

March 2026

PresbyNews



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Spring is In the Air

As we get ready to welcome in the springtime season, we also are preparing for Easter, which comes early this year on April 5. On page 3, you will find our full Lenten calendar, and we hope you will join us for these events! You will also find information about One Great Hour of Sharing on page 7, and you can read about the upcoming Annual Family Promise dinner on page 5. Read on for even more ways to be involved during this season - we hope you'll join us!

Welcome and Events at Faith



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Adult Christian Formation



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Worship and Praise



Page 3: Lent Calendar
Come join us for worship! See our regular schedule, posted at right.

Give – Resources, Time and Talents



Page 6: April 24, RSVP Concert at Faith
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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

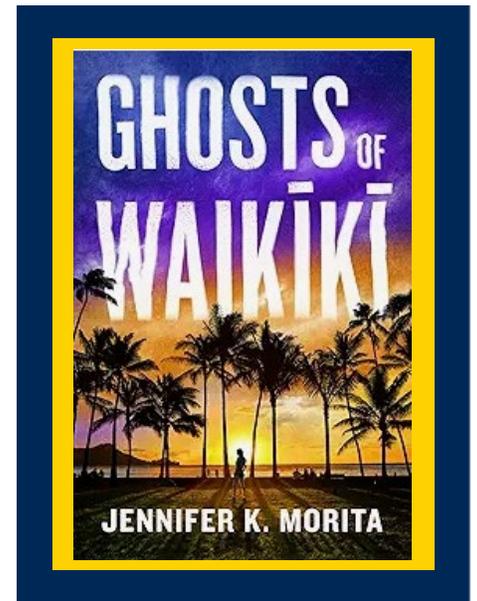
Monday Evening Book Club

Jennifer Morita will be Faith Book Club's honored guest on Monday evening, March 23. She is the author of *Ghosts of Waikiki* and a Sacramento resident. We are so pleased to have her visit with us to discuss her background, her journey as an author, and her book. *Ghosts of Waikiki* is her first novel, for which Ms. Morita has been awarded the 2025 Lefty Award Winner for Best Debut Mystery Novel and the 2025 MacCavity Award for Best First Mystery. Members of the Book Club are excited to meet Ms. Morita and to enjoy her novel.

Who doesn't love a good beach read in the winter? Maya Wong, fictional former journalist for The Sacramento Bee, returns to Hawaii where she grew up hoping to begin a new chapter in her career as a ghost writer, not imagining that murder and a former lover will be part of the adventure.

The Monday Evening Book Club meets on the fourth Monday evening of the month. The March meeting will be Monday the 23rd at 7:00. The Book Club will meet in person at Nancy Hom's and it will also be available on Zoom. If you are interested in joining the discussion, or would like to carpool to Nancy's house, 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!

It is never too early to think about and read possible selections for the upcoming year, 2026-27. Our last three books for this year are: *The Backyard Bird Chronicles* by Amy Tan (April); *Tru Biz* by Sara Novic (May); and *Innocents Abroad* by Mark Twain (June).



Join us for Maundy Thursday Dinner

Maundy Thursday falls this year on April 2. As is our tradition, we will gather for dinner that evening at 5:30 in Link Hall, after which we will worship at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Our Fellowship Team is planning a delicious meal for us. To help them with their preparations, would you be so kind as to RSVP if you are planning to attend? You may sign up in the Welcome Center beginning on March 15, or email Laura with the number of people in your party (landerson@faithpresby.org). We hope you will be able to join us for this meaningful time of fellowship and worship as we remember our Savior's last supper with his friends before his betrayal, arrest and crucifixion ... all that needed to happen to make Easter a reality!

LENT & EASTER AT FAITH

Lent is the 40-day period of renewal and preparation before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday. For hundreds of years Lent has been an important season for Christians to meditate, study, pray, participate in spiritual disciplines, and renew their vows to the Lord as they strive to increase their understanding of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection. Our hope is that you, and others you invite, will participate fully in the Lenten activities offered here at Faith. 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 worship services will be in person, and all those at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. will be livestreamed.

Ash Wednesday Dinner & Worship (February 18 — dinner at 5:30 p.m., worship at 7:00 p.m.)

Join us for dinner in Link Hall at 5:30 and then worship in the sanctuary at 7:00. This service initiates the season of Lent and includes the imposition of ashes and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent: Immersion in Scripture (February 25 to March 25 at 7:00 p.m.)

We will gather these Wednesday evenings in Lent for a time of contemplative worship together. Each Wednesday, we will take time to read through all (or most) of a book of the Bible together. Readings will be interspersed with silence, song and prayer. This year we will read through Ruth (2/25), I Timothy (3/4), Lamentations (3/11), James (3/18), and the Gospel of Mark (a special 2-hour service on 3/25). We will also share the Lord's Supper together each week.

Palm/Passion Sunday Worship (March 29 — 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.)

We celebrate the beginning of Holy Week together in worship.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship (April 2 — 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. Worship begins in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service (April 3 — 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, it is still quite new to us here at Faith, and we are looking forward to experiencing it again this year.

