

FIRST PRES PRESS



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

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Dear Ones,

The season of Easter is upon us (how can that be?). Like Christmas, Easter itself tends to rush by us—from the vantage point of time as well as theology. We don't linger in the liturgy or look to the small and supposedly unimportant aspects of the story! Instead, the Easter event is meant to be BIG and BOISTEROUS. Or is that a misperception on our part?

The Rev. Dr. Mark Ralls, senior pastor of Asbury First United Methodist Church in Rochester, N.Y., recently offered me a different perspective on Easter. Mark proclaims that the first Easter unfolded quietly and slowly—no pomp and circumstance—and lingered in the lives of those who experienced Christ's presence.

In an essay entitled "He Lingers in My Presence," Mark offers the following reflection. I found it meaningful—and I hope it will hold meaning for you as well:

When I was seven, I stayed for several days with my aunt and uncle. Something happened that long weekend that I have never forgotten. I'm convinced it helped to shape my early awareness of God and grace.

I was walking in the woods alongside my uncle, who went by the nickname "Lefty." I happened to look up at him at the same moment he was looking down at me. Uncle Lefty met my gaze. I remember him smiling. That was it. Nothing else occurred, at least that I recall.

Why has this memory -- of all the experiences of childhood -- been so persistent? How is it that I can clearly recall my uncle's patient face -- his smile -- after 37 years? All I can say is that I must have found something in that brief encounter deeply affirming. As a small child I did not have adequate words to describe it, but looking back with an adult's vocabulary, what I remember feeling was this: "He lingers in my presence." When you're seven, very few people seem to linger in your presence. Most just hurry you along -- but not Uncle Lefty, not that day.

As a pastor, Easter -- with its sunrise services, robust hymns and a sanctuary chancel overflowing with brass musicians and lilies -- can leave me breathless. Similar to a family wedding, Easter requires months of planning, but when the day finally comes, seems to rush past me in a blur. That's out of joint with the originating miracle of Easter, which occurred in the early morning stillness of a garden. No brass. No hosannas. No big production. The first Easter unfolded quietly, and, I think, slowly.

In the Easter story of John's Gospel, Mary is alone in the garden. She comes upon a gardener and then notices that this gardener behaves oddly. Rather than going about his work, he lingers. Perhaps this was her first clue. "Mary," he finally says. And, then, she recognizes him: "Rabbouni!"

This is one of the graces of Christ that often goes unrecognized. As my Uncle Lefty once did for me, Jesus always seemed to linger in the presence of others. His ministry of healing, for instance, was more than a miraculous touch. He was also attentive. Jesus did not hurry past the hemorrhaging woman or Bartimaeus or the children who asked to sit on his knee. He lingered before them and, I believe, that was in part what made each experience redemptive.

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Pastor's Letter—continued

It's Easter morning, and once again Jesus is patiently attentive. He is in no hurry. Content to play the gardener as long as necessary, the risen Christ lingers in Mary's presence and ours.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once summed up the Easter message with a simple declaration from the risen Christ: "See, I am with you." Too often, we Protestants treat Easter as if it were the beginning of another story, when it is instead the continuation of the first story. This first story begins at creation as the Spirit of God hovers over the face of the deep. It culminates with incarnation -- Emmanuel, "God with us." And it reaches its climax in resurrection. In this one story, the same God who broods over creation and comes impossibly near in Christ also refuses to hurry past us. Even death, it seems, cannot break the spell of divine love.

This is one side of the mystery of Easter that is often overlooked -- but once recognized, not easily forgotten. So perhaps alongside the traditional Easter proclamation, "He is risen," we could also say, "He lingers." God in Christ lingers in our presence. If we take this to heart, it is so deeply affirming that we might even be moved to respond: "He lingers, indeed."

May Christ's message and ministry linger with each of you this Eastertide—and may Christ's presence and love refuse to hurry past us as a community of faith!

