

August 2025

PresbyNews



Volume 49 | Issue 8 | Faith Presbyterian Church | faithpresby.org

Last Month of Summer!

Summer is flying by – but it isn't over yet! August is a great time of the year for evening walks in the park, and barbeques by the pool. We also have some unique opportunities this month here at Faith: On August 3, you can meet missionaries from France and hear their stories (see page 2), and on August 10, there will be a one-time live performance by the youth participating in the Academy of the Arts (see page 9). You'll also get a sneak peek at upcoming fall events in this edition. So read on, and enjoy the rest of the summer!

Welcome and Events at Faith



Page 2: October 12, Celebrating Ron Beams
Page 9: August 10, Academy of the Arts Performance

Adult Christian Formation



Page 3: Finding Christ in Israel's Seven Festivals
Pages 4 and 5: All Church Fall Retreat

Worship and Praise



Come join us for worship! See our regular schedule, posted at right.

Give – Resources, Time and Talents



Page 6: Angaza Torchbearers Bible School
Page 7: September 28, Harvest Dinner
Page 7: November 15, Rise Against Hunger

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

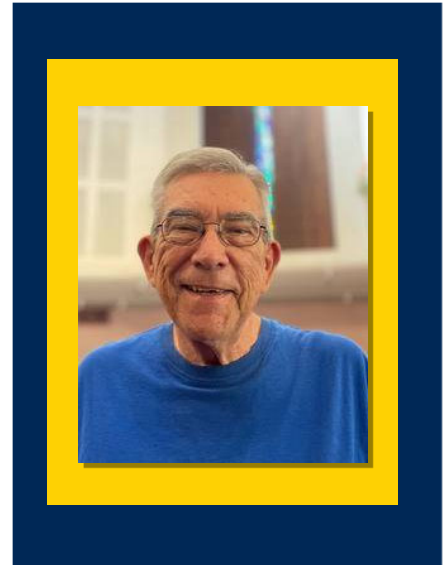
10:15 to 11:15 a.m., Grace Room

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Celebrating Ron Beams

After faithfully serving as a part of Faith's staff for many years as our Director of Congregational Care, Ron Beams will be retiring at the end of August. Even as we will each want to express our appreciation to Ron in personal ways in the days to come, we are also planning to celebrate together as a congregation his years of service. On Sunday, October 12, between worship services (10:15), we will have a reception in Ron's honor. Please plan to be there for the festivities!

If you would like to share in a gift of appreciation and gratitude to be presented to Ron on that day, you may contribute by sending your gift to the church office or by placing it in the offering basket on Sunday mornings. Make checks payable to Faith Presbyterian Church, with "Ron's Gift" on the memo line. To have your contribution included as part of the gift given on October 12, please submit your gift by Sunday, September 28.



Special First Sunday Sabbath Opportunity on August 3

Meet Missionaries Nicole and Vincent Derieux!

During our First Sunday Sabbath celebration on Sunday, August 3, between services in Link Hall, we have a special opportunity available to us: Missionaries Nicole and Vincent Derieux will be visiting Faith that morning, and they will be on hand during our First Sunday Sabbath reception to talk informally about their ministry among Tunisian immigrant children in Grasse, France. They have served in this capacity for 15 years, bringing hope, education, and the light of Jesus to underprivileged school children. Perhaps the greater effect of their ministry has been a deepening reconciliation between immigrants and French nationals. If you'd like to meet them and hear a bit about their work with "Parfums de Vie," please seek them out and introduce yourself.



