



April 2023

PresbyNews



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Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Our journey through Lent ends with the dawn of Easter on April 9, when we celebrate Jesus' victory over the grave through his death and resurrection. (See Page 3 for the calendar of Holy Week events). In this same resurrection hope, we invite you to remember our much-loved pastor and friend, Jim Zazzera, by reading the tributes to him on Pages 5 to 10.



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Worship at Faith

Faith Presbyterian Church

625 Florin Road
Sacramento, CA 95831
916-428-3439

Pastor Jeff Chapman
Associate Pastor Brett Shoemaker

Services on Sunday

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Livestreaming at 9:00 a.m. at
faithpresby.org

RISE Kids' Worship

Pre-K – Grade 6
9:00 a.m., Rooms 4 & 5

Sunday Morning Adult Christian Formation

10:15 to 11:15 a.m., Grace Room

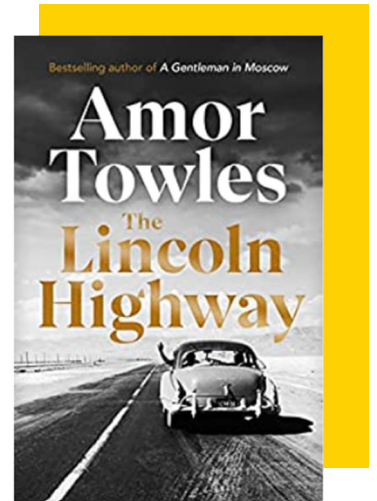
UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Monday Evening Book Club

April 24, 7:00 p.m., Zoom

From the author of one of our Book Club favorites, [A Gentleman in Moscow](#), comes a totally different story, [The Lincoln Highway](#). Amor Towles begins the story in mid-America when three boys set off on a journey. One reviewer comments that the travelers come from different backgrounds, different motives and different moralities which sets them on an inevitable collision course. What united them was their time together in juvenile detention. Using a cross-country road called the Lincoln Highway as the path for their journey, we will experience an intense adventure!

The Monday Evening Book Club meets on the fourth Monday evening of the month. The April meeting will be Monday the 24th at 7:00 p.m. The Book Club continues to meet on Zoom. If you are interested in joining the discussion, please contact Nancy Hom (nneuhom@gmail.com; 916-475-2392) or Barbara Hull (barbarah16@surewest.net; 916-616-1278). More voices make for an enriched discussion!



Planning ahead: The May selection is [The Apprentice](#) by Jacques Pepin.

Planning Ahead: Transitions that Need Our Attention

Saturday, April 22, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Link Hall

You are warmly invited to join us for this workshop, the goal of which is to present important information and perspectives on decisions that affect senior adults and their family members. It is geared specifically towards senior adults, adult children with aging parents, or caregivers of senior adults. It is vital in today's world to understand the decisions that need to be made in all aspects of our life as we age. This workshop will address the broad spectrum of these decisions with an emphasis on healthy dialogue within the family unit to understand and navigate the many ramifications of these transitions together.

Our guest speaker is the knowledgeable and engaging Susan Taylor, RN, who works at Dignity Health and promotes Advanced Healthcare Planning in local faith communities.

There is no cost to attend, but advance registration is requested. Use this QR code to RSVP, or call Laura in the office (916-428-3439). We hope you will join us for this fun and informative event, which is sponsored by Faith's Board of Deacons and Director of Congregational Care Ron Beams.





Holy Week at Faith

Our journey through Lent will end as Easter dawns. The last week of Lent, also called Holy Week, commemorates Jesus' entry in to Jerusalem, where he was arrested, tortured, crucified, and killed. While we know Jesus' story does not end at the tomb, it is nonetheless important for us as Christians to meditate upon the unparalleled sacrifice that Christ made on the cross for us. Faith's Holy Week activities allow us to do just this, and so we invite you to participate fully in them. As we do, may God renew us and prepare us to celebrate again all that he did for us on the cross and at the empty tomb! *All services in-person and livestreamed.*



Palm/Passion Sunday Worship (April 2 — 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.)

We celebrate the beginning of Holy Week together in worship.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship (April 6 — dinner at 5:30 p.m., worship at 7:00 p.m.)

