BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**ADULT BIRTHDAYS**
- 7/17: Stephanie Covington
- 7/20: Alice Romano
- 7/21: Bradley Paris

**CHILDREN/YOUTH BIRTHDAYS**
- 7/19: Liza Hall (12)
- 7/20: Wolfe Holland (1)
- 7/23: Thomas Hall (10); Rebe Hall (10)

PRESBYTOPICS

Our love and prayers are with—

† The family of John Langfitt and family following the death of Sandy Langfitt on Wednesday, July 5, 2023.
† The family of Mary Lamers who died on Tuesday, July 4, 2023.
† Our beloved Deacon, Ester Rankins, who has relocated to a new room within her City View Assisted Living community.
† Maria Anastas who had a bad fall while traveling in Greece with Scott Hartle. She is recovering.

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

**MINISTERS**
- All the People

**PASTORAL**
- Rev. Dr. Christine Chakotian, Pastor
  - cchakotian@westwoodpres.org
- Rev. Mark Jones, Pastor of Mission, Outreach, and Pastoral Care
  - mjones@westwoodpres.org
- Rev. Paula Mann, Executive Associate Pastor
  - pmann@westwoodpres.org

**LEADERSHIP**
- Sarah Ilger, Director of Operations
  - silger@westwoodpres.org
- Anne Gifford, Coordinator of Membership Ministries
  - agifford@westwoodpres.org
- Farrah Mikail, Financial Manager
  - fmikail@westwoodpres.org
- Brianne Nisman, Preschool Director
  - bnisman@westwoodpres.org
- Jessica Place, Director of Children & Family Ministries
  - jplace@westwoodpres.org
- Jake Putich, Director of Youth, College, and Adult Faith Formation
  - jputich@westwoodpres.org
- Dan Redfield, Director of Music
  - dredfield@westwoodpres.org
- Heidi Rudd, Preschool Office Manager
  - hrudd@westwoodpres.org

**SUPPORT**
- Priscilla Glaza, Preschool Office Assistant
  - pgglaza@westwoodpres.org
- Linda Martinez, Administrative Assistant & Contributions Coordinator
  - lmartinez@westwoodpres.org
- Javier Torres, Maintenance
- Joshua Torres, Custodial
- Lourdes Torres, Custodial

WORSHIP
- JMichael Davis-Hoag, Sunday Receptionist
- Aidan Hall, AV Tech
- John James Hickey, AV Tech
- Emily Leaver, AV Tech
- Laurel Sanders, Organist
- Jbxiscoh@westwoodpres.org
- Nick Pelayo, AV Tech
- Paul Workman, Sound & Lighting Engineer

This Sunday, the Flame of Unity will be at Angeles Mesa Presbyterian Church. We pray for these congregations as others pray for us when the flame is here. The Flame of Unity is a symbol of our shared mission and service in Christ, appearing each week at one of the congregations of the Presbytery of the Pacific.

COMING UP

- **Sun., July 9**
  - WPC Worship Service: Pride Sunday
  - Red Cross Blood Drive
  - Time: 10:00am

- **Mon., July 10**
  - WPC Softball Game—Bible Ninja Warriors vs. WPC Hatch Batch
  - Time: 7:30pm

- **Fri., July 14**
  - WPC Adventure Quest
  - Time: 8:30am

- **Sun., July 16**
  - WPC Worship Service
  - Time: 10:00am

- **Mon., July 17**
  - WPC Softball Playoff Game

- **Sun., July 23**
  - WPC Worship Service
  - Time: 10:00am

- **Sun., July 30**
  - WPC Worship Service
  - Time: 10:00am

- **Monthly Food Drive**
  - Time: 11:00am

- **Faith Conversation—Asian American Appreciation**
  - Time: 11:20am

NEWS & CONCERNS

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2023

EMERGENCY BLOOD DRIVE—TODAY!

WPC is hosting an American Red Cross blood drive in Hoffman Hall TODAY, from 10:00am-4:00pm. Healthy individuals continue to be needed to donate now to help patients counting on lifesaving blood.

Walk-ins are welcome! Just walk over to Hoffman Hall after worship and give blood. When you give blood to the Red Cross from 7/1—7/11, you’ll receive a free Red Cross dry bag and $15 gift card by email! Go to rcblood.org/gifts for more info.

10822 Wilshire Blvd. • Los Angeles 90024 • 310-474-4535 • westwoodpres.org
PRIDE SUNDAY

Today WPC celebrates an unforgettable Gay Pride! We remember those saints, past and present, who have dedicated their lives to liberation for all of God’s children, including our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer siblings, express our thankfulness to God for the diversity of human expression, and explore how we can better follow Jesus’ path of radical love and inclusion.

