



## Soup's On! Celebrate



## and Stay for Lunch

We'll be celebrating World Communion Sunday with First Tongan Church on Sunday, Oct. 6. Afterward there will be soup, bread, and dessert for everyone out on the patio.

World Communion Sunday is one of six Special Sundays designated each year by the United Methodist Church that deepen the connection between the local church and ministries on a global scale. On each unique Special Sunday, individuals and congregations are encouraged to give to support the church's collective work with a special offering. ❖

Pam Cutkosky is looking for additional soup chefs, and more servers, plus folks to bring bread and rolls of all types, and cookies for dessert on Oct. 6. Please contact Pam at 650-328-5208 or [pamelareasner@yahoo.com](mailto:pamelareasner@yahoo.com) if you can help out with soup, serving, breads or cookies.



## "Pennies from Heaven" Brings a Smile for Stewardship

by Julianne Stafford and the Finance Committee

On Sunday, Sept. 29, we kicked off our annual stewardship campaign, which will run through Oct. 27. You may have joined the congregation on Sept. 29 in the sanctuary, or perhaps online. If so, maybe you smiled as we sang together to remind ourselves of the blessings in our lives. While "Pennies from Heaven" may not be in our hymnal, I think it is a fun way to remember that amid the ups and downs that we each experience, we can watch for blessings and appreciate them all the more because we also have experienced the 'slings and arrows' of life.

October is the time to celebrate God's blessings in our lives and make plans for supporting our church for the coming year by responding to the annual stewardship campaign. The funds raised by this stewardship campaign are for the 2025 Church budget. You will soon find a letter describing the campaign in your mailbox, along with a pledge card to help you share your plans with FUMCPA. Please be in prayer about your giving, the giving that supports worship, the work we do to support the community around us, and the day to day running of this faith community including repairs, maintenance, and monthly bills like utilities, water, payroll, conference tithing and such.

As you complete the pledge card and return it to church in October, ask yourself; "What is God's vision for my stewardship of the abundance in my life?" We have much to thank God for at FUMCPA. We worship God with a joyful community in an inspiring sanctuary. We have been blessed by the service and leadership of Pastor Burke and Pastor Gerardo. We focus on the children in our midst and the mission at our doorstep. We connect with the local Tongan community sharing music, teaching, and friendship. We participate in small fellowship groups and studies, discipleship workdays, outreach to our community and to communities around the world. We reach out with inspiring music programs locally and worldwide on the web. We continue to improve church buildings in climate-friendly ways. These things add richness to our lives in God's love. *continued on page 9*



## Pastor's Corner

Generous giving =  
abundant, new life



## Dear friends,

This month in worship, the sermon focus is stewardship, as we begin the fall campaign to build a church budget for 2025. As a result, I am thinking more about the qualities that encourage and support how we give and what we value in life.

Generosity is a key aspect to living a rich life. Like thankfulness, it must be encouraged and nurtured. For me, generosity has an emerald radiance about it—a glowing,

shining flash of brilliance. Its bright sparkle is like the vibrant green of a lush field of grass in spring, bringing life and focus to the earth, as the green of generosity brings life abundant wherever it appears. I know for sure that the spirit of generosity is real and that it abides, for I see it in God's faithful care of creation. But what is generosity? Is it a feeling or a state of mind or a vision provided by God? Perhaps it is an idea, an ideal which we hold up as something to strive for, something to work toward. Or maybe it is one of the most powerful and invigorating experiences we can have. Like joy or grace or peace, generosity is overwhelming and transformative in its effect upon us, pulling us out of our everyday minds and points of view as it brings us closer to God in a powerfully immediate way.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu compared generosity to ...

“... humility, where we see that everything we have and everything we accomplish comes from God's grace and God's love for us. In the African understanding of *ubuntu*, our humility and generosity also come from realizing that we could not be alive, nor could we accomplish anything, without the support, love, and generosity of all the people who have helped us to become the people we are today. Certainly, it is from experiencing this generosity of God and the generosity of those in our life that we learn gratitude and to be generous to others.”

Generosity, like these other qualities, helps us practice and build our faith and so, trust in God. God's grace and guidance allows us as believers to take the long view, working step by step to bring the Kingdom alive today. Even though there are hard days when our vision of hope and generosity seems far away, still we work and pray to not give up, encouraging one another as we walk together on life's journey.