In addition to this informal meet-and-greet during First Sunday Sabbath, those who would like to learn more about the Derieux's mission are invited to a **gathering at Ron and Lorie Sprinkle's home** that evening. If you would like to come, RSVP to the Sprinkles at 530-304-5070.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Christian Formation on Sunday Mornings

Finding Christ in Israel's Seven Festivals

August 17, 24, 31

10:15 a.m., Grace Room

Facilitator: Rick Stern



After leading the Israelites out of Egypt, God commanded them in Leviticus 23 to observe seven annual festivals. He even instituted a new calendar to fix their recurrence. Colossians 2:16-17 tells us that we as Christians do not have to observe these Old Testament festivals, but knowing about them should grow our confidence in, and adoration for, our sovereign Lord. Why? Because the first four festivals prophetically anticipated our Lord Jesus Christ's sinless life, death, and resurrection. And now we live in anticipation of the last three festivals, which promise Christ's triumphant return and reign. Join us as we learn about these seven festivals and consider how they point us towards our Lord Jesus Christ.



FAITH'S ALL-CHURCH FALL RETREAT

Friday, September 5, to Sunday, September 7, 2025
Zephyr Point Conference Center, Zephyr Cove, Nevada



Are You The One We Have Been Looking For?

Faith's All-Church Fall Retreat isn't until September, but already we are looking forward with anticipation to this wonderful event! On this page, you'll find details about this year's theme and speaker, along with some general registration information. On the next page, you'll find all the particulars needed to register. We hope to see you "up the hill" come September!

OUR THEME: "ARE YOU THE ONE WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR?"

For all of human history, beginning in Genesis chapter 3, humankind had been looking and waiting for God's promised Messiah. During our weekend together, we will dive into four events in the life of Jesus which convinced many of the people of his day that Jesus was indeed God's promised Messiah. These are events which still prove convincing in our day!

OUR SPEAKER

Our speaker, Wayne Weissman, has quite a story to tell of how the Lord brought him to faith in Christ. You'll hear parts of that story during the retreat. Since coming to faith, he has served in ministry for 42 years, mostly with Torchbearers International, one of Faith's mission partners. In this capacity he has taught all around the world. Wayne has been married to Patti for 38 years, and they have 4 children and 13 grandchildren. He currently lives in Kimball, Nebraska.



GENERAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Registration for the retreat is fully online. Information about how to register is on the next page.
- When registering, you will choose among hotel-type rooms in Tahoe Center or eight unique cabins. ***If you have specific lodging needs or choices, please register soon after registration opens because lodging is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.***
- Info below may help you to choose your lodging ("DH"=dining hall; "Dobbins"=meeting room):
 - ♦ Living Waters Rooms: an elevator ride to DH and shortest walk to Dobbins. Best choice for those with mobility issues or very young children.
 - ♦ Morning Star Rooms: a short walk, with some stairs, to DH and Dobbins.
 - ♦ Eagle's Wings Rooms: bit of a longer walk, with stairs, to DH and Dobbins.
 - ♦ Cabins: often require negotiating stairs, slopes, and distance; see map for details (map link on next page).

How to Register for FAITH'S ALL-CHURCH FALL RETREAT

Registration Is Now Open!

Registration for the retreat is fully online this year. To access the online registration form: (1) Click on the registration link in tomorrow's "This Week @ Faith" email; (2) Follow the link on Faith's home page at www.faithpresby.org; or (3) Scan the QR code at right with your phone. Need help? Contact registrar Janelle Hendricks at joyfuljanelle@gmail.com or (916) 215-7053. **Deadline to register or to receive a cancellation refund is Tuesday, August 19, at 11:00 p.m.**



Scholarships: We don't want the cost of the retreat to be a barrier to anyone! If a partial scholarship would help make the retreat more affordable for you, **please contact one of our pastors BEFORE you register online for the retreat**, and he will send you a special code to use when you register (Pastor Brett, bshoemaker@faithpresby.org; Pastor Jeff, jchapman@faithpresby.org).

Registration Options: The price of the retreat depends on the number and ages of people in your group and the type of lodging you choose. When you register online, you will indicate the names and ages (if under 18) of those in your group to determine your food costs. *Note that this year, you will **select either the "standard" food rate** (what Zephyr charges us) **or** "subsidized" food rate* (a more affordable option), as best suits your budget. Next, you'll select a lodging option. Finally, you will view the total and pay online.