At least as far back as the Ethiopian eunuch we read about in Acts 8, people who have been ostracized or marginalized because of their sexuality or gender expression have been an important part of the Church. Some LGBTQ Christians from history include Public Universal Friend, a nonbinary Quaker preacher born in 1752, Civil Rights leader Bayard Rustin, a gay man whose activism was informed by roots in both Quaker and AME churches, and Rev. Troy Perry, who helped found the first LGBTQ-affirming here in Los Angeles - the Metropolitan Community Church, which is still thriving today.

We are thankful for our LGBTQ family here at WPC, who serve God’s people in diverse and meaningful ways. You can learn more about the history of LGBTQ inclusion in the PCUSA from More Light Presbyterians at mlp.org, where you can also find resources for biblical interpretation, community organizing, and more!

SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN’S RETREAT 2023!

All women are invited to join us at our annual Women’s Retreat at Serra Retreat Center in Malibu from September 22 to 24, a time to fellowship with new and old friends and explore deeper spiritual connection through both community and solitude. There is more info coming soon about our theme and schedule, but you can reserve your spot early by signing up on our website. WPC can provide financial assistance to anyone in need - just contact Jessica Place, Director of Children & Family Ministries at jplace@westwoodpres.org. We hope to see you at this wonderful weekend of replenishment and renewal!

ASIAN-AMERICAN APPRECIATION LUNCH & FAITH CONVERSATION
SUNDAY, JULY 30

Mark your calendars for a midsummer celebration of Asian-American culture and heritage! We’ll enjoy an catered lunch of authentic Korean food followed by a special presentation from Rev. Mark Hong, Executive and Stated Clerk of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii, PCUSA. More details to come!

Sponsor the Chancel Flowers
The chancel flowers depend on your active participation. A donation of $75 covers the cost of the flowers and a chance to remember a loved one with a dedication in the bulletin.

Sponsor Coffee Fellowship
The refreshments on the side porch after worship depend on your participation. Members and friends invited to host the fellowship hour. You may shop for refreshments, bake something, or ask the church to do the shopping for you!

2023/2024 PLEDGES: GOD’S HOUSE, OUR HOME

Have you filled out and returned your Pledge Card for the 2023/2024 fiscal year? Whatever you are able to commit, know that your gifts support WPC’s crucial mission and ministries. Our church home wouldn’t be the same without you.

Additional pledge cards are available in the pew racks and the narthex. You can drop them in the offering today, mail them to the church office, or make your pledge by visiting our church website at westwoodpres.org/give/pledge-now.

Contact our Director of Operations, Sarah Liger, at sliger@westwoodpres.org to set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation by credit card or checking account.

There’s also still time to complete your 2022/2023 pledge! You should receive your quarterly pledge statement by email this week. Our fiscal year wraps up June 30. If you have not fulfilled your pledge, you can donate online, or by check; be sure to write 2022/2023 pledge in the memo line.

WELCOMING LINDA MARTINEZ AND THANK YOU ANNE MATHEWS!

This week we welcome the newest addition to the WPC staff, Linda Martinez. Linda began working for WPC on Wednesday, July 5, as our new Administrative Assistant and Contributions Coordinator. Linda comes to us from Rock Church L.A. serving the community of South Central Los Angeles for the past 7 years. She has also worked for a local charter school, Linda brings to us a wealth of experience in church and school administration. She is a dedicated mother of four with a servant’s heart for God’s people. Linda writes: “I am blessed to now have the opportunity to join the WPC team and I am looking forward to all God will do.”

Linda will be working in the office Monday-Friday and will be responsible for much of the administration of the church, as well as entering contributions and sending out pledge and tax statements for the church. Please welcome Linda at lmartinez@westwoodpres.org or call the office at (310) 474-4535.

With Linda’s arrival and a great new job opportunity on the way, we bid farewell to Anne Mathews as our Temporary Administrative Assistant. Anne has been filling in as the Administrative Assistant for 7 weeks, since Jacquelin Schofield left us in May. We were so blessed to have Anne with us during this crucial transitional time. Her attention to detail, knowledge of WPC, and friendliness were a joy. Anne is still a beloved member of WPC so feel free to share your appreciation with her when you see her on Sunday mornings. Thank you, Anne!

CALLING ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!

Children & Family Ministries (CFM) is excited to report that we have a growing group of Pre-K and Elementary kids attending Sunday School, and we need your help! We want to expand our classes in order to better meet the needs of both our youngest and oldest kids, which means more volunteer teachers. If you are interested in learning more about being a Sunday School volunteer, reach out to Jessica Place, Director of CFM, at jplace@westwoodpres.org. Whether you are a parent, a teacher, or someone who’s just looking for new and fun ways to serve, it’s a great opportunity to invest in the future of our church!