Easter Sunday Worship (April 5 — 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 celebration! We will have special refreshments on the patio between the 7:00 and 9:00 services.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

In God's Warm Embrace

Dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29

Time: 10:15-11:00 a.m.

Place: Grace Room

Facilitator: Rev. Lorie Sprinkle

Our deepest longings are to know that we are loved and to know that we are not alone. We need to feel safe and secure in our connections to others and to God.

Do you see me? Do you love me? When I reach out to you, are you there? When I need comfort, do you comfort me? The way these implicit questions were answered in our childhood formed our sense of ourselves and others. And it determined how our brains are wired, profoundly impacting the way we navigate life today.

In this four-part series, we will discover how the Triune God answered these questions for four Old Testament characters through his very being as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We will look at how modern brain science and ancient spiritual practices offer us ways to form healthier attachments. And we will practice ways to deepen our connection to God, that we might truly feel His warm embrace.



The Marriage Course—Tuesday Evenings This Spring

The Marriage Course is an eight-session course that will be held in Link Hall on **Tuesday evenings this spring, beginning April 7 and ending May 26**. Sessions run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Marriage Course is designed to help couples invest in their relationship and build a strong marriage. Each Tuesday you will be served a restaurant-quality meal, after which a video and guidebook will lead you both into a time of conversation designed to encourage growth in your marriage and to affirm your loving relationship with your spouse. You will not be asked to share anything about your relationship with anyone other than your spouse.

Course is limited to 20 couples, so if you would like to take part, you are encouraged to register promptly using the QR code at right. Couples from Faith are welcome to attend, as are engaged couples. Scholarships and rates are available. If you have any questions, please contact Outreach Elder Hogue (janeilhogue@yahoo.com) or Pastor Jeff Chapman (jchapman@faithpresby.org).



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You are cordially invited to the 21st annual

Family Promise Dinner

All proceeds keep families housed and together.

Please join us for an evening of food, friendship & fundraising.

*Thursday, April 23, 2026
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
5057 Cottage Way
Carmichael, CA 95608*

*5:30-6:30 Social Hour
6:30-7:30 Dinner
7:30-8:30 Program*

Please call or email Cheryl at Family Promise, (916)-443-3107,
cheryl@sacfamilypromise.org with any questions. RSVP by April 9th.

Join us in supporting Family Promise of Sacramento, one of Faith's longtime mission partners.

Three ways to order tickets for Family Promise's Annual Celebration Dinner:

- Complete and detach the form below. Mail it with your check to: Family Promise; PO Box 1378; Sacramento CA 95812
- To purchase tickets by credit card, call Family Promise and ask for Cheryl: (916) 443-3107.
- Tickets may be purchased online using the QR code below. In the Comment box, type "Dinner Tickets."

Ticket Order Form:

Each meal consists of appetizers, wine, either lasagna (contains beef and pork) or baked pasta with pesto sauce and cheese (vegetarian), served with roasted veggies, salad, garlic bread and dessert.

_____ Lasagna Dinner — \$65 per person \$ _____

_____ Baked Pasta with Pesto Sauce — \$65 per person \$ _____

_____ Table(s) — \$500 for reserved table of eight \$ _____

of Lasagna Dinners _____ # of Pesto Dinners _____

_____ I am unable to attend but would like to donate to the event \$ _____. *Thank you!*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email (please print): _____



2026 WOMEN'S RETREAT

"Sisters in Christ": April 10—12 at Mercy Center Auburn

Commuter Option & Waitlist Still Available

While we are delighted that all on-site spaces for our upcoming Women's Retreat are full, we do recognize that some who wish to attend the retreat as overnight lodgers are not able to do so. Please know that the commuter option is still available. To learn more about this option, or to register for it, use this QR code. We also have a waitlist available. To be placed on the list, please email Renee Larsen, registrar, at reeneaslarsen@comcast.net.



Our theme this year is "Sisters in Christ," and we hope you will be able to join us for this weekend that will not simply be "about" Christian community but also a deep experience of such community that we will build together as sisters in Christ. Our time will be filled with the wonderful activities that make our Women's Retreats so special, as well as with more opportunities for us to connect in intentional ways that strengthen our bonds as sisters in faith. Laura Anderson will be our speaker, and she will turn our attention to biblical sisters Rachel and Leah who, along with their infant sons, have a lot to teach us about how we can nurture the bonds of community that join us.

This year, we are pleased to include an affordability discount of 30% off the cost of the retreat, as well as scholarship funds in cases of greater need. To read more about each option, follow the QR code above.

Whether you come as a lodger or a commuter, we hope you can be with us for what promises to be an uplifting weekend of growing together as Sisters in Christ!



RSVP Concert at Faith!

RSVP (Reconciliation Singers Voices of Peace) is a Sacramento-based vocal ensemble founded in 2000. They will be giving another free charity concert at Faith on Friday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m. The charity being supported by this concert is "Bigger Than Us Arts," an organization providing arts education that is inclusive, diverse and transformative. To learn more, visit their website: <https://www.btuarts.org/>



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU?