The options below will help you estimate the cost of the retreat for your group before you register:

1. Determine your **food expenses**. Total for food: \$_____

☐ Adults and Youth (13+): Standard cost: \$97 per person x _____ (# of people)

Subsidized cost: \$47 per person x _____ (# of people)

☐ Children 4-12: Standard cost: \$73 per person x _____ (# of people)

Subsidized cost: \$23 per person x _____ (# of people)

☐ Children 0-3: \$0 per person x _____ (# of people)

Dietary options available when you register: vegetarian, vegan, gluten free, or dairy free.

2. Select your **housing option: hotel-style room, or cabin**. When you register online, you will see the rooms and cabins that are still available. If you are rooming with someone and planning to share costs, the first person to register pays in full for the housing and works out costs with the others. There are limited ADA accessible rooms. ***Note: Some rooms in the Tahoe Center have more than two beds. These are reserved solely for larger families with young children. Singles/couples may only choose rooms that have one or two beds.***

☐ Choose a room: \$267 per room

To view Tahoe Center room map: zephyrpoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Tahoe-Center-Facility-Layout.pdf

of rooms for my group: _____ room(s) Total for housing \$_____

...OR...

☐ Choose a cabin: \$232 to \$357 per cabin, depending on location & size. To view a map, go to <https://www.zephyrpoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Zephyr-Point-Property-Map.pdf>. To view the interior and exterior of each cabin, go to <https://www.zephyrpoint.org/guest-groups/cabins/list/>. You'll find the specific price for each available cabin on the online registration portal.

☐ I am sharing a room/cabin with _____, who has already registered and paid. (Please arrange to split costs directly with the person who already registered and paid.)

ANGAZA TORCHBEARERS BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

For several years now, this ministry in central Kenya has been one of Faith's global mission partners. The ministry of Torchbearers International began in northern England in 1947. It was a God-given vision born out of the devastation of World War II when English-born Major W. Ian Thomas, returning from the war, determined with his wife Joan to open their hearts and doors to European young people. Since then the ministry has grown such that there are now 25 Torchbearers centers around the world. The newest of these is the Angaza school in Kenya. Here is the mission of Torchbearers International: *Our mission is to proclaim the transforming presence of Jesus Christ through biblical teaching and practical training, equipping men and women for service in His church worldwide.*

This was the third year of the Angaza school, a month-long program which runs from mid-May to mid-June. The school is located just outside the city of Embu, about 2.5 hours northeast of Nairobi. This year we had 55 young-adult students from around the world, about half of them from Africa. Pastor Jeff and Esther Chapman once again went to serve as a part of the staff, with Jeff also serving as the school's director. To learn more visit <https://torchbearers-albania.org/angaza/>.

Below are some snapshots from this year's school. Let each of them be a testimony of praise to the work of Christ through this ministry, and a testimony of gratitude to this congregation for faithfully and generously supporting a ministry through which Christ is planting seeds that are already bearing Kingdom fruit!



This is the Angaza 2025 staff, plus a few early student arrivals. This staff comes from six different nations. Staff members raise funds to be there to serve in this ministry. Angaza has no paid staff members.



Each week students have 20 to 22 sessions of teaching from a variety of teachers, both African and Western, on a variety of topics, both biblical and theological.



Our students were sent out twice each week to six different ministry sites in and around Embu, each with a different local mission partner and focus. Pictured here are students working with Youth Promise, a discipleship ministry to young students, which Faith also supports.



One week a team from Faith (Paul Philleo, Wendy & Steve Benjamin) visited us and immersed themselves in the life of Angaza. It was a joy to be able to have them see this work up close, and they were an encouragement to the whole school. Know that you also have an open invitation to come see Angaza in person! Speak to Pastor Jeff or Esther in person to learn more.