In Luke 6:36-38, Jesus tells us:

I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never, I promise, regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11 says:

The one who supplies seed for planting and bread for eating will supply and multiply your seed and will increase your crop, which is righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous in every way. Such generosity produces thanksgiving to God through us.

Both Jesus and Paul tell us we need to discover our own natural generosity, not keep it a secret but share it with the world. The very process of 'generosity begetting generosity' will increase its presence and encourage

*continued on page 4*



# Trunk and Treat and Twilight

## Trunk and Treat Sets Up in Church Parking Lot

Pastor Gerardo once again will present a Halloween celebration on the last Sunday in October for children of all ages! Join us for Trunk and Treat on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 3:30 p.m. in the church parking lot!

Come in costume, visit the many cars decked out in seasonal decorations, paint pumpkins, decorate cookies, practice your mummy wrapping skills, and enjoy the afternoon in a safe, fun setting.

Stay afterwards for the second annual haunted concert and spooky tales in the sanctuary from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

**Can you help out?** Pastor Gerardo is looking for folks to decorate their car trunks and hand out treats in the parking lot, and a few more volunteers to help with games and crafts. Please contact him!

## Twilight: A Haunted Concert and Spooky Tales

Sunday, Oct. 27 at 5:15 p.m., just after Trunk and Treat, join Diane Keller and Pastor Burke for an eerie concert of All Hallows Eve classic organ music and spooky tales. Family friendly and open to all! A free will offering will benefit the upkeep of the church organ.❖



## A Few Tickets Left for October 5 Stanford Football Game

There are a few tickets left in our block for the Family Ministries outing to the Stanford vs. Virginia Tech football game **Saturday, Oct. 5**. Kickoff at 12:30 p.m.

This Family Ministries event is open to all church families—singles, couples, parents/guardians and kids.

Contact Pam Cutkosky for tickets: [pamelareasner@yahoo.com](mailto:pamelareasner@yahoo.com) or 650-328-5208. Tickets are free for kids under 12; if adults can donate \$10 toward the cost of their ticket, Family Ministries would appreciate it!

The Oct. 5 game is also Cardinal Kids Day, so the Kid Zone will be open with athletic activities and Stanford swag giveaways. This is Stanford's first home conference game in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC).❖



"Peanuts" display at last year's Trunk and Treat. Photo by Burke Owens



Join us Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to noon in Fellowship Hall for this **in-person** gathering.

Come hear the results of the recent church survey, check in with Pastor Burke, and engage in holy conversations with and about our church community.

Snacks will be served!

Please RSVP to [adminfac@firstpaloalto.com](mailto:adminfac@firstpaloalto.com).❖

## Hands-On Discipleship You Can Do This!

This fall's Rebuilding Day, the semi-annual project of Rebuilding Together-Silicon Valley, will be Saturday, Nov. 2, but the **sign-up deadline is Sunday, Oct. 13**.

First UMC Palo Alto has supported these Rebuilding Days for many years. Post-COVID, the work has been mostly exterior painting and minor repairs to low-income homes and mobile homes whose owners are unable to do the work themselves due to physical and financial challenges.

You can handle a paintbrush! Please see Mike McCartney after Sunday services, or email him at [mfmccartney550@cs.com](mailto:mfmccartney550@cs.com) to sign up or for more information.❖

**Pastor's Corner** from page 2

others also to share and share alike. For stinginess makes us poor, lacking in spirit so that we hide from God, from each other and from ourselves. As a result, we have no generosity available and so become terribly, terribly poor in spirit, lacking the very element which makes us human at the core. The center of our being is our heart beating with kindness, compassion, love, friendliness, and generosity, all of which are God given gifts and part of our soul.

Each of us chooses how we respond to life, how we engage with others, and how we relate to God. It is important that we choose wisely so that we can live full, deep lives reflective of God's eternal generosity of spirit. First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto is a place where a generous community, welcoming all, can share its love and grace with others, as the creator does with each of us.

See you Sunday!

Blessings,

*Pastor Burke*

**New Bible Study Class Begins October 13**



Meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays after worship at 12:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
Beginning with Genesis  
Led by Pastor Burke Owens

**October Worship Schedule**

**Stewardship**

All of us are integral to the success of this church. For it is only when we join together, combining our resources and talents that we can build a vital, God-filled community for everyone; a place where open hearts and open minds thrive because our church provides the open doors, an entry way to spirit and grace. So, by your giving, this church is sustained and able to share Christ's love with all the world.

