

# CLARION



*God's People Serving the World with Love and Faith in Action*  
1913 – 2022

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALTADENA  
firstpresbyterianchurchaltadena.org

Altadena, California 91001  
Tuesday, April 19, 2022  
Volume LXXIV, Number XIVII

## OUR CALENDAR

*Communion is normally celebrated during worship service on the first Sunday of the month.*

### MONDAY, APRIL 18

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

### SUNDAY, APRIL 24

#### *In Person Worship Service*

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

### MONDAY, APRIL 25

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

### SUNDAY, MAY 1

#### *Communion Sunday*

#### *In person Worship Service*

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

Presentation of Amy Utsunomiya Service Award

*Join Us for Coffee Hour*

## LEADERS IN WORSHIP

We are grateful to those persons who led us in worship on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022, with social distancing. Call to Worship and Opening Prayer, The Lee Family, Gary, Alison, and Karina; Scripture, Dorothy Kirkland (John 20:1-18); music, Kenny Elliott, Virginia Gin, Ann Kiriyama, Greg Middleton, Ron Ota, and Gus Zdanovich; Sound and Visuals, Larry Jung, Sam Gin, and Nick Tomoyasu; and the Rev. Ann Oglesby Edwards for her sermon, "Easter People".

### WHO'S MAILING

April 25	Volunteers
May 2	Volunteers
May 9	Volunteers
May 16	Volunteers

### STAFF APRIL 11

Editor Donna Kiriyama

Printer and Mailing Crew: Gini Ishida, Dorothy Kirkland, Eva Ramirez, Bob and Mae Uchida, and Wade Utsunomiya

Mailer Bob Uchida  
Email Bob Hayashi

## Transitions

Transitions, transitions, transitions. Sometimes it seems that life is nothing but transitions. And you would be right. Transition is the movement or passage from one place, state or condition to another. As a congregation, you have experienced many transitions during these past 18 months. Two such examples are: When I arrived, our worship services were through recordings, but then you came out of your homes to gather in worship together. You also said good-bye to a dear worker, Alice Young, and welcomed a new office administrator. In each of your lives, you will continue to have transitions as some have students who are moving from one grade to another; others will be moving from one school to another or graduating and moving on to other opportunities. Transitions are the movement and activity of life itself.

Soon you will be entering a new transition as you welcome, Rev. Victoria (Pastor Vicki) Randall, as your next Interim Pastor. And with a new Interim you now experience another transition. When you finally welcome a permanent installed pastor, yet again, you will experience another transition. And this can be seen as difficult thing or as a good thing.

"Don't expect that things will be 'the same' nor should they be", so says Peter Steinke. Dr. Steinke\* has said that there is no such thing for a healthy congregation to stay the same. You are either moving towards health or away from it. I believe this to be true. Transitions can become opportunities that we can learn about our faith and what it means to hold on to God as our sole resource. And if we are willing, we also learn more about who we are and what we might need to do to authentically serve our God Almighty. During this transition, you have become a different congregation. You have been challenged to see yourselves in new ways through your Mission Study. You have also gained insight into your strengths, your challenges and your hopes. Without movement, we deny God's Spirit to be active within us and in our path of discipleship. Without movement in a congregation, we stifle God's Spirit to mold us and shape us into the church that God desires for us. When we keep our focus on the one constant in our lives - Jesus Christ - then all transitions in our lives are not to be feared.

I invite you to enter into this next transition in the life of First Presbyterian Church with openness and eagerness to learn, listen, see and hear how God wants to continue growing you into the church that God created you to be. God's mighty blessings as you continue into this next transition of your journey!

Pastor Ann

\*Peter Steinke, How Your Church Family Works



April 19, 2022

# OUR THANKS

Our church expresses our sincere appreciation to the following members and friends for their gifts from April 12, 2022 thru April 18, 2022

## Clarion

Steve and Ann Kiriyaama Allin  
Bryan and Jeri Takeda, in appreciation

## Deacons

George Sugimoto  
June Takata

## Easter

Steve and Ann Kiriyaama Allin  
Wilbur and Patrice Gin  
Hiraoka family (Glenn Hiraoka and Deborah Yonemura)  
Gini Ishida  
Karen Iwamiya  
Betty Kiriyaama  
Bill and LuAnn Lane  
Brent and Peggy Lew  
Jerry and Maria Matsukuma  
Don and Kathy Matsumoto  
Richard and Michi Matsumoto  
Yae Nagai  
Jerry and Marilyn Nakagawa  
June Ogawa  
George Sugimoto  
Jason Tajima  
Bryan and Jeri Takeda  
Larry and Carol Tomoyasu  
Agnes Uchida  
David and Lorraine Woody  
Alan Yuki

## In Memory of Ed Okuno

The Alice Okuno Family

## Presbyterian Women

George Sugimoto

## Special

Keiko Kawashima (use of Social Hall)  
Sam and Virginia Gin, in thanksgiving on the Baptism of Colten Hayashi  
Young Lee (Santa Maria)  
George Sugimoto, in appreciation

## Celebration of Bob Uchida's 90<sup>th</sup>

### Birthday

Wilbur and Patrice Gin  
Bill and LuAnn Lane  
Brent and Peggy Lew  
Kathy and Don Matsumoto  
Larry and Carol Tomoyasu

## With Deep Gratitude

To the family and friends of FPCA,

As I close my ministry with you, I want to express my sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks for allowing me to walk with you during this interim time.

You have been a wonderful congregation to serve and it has been my joy and privilege to have been at FPCA these past 18 months.

I want to especially thank the leadership of the church who took on the enormous task of keeping the congregation going through a time of pandemic, especially in the beginning when everything was closed and we could not meet together. While there are too many people to thank, I do want to share a special thanks to all the elders who have so faithfully guided this congregation; to Ron Ota and Veronica Ota who took on the task of making sure that we had worship when we were closed; to Dorothy Kirkland's dedicated hours in the office; to Bob Hayashi, Sam Gin, Bob Uchida for their faithful work in finance and stewardship; to Gini Ishida for taking on the complicated task of updating the website; to the whole Mission Study Task Group for the dedication in leading the congregation through an amazing Mission Study process and Jon Maeda and all the Deacons for supporting this congregation in very concrete ways.

I am truly thankful for all the encouragement and support that everyone in the congregation has shown me during my time at FPCA. You have been a blessing to me! I am grateful to know that you are in capable hands with the Rev. Vicki Randall who will continue your Interim time with you. I look forward to hearing about your PNC process and the good news that will come when you find your installed pastor.

God's Peace and Blessings to you always, humbly, Pastor Ann.

## Amy Utsunomiya Memorial Youth Service Award

Two of the Amy Utsunomiya Memorial Youth Service Awards will be presented during our May 1 worship service. Two young people from our congregation will be receiving their awards, Jake Matsumoto and Nick Tomoyasu. The award recognizes outstanding service to the Japanese American community in the greater Pasadena area by youth during the last year.

The award is in memory of Amy Ota Utsunomiya, who was a lifelong community activist, and past PJCI President. Amy grew up in Pasadena, attended local schools, and was a member of our church.

Please join us on May 1<sup>st</sup>, as we acknowledge the good works of these two young men. A coffee hour will follow immediately after worship.



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