This service, commemorating the Last Supper, is an important time to gather around the Lord's Table. We will gather for dinner in Link Hall at 5:30. Then we will stay together around the dinner table in Link Hall for our time of worship—from our dinner tables to the Lord's Table.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service (April 7 — 7:00 p.m.)

Tenebrae (Latin for "darkness, shadows") is a traditional service often held on Good Friday that rehearses the passion of Christ and is characterized by the gradual extinguishing of light. Though an ancient tradition, this is one we are introducing to Faith this year for the first time.

Easter Worship / Resurrection Sunday (April 9 — 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.)

We will gather for Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. on the church patio. Services in the sanctuary will follow at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us for this joyful celebration! We will have special refreshments on the patio between the 7:00 and 9:00 services.



MARK THE DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 21!

Here's an opportunity to go "out" and serve, and in a sense be a missionary, by walking for water during our ninth annual Walk 4 Water. We have raised \$64,163.75 since the inception of this annual event, whose aim is to bring potable water to World Vision's Abaya, Ethiopia, Area Development Program. We have partnered with the people of Abaya for 13 years now. Clean water has come to this community by building new wells, boreholes and even solar powered pumps. But the job isn't done! A significant portion of the area is still gathering their water from polluted streams and standing water.



World Vision



WALK 4 WATER

Once again, those who participate in this year's walk will carry an empty container one mile to the Cabana Club South on Gloria Drive, fill it from a "well," return to Faith Church and empty their container in the church fountain on the patio. If you can't walk, we encourage you to participate by learning about the hardship that those in poverty in Abaya face every day in acquiring water, and how access to clean water reduces waterborne sickness and even death. World Vision is one of the leading organizations alleviating poverty in

Ethiopia and helping achieve the United Nations' Millennium Goals of bringing clean water to communities. Please consider joining us as we walk to raise funds for and awareness about clean water and its life-changing potential in vulnerable communities like Abaya.



Sponsored child Zinabua Moroma collecting water 1.6 kilometer/1 mile from her home in Kilalchu Village-Abaya, Ethiopia at a World Vision and Faith Church sponsored capped spring providing clean water for around 1,000 households.

Reflections on the Life and Ministry of Pastor Jim Zazzera

The following reflections were received from members of the Faith community about our beloved pastor, Jim Zazzera. Jim served faithfully on the staff of Faith from 2003 until the time of his retirement in 2018. The nature of his ministry and presence among us is beautifully captured by the testimonies that follow. We thank God for the gift that Jim was to all of us!

The most poignant memories with Jim are from our shared mission trips (Little Rock, Merced, Abaya). Mission trips are fertile ground for growing relationships with fellow travelers as the messiness of daily life is unavoidable. I recall moments where I lost control of my emotions and Jim saw me. Jim saw me. He could shepherd me through moments simply by sitting with me and continuing to see me. In this way I think Jim demonstrated one of Jesus' most divine gifts to us, He sees us.

-Maria Mar



My life with Jim began when I joined our Life Group, and Jim was the leader and a masterful one: patient and kind in answering our questions. I never heard him correct any of us, nor ever lose his temper. Did he have all the answers to our questions? No, and he was honest to say, "I don't know." We all respected Jim for his many fine attributes: honesty, humility, openness and compassion. That's the Jim I knew and loved!

-Bruce Kern

My close association with Jim began when I was elected a Deacon, and he directed that group. Jim became a role model to me of a deacon's character and ministry. He encouraged me to share Christ's love with the disadvantaged and the oppressed. While I am not currently an active deacon, I carry Jim's words in my heart and everyday endeavor to apply them to my life.

-Jean Kern

On a mission trip to Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina, Jim helped us to understand that our mission was not just the act of rebuilding, but also the act of listening to the stories of those who had had their lives drastically and forever changed by that event. Jim's encouragement brought a sense of enlightenment of how God uses us and that it's not just about service but about being a community and meeting each other right where we are at.

-Anonymous

Jim was a man who lived all the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-discipline. He especially loved and enjoyed his family – Lena, their children and their grandchildren. After many years of marriage, Lena was the one he most enjoyed spending time with. Jim was a very special man who will be missed by all who knew and loved him. May you rest in peace, Jim, with memories of a life very well lived.

