

# CLARION

Bridging the Centuries through Faith  
1913 – 2020



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALTADENA

Altadena, California 91001  
Wednesday, November 10, 2021  
Volume LXXIII, Number XLV

## OUR CALENDAR

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

*In Person Worship Service*

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

## LEADERS IN WORSHIP

We are grateful to those persons who led us in worship on Sunday, November 7, 2021, with social distancing. Call to Worship, Kevin Hayashi; Scripture, Stan Inouye (Jeremiah 29: 4-7 and Hebrews 12:1-3); music, Ann Kiriya, Ron Ota, and Gus Zdanovich; Sound and Visuals, Bob and Kevin Hayashi, Ron Ota, and Nick Tomoyasu; and the Rev. Wendy Tajima for her sermon "**Pioneers**".

A reminder for those who cannot join us in person, we are live streaming our 10:30 worship service via YouTube. The link is sent out by email the day before service, or search "First Presbyterian Church Altadena" on YouTube. Service is simultaneously recorded, and can be viewed at a later time.

## WHO'S MAILING

November 15	Volunteers
November 22	Volunteers
November 29	Volunteers
December 6	Volunteers

\*This week: Volunteers

## STAFF NOVEMBER 2

Editor Donna Kiriya  
Printer and Mailing Crew:  
Gini Ishida, Dorothy Kirkland, Bob & Mae Uchida, and Wade Utsunomiya  
Mailer Bob Uchida  
Email Bobby Hayashi

## Minute for Missions

### LABOR DAY

### REMEMBER OUR SIBLINGS IN UNIFORM

When Operation Iraqi Freedom kicked off in 2003, I was an Army chaplain assigned to a battalion in the 3rd Infantry Division. We spent the first four days of the war in a convoy heading toward Baghdad.

During that convoy, I found myself successively stuck in a traffic jam on a two-lane highway in the middle of the desert, stranded on the side of the road dangerously close to a firefight, and trying my best not to drive into a ditch during a sandstorm.

So many times during that long convoy I found myself thinking in frustration, "How did I get here?" At the end of four days of craziness on the road, my Humvee along with four other vehicles were lost in the sandstorm, trying desperately to find our headquarters. The only thing we had to guide us was my personal GPS and a radio that could only transmit a few miles.

We were driving through the sandstorm along a rarely used path when a soldier came stumbling out of the haze. She had gotten off a helicopter and been sent in the wrong direction by the crew. Now she was lost, miles away from her unit and unknowingly walking towards the enemy. She had been walking for hours, was exhausted, very frightened and felt hopelessly alone.

But when she encountered us, her strength was renewed. She would not die in the desert searching for her teammates. She was not alone! We pulled her into one of our vehicles and delivered her later that day to her headquarters.

For four days, I had been asking, "How did I get here?" Now I knew the answer. God brought me there. God brought my convoy there. God had called us to that time and that place and was right there with us.

This was a common theme during my career as an Army chaplain ... finding myself in strange, crazy, sometimes scary places, wondering how I got there, and then suddenly the light bulb would come on: "Oh, I get it. ... God wanted me here!" And, in those moments, I always knew I was supported by the presence of God.

This is not just my story. All military chaplains live, work and deploy with service personnel and their units. Because of this, they often find themselves in strange and scary circumstances, wondering, "How did I get here?" The answer? God called them there for a reason — to remind our sisters, brothers and siblings in uniform that they are not alone. When we are scared, when we are lost and exhausted, when all hope is gone, we need to know that nothing, absolutely nothing, can separate us from the love of God.

On this Veterans Day, please remember to pray for our clergy who have answered the call to go to strange, crazy and sometimes scary places, who stand shoulder to shoulder with soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, Guardians and Coast Guard personnel to remind them, every day, that nothing can separate them from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
*Chaplain (Col.) Barbara Sherer, United States Army, Retired*

## *Let us Pray . . .*

Gracious God, we are grateful for our veterans who have given so much in their service to our nation. We know many suffer physical wounds from their service, but even more suffer from moral wounds having labored in circumstances that you did not intend for your children to endure. On this Veterans Day, may we pause to thank veterans for their service and acknowledge the burden they have borne to advance our common good. Even as our veterans gave of themselves in their time of service, may we be inspired to use our gifts, our time, our talents and our treasure as we love our enemies even as you have loved us. Encourage us that even as you sent a chaplain to rescue the lost soldier in the desert and unite her with her unit, may we stand on your promise that we will never be left alone but that we are always united with you.  
Amen.

November 10, 2021

# OUR THANKS

*Our church expresses our sincere appreciation to the following members and friends for their gifts from November 3, 2021 thru November 9, 2021*

### Fall Festival (which they miss very much 2020 and 2021)

Ginny Kajiwara  
Kathy Kajiwara

### In Memory of Pete Morris' Father

Joel an Nancy Castillo

### In Memory of Arlene Okimura

Ginny Kajiwara

### In Memory of Calvin and Robert Tajima

Marsha Tajima (New York)

### Special

Rev. Wendy Tajima

### Wherever Needed

Massie Fujii

### Thanksgiving Season

Lewis Hashimoto  
Masako Fujii  
Alice Hamane  
David and Kelly Hokyo  
Doug and Judy Kosobayashi  
Dorothy Kuroye  
Richard, Jean, & Daniel Osaka  
Alan Takagaki  
Bob and Mae Uchida  
Takeko Wakiji  
Robert Yamasaki  
Mitsie Yanari  
Norman and Betty Yutani

SPECIAL OFFERINGS. A hearty thank you to friends and members for their generous Thanksgiving donations, which will be continued to the end of the month, and will help our church to meet its financial 2021 obligations.

## MISCELLANY



With November comes Thanksgiving! So our Favor of this Month will be all the yummy things you would see at your

Thanksgiving table. **Canned gravy, vegetables and yams, stuffing mixes, jello and bake boxes, instant potatoes...** use your imaginations! Drop your donations in the marked boxes in the sanctuary foyer,

And during this season of Thanks... we begin our Deacon sponsored toy and gift drive. Bring an **unwrapped toy or gift for a child (toddler thru High School)** and drop it off in the same box as the Flavor of the Month. No, they won't go to the Food Pantry. But Deacons will be delivering to the Fire Station or Union Station kids. **December 12** is the deadline, so our gifts can be delivered in time for Christmas!



**A SECOND MISSION STUDY MEETING  
IS SCHEDULED FOR  
NOV. 14 AT 1:00 P.M. BY ZOOM**

For those members and friends who were unable to attend the congregational gathering on Oct. 31, a "make-up" meeting is scheduled for you. This will be a Zoom meeting for Sunday, Nov. 14 at 1:00 p.m. A Zoom link will be emailed out to participants on Saturday, Nov. 13.

The meeting will cover the same topics which is a review of the Mission Study Survey completed by the congregation, and your input into framing a Mission/Vision Statement for the church as we move forward into the future.

Please RSVP your attendance at this meeting by email. Or you can call: Kathy Matsumoto (626) 344-3234 or Dorothy Kirkland (626) 221-7065.

The Mission Study Team thanks you for your support.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CLARION is published by  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
2775 Lincoln Ave., Altadena, CA 91001  
(626) 791-4271 FAX (626) 791-3489  
<http://altadenapresbyterian.org>  
e-mail [firstpresaltadena@sbcglobal.net](mailto:firstpresaltadena@sbcglobal.net)