Pastor Jeff taught a one-week course on Christian Spiritual Formation. The attentiveness, hunger, and questions of the students was inspiring to all our teachers.



Save the date and be sure to join us for our annual

Harvest Dinner and Silent Auction

Sunday, September 28, starting at 4:00 p.m. in Link Hall

Tickets on sale August 17 to September 21

Tickets will be available for purchase in the narthex.
The price is \$10 per adult, \$5 for kids 12 to 18, and free for kids under 12.

***And while you're saving dates,
please mark your calendar for***

Rise Against Hunger

Saturday, November 15, 2025

Link Hall, Time TBA



Rise Against Hunger is a food-packing event that the whole family can participate in. There are jobs for almost everyone, from preschoolers to seniors. This is a fun and fast-paced mission opportunity, where we challenge ourselves to pack even more food than the previous year. More details will be forthcoming, but please save the date and plan to join us as we package food that will be sent near and far to feed those who are hungry.

Carmichael Presbyterian Church Invites You to a Seminar:

Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia

Wednesday, August 13, 2025, 2:00—3:30 p.m.

Carmichael Presbyterian Church

5645 Marconi Ave, Carmichael, 95608

As part of their Caregiver Action & Resource Education Series, Carmichael Pres invites you to a free seminar to help increase your understanding of Alzheimer's and dementia. Alzheimer's is not normal aging. It's a disease of the brain that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. In this seminar, participants will learn about the impact of Alzheimer's; the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia; Alzheimer's disease stages and risk factors; current research and treatments available to address some symptoms; and Alzheimer's Association resources.

Your RSVP will help the hosts to prepare better for those who come. To register, call (916) 965-5565 or email info@seniorcs.com.

ANNUAL FOCUS REPORT: WORSHIP MINISTRY

Worship Ministry Elder: Paul Kinney

Report Date: July 2025

First and foremost, many thanks to Lori Rapier for her years of faithful service as Worship Elder and a seamless transition in June. I'm blessed to continue serving with committee members Margie Montzingo (Communion), Karena Van Duyn (Acolytes), Barbara Beattie (Visual Arts), and Julia King (Ushers). Additional thanks to Laura Anderson for scheduling Worship Assistants and Communion Servers, and to Janet Leader (Sanctuary Flowers) and Claire Pisor (Name Tags).

CHOIR SEASON IS UPON US!

As we look forward to a number of fall and winter events, the end of summer also signals the beginning of rehearsals for our 2025-2026 choir season. As usual, our fearless director, Mark Tootle, has chosen a number of great anthems and he's scheduled Thursday, August 21, at 7:00 p.m. for the Chancel Choir's first rehearsal of this season. That makes this the perfect time to invite you to "join the choir!" We're not looking for the next Andrea Bocelli, although he's welcome to join us, but rather men and women – and *young men and women* – who love to sing praises to our Lord and Savior. Each week we have a great time of fellowship, and Mark makes learning and practicing FUN – even if you don't read music! We'd love to grow our "little choir of angels," so whether you're a senior citizen or a senior in high school, I invite to you "give it a try" starting August 21. And if you're a current choir member, I encourage you to reach out to one person in our congregation and invite them to join us. Nothing is better than a personal invitation. And if you discover that choir is not for you, that's fine. But you'll never know until you try.

At our Ministry Faire in October, you'll have to opportunity to join any one of our teams, but in the meantime, if you feel the Holy Spirit's nudge to volunteer as a greeter, usher, etc., or have an idea that will lead others into a closer, more meaningful worship experience with the Lord at Faith, please feel free to reach out to me. I'd love to hear your ideas!