October 6	World Communion Sunday Sermon: Communion: The Outward Form of God's Grace Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:14-17
October 13	21st Sunday after Pentecost Sermon: Giving Our Gifts Scripture: Deuteronomy 1
October 20	22nd Sunday after Pentecost Sermon: Giving Our Spirit Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:6-9
October 27	Reformation Sunday Sermon: Giving Our Lives Scripture: Galatians 1:13-24



Welcoming UMC churches of Silicon Valley marched in the Pride Parade in San Jose, Aug. 25. Pastor Burke and others represented FUMCPA. (¡Estamos contigo! We are with you!)





## First Church Raises Funds ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

by Linda Grossman

The Walk to End Alzheimer's is held on Saturday mornings around the country, with hundreds of people dressed in purple shirts walking to raise awareness and money for the Alzheimer's Association. Nancy Glaser, Robert Lasater, and Linda Grossman began their fundraising efforts for the Alzheimer's Association in September, with a goal to raise at least \$5,000 by the end of October.

You can make a difference with your tax-deductible donation. Please visit the [First UMC Palo Alto page](#) and make a generous donation on behalf of Robert, Nancy, or Linda.

The funds support critical research to find a cure for this disturbingly common and utterly devastating disease. In addition to research, the Alzheimer's Association provides education and support to the families of those with the disease. Your gift helps ensure that the Association's quality no-cost education and assistance to caregivers will continue and that someone will be there to answer that late night phone call to the Alzheimer's Association's 24/7 helpline. ❖

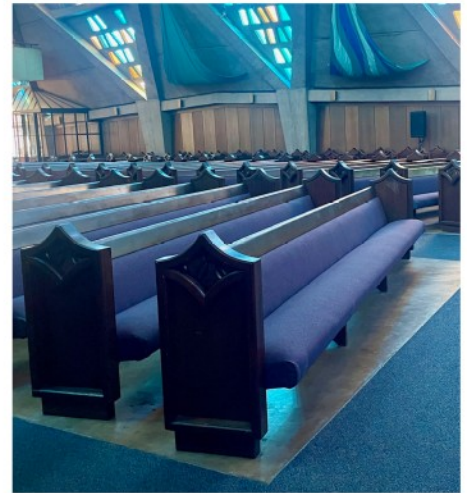
## Thank You, Mark!

by Tom Fingar, Chair of Staff Parish Relations Committee

Music is such an integral part of worship at First Church that there is a temptation to take it for granted. But the quality of our choral and instrumental music and the degree to which it supports the message, scripture reading, and other components of the worship service do not happen by accident. For the last 30 years, they have happened because of the skill, effort, and patience of Music Director Mark Shaull. We are extremely fortunate and profoundly grateful for all that he brings to our worship services and our church community.

Individuals often thank Mark and commend particular anthems or arrangements with Fiume di Musica or guest musicians and Pastor Burke frequently thanks our musicians during the worship service. On Sept. 29, we used the occasion of Mark's 30th anniversary as music director to express our collective and personal appreciation for what he brings to our church. Some commented that it was hard to believe that 30 years have passed since Mark's arrival. Others noted that in the Methodist Church pastors come and go but Mark has been here "forever," hastening to add that they intended this as a compliment and hope that forever would extend far into the future.

If you were unable to join the Sept. 29 gathering to thank Mark, or even if you did, please take a moment to acknowledge his years of service and to thank all the singers and players who enrich our church community. ❖



Notice anything different? The sanctuary pews were reupholstered in September. Photo by Burke Owens



Look up! New banners at the church entrance. Thank you to Janet and Bill Nicholls for purchasing and to Peter Colby for hanging up the banners. Photo by Burke Owens

## Rally Day Thank You

Many thanks to the following people who helped make Rally Day a time of connection, fellowship, celebration, and joy: Carol Kumer, Lou Bellardo, Emily King, Mira Dabrowski, Mike McCartney, Sarah Joy Espinosa, Peter Colby, Conrado Jr., Pastor Burke. Plus all the ministry leaders who staffed a table and talked about their plans for the fall. ❖





UWF urges everyone to make sure you are registered to vote. And **REMEMBER to VOTE!**



## UWF CONNECTIONS

by Nancy Olson, photo by Burke Owens

In September, United Women in Faith sponsored a program presented by Brenda Birrell (seated, center) about her work with The Global Uplift Project. Brenda had many items collected from the countries and tribes she has worked with—very interesting and colorful.