Blessings on you and yours,

Rob

Worship Schedule for April 2011

- Sunday, April 3rd Fourth Sunday in Lent / Communion
- 8:30 A.M. Early Church in the Chapel
 - 10:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 - 11:30 A.M. Refreshments in the Courtyard / Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, April 10th Earth Day
- 8:30 A.M. Early Church in the Chapel
 - 10:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary—Led by Cool Planet
 - 11:30 A.M. Refreshments in the Courtyard / Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, April 17th Passion / Palm Sunday – Beginning of Holy Week
- 8:30 A.M. Early Church in the Chapel
 - 10:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 - 11:30 A.M. Refreshments in the Courtyard / Fellowship Hall
- Thursday, April 21st Maundy Thursday
- 6:00 P.M. Simple Meal in the Sanctuary (Watch bulletin and email list for details.)
 - 6:30 P.M. Tenebrae / Communion Service in the Sanctuary
- Friday, April 22nd Good Friday
- 12:05 P.M. Readings from "A Woman Wrapped in Silence" in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, April 24th Easter Sunday
- No Early Church
 - 9:00 A.M. Community Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall
 - 10:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 - 11:30 A.M. Refreshments in the Courtyard / Fellowship Hall

Other April Activities

Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall—Served from 9 to 10 A.M



Provided: egg casseroles (including veggie and gluten-free)

Please bring something to share: breads (sweet, savory, Easter), fruit, juice, cheese, deviled eggs, butter, and jam.

Narthex Display

You may have noticed that the Narthex display case (by the side door of the Narthex) usually has a display in keeping with the church season as part of sanctuary preparations. So far this year, we have had a display commemorating the color green for ordinary time, and now the display for Lent shows a wilderness bouquet with a rich purple background, the color for Lent.

If you would be interested in creating a display for Easter (4/24), please contact Marjorie Visher or Frances Young. White is the liturgical color for Easter. Your creative ideas are most welcome.

ADULT STUDY 9:15-10:15 A.M.

Lenten Adult Study – 5-Week Series continues with two excellent classes!

A. A Study of *Original Blessing* by Matthew Fox: Exploring Together a Creative and Transformative Spirituality—Mohan Iyer

Creation Spirituality is a rather dated idea and the iconic book – Matthew Fox’s *Original Blessing* – was published in the early 80s. So, why is it worth studying today? Fox calls this a “liberation theology for first world peoples,” and I found it quite relevant to many of the issues we wrestle with today at First Pres. We are still in need of a vibrant and robust spirituality that breaks the duality of heart and mind, one that promotes our unabashed enjoyment of the great goodness in God’s created cosmos while allowing complete room for sin, pain, lament, and letting go. We desire a spirituality that empowers us to co-create and transforms us to the consciousness and riches of royal personhood in Christ. While I am no expert in these matters, I have read Fox’s book (once you read it too, you’ll know as much as I do!) and would like to experientially explore with you some of these ideas and themes as follows:

April 3rd: Paths 1 and 2, A Comparison of Via Positiva and Via Negativa

April 10th: Path 3, Via Creativa

April 17th: Path 4, Via Transformativa

Copies of *Original Blessing* are available in the Narthex before and after church for \$15.00.

B. The Resurrection and the Life—Vicky Greenbaum

What does resurrection mean to you? How have thinkers, believers, feelers created meaning around the resurrection in the past? Join this adult study for five sessions of exploration, reading, and conversation around this vital topic! We’ll read from various texts including scripture, Marcus Borg, NT Wright, and others. We’ll discuss our own views, and listen with open minds and gentle hearts to the views of others. Resurrection need not be negative, conflict-laden, oppressive. We can find the life in resurrection, if we bring the loving approach of Jesus and our own hearts to the topic as we consider the difficult and also the simple aspects of this area of Christian thought. We’ll engage our minds and hearts as we follow the outline below:

April 3rd: Resurrection and creation: vitally connected

April 10th: Resurrection and transformation

April 17th: The heart of resurrection

Book Cart - Always Available Learning Resources!

Need a good book to read? Each week the book cart in the narthex offers the latest in stimulating books for you to check out and enjoy. Just sign the book out when you take it--and sign it back in when you return it.

John Zlatnik

Other April Activities—continued

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY

We are in the home stretch of the confirmation year. Confirmation is a spiritual coming-of-age process for youth in the church. It says, “I am mature enough to tell you what my faith means to me.” It gives students an opportunity to say, “I want to be a full member of this church,” and “I was baptized as a baby because my parents brought me to you, but this is me now, choosing to show up on my own.”

