



New 'House Manager' Hired

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is delighted and excited to announce the appointment of Wejo Carion as our new House Manager (the position formerly known as Concert Coordinator).

Wejo began working with us in April. Her enthusiasm is contagious. She looks forward to working here and getting to know our church community and



the many various groups who make music in our space.

Please welcome Wejo!❖

*Dear God,
We come as your children to praise you for making us a part of a church family. Thank you for the love and nourishment we receive from the people in whose presence you've placed us. Help us show love, patience, and respect for one another.*



Trū Deal: Lease Signed for School Use

by Pastor Burke Owens

After months of prayerful consideration, Trū School, a progressive K-5 elementary school, will relocate to Stuart Youth Center, McGiffin Room, and three small office spaces on the church ground floor, as of Aug. 1, 2024. (These are the former FirstWorkSpace rental spaces.)

First Palo Alto Trustee's Chair Bud Buttrill (left above), Facility Use Committee Chair Nancy Glaser, Facilities Manager Susan Stephens, and Pastor Burke worked with Trū School founder Theodore Timpson (right above) and his team since last year, discussing Trū's goals and the church's needs, to ensure a successful and mutually beneficial relationship. With both church and school now in agreement, the two parties signed a lease April 26.

Founded in 2011, Trū offers an independent holistic education program that values the students' growing sense of self, their core learning, creativity, and social skills. Beginning this fall, Trū School will hold classes September to June, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., with some after school use until 6 p.m.

An information session for our church community will be held with the Trū team this month on a day and time to be determined. Feel free to ask Bud or Pastor Burke questions in the meantime.

Trū School's arrival this summer is a sign of our faith community's growing vitality, engagement with and service to God and creation.❖

Pastor's Corner



Chimney rock beach photo by Burke Owens

Hello friends,

This season has brought many gifts, not least of which is the lovely spring weather we have enjoyed since Easter. God willing, we will be enjoying more of it as we enter the merry month of May.

I do love May, for it is the month when spring awakens utterly, when all the flowers and trees and vines are in full bloom, when a few more showers are still possible and when the winter cold, a recent memory, makes marvelous May that much more precious.

Recently in the Easter worship series on Acts, the topics of soul and spirit have come up in speaking of the apostles and the work they did in establishing the church after the resurrection. These two terms are used frequently, and one might wonder about the differences and similarities between these two, soul and spirit.

So here is my take on the meanings of these two wondrous states and the words that identify them ...

Soul is the unique piece of God that lives within us. It is the part that is eternal, life-giving and, whether we know it or not, always present within us. While the soul can sometimes appear to be sleepy or dull, in actuality it is consistently renewing itself, interacting with the other souls it comes into contact with. At times we may feel distracted or unaware. But even though we are physically tired or ill, our soul is ever fresh and awake.

The spirit is the action of God that extends out from the divine to make contact and to engage with us in our lives. Spirit, as in the Holy Spirit, is the active outward flow of God's miraculous grace. The force of spirit calls on each of us at different times, sometimes unexpectedly and at other times, after we call on it to touch us or to ask for help.

So, soul is that which lives within us—the God within, and spirit is that which connects us to others and to the greater God. How do we know the difference between them? Spirit is often what we experience when we come to church, to worship. It is the sense that moves us and inspires our prayer, our song, and our engagement with others in the sanctuary and afterwards in the social hall.

Spirit is powerful and motivating but it can also be delicate and easily lost if we do not pay attention to what it is asking of us. For the spirit moves toward us and around us, but it will tend to ebb and flow depending on God's action in our lives. Treat spirit with respect and gratitude when you find yourself in its presence. Acknowledge it and appreciate it for it is a different energy, a form of life different from that of our bodies. This is true with our souls also.

The soul is the part of our being that relates best to the spirit, for they are more alike than not. Our bodies and minds and emotions and personalities are not as fine as our soul or as the spirit. Though our body can seem more solid and real, with greater mass than our soul, yet the soul will live forever and the body only lasts for a relatively short time. The soul is what is behind the actions of our minds, hearts, bodies, the awake awareness that is always present yet easy to miss if we do not pay close attention. So, take time to know your soul and notice when the spirit visits you. Cherish both for they offer the greatest of gifts, a direct path to God tailor made for you by the divine one.

continued on page 4

Return of the Poetry Salon!

