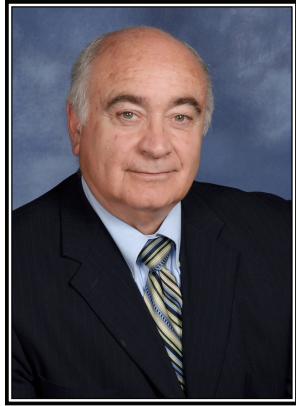




FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
*San Luis Obispo*

*The Kirk*  
May 2019



### STAR QUALITY....

As we move into the summer and find our summer plans taking us to different places and helping us to enjoy the beauty of our surrounding and attending to our spiritual growth on Sundays—as well as finding time to fish, golf, and spend time with others—we need to consider what God is calling us to do to enjoy this season of our lives to its fullest extent. So, I thought I would share with you the obvious, something that is right before us in our every day travels and events in which we find ourselves involved in; something that gives us joy and pleases the heart of God. In 1 Corinthians 10:31 it says, “*So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*” And how best to glorify God by “*glorifying Jesus Christ by being instruments of God in our world*” to be able to reach out into our community and reflect God’s loving mercy, his presence through our smile, or kind words of welcome. If

we can help others by coming along side them, if we are willing to look at those with whom our Lord has put us in company, we will begin to “be” the church throughout the week. So the question is, “*What will you do to carry out your declaration of mission that you say at the end of every worship service?*”

Do you have time for a story? Remember Charles Colson who served as Special Counsel to President Richard Nixon from 1969 to 1970. He was once known as President Nixon's "hatchet man." Colson gained notoriety at the height of the Watergate scandal, for being named as one of the Watergate Seven. He pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice for attempting to defame Pentagon Papers defendant Daniel Ellsberg. Colson became a Christian in 1973. His mid-life religious conversion sparked a radical life change that led to the founding of his non-profit ministry—Prison Fellowship. He tells a story in his book, Kingdoms in Conflict, when he’s visiting a prison at Jessup, Maryland. Governor Hughes was there to greet them. Gospel singer Wintley Phipps was there to sing. Herman Heade, a former inmate who had been converted to Christ while in solitary confinement, gave a powerful testimony. But when asked what had meant the most, one of the prisoners said with choked voice:

*"I really appreciated Chuck Colson's message."*

*Wintley Phipp's singing stirred me beyond words, and Herman's testimony reached me right where I was at.*

*But frankly, those things really didn't impress me as much as what happened later.*

*When the celebrities and TV cameras left, the ladies among the volunteers went into the dining hall with all the noise and confusion, and sat at the table to have a meal with us.*

*That's what really got to me."*

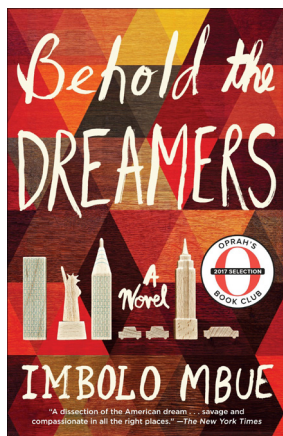
I tell you that story to tell you that it would be wonderful if we could all sing like angels, but some of us can't. It would be wonderful if we could all stand in front of a crowd and give a powerful testimony, but some of us won't. But who among us can't show a bit of humanity -- a bit of caring -- a bit of Christian love for a person who is hungry -- or for a prisoner whose family didn't “get on the bus” -- or for a friend whose spouse just passed away. Jesus doesn't need us to be a well-known person with star quality. He needs only for us to be faithful with the gift of mercy, great or small, with which he has blessed us so that, in turn, we can be a blessing to others. That's what it means to be the church at its best.

Have a great summer! And be a blessing!

*Dennis*

# BOOK BROWSERS

Book Browsers will be meeting Tuesday, May 7, in the library at 7 p.m. to discuss *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue. On Tuesday, June 4, we will have our annual salad potluck on to plan next year's schedule. We will meet in the Geneva Room at 5:45 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Shervem at 805-543-1473 or [dshervem@charter.net](mailto:dshervem@charter.net).



# COMING UP

## FPCSLO CONCERTS

**Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 3PM: FPCSLO Sanctuary**  
The Concert Committee of FPCSLO is sponsoring a group of Six students from Cal Poly choirs, under the direction of Scott Glysson in a concert to help fund their trip to Africa. The students and choirs with whom they will be working with will be coming to San Luis Obispo in March of 2020 to be a part of our Concert Series. Please come to support these students as they take music around the World.