Most respectfully,

Paul Kinney

Worship Ministry Elder

Cell: 916-803-6364

Email: pk@radiofilms.com



*You're Invited to
the Live, One-time Only Performance
Presented by Participants in*

The 2025 Academy of Arts

The whole Faith family is invited to attend the live, one-time-only performance by this year's Academy of Arts participants. Come support these youngsters from Faith and the surrounding neighborhoods as they share with us the creative fruits of their hard work during their two weeks of AOA classes. We hope you will join us for the performance, which is themed around the Holy Spirit and will take place on **Sunday, August 10, at 10:15 a.m. in Link Hall**. This is always a time of joy, playfulness, drama, dance and music, along with a bit of technical and performative improvisation and the occasional touch of merry mayhem. Not to be missed!

Session Highlights

What is Session? Session is the governing body of our congregation. Made up of 15 members (pastors and elders) who are called by God and elected by the congregation, 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 season 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 months 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!

- **Financial Review Finalized** – At the May meeting Session acknowledged receipt of the financial review report for the years 2022 and 2023, and extended review through 2024 through April 2025 conducted by Richardson and Co., LLP, our CPA firm.
- **New Media Center Laptop** – Session approved the use of memorial funds for the purchase of a new laptop for the media team in the amount of approximately \$900.
- **Personnel Policies Updated** – Session approved recommendations from the Personnel Team for a new Workplace Prevention Policy and Reimbursement Policy to be in accordance with state standards.
- **Installation of Elder Stan Keasling** – At the May meeting, Stan Keasling was installed for a second term as the elder overseeing personnel.
- **Narthex Refurbishment Funds Approved** – After several months of prayerful consideration, in May the Session considered all the facts and concerns related to the proposed narthex remodeling, including monetary sufficiency, rationale for the design, and the variety of purpose for aspects of the proposal. It was moved and seconded to approve the narthex remodel proposal as presented by the committee. We expect that the refurbishment will be completed by November of this year.

Session Highlights, continued

- **Mission Team Supports SEED Group in India** – Session was informed of the decision from the Mission Team to provide three month's funding (\$5,280) to this ministry in India which exists to develop impoverished communities by enriching children and empowering families through holistic transformation. During this time of funding the Mission Team will explore a broader sponsorship program at Faith. Funding will be taken from the Sue Hooper Mission Fund. To learn more about the SEED Group, go to <https://www.theseedgroup.org/>
- **Mission Team Supports "Girls Raising Hands" Ministry in Kenya** – A total of \$3,000 was appropriated from the Sue Hooper Mission Fund to support this ministry in Embu, Kenya. Its mission is to raise a generation of healthy and empowered girls. In this part of Kenya the drop-out rate of young girls before they reach 12th grade is high. The ministry believes that when girls are empowered, they become better women in the society and become part of decision-making, and this contributes to growth of the society. Learn more at <https://urbanpromiseinternational.org/project/youth-promise-kenya-girls-raising-hands/>
- **Mission Team Supports "Go Bags" Ministry** - \$300 was given from the mission miscellaneous fund to support emergency "Go Bags." The request came from Faith member Chelle Ellis.
- **Mission Team Supports World Vision's Walk4Water** – The Mission Team approved up to \$5,000 in matching funds for this year's Walk4Water event, which was held at Faith in May. Walk4Water is an effort working to provide clean water to communities in East Africa, especially Ethiopia.
- **Session Considers Mission Team Proposal for Use of Excess Reserve Funds** – Currently Faith has reserve assets that are at least \$200,000 over our recommended reserves. Session has been asked to create and implement a program to disperse undesignated Faith operating reserves, a program that is scheduled to begin no later than January 1, 2026. A task force of elders has been created to explore options and report back to Session. It is the collective belief of Session that these funds were not given to be held in a bank account but rather to do the work of Christ here at Faith and in our world.
- **Personnel Updates** – Session received updates from elder Stan Keasling about staff transitions in our Director of Family Ministry (Jacob Zvolanek) and Director of Congregational Care (Ron Beams) positions. Personnel will begin working on transition and interim plans to insure that these ministries continue in an effective manner. Our Director of Family Ministry position is already staffed on an interim basis by Lindsay Stanford and Madelyn Chand, who are sharing the position.