Friday, May 24, at 7 p.m, a new salon program will be presented accompanied by Fiume di Musica. Join us for a mystical visit to the far shore of eastern mysticism, much of which is similar to our own tradition.

This month, we journey to China, Japan, and a little bit of India for a dive into ancient Taoist and Buddhist poetry and stories. Accompanied by Fiume di Musica, Pastor Burke will share poetry and verse ranging from Lao Tse in the 2nd century BC to Han Shan in the 8th century, stopping along the way with the Buddha, Chuang Tzu, Pema Chodren, and other luminaries.



Sign Up to Feed Hotel de Zink Guests

by Nancy Glaser

Hotel de Zink returns to FUMCPA this June. For the whole month, we house a small group of individuals overnight, providing a place to sleep in Kohlstedt Hall, showers, and home-cooked meals. Families, small groups, individuals, and couples are needed every day in June to bring a hot meal, dessert, and drinks for 10–12 people.

Hotel de Zink is administered by LifeMoves and hosted at a different church each month. It is designed to provide stability and safety to homeless adults who would otherwise have to sleep in their cars or on the streets. Experienced staff from LifeMoves help the selected men and women move towards self-sufficiency in employment, housing, and mental health.

Our church volunteers will deliver a hot meal each night and “take-away” breakfasts for the weekend mornings, offering kindness and respect to people who are turning their lives around. Ideally, meal providers will bring their food at its preferred serving temperature to the church at a specified time in the evening. A staff member from LifeMoves will be in the church parking lot to collect the dinner. You are welcome to drop off the food and leave. The clients and LifeMoves staff will serve the food and clean up. OR you may stay to help set up and serve, and mingle and chat with the clients. Note that not all Hotel de Zink clients have been vaccinated.

During the month of May, you will hear announcements, see sign-up sheets, and may be asked to volunteer in one of the roles that makes this program successful. Sign up online at tinyurl.com/hdz2024. Volunteer sign-ups continue through May until all slots are filled. Please sign up early—and often if you are so moved! The overwhelming response from the many people who have served in years past is that this is an enjoyable experience.

Email GlaserNancy@gmail.com with questions or for more information.❖



Library News

by Char Cutkosky

May is Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Our newest acquisition is *Tales of Polynesia: Folktales from Hawai'i, New Zealand, Tahiti and Samoa*, a collection of folktales by local San Francisco-based indie publisher Chronicle Books. The book's lavish illustrations and border designs are thanks to Yiling Changues (pictured), an illustrator and textile designer of Chinese and Tahitian descent. Changues' illustration work frequently combines aspects of folklore, cultural history, detailed textile patterns, and weaving.

Chronicle Books “Tales” series presents folk and fairy tales from around the world in collector's editions with colorful illustrations. The church library also has *Celtic Tales*, illustrated by Kate Forrester. Check it out!❖

Pastor's Corner from page 2

Here is a piece of a poem from Jelaluddin Rumi that tells how we change and grow and evolve by God's grace and command.

We began as a mineral. We emerged into plant life and into the animal state. Then into being human, and always we have forgotten our former states, except in early spring when we almost remember being green again.

Humankind is being led along an evolving course, through this migration of intelligences, and though we seem to be sleeping, there is an inner wakefulness that directs the dream.

It will eventually startle us back to the truth of who we are.

Listen to the spirit and honor the wisdom of your soul. In this way, God will be with you—like a divine web, with the soul at the center of your life, and the spirit surrounding and connecting you to all of creation.