-Anonymous



Every time we met Jim, we were welcomed with a warm smile. It could be on a tour of Israel, in a pub in Ireland after a beautiful day of bike riding, on a mission trip, at a Faith Men's Retreat, or a Deacon's meeting. Jim always brought good conversation and humor. He made us feel comfortable sharing our innermost thoughts and doubts about our faith and shortcomings. His positive, compassionate sermons gave us hope that the world will become a better place.

-Teri & Dave Williamson

Jim was one amazing guy. Giant, sparkly smile. Great listening ears. Full of love, compassion and understanding. It was always good to be with him and share his goodness. The guy even offered to babysit my animals. He joined our little group for the MLK March. Whether working on mission items or speaking of personal experiences, sharing with Jim deepened my faith in the goodness of God, and the awareness of individual potential to change our world for the better.

-Anonymous

Jim's warm smile and heartfelt hellos will be missed forever! I feel grateful to have met Jim and spent some time with him on mission and vision trips. He made you feel like the only person in the room with every interaction and always brought a new perspective.

-Anonymous

I didn't know Jim super well, getting to know him best at Faith's Men and Boys' Retreats. I knew that we had different theology, and so I didn't expect to get on with him. And yet, Jim was one of the most natural and understated, welcoming personalities at the retreats. I came to really appreciate his quiet, easygoing and kind nature. I followed his Santiago blog and valued his insights. I highly respected him and I count his passing as the loss of a wise and compassionate man.

-James Wirrell

I was privileged to serve on the Deacon Board when Jim oversaw deacons. The light of Christ shined brightly through Jim. He exemplified the love, peace and grace of Christ. Through Jim, I and many others learned how to walk alongside others through grief and how to be present and listen well. One memory that I cherish of Jim was partnering with him to serve communion and anointing at home to an ill member of the congregation. That time was sacred. Jim was a blessed gift from God to us all!

-Wendy Benjamin

It was difficult enough when Jim retired not to see his orange, breadbox car parked on Florin Road. But now knowing that he has left earth for heaven, it is even harder. Jim's ready smile, his beautiful prayers, his insightful writing, and amazing people-oriented personality are sorely missed. His questions about life and faith allowed others to question honestly too. And now all of those questions, for Jim, have been answered in the presence of our Lord. We are grateful for Jim's life!

-Rick & Barbara Hull



My wonderful friend, counselor, faith guide. Spent many hours together at session retreats, in a Triad group with Jim Tracy, discussing life groups and sermons. My fondest memories were of regular coffees at Il Forno. We shared stories about our children, and our fatherly pride and concerns. Jim lived the unity of the church in Christ Jesus. While we differed occasionally, those differences always were encompassed and embraced within the circle of love Jim lived. Farewell, dear Brother!

-Chuck Bell

Pastor Jim was God's grace personified. He was a gift to us all. This grace shined at my husband's service 12 years ago and will remain in our hearts forever.

-Pat Beal

Not long after Jim Zazzera arrived at Faith, Triads – groups of three – began. Jim invited me to join Chuck Bell and him in a Triad. For the next year or so, we read, studied, fellowshiped and prayed together regularly. Not only was it a great experience for me, but a wonderful opportunity gratefully accepted to grow in faith with two very special brothers-in-Christ. JZ, I miss you for a little while now but know we'll reconnect in our eternal home.

-Jim Tracy

I will always be grateful to Jim for leading a class on the writings of C. S. Lewis, which inspired me to go beyond Mere Christianity to read some of Lewis' other amazing works. But in general, what I will remember is that any time I crossed Jim's path, he greeted me with a sincere smile and kind words. Truly, always. He never seemed too rushed or busy or tired to stop and say hello, or ask about my life. He emanated Christ's peace, love and acceptance. What a gift to all of us.

-Esther Chapman

Jim was truly a man of many talents. We are put on this earth for a limited time and Jim made the most of it. Jim had a way of connecting with people. His soft-spoken approach and folksy humor made discussions with him a real pleasure. He was not only good at making friends but also good at maintaining them. My wife and I had the pleasure of getting to know Jim & Lena on a social level. We were always taken with how loving they were as a family. Our finest memory was the trip to Israel. RIP.