The attendees included two members of Wesley UMC. We were very pleased to welcome them. Lunch was catered by Ada's Cafe, another local community service we have featured in the Joy of Giving twice.❖



## Look Who's Joined Us from Africa!

by Nancy Glaser

The Gondwe Family joined us in church shortly after they arrived from Malawi, East Africa this past August. They will be with us until June 2025 when they return home to Africa. I wanted to learn more about them and what brought them to Palo Alto and Stanford University.

Gregory and Edith Gondwe with their two daughters, Vichi (8 years old) and Vikhumbo (5 + 7 months!) are here because Gregory, an investigative journalist, was awarded a John S. Knight Journalism Fellowship. He is among the innovators and noted journalists from around the world who participate in this prestigious program at the Stanford School of Journalism. Edith is also a journalist and that is how they first met.

Some interesting facts about them:

- They enjoy our church because it is like their church back home (Central African Presbyterian Church).
- What they have enjoyed most is meeting people in our church and interacting with us.
- They love visiting our many parks.
- The girls attend Barron Park Elementary School.
- Edith reports on and keeps up with the arts and entertainment.

Please greet and chat with them when you see them at church!❖



# Introducing the St. Francis Center

by Nancy Glaser, Social Action Committee

St. Francis Center's mission is to provide the opportunity for families living in North Fair Oaks and surrounding communities in Redwood City to live with dignity while accessing essential services and thriving within the community. (See [stfrancisrwc.org](http://stfrancisrwc.org).)

I was introduced to this outstanding nonprofit earlier this year by a friend who knows our church is interested in learning about nonprofits making big impacts in very low income communities. The St. Francis Center was started by one woman, a Catholic nun, in 1986, when she saw how wretched (infiltrated with gangs, drugs) the North Fair Oaks community was. Newly arrived immigrant families, primarily from Mexico, were struggling to get established, find homes, jobs, a safe community to raise their children.

From these humble beginnings, this nonprofit has become one of the best community organizations I have witnessed. They attract many faithful volunteers, parents who learn English and participate in activities, and donations from builders and developers so that they can provide over 268 units of fully occupied affordable housing. They serve 9,452 individuals annually who are 95% BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).

Part of their offerings are a clothing closet, daily food pantry, parent learning: ESL and GED preparation, Siena Youth Center for after school programs for 140 neighborhood youth every afternoon.

The Social Action Committee will be providing opportunities for our congregation to donate items in support of St. Francis throughout the year. Items particularly needed right now are:

- Brown shopping bags with handles
- Empty egg cartons
- Dried beans (black or pinto)
- Rice

Place items in the large barrel in the narthex starting in October and continuing through mid-November. Watch for holiday donation opportunities in November and December. Thank you for your support of St. Francis Center! ❖



One of the largest take-home food programs on the Peninsula, the St. Francis Center food pantry, in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, serves 2500 people every month.

## October

by Paul Laurence Dunbar

October is the treasurer of the year,  
And all the months pay bounty to her store;  
The fields and orchards still their tribute bear,  
And fill her brimming coffers more and more  
But she, with youthful lavishness,  
Spends all her wealth in gaudy dress,  
And decks herself in garments bold  
Of scarlet, purple, red, and gold.

**Teach me how** to order my days that with sure touch I may say the right word at the right time and in the right way—lest I betray the spirit of peace. Let me not be deceived by my own insecurity and weakness which would make me hurt another as I try desperately to help myself. Keep watch with me, O my God, over the days of my life, that with abiding enthusiasm I may be in such possession of myself that each day I may offer to Thee the full, unhampered use of me in all my parts as “an instrument of Thy Peace.” Amen.

—Howard Thurman

It doesn't matter how much you give.  
It matters how much love you put in the giving.

Mother Teresa





# CONCERT NOTES

Performed in the Sanctuary

**Philharmonia Baroque  
Orchestra & Chorale**

**Friday, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.**

Dreams and Passions

Exploring music from the Middle Ages through the 21st century, this concert of contrasts presents flowing works for strings by Hildegard von Bingen and Caroline Shaw alongside classical era favorites brimming with lyrical woodwinds and dramatic brass. Tickets available online at [Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra](http://PhilharmoniaBaroqueOrchestra.com).