Blessings,

Pastor Burke

May prayer: "For the mountains may leave and the hills be removed, but my grace will never leave you, and my covenant of peace will not be removed," says God, who has compassion on you. —Isaiah 54:10

May Worship Schedule

Continuing Easter Worship Series: Book of Acts and the Early Church

This month we continue the worship series begun last month, looking at the early Jesus movement that in time became the church with the rise of Christianity as told in the Book of Acts. Acts is the second half of a two-part work, most likely penned by the author of the Gospel of Luke. Both were written in the later part of the first century sometime between 70-90 A.D. This is an exciting series for it gives us an opportunity to get to know Peter and Paul and other disciples who followed the spirit as it led them to spread the Good News all around the ancient world. I hope you will join us, as we come to the end of Easter and move into Pentecost, on a journey with the first followers of Jesus.

May 5	6th Sunday of Easter and Holy Communion Sermon: Paul teaches and travels far and wide Scripture: Acts 17: 22-31
May 12	7th Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day Sermon: Pastor Karen Paulsen in the pulpit Scripture: Ruth 1:10, 16-17
May 19	Pentecost Sunday Sermon: The Holy Spirit descends upon the disciples Scripture: Acts 2: 1-21
May 26	Trinity Sunday Sermon: An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip ... Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

New Worship Series Begins in June: Sensing the Spirit

Each day we look, listen, sniff, touch, and taste the world around us. Informed by that sensory information, we make decisions about our



lives, and our place in the world. But what about our spiritual lives? Do our senses help or hinder our ability to know God? Come find out as we enter Pentecost more fully on a journey of discovery as we see, hear, feel, and savor God to understand our relationship with the divine.❖

How to Donate Flowers for the Altar

A message from Sacred Space Guild

Fresh flowers on the altar enhance the worship experience for many people. Donating flowers is also a way to remember or honor someone with a dedication.

We have an electronic sign-up system using SignUp Genius, where you can claim your Sunday and write your dedication. Click this [link](#) or go to firstpaloalto.com, then click the Giving tab and select Altar Flowers.

You can also call the office at 650-323-6167 and Char will sign you up.

The flowers cost \$80. You can write a check—put “altar flowers” in the memo line—or put cash in an envelope and drop these in the offering plate on Sunday or at the church.



Currently, flowers are needed:

May 26

June 9

June 16

If no one signs up for fresh flowers by the Tuesday before, we will grace the altar with a seasonal silk flower arrangement. ❖



Save the Date for VBS: July 13

This summer's Vacation Bible School is an all-day immersive experience that will take place Saturday, July 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year's theme: Camp Firelight! We're planning to set up camp in the parking lot!

If you know any kids ages 3 to 11, tell them to save the date!

Questions?

Contact Pastor Gerardo at cyfministries@firstpaloalto.com ❖



New Delegates to Annual Conference Elected

At the request of District Superintendent Samuel Hong, a special church Charge Conference was held April 25 via Zoom to elect lay delegates for the 2024 Annual Conference Session, taking place June 7-10, 2024 in Sacramento. The vote was unanimous to approve Rick and Diane Allen as lay delegates. Thanks to Stephanie Zeller, Council Chair, the Church Council and church members who attended the Charge, and to Rick and Diane for their service and faith. ❖

May Flower

by Emily Dickinson

Pink, small, and punctual,
Aromatic, low,
Covert in April,
Candid in May,
Dear to the moss,
Known by the knoll,
Next to the robin
In every human soul.
Bold little beauty,
Bedecked with thee,
Nature forswears
Antiquity.

UWF CONNECTIONS

“God, your invitation to come and feast in your presence is but a taste of the love you extend to us everyday. By your very nature, you are always seeking us out— searching for ways to connect us and to connect with us. You meet us in the most ordinary of places and you make them sacred. By your grace, we come to recognize the holiness that dwells in the world around us, in our neighborhoods, and in our own internal depths.”
—from this month’s UWFaith lesson

by Nancy Olson

We still need to lock in the date and time for Brenda Birrell to address our members and the women of other Methodists churches in Palo Alto. She has an exciting program to share with us!

I recently received a lovely note from Shirley Stewart, a long-time member and dedicated quilter who donated a wonderful quilt to our annual fund raiser. She wrote of a phone call with Mary Ann Michel that reminded her of good years here at FUMCPA. She is now ‘retired’ in Eagle, Idaho.