Thus far, students have explored who is God and who Jesus is for them, and they have attended to nudges of the Holy Spirit. These explorations have yielded some thoughtful reflection. Students have also embarked on a more personal project based on an NPR program called “This I Believe,” which for over fifty years has invited Americans to write their thoughts about what is important to them. By the end of this project, students will have a written reminder for years to come of their beliefs at this time in their life. We are thankful for the wonderful parents and mentors who are supporting them in their journey of faith examination.

The primary expectation of confirmation is for students to express what they believe. Psychologists say that the task of adolescence is identity. Youth “try on” various identities before eventually deciding what is best. I hope that “This I Believe” will aid them in this identity forming process. Along with it, we will continue our confirmation lessons in morning church school and evening youth group, exploring topics of church and purpose.

Another piece of confirmation is the opportunity to join the church. Over the coming weeks, students will make this decision. Some may choose to join the church as full members, while others may opt for friend status. Still others may decide that neither is right for them at this time. Whatever their decision, all students in the confirmation process are writing a “This I Believe” essay. Wherever they land, I imagine they will find warm company in this theologically diverse congregation. Our Elders will read these personal narratives and have a conversation with students over breakfast on Confirmation Sunday, May 15.

Marissa Myers

PRIME TIMERS

**Tuesday, April 12, 12-2 P.M., in Fellowship Hall
The New World of Self-Publishing**

Do you have a book in you? A manuscript in your desk drawer? If so, you may want to consider publishing it yourself—without jumping through the traditional publishing hoops.

Over the past several years, publishing has changed radically. New media tools have been developed that allow you to design, publish, and promote your book on Amazon and through retail channels without agents, traditional publishers, or marketing directors. What used to be vanity publishing has become a legitimate way to get new ideas into print.

In this Prime Timers gathering, Holly Brady explains the changes in the publishing world that have produced these new self-publishing platforms. She also shows samples of the books being produced, and walks you through the steps in this new publishing process—with candid talk on both features and the bugs.

For 16 years, Holly was director of Stanford Publishing Courses, a series of seminars and workshops for publishing and Web professionals. She has worked as both a magazine and book editor, and she now consults with authors who are using new media tools to publish and promote their books.



All are welcome. Bring your own bag lunch plus cakes or cookies to share. Coffee and tea provided.

Don Fidler

Also Note

SENIOR CHATS

Senior Chats are committed to sharing the amazing local resources that bless our lives as we age. "Boomers and beyond" are invited to join us every second and fourth Friday morning at 10:00 A.M. Covenant Presbyterian Church in Palo Alto opens its doors to people from the community and other churches. No RSVP is necessary. For more information, call Rev. Dona Smith-Powers, 650-494-3093.

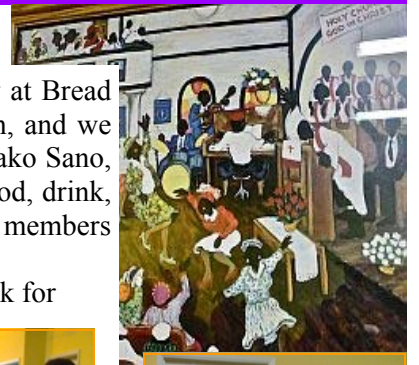
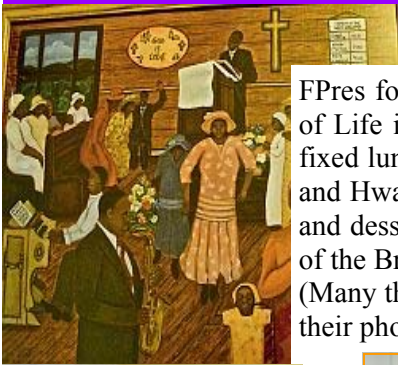
April 8: "How Day Care Benefits Every One" - The Avenidas Rose Kleiner Senior Day Health Center has been offering a valuable service for decades. Both the caregivers and the less independent older adults benefit from the therapies, classes, and social activities that they offer. The Executive Director, Lenny Park, will discuss the spiritual, mental, and physical services of the day health center, and also inform us about the recent government cuts in support for day care centers nationwide.

April 22: "Are You Good to Go?" - It never hurts to be prepared and to know how to act when someone we love has died. Marjorie Bridges, the presenter, is a staff person from the Funeral Education Foundation and also part of the Funeral Consumers Alliance. She will lead a program that discusses the options available and decisions to make about end-of-life-affairs — from body and organ donation through memorials — with several valuable handouts to take home and study.