# LIBRARY REVIEW

*The Time In Between* by Maria Duenas is a fiction book that has been added to the library and is on the book cart. This book is the inspiring international bestseller of a seemingly ordinary woman who uses her talent and courage to transform herself first into a prestigious couturier, and then into an undercover agent for the



Allies during World War II. An outstanding success around the world, this book has sold more than two million copies and inspired a Spanish television series. It is one of those rare, richly textured novels that enthrall down to the last page. María Dueñas reminds us how it feels to be swept away by a masterful storyteller. (Review from Amazon)



Students: Mady Frei, Sheridan Liaw, Jenna Hansen, Michaela Donofrio, Erin Ichimura, Zahra Rothschild

## SLO BOATS! SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES!

Sat., June 1 Melodrama (See details below.)  
Sat., June 15 Flower Fields Tour and lunch in Lompoc  
SLO Boats go to the Melodrama in Oceano!  
Jan Rantanen and Marilyn Seeber have planned a delightful trip on Sat., June 1, at 3 p.m. to see Treasure Island. The tickets are \$24 each. The first two rows of tables have been reserved. All of the details will be sent to you by email. There will be a poster on the bulletin board in Wilson Hall (next to the kitchen door) with information on getting reservations, etc. If you have questions, please call Marilyn Seeber at (805) 773-9125 or email Jan Rantanen at [rantanenjan7@gmail.com](mailto:rantanenjan7@gmail.com)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To the following seniors (over 85) who have birthdays in May.

- Gene Gillson – May 4**
- Heulan Brown - May 25 – 85 this year**
- Dorie Larson – May 28**
- Ray McKelvey – May 29**
- Carolyn Dickey – May 30**

And to everyone else with a May birthday! If we have overlooked anyone, please contact the Church Office at 543-5451.

## INVITATION FOR FUN!

The Congregational Life Committee is privileged to be responsible for the fun part of our church. We plan and organize fellowship activities, help out with all food and social aspects of the church, as well as being responsible for membership opportunities, Presbyterian Women, and groups such as SLO Boats.

We need more committee members. So please come join us at 4 PM on the second Tuesday of the month in the Geneva Room and help with the fun part of the church and its activities. Questions? Contact either Virginia Walter or Pam Rodewald

## BROWN BAG

The Praise Choir of First Pres. San Luis Obispo, under the direction of Dr. Dale Wolff, will perform at the Friday, May 3 Noontime Brown Bag Concert. This performance celebrates 30 years with Dr. Wolff as director and conductor. Wilson Hall, First Presbyterian Church of San Luis Obispo, at Marsh & Morro. 805-543-5451.



## YOUTH

Hello First Presbyterian SLO Family!  
Here are our plans for April:

**Worship 8:45 and 11 a.m.**

### Power Hour

Every Sunday 10-11 a.m.

### High School Youth Group

Sundays; 6-8 p.m.

Watch for a special Middle School Outing - Details to come.

### Coffee Talks

Biweekly, Fridays; 5-7 p.m. - Jr. and Sr. High students welcome

### Youth Sunday Rehearsal

May 5th: Preparing for the upcoming youth Sunday.

### Youth Sunday

May 12th: Sunday service ran by the jr. and sr. high youth groups!

### Disneyland Trip

May 17-18: Our youth group will be heading over to Disneyland for a nice end-of-the-school-year celebration!

Thank you again, it is a huge blessing to be a part of this amazing family. If anyone has any questions regarding the youth program or wants to become more involved, please contact Jen Rabenaldt and she can get you in contact with the youth staff!

### Youth Staff,

*Brecken DeOilers, Jake Wolfe, Kelsie Krueger, Hailey Firstman*

## CHILDREN'S ED

We hope everyone is enjoying their Spring so far. We can't believe the school year is coming to an end. We have lots planned for the Summer. We hope you can join us for all of our programs and activities!

### Wednesdays at the Rock

Our last "Rock" will be Wednesday May 22.

Everyone is welcome to join us for an end of the year program. Mark your calendar and join us at 5:45 for dinner and a presentation by the kids. Kids will keep their regular schedule - 4:30 to 7:00. We will take a break for the summer.

### VBS

We are so excited for VBS! We will have 3 sessions again this year.

**June 10** - June 14 - 9:00 to 12:00

- The "Beatitudes" part 1

**July 8** - July 12 - 9:00 to 12:00 - Christmas in July

**July 8** - July 12 - Special session for 4th - 6th graders

- details to come - 1:00 to 4:00 - Mission Factory

**August 5** - August 9 - 9:00 to 12:00 -

The "Beatitudes" part 2

If you would like to volunteer let Jen know! There are lots of opportunities to support this program!

### Sunday Schedule

We encourage all kids and their families to join us on Sundays for Worship and Sunday School. Here are some special opportunities in May ...

**May 12** - Youth Sunday

**May 19** - Music Appreciation Sunday -  
One service at 10:00

We will stay with one service - at 10:00 - until  
September 1.

