

# CLARION

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

**Communion**  
**July 3, 2022**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ALTADENA  
firstpresbyterianchurchaltadena.org

Altadena, California 91001  
Tuesday, June 28, 2022  
Volume LXXIV, Number XXVII

## **OUR CALENDAR**

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

### MONDAY, JUNE 27

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

### SUNDAY, JULY 3

*Communion Sunday*

*In Person Worship Service*

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

### MONDAY, JULY 4

Clarion Mailing 8:00a

### SUNDAY, JULY 11

*In person Worship Service*

Sunday Family Worship 10:30

## **LEADERS IN WORSHIP**

We are grateful to those persons who led us in worship on Sunday, June 26, 2022, with social distancing. Call to Worship and Opening Prayer, Nancy Castillo; Scripture, Jon Maeda (Ephesians 4: 3-6); music, Kenny Elliott, Virginia Gin, Ann Kiriyaama, Greg Middleton, Ron Ota, and Gus Zdanovich; Sound and Visuals, Sam Gin, Kevin Hayashi, and Doug Lee; and the Rev. Vikki Randall for her sermon, "Lego Temple".

## **WHO'S MAILING**

July 4	Volunteers
July 11	Volunteers
July 18	Volunteers
July 25	Volunteers

## **STAFF JUNE 20**

Editor	Donna Kiriyaama
Printer:	Eva Ramirez
Mailing Crew:	Gini Ishida, Bob and Mae Uchida, and Wade Utsunomiya
Mailer	Bob Uchida
Email	Bob Hayashi

## *Minute for Missions*

### **Seeing with Our Hearts**

One early spring morning, I gazed upon my property that I had lovingly named "Old Stone Well Farm." It was far from being a farm, but in my heart, I treasured its potential and held tightly to what I have come to call its "still-to-comes."

I could see the yet-to-be planted fruit trees surrounding the gnarly old apple tree. I could see that much-needed barn finally standing at the base of the hill. I could see the goat pen arriving and placed near the chicken coop. (I will give a prize to the Presbyterians Today reader who counts the number of times I have mentioned my desire for raising goats!) As the sun rose, with it rose my hope that those "still-to-comes" were not just wistful dreaming. Despite plans being put on hold for one reason or another, I could see with my heart what was not visible to the eyes.

Frederick Buechner, who lives up the mountain road from me here in Vermont, wrote about the importance of seeing with the eyes of the heart, reminding us that often our sight fails because we see things as the world sees and not as God sees. We see things for what they are and not what they can be. I thought about that as I was writing this year's Lenten devotional, "Lord, When Did We See You?" Based on the Matthew 25 "I was" sayings of Jesus — I was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, sick, in prison and naked — I found myself realizing that to serve Christ boldly we need to see not with our eyes, but with our hearts. For when we allow our hearts to illumine the needs around us, we finally begin seeing clearly what God is asking of us. We see that systemic racism isn't for someone else to dismantle. We see that hunger and poverty are not just something we give money toward, but real issues in our own community that need our action. When we see with our hearts, we might even start seeing vitality in our own congregations. We might even stop ringing the death knell for dwindling numbers and let the bells peal joyously that God, who is in the resurrection business, is re-creating our churches. To see with the heart is to finally see Jesus and, as Buechner wrote, see that his way of life is the only life worth living.

I gazed at my property and saw something beautiful that was not yet visible to others. I saw the potential. I saw the still-to-comes. I then heard a distant voice of a woman exclaiming the good news on that first Easter morning: "I have seen the Lord!" The disciples were skeptical of Mary Magdalene's news. They needed to see this startling truth with their eyes. They weren't ready to see with their hearts. I'm ready, though. Are you?

*Donna Frischknecht Jackson, Editor, Presbyterians Today*



### **We Celebrate Communion July 3, 2022**

Next Sunday, Pastor Vikki will be gone for a previously planned wedding and conference. The Rev. Wendy Tajima will be leading worship on Sunday July 3. She will also lead the celebration of communion. In an emergency, please contact one of our elders or Pastor Vikki at: 626/ 376-2591 (text) or email: [pastorvikkirandall@gmail.com](mailto:pastorvikkirandall@gmail.com)

June 28, 2022

# OUR THANKS

Our church expresses our sincere appreciation to the following members and friends for their gifts from June 21, 2022 thru June 27, 2022

### Father's Day

Karen Iwamiya, in honor of her father, George Iwamiya, for Father's Day, with love, honor, and appreciation

### Graduation

Sam and Virginia Gin, for graduate, Greg Gin, from the University of Washington School of Pharmacy

### In Memory

Glenn Yoshida and Mariko Yanagihara, In memory of father, Yutaka "Tak" Yoshida

### Special

Sam and Virginia Gin, On the birth of Callum Bobby Hayashi, and health of mother, Tanya Hayashi  
Glenn Yoshida and Mariko Yanagihara, On the birth of granddaughters, Emilee Akemi Yoshida and Kaylin Toyoko Blagaich

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# Double Happiness

With great joy and double happiness, we welcome two baby girls into the world!

Emilee Akemi Yoshida, born on April 3, 2022. She is the daughter of Shawn and Melanie Yoshida.

AND Kaylin Toyoko Blagaich, born on June 14, 2022. She is the daughter of Martin and Mari Blagaich. Emilee and Kaylin are grandbabies #1 and #2 for Glenn Yoshida and Rev. Mariko Yanagihara!



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## Pastor's Letter

Greetings, FPCA community!

What an amazing community you are! Rory and I are so grateful for the warm and friendly welcome we have received. We have so enjoyed getting to know you: hearing the stories of your families, and the history of this amazing church.

Our focus during worship the last few weeks has been "naming" as we explore the importance both in Scripture and in our own lives, of our names and what they tell us about where we have been and where we are going. I am working hard at putting together your names, stories and beautiful faces—but appreciate your patience if I have to ask you to remind me! Know that they are important to me, but sometimes I struggle (my own sons could tell you how often I mix their names up!)

I will be out of town July 3rd for a previously scheduled commitment to officiate a wedding and attend a theology conference. I leave you in excellent hands: Rev. Wendy Tajima has graciously offered to step in. I'll return July 10th for one last "naming" sermon before we begin our summer series: "Journey to the Promised Land".

I look forward to sharing and learning more together, as we continue in this important transitional time of preparation for our next pastor, and the next phase in the journey of this church. Please join me in praying for the PNC and Session as they lead us in the important work of discerning God's calling.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." –Josh. 1:9

May God bless you with His presence this day!

Interim Pastor Vikki Randall

## John Muir Class of 1970 Reunion

The John Muir High School Spirit class of 1970 is having its reunion! We welcome our classmates and their guests, alumni from Pasadena's other two high schools and Muir's alumni from other years. Come celebrate with us!

**Location:** Brookside Golf & Country Club – Mediterranean Room  
1133 Rosemont Avenue, Pasadena

**Date:** August 6, 2022 (Sat.)

**Time:** 6:00 – 11:00 PM - Banquet Dinner/Dance (attire dressy/casual)

**Cost:** \$125 per person thru July 20th deadline

No reduced cost if arriving after dinner and no ticket sales at the door. Memory book cost included in the price.

**Also: Drop-In:** August 5th 2022 (Fri.) 6:00-9:00PM @  
El Torito Restaurant  
3333 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena

Family Picnic: August 7th 2022 (Sun.) (TBD)

Questions: Text/Call Cynthia (Jackson) Middleton @ (626) 319-1075  
Unknown callers go to voicemail so please leave a message

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