Looking Back

F.L.O.W. SUNDAY, MARCH 20th

FPres folks enjoyed a wonderful, inspirational F.L.O.W. Sunday at Bread of Life in East Palo Alto. We worshipped with the congregation, and we fixed lunch for them and for us. Judy Zlatnik, Linda Busek, Minako Sano, and Hwaja Choi were the lunch crew, and everyone loved the food, drink, and desserts they provided. Then we shared painting duties with members of the Bread of Life congregation. A good time was had by all! (Many thanks to Holly Brady, Vicky Greenbaum, and John Zlatnik for their photos!)



Looking Ahead...

SAVE THE DATE

There'll be a reception after the 10:30 service on May 1st to say farewell to Rob Martin, who'll leave for his sabbatical on May 15th, and to welcome Bob Butziger, who'll serve as Acting Pastor in Rob's absence.

Session Highlights

Paul Jones, chair of the Facilities Ministry, brought two items to the agenda of the March 23rd meeting. In order to clear up some confusion in agreement with the Peninsula Peace and Justice Center (PPJC) regarding use of our facilities, the Facilities Ministry proposed that the church offer both PPJC and the League of Women's Voters use of our facilities at the (reduced) tenants' rate, due to their longstanding relationship with First Pres. An amendment to the motion was offered to give them each one free use this year, due to the ambiguity of the letter they received last year when they moved out of Westminster House, giving them the tenants' rate thereafter. The motion passed.

The second item from Facilities was regarding the 2 backflow valves on our property. They must be regularly inspected and now need to be replaced. Bob MacDonald spoke to several firms, received 2 bids, and recommended Bay Area Backflow's bid of \$5315.12. A motion came from committee to hire Bay Area Backflow. The motion passed.

Karen Wentzel, Chair of Staff Relations, reported that they are working on a combination welcome party for Bob Butziger and goodbye party for Rob on May 1st to send him off on his sabbatical.

Helene Butler, Clerk of Session, brought two membership requests. Jack Eft, now a member at Christ Church Episcopal, Lake Oswego, OR, requested that his name be removed from the active membership roll, and Norma Grench requested a transfer to First Congregational Church, Palo Alto. Both requests were approved.

Rob distributed a list of people that the Membership Committee would like to contact about their membership status at First Pres. The hope is to clean up our membership list, encouraging people either to rejoin us or to find another church here or in their area.

We were reminded that Confirmation Sunday is May 15th. We will have breakfast with the confirmands to discuss their faith journey, and they will have the option to become members of the congregation.

The Co-Chairs of Ministry of Invitation, Sukgi Choi and Ellen Forbes, told us that an Easter Breakfast advertisement will be placed in the *Palo Alto Weekly*. They are working on developing a committee of greeters for Sunday services.

Dave Thornton, Chair of Worship, brought a request for approval for the July 17th service to be led by Arlene Schaupp and Geoff Browning around the topic of El Salvador. The request was approved.

Helene Butler, Clerk of Session

MARCH WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Date	Early Service	10:30 Service	TOTAL
3/6	5	110	115
3/13	10	81	91
3/20	11	(F.L.O.W.) 42	53
3/27	9	82	91
Total for Month of March:			350



Updates from Ministries, Small Groups, Committees, and Task Forces

THE LEGACY PROJECT

Like many congregations, First Pres has a long and storied history. Yet what makes our congregation unique is our rich tradition of social justice and engagement in the world in freedom marches and civil rights, war protests, gender equity, sanctuary for conscientious objectors and Latin American refugees, and of course our role in the More Light Presbyterian movement, just to name a few. We have not shied away from difficult issues or positions when our faith, grounded in sound theology and scripture, called us forth into the world.



However, First Presbyterian Church is an aging church with many more seniors than young families. Many of our long-time members have moved away or have passed on, and many of the younger generations have not heard or are completely unaware of the legacy of our church. When long-time members move away or pass on, we lose a part of our history, that exciting, wonderful, and compelling story that is First Pres. I think it is important for us to find a way to pass on the legacy of this tradition while we still can, while many of these people are still among us. This isn't just the story of First Pres, it is the story of the struggle for social justice and peace in which our community has played a significant role.