-John & Sally Ravas

Jim's first sermon at Faith was about embracing the beloved community and allowing the Holy Spirit to move freely among us with Love. He was with us through Todd's cancer and marriage to Dani. Unforgettable, loving, kind, intelligent, welcoming people, ideas, books, mission and social justice movements ... He was a gifted teacher and travel guide to the Holy Land, Jesus' Palestine. His love and encouragement to see each other and the world through Jesus' glasses will forever be with me.

-Ann Johnson



Jim lived out his faith daily in everyday life, both within and outside the church. He was a model of perseverance and trust. Jim had a continual eagerness to find new ways of bringing people closer to Jesus (Companions in Christ classes), a desire to encourage Faith family members to engage in spiritual formation experiences outside the church (Apprentice Gathering, Renovare), and a yearning to grow in his own spiritual formation (Richard Rohr Institute).

-Alice Parente

So many words come to mind when thinking about Jim Zazzera: kind, calm, genuine, affable, generous. He was made to be a Pastor. I can recall, without me asking, when he visited a colleague in the hospital. She was so taken by his unselfish approach, she began attending Faith and later joined with her family. I was always struck by Jim's quiet way of reaching those in the congregation who were hurting. People knew his door was open; he had time for them. And ... did I mention his smile?

-Fred Noteware

Upon my retirement, I was able to attend Jim's book studies in the afternoon. He opened my eyes to new authors and concepts of social justice, the Bible, Christian living, among others that I had not considered before. He also led me, along with Lena, on our wonderful tour of Israel. It was such a gift to go on this trip with fellow Christians. Jim reaffirmed my baptism in the Jordan River, presided over communion, and led us in discussions about the places we visited.

-Renee Larsen

Words that immediately come to mind when remembering Jim are transformation and grace. Many experiences with Jim, both from the pulpit and in person, left me with a pathway to transformation; my views of what Christ is calling from me as a disciple advanced. And this was possible due to the graceful way this gentle soul approached each individual, to meet us wherever we were in life.

-Jeff May

After we both retired, Jim and I went hiking, though the hikes were secondary to the rich conversation we had. One time we considered the difference between "have" and "get". When we say we "have" to do something, it feels like a burden, but if we say we "get" to do something, it feels like a blessing, a gift. Jim reminded me that when I change my "have to's" to "get to's" it's amazing how much my outlook improves. Try it.

-Paul Philleo

I feel very privileged to have known Jim while he was at Faith. He was a very compassionate person who distinguished himself as a friend, mentor and calming influence while we all try to negotiate in a troubled world. What a special man he was.

-Anonymous

I loved his warm smile and approachable nature. He always gave a great Bible study with a lot of information and history that enhanced the lesson. He was so open and kind, and I will miss him greatly.

-Anonymous



I was drawn to Jim's easy smile, his quiet sense of humor, his passion for the marginalized. We served on the mission team and worked side by side on Compassion Weekend projects. We bonded over our mutual love for U2, art and world travel. I mourn that Jim did not have more time on this earth with his beloved family and friends, but I'm thankful that he was part of my life. He was easily one of the best people I've ever known.

-DiAnne Brown

When I first joined Faith Church, Jim was my "go-to" pastor. He taught me so much! I will always remember him. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

-Georgina Borton

Jim was always easy to talk to about any subject. One Sunday on the patio after the worship service, we talked about God's amazing grace and each shared experiences that we had had. Whenever I hear "Amazing Grace," I recall that conversation. Jim's prayers offered during the service so completely met my need at the moment that I felt they had been written just for me. It was a true joy to know him.

-Bernice Hopkins

I remember that Jim had such a wonderful smile, he always appeared a friend to everyone. His very generous attitude was a super attribute that Faith Church had during his many years and he will always be missed.

-Rick Crow

Jim showed up as God in my life in many ways: a compassionate leader extending quiet grace to a newly minted deacon; a thoughtful counselor who used his own humanness to deeply see, hear and console; an inspirational explorer of peoples and places; and a fellow spiritual being on the path always willing to share his light and accept the light of others.

-Laurie Richardson

I think the one word that describes Jim best is "approachable." He was so easy to talk to and would take the time to listen. When I was a Deacon, he called one day and asked if I could go with him to give home communion to one of our sisters in my parish that was failing. We shared the communion and she was so grateful. He had that special calling and was on call for such moments among our church at a moment's notice. As I said, approachable. He will certainly be missed.

