



May/June 2025

Dear Congregation,

Spring blessings to you! I pray that your days are full of the joy of this warmer weather, extended sunshine, and the blooming of flowers all around. In this season of new life and hope, I wanted to give some updates about the lively activity around our church campus. Most people know about Reality Church which rents office space and worships before our service on Sunday, but there is much more! In recent years, we have seen a flourishing of new friends and partners. Our building affords us an amazing opportunity to choose to rent space at generous rates to organizations who are doing great work, thereby supporting our community while also securing an additional income stream for the church. Please enjoy reading about just a few groups bringing life to our campus and join me in praying for them!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Ashley

Alcoholics Anonymous– Saturday Night Live: On the first Saturday of every month, this large, popular meeting of AA has met in our gym for many years.

Stockton Bulls Basketball Team: This basketball program serves Junior High school students and can be found in our gym practicing every Tuesday and Thursday evening.

Changeist: This youth volunteer organization began using our campus last November. Junior High students, High School students, and Americorp fellows participate in this seven month program which meets in both of our buildings three Saturdays a month. During their full day on our campus (9-4), the participants learn about community service organizations and develop their awareness of the challenges facing our city. In cohorts, they also come up with their own service activity and are supported to complete it as part of the program. Recently Changeist has unfortunately lost all of their Americorp fellows due to cuts from the federal government. Please keep their staff and students in prayer, as well as their Americorp fellows.

Little Manila Rising: For the last few years, Little Manila Rising's ECHO team has hosted a wellness fair, and occasionally comes to provide information during our Food Pantry.

Department of Public Health: Just this year, the San Joaquin Department of Public Health has become a regular staple during our Food Pantry distributions. Their team of medical and social support staff arrive two hours before our Food Pantry opens to provide vital testing, treatment, and connection to continued care for the people waiting in line. We are delighted that our neighbors who come to the Food Pantry receive this additional type of care!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Benjamin Roider	May 2
Lee Mecum	May 3
Radie Suson	May 13
Ashley Love	May 15
Bill Buckley	May 16
Tom Keene	May 20

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Carol Dietrich	June 6
Kerry Baldwin	June 10
Kim Roider	June 16
Megan McKee	June 17
Adam Yanes, Jr.	June 20
Tami Buckley	June 27



JULY WINDOW

The deadline for submission of articles for the July 2025 Window is **June 17th**.



WORSHIP ASSISTANT

May 4 - Bill Alessio	June 1 - Bill Alessio
May 11 - Carol Dietrich	June 8 - Eleanor Lawrence
May 18 - Gail Herron	June 15 - Craig Holmes
May 25 - Craig Holmes	June 22 - Carol Dietrich
	June 29 - Gail Herron

If you are interested in serving as a Worship Assistant, please contact the Office.



JUNE POTLUCK

Sign-up in Westminster Hall or contact the office

International Potluck on June 8th



At Pentecost we remember that the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and they were able to speak the gospel to people from many places, all in their own languages! Help us celebrate by bringing a dish from another country or culture. Sign up on the clipboard with what you would like to bring.



Team Trivia

June 8th during Potluck
Each table will work together to answer questions in the following three categories:

SESSION UPDATE

Session met April 27, 2025. Here are some highlights.

- ♦ We all enjoyed the Brunch Potluck. Next month's Potluck is Springtime Potluck.
- ♦ Our stained glass window has finally been repaired and will soon be installed. We will be having a fundraiser to raise up to \$10,000 to help cover the expense.
- ♦ Family Promise went well. Some of the families have already found housing.
- ♦ Our children will be singing in church May 18. If you have any questions, please ask any member of Session or Pastor Ashley.



The **Midtown Food Pantry** is jumping! We now average between 90-100 people per week, feeding over 100!

Thank you to all the volunteers who help make the Food Pantry happen each week. It really does take a village! To the congregation who packed our food bags for the office, we appreciate your effort and time. We couldn't do it without you.

If you like to volunteer some time for our Food Pantry, please contact Pastor Ashley or our office.



LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Thank you to everyone who has donated books and Bibles to our Little Free Library.



If you are looking for a book to read, be sure to check out our library in the Geneva Room. Feel

free to borrow a book to enjoy!

We are in great need of paperback novels, Bibles and spiritual books and children's books for the little library. Thanks to Sylvia for the recent children's book donation.

EASTER 2025 & KEENE'S FAREWELL

We said goodbye to the Keene's, during worship. Karen and Tom will be sorely missed, as they have been an important part of our church family. After worship, the children had a fun Easter egg hunt with lots of goodies to find.



THANK YOU, JUDY KIM

Judy's last Sunday Service with us, as our Music Director. We wish her the best as she embarks on the new adventure of graduate school at the University of British Columbia.

We will truly miss her around here.



SPRINGTIME POTLUCK

Great spread of good food at Springtime potluck on Mother's Day. We welcomed a visit from long time active member Frank Inglis to our potluck.



WOMEN'S RETREAT 2025

All women from First Pres Stockton are invited to attend a Women's Retreat at the beautiful Zephyr Point Camp and Conference Center in Lake Tahoe. Carmichael Presbyterian Church is hosting the retreat and our very own Pastor Ashley will be the speaker for the weekend. It begins in late afternoon/evening on Friday, September 12th and goes until midday on Sunday, September 14th. The accommodations are hotel style, right alongside the beautiful lake. We will be arranging carpools to drive up together as we get closer. If you are interested in coming along or have any questions, please let Pastor Ashley or Elder Kim Roider know as we are hoping to get an estimate in the next week or so.



Pastor Ashley will be speaking at Carmichael Presbyterian Church's Women's Retreat in Lake Tahoe, and the women of our church have been invited to join!

Dates: September 12-14 (Friday Evening - Sunday Afternoon)
Cost: \$225 for meals and lodging (hotel style shared rooms)
To Register: Registration forms are available in the Blue Room and in the Church Office. If you are interested, please let Pastor Ashley or the office know ASAP.

ACCESS FPC WORSHIP VIDEOS

To access our worship services online, go to our website: fpcstockton.org, click on Ministries, then Worship, and click on the YouTube logo. You'll automatically be directed to FPC's YouTube channel.

Join us for Zoom Coffee Hour on the second Sunday of the month at 12:30 pm

Here is the logon information:

Join Zoom – Coffee Hour
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83626879321>
Meeting ID: 836 2687 9321

JUNE 2025 IMPORTANT DATES

- ◆ Presbyterian Women's Bible Study - June 3 @ 12:30pm
- ◆ Potluck - June 8 - sign-up sheet on bulletin board
- ◆ Spiritual Growth Committee - June 9 @ 4:30pm Zoom.
- ◆ Food Pantry Distribution - June 11th & 25th from 2-3pm
- ◆ Sack Lunch - LGBTQ&A - June 12 @ 11:30am
- ◆ Father's Day - Sunday, June 15th
- ◆ FB&G Meeting - June 18th at 9:30am
- ◆ Session Meeting - June 29th, following Worship
- ◆ Pentecost - June 8th, All are invited to wear red to worship

Pride Month at First Pres

LGBTQIA+ Q&A Sack Lunch Discussion Thurs, June 12th at 11:30 am

Have a question about sexual orientation, gender identity, or the theology of inclusion? Confused about what all the letters mean? This discussion will be a safe space to learn together in an open and respectful format. Bring a sack lunch, and we will provide dessert.

Stockton Pride Festival at Stockton Civic Center Saturday, June 21st 11 am -5 pm - Volunteers Needed!

If you would like to help with our booth, please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall after worship or in the office.

Pride Sunday - Sunday, June 29th 11 am Worship Service

We'll take some time during this service to celebrate and pray for our LGBTQIA+ community. Feel free to invite friends and anyone who would be blessed by this service.



First Presbyterian Church is committed to loving and serving all people, Including those from diverse generations, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, and life experiences. Whatever your story, you are welcomed by Jesus Christ and by his church family.