For this reason, the Session of our church has approved the Legacy Project to record and display the major events of our church over the years. This is a significant project that will require many hands. More specifically, we have a need for: 1) volunteers to inform people about the project; 2) help from a 21st century social networking archivist; 3) help collecting photos and other memorabilia (preferably digital or enlarged); 4) video and/or audio digital recording equipment and recording; 5) a sketch artist; 6) and, last but not least, written stories and people to transcribe them. If you are interested in helping us to record and preserve the history of the church, please contact me, Geoff Browning, at geoff.browning@stanford.edu. Pace e Bene (Peace and Wellbeing).



AMENDMENT 10-A VOTING ANALYSIS - FEBRUARY THROUGH MID-MARCH

Currently, the overall, denomination-wide voting tally for Amendment 10A stands at: 67 in favor, 48 opposed. Long story short: The February-March voting season has been exciting for supporters of Amendment 10A, with several interesting developments. The numbers speak for themselves: 19 overall victories, 24 presbyteries voting more in favor of equality than they did in 2008, and 4 presbyteries prayerfully shifting from "No" votes in 2008 to "Yes" votes in 2011. At the moment, 10A maintains the lead in the overall vote tally - 67 presbyteries in favor, 48 opposed. In other words, these are good numbers for those hoping for a more inclusive, more loving PCUSA! For more information, go to: <http://www.amendment10a.org/>

[Morelight Presbyterians'](#) posting



A Call To Pray For Japan

"As a hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for thee, O God" (Ps. 42:1).

The Psalmist's words of lament resonate deeply during this season of Lent, but especially this day as we witness the destruction from the devastating earthquake and resulting tsunami in Japan. The magnitude of this kind of tragedy is difficult to grasp. Yet, our faith leads us to affirm that in even greater measure is the presence of God in the midst of the devastation.

Please join us in praying for those affected by these events - the victims and their families, those who wait for word from loved ones, those offering aid and comfort now and in the days and weeks to come, civic and national leaders, and faith communities in Japan that offer hope in a seemingly hopeless time. The Psalmist's final words are, "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise God, my help and my God" (Ps. 42:11).

May it be so, [Cynthia Bolbach](#), Moderator of the 219th General Assembly (2010), [Gradye Parsons](#), Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, [Linda Valentine](#), Executive Director of the General Assembly Mission.

Updates...continued

FILM REVIEW: "The Year of Living Dangerously" (1982)



Peter Weir's film "The Year of Living Dangerously" is set in Indonesia in 1965, as President Sukarno's rule is threatened by Communist insurrection. A newly arrived rookie Australian journalist, Guy Hamilton (Mel Gibson), gets unexpected help from a dwarf photographer, Billy Kwan (Linda Hunt), who hopes to find a partner in exposing the suffering of the people. Similarly to the indigenous puppet shadow theatre, Billy becomes Guy's puppet master, including setting him up with the British military attache's assistant, Jill Bryant (Sigourney Weaver). Billy is trying to find answers to "What must we do?" about the people's poverty

and hunger. How can we respond to the needs of those before our eyes? Guy's ambition is to show the "big picture" objectively with substantiating sources, in contrast also to the apathy of the other foreign journalists in Jakarta. Another stark contrast is between the lives of the poor people and those of other Westerners enjoying their privileged status. In his ambitious pursuit of "the truth," Guy betrays his sources, whereas Billy sacrifices himself for the people's cause.

The film has several shortcomings, including uneven directing by Weir and uneven performance by Mel Gibson. In contrast, the outstanding performance by Linda Hunt in her male role as Billy won her an Oscar as the Best Supporting Actress.

The faith issues in the film are summarized in Billy's statement that we "must give love to those whom God places in our path."

Rated PG, 115 min.

FOUR PLUS THREE SPRING HIKES



First Pres Hikers Covenant Group

Apr 16, Sat - Edgewood County Park (Don)

Apr 30, Sat - Coal Mine Ridge (Don)

May 7, Sat - San Bruno Mountain State & County Park (Julie)

June 11, Sat - Santa Cruz area (location to be determined by Paul Seever at a later date)

Sierra Club Hikes

Apr 2, Sat - Rancho Canada del Oro (Julie)

May 21, Sat - Russian Ridge OSP (Julie)

Jun 9, Thu - Wunderlich County Park to Alice's Restaurant on Skyline Blvd (Julie)

For more information and reservations, contact hike leaders:

Don Hildenbrand (650)968-4227 donhilden@att.net

Julie Barney (650)494-2020

Paul Seever (831)440-9018 pseever@prodigy.net



MAY DAY PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE CRAFT, GIFT, & INFORMATION FAIR

Sunday, May 1st

11:00 A.M. 'til 2:00 P.M.