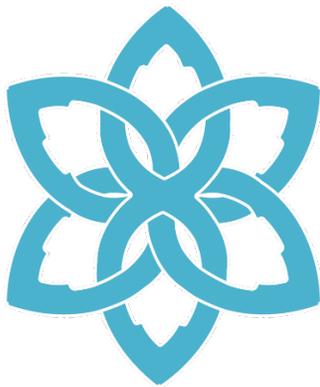
The prophet Micah called the people of God to a life characterized by walking humbly with our Lord, loving mercy and doing justice (6:8). For us as believers today, Micah's prophetic voice continues to resound, calling us to put God first and to follow him into the world in ways that advance the cause of his lovingkindness and his justice.

There are so many ways that we as individuals can respond to the prophet's call: doing unseen acts of kindness, showing care and compassion to others, speaking up for someone who needs an advocate, sharing a meal with someone who is hungry, offering relief to those in crisis.

Although such acts may seem small at first, they can have a big impact on the world around us. Acts of mercy and justice done according to God's will can create more supportive communities and can be the foundation for addressing the larger issues of global justice.

In addition to working individually, we can also enact God's lovingkindness and justice together as a church. One simple way that we can promote human flourishing as a congregation is by participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering on Easter Sunday. Funds received from this offering are dedicated to alleviating hunger and poverty, providing disaster relief, developing stronger communities, addressing climate change, and advocating for immigrants, migrants and refugees. These vital areas of ministry – chosen by our denomination's General Assembly – go a long way to ensure that every person is able to live into the fullness of life that God desires for humans.

This Easter, may we do our part to be the Church together by supporting One Great Hour of Sharing and the ministries of mercy and justice that it supports. Please give generously to the **One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.**



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

MONTHLY FOCUS REPORT: FELLOWSHIP

Elder: Rich Hendricks

Report Date: February 2026

By gathering together over food and drinks, we develop stronger relationships with one another in Jesus Christ.

Coffee hosts coordinated by Cindy DeYoung provide beverages and treats after every service, except on First Sunday Sabbath after the 9:00 service.

On the first Sunday of every month between worship services, we celebrate First Sunday Sabbath. Teri Williamson arranges for groups in our congregation to host this time of fellowship, when we gather in Link Hall for food, drinks and community.

Our committee plans and serves meals for January's Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunrise Service, as well as meals and snacks during Advent.

The Supper Club is the gathering in host homes for a meal and conversation. There are four groups: the host, someone to bring the main dish, another to bring a side dish and one to bring dessert. This is a great way to become closer to our congregation. The dates are the first Sunday in March, April, May and June. There will be no Supper Club this year.

The Harvest Dinner is our fundraiser for the Pat Tatro Campership Fund held in late September or October. The team gathers items for a silent auction and raffle. Because the Campership Fund is very well funded, there is talk of changing the beneficiary to different missions each year.

This year we are planning for a Church Picnic in June. We will bring out the barbecue for hot dogs and hamburgers and ask people to bring side dishes. If this works out, it could be an annual event.

Fellowship is in charge of organizing and keeping the kitchens supplied.

Many thanks to the Fellowship Committee for their knowledge and hard work.





Presbyterian Women: March Fellowship

Wednesday, March 25, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Link Hall

Check-in begins at 11:15 a.m.; meeting starts promptly at 11:30 a.m.

One of our favorite speakers, Greg Grayton of Green Acres will share spring planting tips, and answer your gardening questions

There will also be time to catch up with one another over lunch and to hear from our board members. There will be a raffle, and the bazaar table will be available for your donating/shopping pleasure.

All Faith women are warmly invited to join us for this time of Christian friendship. Bring your lunch; drinks, chips and dessert will be provided.

Contact Kathy Ellis at trvlkath@comcast.net for more information.



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 for 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!

- **Denomination Statistical Report Completed and Approved** – Our faithful clerk, Renee Larsen, works hard to help us fill this out every year. It's a report to the wider PCUSA denomination which gives details about our congregation.
- **Deacons Update** – Deacon Barbara Hull joined the Session at the February meeting to update the elders as to the work of deacons. Our Deacons meet with Session at least twice a year to give updates and to share ways the elders can support this vital ministry.
- **Reserve Funds** – Elder Paul Philleo led a discussion to approve the use of some of our undesignated excess funds beyond what we are mandated to keep in reserve. The Session approved grants to our One Child One Hen partnership in Kenya (\$10,000) and the upcoming Summer Mission Trip to Alaska (\$10,000). The Session also approved \$30,000 to be used towards upgrading our phone system.
- **Reconsidering Elder Positions** – We are currently re-evaluating the current makeup of our Session, especially to currently unfilled position (Communications and Youth). Any changes made would ultimately need to be approved by the congregation.

Baptism Approved – At the March meeting, Session approved the baptisms of Lawson and Madison Stanford, children of Lindsay. They will be baptized on April 4, Easter Sunday.