We will continue to have Sunday School after the Passing of the Peace and be available to support any parents who want to attend Adult Ed. The Nursery will be open from 9:45 - 12:15 as needed.

# ADULT EDUCATION

## ADULT EDUCATION CLASS SUNDAYS AT 10 A.M.

### Men and Women in the Gospel of John PART 2

This Adult Education Series continues for three more Sundays through May 19. Attend one or all three remaining classes, as you are able. We'll look at Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany, and the beloved and controversial character of Mary Magdalene. How is each an example of discipleship? What do they mean to us today?

The purpose of this course is to encourage people of faith who "believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God" (John 20:31), as well as enlighten those who wish to better understand the history, literature, and culture of the Bible and early Christianity. All are welcome.



Questions? Contact facilitator Kate Murray at [katym2@gmail.com](mailto:katym2@gmail.com)

# CONGREGATION CARE CORNER

Please pray for our church family, especially

For the **Rev. Dennis Falasco** as he guides our congregation,

For our elders and deacons as they lead us,

For **Jen Rabenaldt** and those who help with our Children's Ministry - **Karlyn Tremaine, Stephanie Vigil, Grace Power Smith, Delaney Romo, Anne Walling, and Ian Rabenaldt,**

For all those involved in our Youth Ministry, especially leaders - **Jake Wolfe, Becken DeOilers, Hailey Firstman, and Kelsie Krueger,**

For **Joel Drenckpohl** and the Front Porch Ministry,

For those of our church family who are undergoing treatments for various health issues,

For our church's elderly, especially those confined to their homes or care centers, like **Cathy Anderson, Linda Beyer, Gladys Brannum, George Daniel, Jean Honeyman, Lorna Hudson, Starr Jenkins, Donna Kubasak-Sibley, Ralph Nunley, Joy Reed, Idabelle Shields, John Stechman, Carol West, Richard Wiens,**

For the family and friends of **Dave Williams** who passed away in April.

For the family and friends of **Dottie Jean Stechman** who passed away on April 24

For the women and men who do so much to support the countless ministries, missions & activities of our church,

For members, friends & family serving in the military **Nic Beem** – serving overseas

**Drew Descary** – stationed in San Diego

**Laura Kraemer** – Navy Medical School in Maryland

**Michael Poe** - stationed in Meridian, MS

**Joseph Sall** (son of Anne Ramirez)

– stationed in Carlisle, PA.

**Travis Hatakeyama** (grandson of Luensers)

– stationed in N. Carolina

**Brendan Humphrey** (grandson of Leila)

– on the Carl Vinson - Navy Aircraft Carrier

**Sean Gillson** (grandson of Barbara and Gene)

-stationed on Whidbey Island

**R. Brooks Anderson** (grandson of Dorothy Truesdale)

– stationed in Groton, CT

**Chris King** (grandson of Lois Morgan)

– stationed in Colorado

For all of us as we serve God wherever He calls us.

If you have a prayer concern, please call the Church Office at 543-5451.

# BUDGET & FINANCE

## HALF PRICE SALE!:

### 2 Los Osos Valley Memorial Park Lots

Plot #501C & D in Serenity Garden area \$2,495

Plot #228D in Garden of Memories area \$1,750

Call First Presbyterian Church of SLO office or 805-543-6244

*-Diane Brocato of Budget and Finance Committee*

# ENDOWMENT

## CREATE A LASTING LEGACY

### A MEMORIAL FOR CARRIE VERMEER

Multi-talented church member, David Williams, has created and funded, the DAVID A WILLIAMS HOMELESS PROGRAMS ENDOWMENT. This new fund, accepted by Session in February, will be part of the First Presbyterian Church Endowment.

Since joining the First Presbyterian family in 2000, David has been constantly involved helping our church reach it's peak performance. Not only has David served as a Ruling Elder, he has been Church Treasurer, Chair of the Property Committee, served on Budget & Finance, Endowment and Nominating Committees, David was also an active participant on the Sanctuary Retrofit Committee.

It was David's passion to do more for our homeless population that led him to initiate this newest part of the FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND.

Before retirement David enjoyed a career as a pilot, flying for the Navy, McDonald Douglas, and Boeing.

David is happy to be part of the First Presbyterian Church family and for the support and compassion he has received from his many friends at First Pres. Recently he had been laid low, undergoing chemotherapy for Lymphoma. David briefly had rejoined us in Sunday worship, sitting in his favorite pew near the audio booth. In early April we learned that David was receiving Hospice Care, and left this earthly life on April 13th.

If you'd like to consider a gift to any part of the Endowment Fund, please talk with a member of our church's Endowment Committee: John Eichler,

Jerry Kaml, Jane Maxwell, Bert Townsend, Dorothy Truesdale, Roger Verity, or Virginia Walter.

