospitalized and homebound parishioners. The deacons divide each week's arrangement into two or three bouquets and deliver them to members who can't get to church because of illness or frailty. It keeps our "friends at home" connected to their church family in a meaningful way.

We also can put to good use any vases that may be taking up space in your cupboards at home.

Some upcoming dates that still need dedications are: October 22, 29 and December 3.

If you'd like to reserve a date please see Pat Alston during the coffee hour or call the church office 310.451.1303. The cost of the flowers is \$65.

Greeters Welcome You

The Price Is Right. Do you know the TV show that gives you prizes if you know the correct price of an item? Today, we want you to know that this place is right. You don't have to know anything except that God loves you and so do we. We greet you and give you a warm welcome because we are happy that you are here. Please join us in fellowship and worship. You are invited to be a part of the Greeter ministry; call the church office or contact Carole Riggs at ccriggs@hotmail.com.

Westside Food Bank

The Westside Food Bank provides immediate hunger relief to the people of our community. Bring your donations of cash and checks payable to First Presbyterian Church with Westside Food Bank in the "memo" line to church the first Sunday of every month. Canned food and durable goods are also welcome, but donations of cash or check are preferred, as the Westside Food Bank multiplies these donations tenfold through its bulk buying power. A list of needed food items is available. Call the church office for more information.

Need a Ride to Church?

If you are in need of a ride to church, our van driver, Tyrone DuBose has been providing transportation to First Pres members and friends for thirty-four years. He will make sure you get to church on time and in style in the First Pres van, and take you back home after the service. To schedule a ride call Tyrone directly at 310.920.0410.

Hatha Yoga

Join us for yoga in a supportive relaxing atmosphere! Knowledgeable, trained, innovative teacher. Bring water and a mat to the Renaissance Room, Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. The suggested donation is \$25 per month. Questions? Call the church office 310.451.1303.



October Birthdays

October 1	Kinley Bales	October 16	Bill Ireland
October 3	Phyllis Mouzoures	October 16	Sandy Micallef
October 3	Bill Wood	October 17	Lauren Asher-Gottlieb
October 5	Jim Williams	October 17	Hamilton Lu
October 5	Louise McLaurin	October 19	Amy Boersma
October 5	Kenny Erickson	October 23	Bevin Earhart
October 6	Vera Knight	October 24	Sue Antoni
October 6	Elle Hall	October 24	Tessa Hsei-Schumacher
October 6	Alex Stuempfig	October 24	Janet Landon
October 7	Al Hamblin	October 24	Olivia Stuempfig
October 7	Irene Navarro	October 27	Elizabeth Edstrom
October 8	Lauren Hall	October 27	Lisa Harrison
October 8	Lauren Hall	October 27	Tyler Olds
October 9	Donny Watt	October 28	Joe Fairbanks
October 10	Julie Dechaussé	October 28	Gabriel Hakim
October 10	Sam Horowitz	October 28	Cary Larson
October 10	Natalia Yung	October 31	Karen Register
October 14	Jennifer McNeil		



PUBLISHER:
First Presbyterian Church of
Santa Monica

1220 Second Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

SUBMISSIONS:
Send newsworthy information
about church activities for
consideration in the *Window*
to info@fpcsantamonica.org.