The May UWFaith focus is on Community Fellowship. The Bible verse is Acts 2:42. The day of Pentecost had come and Peter addressed the crowd. Those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about 3,000 persons were added. From the UWFaith lesson:

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”



“Part of discipleship in the early church included eating together because it was, and still is, part of Middle Eastern culture. There is a connectedness that happens as we eat together. Food is a shared experience, a gift to give and to receive, and a way to bring people closer to one another.”

Tao te Ching # 44

Fame or self:
Which matters more?

Self or wealth:
Which is more precious?

Gain or loss:
Which is more painful?

He who is attached to things
will suffer much.

He who saves
will suffer heavy loss.

A contented man
is never disappointed.

He who knows when to stop
does not find himself in trouble.

He will stay forever safe.❖

While eating together is an important way to journey with one another, what are other ways we can be companions to one another?

This week you are invited to be **present** and aware as you gather with your family or friends at a table. After the meal jot down notes of what happened.

- What is the feeling around the table?
- Is there joy in celebration?
- Is there comfort in being vulnerable with one another?
- Is there bridge-building or barrier-breaking happening as you get to know new people?
- Is there a sense of the Divine’s presence at the table?
- Did your presence add to the answer to any of these questions?

I am grateful for the annual Easter breakfast and shared dinners as part of the season. Koinonia gatherings are a delight. I am especially looking forward to the Progressive Dinner meeting.

I do miss the monthly lunches in different restaurants with the UMW Reading Group discussing the books we were reading and recommending from our own church library.❖



SPRC Reviews Policies and Procedures

by Tom Fingar, SPRC Chair

Although I have served many terms on our Staff Parish Relations Committee (and several more at our church in Virginia) I continue to be amazed and often surprised by the things that I do not know about matters affecting our staff, relations with the

District, and other matters within the purview of SPRC or overlapping the responsibilities of other committees. Fortunately, it is usually possible to identify and contact someone who does know the answers to my questions, but as a long-time bureaucrat, I'd like to consolidate and codify the knowledge that now exists mainly in the heads of individual members.

Over the next few months, we—the members of the SPRC—will attempt to identify, review, and as necessary, update relevant policies and procedures. As a part of that effort, we hope to capture the reasons—or reasoning—behind things that we do and do not do at First Church. Our hope is to compile the information in a single digital file and old-fashioned binder readily accessible to all with an interest or need to see it.

Most SPRC deliberations are confidential, as they should be, but the policies and procedures we follow are not. To succeed in our modest effort to bring order out of chaos, or at least to make it easier to find answers to what should be straightforward questions, we need your help. We will come to some of you because we know or believe that you have insights and experience that can help us, but you need not wait to be contacted. If you have questions about this effort or want to ensure that we know about particular practices, please do not hesitate to contact me or anyone else on SPRC. ❖

At Long Last UMC General Conference Meets Again

From April 22-May 2, hundreds of delegates flocked to Charlotte for the 2024 General Conference of the United Methodist Church. This global church meeting usually takes place every four years, but with COVID and other issues, it has not happened since 2016. Methodists from around the world, with representatives from every Annual and General Conference, every nation and every region, come together to discuss, propose, and vote on the business of the universal church. Our own Bishop and conference leaders as well as elected delegates, attended to speak for our California Nevada Annual Conference. A report on the GC doings and decisions made will be shared at church later this month.



Thank You to Everyone Who Helped with Easter Breakfast

by Pamela Cutkosky, Seasonal Events Coordinator

Every year we pull off a minor miracle—Easter breakfast for more than a 100 people, and then lunch, too, after a glorious Easter worship. That’s because so many hands are at work and so many folks contribute delicious food.

Special thanks to Amanda Fifita, Stephanie Zeller, Char Cutkosky, Mira Dabrowski, Nancy Glaser, Linda Grossman, Carol Kumer, and Michele Conway for monitoring tables, filling trays, serving food, and cleaning up.