**Star Valley Choral Center**

**Saturday, Oct. 19, 4:00 p.m.**

Annual Concert

Star Valley Choral Center is a nonprofit organization directed by renowned soprano Sherlin Chan. Amanda Dai is the choir conductor of Star Valley Choral Center. Members of the Women's Choir and the Ensemble Choir are Bay Area Chinese-Americans who share a love of choral singing. Combining the richness of traditional Chinese music with western vocal techniques, the choirs' concerts promote cultural understanding and social integration through the language of music.

For tickets or information about the choirs, please contact [starvalleycc@yahoo.com](mailto:starvalleycc@yahoo.com). ❖

## Library Adds New Large Print Mystery Books

by Char Cutkosky

Hello, First Palo Alto readers! We've added three new mystery books to our growing Large Print section in celebration of the Halloween season.

*The God of the Woods*  
by Liz Moore (Mystery, Historical Fiction)

In 1975, teenager Barbara Van Laar mysteriously goes missing from her local summer camp—the summer camp her parents, two of the most prominent people in the small, rural town—happen to own.

*The Searcher* by Tana French (Mystery)

Tana French, famed for her Dublin Detectives series, introduces a new protagonist: retired Chicago police officer Cal Hooper who becomes involved in a local disappearance after moving to a sleepy Irish village.

*The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon (Mystery, Historical Fiction)

In Maine, 1789, local midwife and healer Martha Ballard is called on to investigate a body found frozen in the Kennebec River. After a local physician ignores her findings and declares the death an accident, Martha is forced to continue investigating on her own.

Do you have a book or subject you'd like to see in the large print section? Email Char at [charlotte@firstpaloalto.com](mailto:charlotte@firstpaloalto.com). ❖



FUMCPA organist Diane Keller (left) with guest organist Dorothy Papadakos after "The Phantom of the Opera" concert, Sept. 21. The concert was the third in FUMCPA's Music Series. Photo by Burke Owens



# Green Notes

by Nancy Olson

## Throw It Away? No Way!

Ever have a day or week where you think there is a dark cloud or evil spirit roaming around your house affecting normally working appliances that have stopped working all at once! That toaster is only two months old! What is suddenly wrong with that coffee pot? The cherished radio received on your sixteenth birthday won't play even though the little light comes on. Your bike gears stopped shifting ....

You may be screaming or pulling your hair! But do not consider replacing the item until you have visited Repair Cafe!

Repair Cafe is a volunteer-run community service event dedicated to encouraging the repair and reuse of items rather than disposing of them in the landfill. Volunteers work together to repair hundreds of items at each event, delightfully giving your items a second chance and keeping them out of the landfill. Repair Cafe has specialists who work on electronics, tapestry, carpentry, mechanics, and so much more.

Find out about upcoming events, common items of repair, and more at [www.repaircafe-paloalto.org](http://www.repaircafe-paloalto.org). In Palo Alto, events are held 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave.

## Save Food, Save Water

Did you know 25% of the fresh water we consume goes to producing food we never eat! We can all agree that the need to conserve water is a high priority. Let's help take control over climate change by making simple changes in how we store food and reduce waste.

Food waste reduction tip (which I have just started using): Keep leafy greens such as spinach fresh longer. Wrap them in a moist towel and place in an airtight container in the refrigerator to prolong their freshness and keep them from wilting.

Even if your spinach wilts, it's not too late rescue it. Consider tossing it into a smoothie, baking it into a frittata, or simmering it in a soup. Share your ideas with a friend! Every action to reduce food waste makes a difference.



Folks from First Church turned out to celebrate Pastor Gerardo and Ana's wedding at Valley Presbyterian Church in Portola Valley, Sept. 21.

### 'Pennies' from page 1

In a spirit of thanksgiving for our 'pennies from heaven,' let us celebrate God's abundance. Let us build strong connections within our church community and reach out to the community around us. Your support and gifts are vital to our church and deeply appreciated.

Questions? Please ask Finance Chair Juliane Stafford or Pastor Burke. ❖





# Quarterly Giving Statements

Third quarter financial statements will be e-mailed in early

October. They will have the title: "First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto Giving Statement Attached." The email will be from: noreply@shelbnextchns.com.