Fellowship Hall

Toys <> Fair Trade Crafts <> Books <> Art <> Music <> DVDs <> Games <> Puzzles <> Jewelry

Find new ideas for reducing your carbon footprint

Learn about great social justice & peacemaking organizations!

Shop for goods from organizations doing good in the world

Enjoy free snacks & beverages featuring locally grown food suppliers

HAVE FUN!

For more information call 415-586-1416 or email [craig\[at\]micahscall.org](mailto:craig[at]micahscall.org)

Updates...continued

COOL PLANET WORKING GROUP



Spring is always a busy season for the Cool Planet Working Group. On March 13th we met with the Confirmation Class and were delighted to find ourselves “preaching to the choir.” On April 19th we will have a similar meeting with the Progressive Christian Community at Stanford.

Our Earth Day Service will take place on Sunday, April 10th, at 10:30 a.m.; we’re celebrating early this year to avoid conflicts with Palm Sunday and Easter. This paperless service will feature beautiful music and inspiring words, plus an exciting announcement. Afterwards we will have a letter-writing table about the Cargill Baylands Development project and will also help you sign up for *gogoverde*, our new online bulletin board. We hope that this site will help us consume less by sharing our resources and will be another means of communication about EarthCare events and issues. To check it out, go to www.gogoverde.com and search for a community in zip code 94301. Feel free to join at any time or to contact Pat Kinney with questions.

On Monday evening, May 9th, we will be screening the film "Climate Refugees." It was the opening film at the UNAFF in October and is an excellent piece on the issue of climate justice.

Find out more about it at http://sundance.bside.com/2010/films/climaterefugees_sundance2010

If you feel moved to help with these or any other climate justice issues, come to our meetings on the first Sunday of the month, in the Lounge, after the main worship service.

Pat Kinney

And Finally...

IF YOU’VE BEEN WANTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT LARA GARNER, HERE’S HER DESCRIPTION OF HER BACKGROUND



Born in New York City, Lara Garner grew up in Palo Alto, where she began her piano studies at an early age. Lara is both a classical pianist and a celtic harpist, as well as a flutist, performing in pubs, restaurants, concert halls, churches, castles, cathedrals, gardens, and stately homes in both the United States and Europe. She has lived and performed in both Rome and in Paris, where she developed her musical style.

As a pianist, Lara has played much of the major piano chamber music repertoire and is the founding member of the Amethyst Trio, as well as the popular Celtic folk trio, Celtic Sands. She has also played many stage shows both locally and in Europe. A composer of original music, Lara holds a degree in music from U.C. Berkeley and a M.A. from SF State University in International Relations. Lara has been permanent and substitute organist/pianist for churches of many different denominations over the years.

Lara taught herself to play the celtic harp later in life after a series of persistent dreams, in which she was always playing the celtic harp. To shake off the dreams, she bought a harp and taught herself to play. The dreams turned out rather prophetically, since she now performs regularly on that instrument as well as on piano.

Lara believes that music, in all its forms, is the doorway to spirituality and to a higher understanding.



Sun Apr 3, 2011**8:30am - 9:30am Early Church, Chapel**

Worship service of reflection and sharing

9:15am - 10:15am Adult Study Classes, Fellowship Hall and Lounge

Adult study topics are taught in multi-week series on a variety of topics. Come to listen, learn and share in thought-provoking discussions

10:30am - 11:30am Community Worship Service, Sanctuary

Child care is provided. Children participate in the first 15 minutes of worship, leaving at 10:45 for educational classes. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. Please bring food to donate to the Palo Alto food closet

10:45am - 11:45am Children & Youth Educational Classes, Classrooms

Children and youth leave Community Worship at 10:45 to attend one-hour educational classes. Parents are asked to pick up their children at 11:45

Wed Apr 6, 2011**2pm - 6:30pm UMPA meal-Team 1, Beth Jacob, Fellowship Hall**

Volunteer team that cooks, serves and cleans up after dinner for local folks in need, organized through First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto and the Urban Ministry of Palo Alto. Each team commits to serving in a five-week rotation. Coordinator: Carol. Dinner at 5pm