Many thanks to all of you who brought food to share: Marilyn Bauriedel, John Larson, Carol Kumer, Peter Colby, Nancy Glaser, the Wood family, Linda Grossman, Michele Conway, Julianne Stafford, Orlene Fingar, Erin Odoyo, Amanda Fifita, Nancy Olson, Kathy Rose, the Fakalata brothers, Stephanie Zeller, Emily King, Mira Dabrowski, Sandra Florstedt, Patty Bellardo, and Diane Allen. What a feast!

I hope I didn’t forget anyone. Thank you all so much!❖



Carol Kumer, Linda Grossman, and Peter Colby (all pictured right) arranged flowers in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday.

It was a little chilly on the patio at 9 a.m. Easter morning, but Peter Colby built a warming fire. Thank you to everyone who helped and who attended the Easter breakfast!

Photos by Pamela Cutkosky and Ben Conway



SPECIAL
SUNDAY

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY GOD'S PROMISE OF PEACE

MAY 26



For several years, the Leadership Team of the Alaska Conference of The United Methodist Church has awarded conference Peace with Justice funds to the Alaska Innocence Project, an Alaska-based nonprofit corporation that provides legal, educational and charitable services to identify and exonerate individuals who have been wrongfully convicted in the state of Alaska, and to provide educational opportunities that foster a culture that champions the defense of the innocent.

The leadership team recognizes that there is a tremendous legal and criminal justice system in this country, but that it is far from perfect. Sometimes innocent people are punished for crimes they did not commit. It has been shown that indigenous persons and persons of color are wrongfully incarcerated at disproportionately higher rates, and so partnering with the Alaska Innocence Project allows Alaskan United Methodists to continue their anti-racism work and live into their Wesleyan heritage by being in ministry with those who are imprisoned.

ALASKA
INNOCENCE PROJECT

While the Innocence Project operates on a fairly meager budget, the fact remains that criminal justice proceedings cost money. From staffing, to the process of discovery, to hiring expert witnesses to provide testimony, bringing justice to the innocent can only happen through generous partnerships like this.

One of denomination's six Special Sundays, Peace with Justice Sunday is a faithful expression of shalom in the Bible. It calls the church to strengthen its capacity to advocate publicly in communities and nations throughout the world. The offering is administered by the General Board of Church and Society and benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conferences and around the world. Half of our gifts stay with local ministries in this conference and half support the work of Church and Society globally.

HOW TO GIVE:

Write a check to your local church and write "Peace with Justice" in the memo line.
To give online or set up monthly giving, go to [UMC.org/SSGive](https://www.UMC.org/SSGive).

Green Notes

by Nancy Olson

In April we paid tribute to Earth Day/week/month! But today is Earth Day still, like yesterday was and tomorrow will be.

God has provided us a wondrous, rich, and beautiful Earth. Trees and multicolored flowers and glorious sunrise/sunsets surround us with beauty for our eyes and souls. Bird songs and sounds of laughter treat our ears. Reminders to be grateful to our loving God are all around us.

Just as we thank our family and friends in word and action for making our lives better each day (we do thank them, don't we?), we should show God in word and action how much we appreciate our Earth.

Every day we have control of our individual actions and choices: choosing not to litter but to properly dispose of candy wrappers, banana skins, small item packaging, face masks, beverage containers. We can choose to shop responsibly by taking our own reusable bags, by shopping locally to support family businesses that enhance our community, by setting good examples for our children. We can choose to support local or global groups that are trying to help in big ways that we cannot. We can support them by volunteering, making donations, signing petitions, and by voting. Today is Earth Day! Thank God!❖



Carol and Curt Gleason (left) and Lynn and Jim Gibbons brought cake to share during Snack 'n Chat on the patio April 28. The couples were celebrating their 70th wedding anniversaries—on the date halfway between. The Gibbons were married March 19, 1954. The Gleasons were married June 2, 1954. Photo by Rick Allen



Thank you, Steve Wood, for constructing our new movable banner frame! Now we can advertise events prominently on Hamilton Avenue alongside our permanent church sign. The new frame was first used to showcase Holy Week events. Photo by Ben Conway

Great Decisions 2024 Wraps

From Tom Fingar: The First Church Great Decisions program for 2024 concluded April 14 but all sessions were recorded and are available on the [Great Decisions playlist](#) on FUMCPA's YouTube channel. If you missed a session, want to review particular talks, or were unable to participate in the original discussions, you are welcome to view (or review) any or all of the presentations.