-Linda Olsen

My first meal ever in Sacramento was French toast at Tower Cafe with Jim. He shared with me that he loved walking and traveling. Jim was always walking, aware of the people and beauty around him, ready to be transformed by all of it. He would share his adventures, and others were transformed by his lightness of heart and depth of spirit. Now he walks on with beauty beyond his imagination, and our memories of him will keep transforming us. Thanks, Jim! Looking forward to French toast on the other side, someday....

-Brett Shoemaker



I knew Jim back when I worked with the youth group in my college days. We had fun and he was always laughing. I miss you my friend. Godspeed.

-Cindy Tom

My most distinct memories of Jim are from my time as a Deacon. He was (and no doubt still is) a perpetually kind soul who always offered an encouraging smile, even when some of the questions I brought to him must have seemed curious and strange. Jim was open-minded yet strong in his faith, and it was my great pleasure to have served as a Deacon under his gentle guidance.

-Bill Kirk

I attended many Bible study classes that Jim led at Faith. The memories that stand out to me are how Jim reacted to those who provided their thoughts and insights. His reception was so kind and caring. He genuinely wanted to hear our perspectives and made me feel comfortable to share. Maybe he didn't agree with everything that was shared, but you would never know it. He was so open to all perspectives. His passion for teaching and sharing God's word was such a blessing to Faith.

-Tracy Cumming

Pastor Jim was down to earth and relatable in his ministry. He was kind and generous, honest and thoughtful. He was so approachable and unintimidating as a Pastor. One of the many lessons I learned from Jim was how deep and wide God's love is for everyone, particularly those who feel like they don't belong anywhere, even in the church. Jim called Jesus' love radical. I think he was right. Jim ministered and loved us as Jesus would. I am forever grateful to him.

-Anonymous



ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Learning Humility: Searching for a Vanishing Virtue

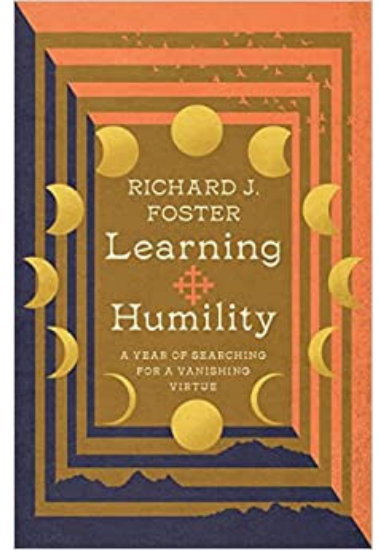
Wednesday Evenings

April 12 to May 31

7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Online via Zoom

Facilitator: Alice Parente

In a society where “It’s all about *me*” dominates the moral landscape, the virtue of humility is often dismissed as irrelevant. Humility – sometimes wrongly equated with humiliation – is vanishing from contemporary culture. Deeply concerned about humility’s continuing disappearance, Richard Foster devoted an entire year to both studying and practicing this virtue. Part of the fruit of his year-long spiritual discipline is his new book, *Learning Humility: A Year of Searching for a Vanishing Virtue*, which will be the basis for our own study and practice in this group. This book offers profound insight into what godly humility can look like in our current cultural climate.



Richard Foster is the founder of Renovare and author of several books, including *Prayer: Our Heart’s True Home*; *Celebration of Discipline*; and *Streams of Living Water*. In *Learning Humility*, Foster writes with a spiritual curiosity and authenticity that welcomes his readers to journey with him.

Learning Humility is a humble book. It is strikingly personal but not pretentious. It is infused with Scripture but not preachy. It includes rich insights from a breadth of spiritual writers like Evelyn Underhill, Søren Kierkegaard, Julian of Norwich, and C. S. Lewis. But it also includes daily experiences like being snowed in, hiking in a nearby canyon, watching wild turkeys, and a long wait at a pharmacy. It is a deeply spiritual but very human book.

Foster communicates that humility is neither passive nor a private virtue that ignores the plight of others. Rather, he believes that true humility leads us to outwardly engage in the care and service of others. Another theme throughout the book is Foster’s conviction that humility is not something achieved solely by human effort as a matter of self-improvement. Instead, he says that humility “is a grace given by God as we orient our will to God.”