Sun Apr 10, 2011**8:30am - 9:30am Early Church, Chapel****9:15am - 10:15am Adult Study Classes, Fellowship Hall and Lounge****10:30am - 11:30am Community Worship Service, Sanctuary**

Please bring food to donate to the Palo Alto food closet

10:45am - 11:45am Children & Youth Educational Classes, Classrooms**Tue Apr 12, 2011****12pm - 2pm Prime Timers, Fellowship Hall**

Church member Holly Brady will talk

about recent changes in the publishing world, and new media tools that have been developed for the publishing, production and promotion of books. Bring a bag lunch and cookies or other dessert treats to share

7pm - 9:30pm Super Tuesday, Fellowship Hall and Classrooms

Ministry and Committee meetings start at 7pm in various rooms on the church campus. Come participate in the leadership and planning for our teaching ministry, community building activities, finance and facilities ministries

Wed Apr 13, 2011**2pm - 6:30pm UMPA meal-Team 2, Vineyard Christian Fellowship, Fellowship Hall**

Coordinator: Rajesh Philipos. Dinner at 5pm

Sun Apr 17, 2011, Palm Sunday**8:30am - 9:30am Early Church, Chapel****9:15am - 10:15am Adult Study Classes, Fellowship Hall and Lounge****10:30am - 11:30am Community Worship Service, Sanctuary****10:45am - 11:45am Children & Youth Educational Classes, Classrooms****Wed Apr 20, 2011****2pm - 6:30pm UMPA meal-Team 3, Etz Chayim, Fellowship Hall**

Coordinator: David. Dinner at 5pm

7pm - 8:30pm Deacons Meeting, Classroom 1

Monthly meeting of the Deacons, on the third Wednesday of the month. The Board of Deacons is the primary caregiving leadership group for our church community

Thu Apr 21, 2011, Maundy Thursday**10:30am - 11:30am Worship & Music Ministry, Pastor's Study**

Worship & Music Ministry monthly meeting on the third Thursday of the month

6pm - 7:30pm Maundy Thursday, Sanctuary

Simple meal shared at 6pm followed by Tenebrae and Communion Service at 6:30pm

Fri Apr 22, 2011, Good Friday**12:05pm - 12:45pm Good Friday Service, Sanctuary**

A brief service with readings from "A Woman Wrapped in Silence"

Sun Apr 24, 2011, Easter Sunday**9am - 10am Easter Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall**

Savory casseroles will be provided, including egg, veggie and gluten-free varieties. Please bring something to share, like breakfast breads, cheese, fruit, juice, deviled eggs, butter or jam

10:30am - 11:30am Easter Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary

Child care is provided. Please bring food to donate to the Palo Alto food closet

Wed Apr 27, 2011**2pm - 6:30pm UMPA meal-Team 4, First Pres, Fellowship Hall**

Coordinators: Joy, Derrick and Craig. Dinner at 5pm

4:30pm First Pres Press Deadline

Please send Press articles and news items to Lela Noble

(lnoble@sbcglobal.net) and Sarah Clementson (sclementson@fprespa.org)

7pm - 9:30pm Session Meeting, Classroom 1

Monthly meeting of Session on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Session is the operational leadership board for our church congregation

Sun May 1, 2011**8:30am - 9:30am Early Church, Chapel****9:15am - 10:15am Adult Study Classes, Fellowship Hall and Lounge****10:30am - 11:30am Community Worship Service, Sanctuary**

Please bring food to donate to the Palo Alto food closet

10:45am - 11:45am Children & Youth Educational Classes, Classrooms**11:30am - 1pm Reception for Pastor Rob Martin and Pastor Bob Butziger, in the Courtyard**

Please come to a special reception to say farewell to Rob Martin as he leaves for his sabbatical, and to welcome Bob Butziger, who will serve as Acting Pastor in Rob's absence

First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto

1140 Cowper Street
Palo Alto, California
94301

We're on the Web!
www.fprespa.org



Our Mission Statement

The mission of First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto is to make our personal witness and public work consistent with the prophet Micah's challenge to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. As a community of faith, we center our communal life in worship and are challenged to live out the good news of the Gospel. Following Jesus the Christ, we pursue God's nonviolent vision of justice and human dignity for all people and share this understanding with our children, our members, our community, and the World.