Even a modest gift will make a difference.

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## BIBLE STUDY

The Bible study program has two lessons to go. We will cover lesson 8 in May and the final lesson 9 in June. Lesson 8 is a study on how "God will be with us as the Holy Spirit." God who was incarnate in Jesus Christ is now present with us as the Holy Spirit, based on John 14: 1-31. We understand that God dwells with us, in fact, in us, as the Holy Spirit as Jesus promised ... an advocate, a comforter, intercession, counselor, a helper... wow what a gift. How do we use this gift... come and share your thoughts at our Study. Watch for the group meeting times in the church bulletin or call Dorothy at 805-541-6779.

## LOVE GROWS BY GIVING

Presbytery Women show love to the world by our mission ministry. It is expressed by our action of collecting goods for the Navajos in Kayenta Arizona at Christmas, leading or participating in Bible study, and participating in community building relationships such as the Birthday and Thank Offering programs. We also have a large mission budget for giving to local and national programs.

Thank you all for your financial offering in support of the four PW Birthday projects this spring. This is an outreach we all benefit from, as we did last year with the "Shower the People" for the homeless.

## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU! LOVE LIVED OUT!

The May gathering for the introduction of the 2019-2020 Bible study will be held at the Nipomo Presbyterian Church on May 4 at 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Lunch will be available along with supplies for a registration fee of \$15.00. Please register with Kathy Nienhouse at 805-264-1517, or at [knienhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:knienhouse@yahoo.com).

The morning will open with refreshments, provided by our own FPC women, a brief worship service and a video of Pastor Eugenia Gamble to introduce the

study she wrote for the 2019-2020 Bible Study. As you know she has had surgery on her back and is still in the recovery stages. She really was looking forward to being with us but is unable to at this time. We will also have updates on our Shower the People project as well as the Living Word program we have been supporting. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know our neighboring Presbyterian sisters. Check in with your Bible study contact person for a ride or more information, or call Dorothy at 805-541-6779.

The March/April issue of the Presbyterian Women's publication the "Horizon" Magazine has an interesting cover on it. The cover is a picture of Jesus and his audience with cell phones. The magazine has a message on "What Would Jesus Tweet?" The article is "People of Faith in the social media age." How much pull does the internet and social media have on our life. You can subscribe to the "Horizon" magazine and receive copies 6 times a year and a FREE Bible study book. The magazine always includes not only great articles but has an article on our monthly lesson of the study. Just go to The internet a google Presbyterian Women for more information.

*Dorothy Truesdale, Moderator*

## FRONT PORCH

It's Spring! There is optimism in the air! Students are starting Spring Quarter. For some, it is the ending of their first year at college. For others, it is their last quarter as they anticipate graduation. There is optimism as they get out to hike the green hills they have watched being watered much of Winter Quarter. There is optimism as they anticipate what summer break will bring. There is optimism as over 400 students gather each day at Front Porch to share a cup of coffee, study, deepen relationships, and share hopes and dreams of their future. Feel the optimism and join in sharing and supporting Front Porch.

The staff and council of Front Porch gathered on April 8 for an all-day strategic planning workshop. We assessed where we have been, where we are at the present, and where we are going in the years ahead. We entered this time together with humbleness and optimism!

Front Porch Council members at FPCSLO are Mary Blythe, Tad Miller and Susan Updegrove





# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*San Luis Obispo*

PO Box 591  
981 Marsh Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA  
93406  
tel: 805.543.5451  
email: churchoffice@fpcslo.org  
web: fpcslo.org

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

TWO SERVICE SCHEDULE:

**8:45 A.M. SERVICE**

**EDUCATION HOUR at 10 A.M.**

**11 A.M. SERVICE**

ONE SERVICE SCHEDULE:

**EDUCATION HOUR at 9 A.M.**

**10 A.M. SERVICE**

## MAY EVENTS

### MAY 3RD

-BROWN BAG CONCERT featuring the FPCSLO Praise Singers at 12 p.m.

### MAY 5TH

-Town Hall meeting at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary to discuss finances.  
-FPCSLO CONCERTS w/ Dr. Scott Glysson and Cal Poly Choral Group at 3 p.m. Taco Bar reception to follow. All funds raised will help them with their tour to Africa.

### MAY 19TH

-Dale Wolff Celebration in the Courtyard at 11 a.m. Come to help us celebrate the time and music that Dale has given to the this church.  
-Music Apprication Sunday will be ONE service at 10 a.m. That Sunday will be the kickoff for our Summer schedual with one worship service that will go through September 1.

### MAY22TH

The last day for Wednesdays at the Rock before summer will be an ALL CHURCH event. The children will present a program and Pastor Dennis will BBQ. Please join us!