Learning Humility is not meant to provide several neat bullet points on how to be humble. Instead, it is a rich experience of walking with Jesus, our humble and gentle guide, on the journey to pursue and receive God’s grace for living a humble life.

You are invited to be part of a group where we will join Richard Foster on the journey toward a life of humility, a life which he says leads us into “freedom, joy, and holy hilarity.” Please purchase the book in advance of the class (ISBN-13: 978-1514002124; or [click here](#) if link is enabled). To ask questions about the group or to RSVP, please contact humble facilitator Alice Parente at vsas77@earthlink.net.

Decluttering By Faith

Tuesday Evenings

April 11 to May 16

7:00–8:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Marlys Emery

Off-site at the Emery home

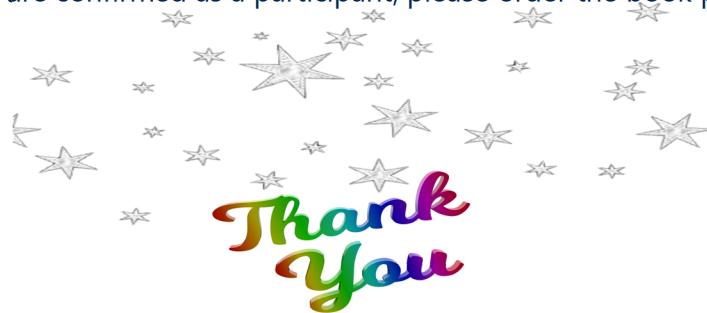
Do you have too much *stuff*? If you have been wanting to declutter and simplify your home, please join us for this six-week class!

Decluttering by Faith is a devotional that explores what the Bible has to say about all of our stuff. Through this lens, we're able to look at our physical possessions more critically, realizing that they don't add the peace or security we're searching for. Each week focuses on a different area of our house to declutter, such as clothing, kitchens, and sentimental items.

Each Tuesday, we will meet to view a 15-minute video, discuss the previous week's devotionals (except for the first week), and share our progress and experiences as we support and encourage each other in our decluttering journey. Between class gatherings, we'll complete five devotionals and a decluttering challenge on our own.

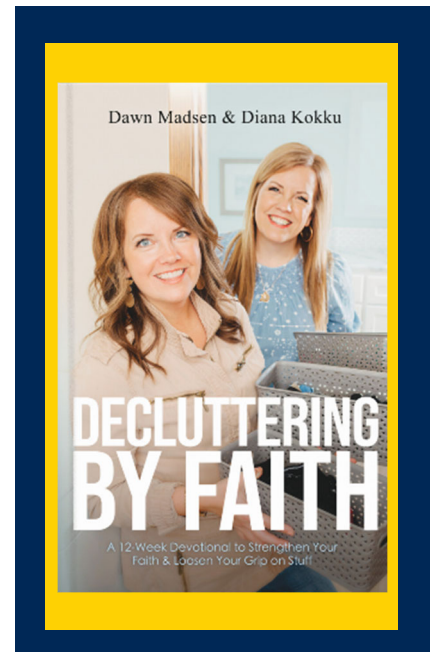
This group is for anyone, whether your house is in complete chaos or you have a few hidden areas that need some attention and organization. We are limited to 8 attendees. Sign up in the narthex or email Marlys at marlysbenson2015@gmail.com. **Deadline to sign up for the class is Tuesday, April 4.**

Because space is limited, please do not purchase the required book until Marlys confirms that there is room in the class for you. Once she confirms with you, please purchase the book, *Decluttering by Faith*, by Madsen and Kokku, which is available only at this website: <https://www.theminimalmom.com/decluttering-by-faith>. Cost of the book is \$16, plus \$4 shipping. Once you are confirmed as a participant, please order the book promptly so as to receive it before the first class on April 11.



Sending grateful thanks to all of my Faith family for the cards, flowers, and calls to wish me well. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Looking forward to worshipping with all of you again very soon.

~ Beverly Sommerdorf



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Kintsugi is the 15th-century Japanese art of repairing pottery by mending the broken pieces with lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold or other precious metals. This ancient practice reminds us that what was broken but then mended can reveal new lines of character and beauty.

But what of God's world? The world God entrusted to our care? So many parts are broken, damaged by cruelty to each other, misuse of creation, or refusal to take God's commands seriously. Can what is broken here be mended with renewed beauty?