It was not necessary to read the Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions workbook to participate in the discussions, but if the presentations sparked an interest to know more about the topics covered, you can now check out the copies of the workbook that were on reserve in the church library. You are also welcome and encouraged to invite colleagues and friends from the community to view the recorded presentations.

Thanks to all who made time on Sunday evenings to contribute to the program, whether in person or via Zoom. Each of the speakers commented that they were pleased by the quality of the questions posed and thanked me for the invitation to speak.

It takes many people to organize and execute multi-part programs. Lou Bellardo handled communications and the Zoom component; Scott Thomas and Bill Nichols did their technical magic to enable projection in Kohlstedt Hall and on Zoom; Char Cutkosky placed notices in the bulletin and posted the videos on YouTube; Peter Colby helped with logistics for the in-person segments; Diane and Rick Allen filled in when we needed someone to welcome those arriving for the in-person sessions. Thank you to everyone who participated in any way to help make the series a success.

From Lou Bellardo: Of course, Tom deserves a great deal of thanks and accolades for once again recruiting amazing speakers, including himself. This year's group of presenters was simply outstanding. They were all subject matter experts, well versed in the topics. Additionally, they were able to discuss complicated topics in a clear, understandable manner to those of us in the audience. Thanks for all your contributions, Tom! ❖

CONCERT NOTES

May 4, 1:00 p.m.

All of Cantabile's youth choirs, from 1st graders to high school seniors,

will perform together in a concert featuring music that highlights women composers and leaders.

Purchase tickets at www.cantabile.org.

May 16, 7:30 p.m. Pomona College Glee Club, the celebrated chamber choir, comes to Palo Alto from Claremont, Calif., to present a variety of unaccompanied music as well as Handel's magnificent "Dixit Dominus" performed with a period instrument ensemble. The concert is free—no tickets required and the public is welcome.

May 18, 1:00 p.m. Cantabile's award-winning upper choirs present a program honoring women's artistry, voices, and strength. Purchase tickets at www.cantabile.org.

May 18, 7:30 p.m. Peninsula Cantare celebrates the end of its season with the Bay Area premiere of Jake Runestad's Emmy Award-winning "Earth Symphony" for chorus and orchestra. Purchase tickets at www.peninsulacantare.org. ❖



Getting ready for the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra concert April 20, puppies in training with Guide Dogs for the Blind were learning proper concert behavior. Photo by Pamela Cutkosky

MAY

Anniversaries

MAY

Birthdays

5-5.1984 John Duhring & Sheila Gholson
 5-5.1986 Carol & Bob Chatfield
 5-13.2009 Lino & Jewels Bailon
 5-19.1997 Mark Bui-ford & David Bui
 5-23.1981 Kathleen Branyon & David Goodman
 5-27.1973 Frank & Annette Rahn

5.1 Ewan Keller
 5.2 Mark Iglehart
 5.2 Alan Cooper
 5.3 Maddy Buxton
 5.4 Janni Yuen
 5.5 Gary Ahlberg
 5.8 Nancy Stowe
 5.8 Jordan Fung
 5.11 Donald Iglehart
 5.11 Irene McReynolds
 5.11 Sandra Florstedt
 5.13 Ruth Letts
 5.13 Doris Lippitt
 5.14 Mo Olson
 5.15 Karl Laughton
 5.16 Brenda Birrell
 5.16 Jeremiah Fung
 5.16 Dave Shelly
 5.17 Burke Owens