If you do not receive this statement, and want one, please contact Curtis Gleason, Financial Secretary, at [curtglea@pacbell.net](mailto:curtglea@pacbell.net) or call 650-494-2340 and leave a message. ❖



# Finance Update

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- |       |                    |            |                              |
|-------|--------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 10/1  | Chuck Hebel        | 10/20      | George Merritt-Calvin, III   |
| 10/2  | Carol Chatfield    | 10/22      | John Baglin                  |
| 10/4  | Kaitlin Medeiros   | 10/23      | Nancy Larson                 |
| 10/5  | Emilie Sweet       | 10/24      | Dail Koehler                 |
| 10/5  | Olivia Gee         | 10/24      | Dan Conway                   |
| 10/6  | Keith Ferguson     | 10/24      | Margaret Branyon-Goodman     |
| 10/6  | Bing Wei           | 10/24      | Alyssa Gee                   |
| 10/6  | Sean Kurian        | 10/25      | Tim Crockett                 |
| 10/9  | Mary Lu Wood       | 10/25      | Kay Jacob                    |
| 10/9  | Eliana Herbert-Paz | 10/26      | Lynn Gibbons                 |
| 10/10 | Ada Shelly         | 10/28      | Julianne Stafford            |
| 10/11 | Dick Lubman        | 10/29      | Patrick Riley                |
| 10/13 | Kristi Larson      | 10/13/2018 | Joseph Witte and Caety Chong |
| 10/14 | Kim Venaas         | 10/19/2019 | Maurine Tong and Kai Tong    |
| 10/14 | Ashley Owen        | 10/21/1995 | Dave Gee and Angela Chen     |
| 10/16 | Christopher Martin |            |                              |
| 10/17 | Patricia Riley     |            |                              |

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).

August 2024 Income and Expense Summary (DRAFT)	August 2024 Actual	Actual YTD 2024	Budget YTD 2024	Budget Annual 2024
Income				
Total Member Giving	11,734	271,566	260,123	407,617
Total Income All Other Sources	50,082	214,168	161,389	273,189
Total Income	61,816	485,735	421,511	680,806
Expenses				
Conference Tithe	6,059	47,591	43,333	65,000
Council on Ministries	732	9,916	23,875	40,050
Staff Parish Relations	36,672	250,770	278,211	425,732
Office and Finance	1,436	11,563	13,131	20,100
Board of Trustees	11,935	119,016	124,138	176,150
Total Expenses	56,834	438,857	482,688	727,032
Excess (Deficit) of Income over Expense	4,982	46,878	-61,177	-46,226





## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

→ **Masks are optional but 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

- 1 Staff Parish Relations, 7 p.m. (Zoom)
- 5 Family Ministries Stanford Football Outing, tickets required. See page 3.
- 6 World Communion Sunday (special offering) Soup and Bread Lunch after morning worship
- 8 Trustees, 7:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- 12 All-Church Meeting, 10 a.m.–noon (RSVP required, see page 3.)
- 13 New Bible Study begins, 12:15 p.m. Rebuilding Day sign-up deadline (See page 3.)
- 17 Finance, 7:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- 20 Deadline for November issue of Insights
- 27 Reformation Sunday  
New Bible Study, 12:15 p.m.  
Trunk and Treat, 3:30–5 p.m.  
Twilight: Haunted Concert and Spooky Tales, 5:15 p.m.

### Sundays

- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for ages 4-11
- 10:45 a.m. Worship, in person and live-streamed. Check [firstpaloalto.com](http://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)
- 12:15 p.m. Bible Study (2nd & 4th 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
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

The Mystical Poetry Salon featuring classic Sufi poetry with inspiring music from Fiume di Musica, returns in November. Poems from the great Sufis of the Golden Age including Rumi, Hafiz, Attar, Sa'ddi and Khayyam will be recited, interspersed with music from many traditions. Stay tuned for specific dates next month!

**Information for the next issue of the Insights newsletter is due Oct. 20.** Photos of church events are accepted at any time. Include name of photographer, date of photo, and 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](mailto: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](http://firstpaloalto.com/giving) or text Give to 1-650-376-6784 for a link with instructions. Your generosity makes our mission possible. Thank you!







**FIRST PALO ALTO**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

First Palo Alto United Methodist Church  
625 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301-2016  
[www.FirstPaloAlto.com](http://www.FirstPaloAlto.com)

 [www.facebook.com/firstpaloalto/](https://www.facebook.com/firstpaloalto/)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Inside this issue of **INSIGHTS • OCTOBER 2024**

- Smile for Stewardship, p. 1
- Trunk and Treat, p. 3
- All-Church Meeting, p. 3
- New Bible Study, p. 4
- Alzheimer's Walk, p. 5
- New Mission Partner, p. 7

**Next INSIGHTS deadline:**  
**October 20**