Your gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering provides a way for those whose lives have been affected by poverty, hunger, or disaster – whether natural or human-caused – to begin to repair the lives of their families and communities. It provides a way for the least of these, more often than not women and children, to become those veins of gold, binding their families and communities together in strength.

In the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, God repaired the breach that separated us from our Creator, performing a kintsugi of sorts upon us – putting the broken pieces of our lives back together while lining our broken places with the gold of God's grace. As we follow Jesus' example, walking alongside the most vulnerable to partner in repairing the harm inflicted upon them, we celebrate that we are the Church ... **together**. In fact, One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

In Isaiah 58, the prophet reminds us, "You shall be called repairers of the breach." Repairers. As we question the breaches that may have resulted from our own actions and inactions, we ponder how to repair them, creating something unique, beautiful, and resilient. Which ones get attention first? How can we repair a breach that may have existed for decades or one that has only recently emerged? Where can we work for repair to reveal beautiful new veins of gold?

Please give generously on **Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**.



HEART OF A GODLY KING

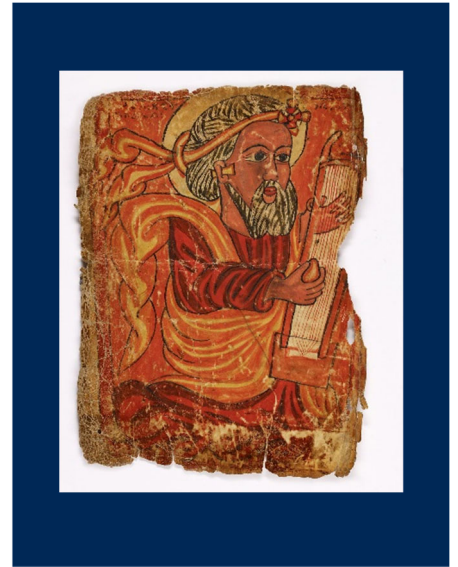
The Life and Faith of David

A Study of 1 and 2 Samuel, Through May 28 (Class schedule indicated below)

10:15 – 11:15 a.m., Grace Room, Teacher: Dennis Montzingo

One of the most important and influential characters of Old Testament Israel is King David. Handpicked by God to be king while yet a shepherd boy and anointed by Samuel, David established God's chosen kingdom and became both the prototype for godly rulers and an example of faithful living. Reading about, studying and discussing David's life and faith, as recorded in 1 & 2 Samuel and a selection of his psalms, will teach us lessons for today about what it means to live as people after God's own heart.

Here is the list of upcoming topics. Participants are encouraged to read the indicated Bible passages before each class session.



- April 2—First Sunday Sabbath—No Class
April 9—Easter—No Class
- April 16—David Becomes King
(2 Samuel 1-5, 8-9; Psalm 72)
- April 23—David and God's House
(2 Samuel 6-7, Psalm 24)
- April 30—Men's Retreat—No Class
May 7—First Sunday Sabbath—No Class
- May 14—David and Bathsheba
(2 Samuel 11-12, Psalm 51)
- May 21—David and Absalom
(2 Samuel 13-20, Psalm 41)
- May 28—David's Choices and End
(2 Samuel 22-24)



Meet Faith's Newest Members: Art and Cheryl Chan!

Art and Cheryl Chan are both northern California natives, having lived most of their lives between Sacramento and the Bay Area (with a brief stint in L.A. for Cheryl). They are both retired now and love having the extra time to spend with friends and family ... especially their 12 grandchildren! They enjoy traveling near and far. For her part, Cheryl enjoys gardening, crafting, and enjoying God's beautiful creation. Art enjoys playing guitar, reading, troubleshooting and doing repair work, keeping up with current technologies, and helping others whenever possible.