5.18 Robert Medearis
 5.19 Charles Bliss
 5.20 Shannon Newberry
 5.21 Rudy Spangenberg
 5.21 Annabelle Fisk
 5.22 Kathy Haffner-Zoccatelli
 5.22 Lara Cutkosky Phippen
 5.23 Kieran Martin
 5.23 Matt Newberry
 5.24 Courtney Duhring
 5.26 Ray Crump
 5.26 Jenny Webb
 5.26 Simone Bikai
 5.27 Benjamin Conway
 5.27 Steve Anderes
 5.27 Sinai Latu
 5.28 Carol Olmstead
 5.28 Coreen Riley



Finance Update

The Finance Committee thanks you for your generous and gracious support and requests that you continue to keep your pledges current. Please direct inquiries to [Lou Bellardo: lou@bellardo.com](mailto:lou@bellardo.com)

March 2024 Income and Expense Summary (DRAFT)	March 2024 Actual	Actual YTD 2024	Budget YTD 2024	Budget Annual 2024
Income				
Total Member Giving	26,527	106,740	114,056	407,617
Total Income All Other Sources	21,617	60,833	59,956	273,189
Total Income	48,144	167,573	174,012	680,806
Expenses				
Conference Tithe	5,321	16,806	16,250	65,000
Council on Ministries	1,109	2,398	9,896	40,050
Staff Parish Relations	28,086	83,924	94,848	425,732
Office and Finance	1,416	4,211	4,533	20,100
Board of Trustees	20,289	51,969	67,955	176,150
Total Expenses	56,220	159,308	193,481	727,032
Excess (Deficit) of Income over Expense	-8,077	8,264	-19,470	-46,226



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

→ **Masks are recommended for in-person activities.** Some activities meet online via Zoom. See e-news for more details.

→ Church office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Doors are kept locked. Please phone the office or ring the electronic door bell to be admitted. **Masks are recommended.**

Monday–Friday, La Comida, 11–1 p.m., ongoing

- 7 Staff Parish Relations, 7 p.m. (Zoom)
- 11 Koinonia Progressive Dinner (offsite)
- 12 Mother’s Day
- 14 Trustees, 7:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- 18 Pomona College Glee Club concert, 7:30 p.m. (free admission)
- 19 Pentecost Sunday (Wear red!)
- 20 Deadline for June-July issue of Insights
- 21 Finance, 7 p.m. (Zoom)
- 24 Poetry Salon, 7 p.m.
- 26 Trinity Sunday
Peace with Justice Sunday (special offering)
- 27 Memorial Day
Church office closed
- 28 Church Council (Zoom)

Sundays

- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for ages 3-11
- 10:45 a.m. Worship, in person and live-streamed. Check firstpaloalto.com or Friday e-news for the link.
- 11:45 a.m. Snack 'n Chat
- 12:15 p.m. Couples Group (1st & 3rd Sundays)
- 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Friends (schedule varies)
- 6:00 p.m. Covenant Class (Zoom)

Mondays

- 7:00 p.m. Social Action movie discussions (Zoom) See e-news for details.
- 7:00 p.m. Fiume di Musica rehearsal
- 7:15 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)

Tuesdays

- 9:50 a.m. Walking Group (offsite). See e-news.
- Noon Current Affairs fellowship (Zoom)

Wednesdays

- 7:00 p.m. Upstream Contemporary Worship (Zoom)

Thursdays

- 1:00 p.m. Call to Prayer
- 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Celebrating a special event, such as a birthday or anniversary? Share it with your church family! Consider donating flowers for the altar or providing food for Snack 'n Chat on Sundays. See flower sign up information on page 5. Sign up for Snack 'n Chat on the patio after worship.

Information for the combined June-July issue of the Insights newsletter is due May 20. Photos of church events are accepted at any time. Include photographer’s name, date of the photo, and a brief description of the event. Everything is subject to editing. Please send your submissions via email to Insights Editor Michele W. Conway: insightsfirstpa@gmail.com or bring them to the church office. Thank you!

Our electronic giving page is always open! Give with a few clicks at firstpaloalto.com/giving or text Give to 1-650-376-6784 for a link with instructions. Your generosity makes our mission possible. Thank you!

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Next INSIGHTS deadline: May 20



Narrowleaf mule-ears. Photo by Burke Owens