Cheryl and Art began attending Faith in 2017. At the time, they were looking for a new church home. They were also volunteering at the SSIP Food Closet, where they met fellow-volunteer Audrey Newport. Cheryl says, "Audrey insisted that we come to [visit] Faith." They did, and they never left! Our guest speaker will be our own Pastor Brett Shoemaker, speaking in greater depth about his sabbatical. Asked what else it might be helpful for the Faith congregation to know about her, Cheryl responds that she is very grateful for the continuing growth in her personal faith and the increasing love for the Lord that she sees in herself since she began attending Faith. This has been cultivated through sermons, classes, and retreats, and especially through the support, prayers and hospitality of the people of Faith. In response to the same question, Art says that he loves getting deeper into God's Word and learning about God's grace and love as it abounds in their daily lives. Art is so grateful that God saved his life a couple of years ago after a near-death bout with COVID-19, and he is keenly aware that God has given him this time to share with others the testimony of what Christ has done for him in his life.

Welcome, Art and Cheryl!



Presbyterian Women: April Fellowship

Wednesday, April 26, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in Link Hall

Our guest speaker will be our own Pastor Brett Shoemaker, speaking in greater depth about his sabbatical.

Looking Ahead...

May 24: Eunice Aldrich, our superbly talented organist and pianist, will be our speaker at the May 24 fellowship-luncheon.

June 21: Our last fellowship-luncheon of the year. More information will follow.

Contact Janet Leader at jleader@sbcglobal.net.

Registration is now open for Vacation Bible School 2023!

Get ready for all the zany fun, colorful characters, upbeat music, engaging activities and awesome learning about Jesus that make VBS so special and unique! This year's theme is "Twists & Turns," and we'll be exploring how following Jesus changes the game.

Go ahead and register now using the QR code on this page, and be sure to share this info with other families who may be blessed by participating in this year's VBS. If you have any questions, email Jacob (jzvolanek@faithpresby.org).



Kids Club in April

Calling all 3rd to 6th Graders! Join us for Kids Club, a great place to have fun and play games together, share dinner, and be encouraged through Scripture. We have two gatherings coming up in April: **Wednesdays, April 5 and April 26, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in Link Hall.** (Note that we have extended the time until 6:30 p.m. – we can't squeeze all the fun into just one hour!)

At our April 5th gathering, we'll be having tons of EASTER fun, plus a potluck dinner. We'll provide drinks. All kids in this age range are invited, and 7th and 8th graders are invited to help lead and support the group.

To let us know that your kids are coming and what dish you'll bring, email Family Ministry Director Jacob Zvolanek (jzvolanek@faithpresby.org).



Session February & March Highlights

What is Session? Session is the governing body of our congregation. Made up of 16 members (pastors and elders) who are called by God and elected by the congregation, the Session is charged by God to oversee the ministry and mission of Faith Presbyterian Church. By God's grace, Session works hard to make sure that we are becoming, day by day, the sort of church God wants us to become – *A community loving Christ, building disciples, serving all.*

What has Session been up to lately? The following are some of the decisions which were made this month at Session and some of the areas of ministry which were celebrated. We hope you share in the enthusiasm of Session in all that God is doing in our midst. As a reminder, Session meetings are held the second Monday of most every month at 7:00 p.m. here at church. Unless otherwise determined, they are open meetings and church members are always encouraged to come listen in. We'll even share our snacks!

- **Approved Revised Position Description for Brett Shoemaker** – On a regular basis our Personnel Committee, as directed by the Session, reviews the position descriptions of our staff members. Brett's description had not been updated for some time. It now better reflects the ministry to which he is called, focusing on youth, families, mission and worship.
- **Nominating Committee** – Our Nominating Committee finished its task of nominating men and women to fill all upcoming openings on our Session and Deacon Board. This team was capably led by Elder Barbara Tracy.
- **Mission Funding** – In the last several months the Session has approved special mission funding for both the PTC College in Ethiopia, a ministry we have supported before, and for Faith members Erin and Jay Gilbert for a mission trip they are taking with their family to Turkey. If you'd like to know more about these efforts, please contact our mission elder, Lilian Wanjau.
- **New Members Welcomes** – In March the Session welcomed new members Art & Cheryl Chan.
- **Congregational Rule of Life** – Much of the Session's focus these last several months has been on the prayerful and careful development of a Congregational Rule of Life, which has been defined as a schedule and a set of practices and relationship rhythms that create space for us to be with Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to do what Jesus would do if he were us. Our purpose is to develop such practices and rhythms for our congregation that might then, by God's grace, produce in greater measure the fruit of the Spirit in our lives and in our community. Any of our elders would be glad to speak with you further about this work if you are interested.