

**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
*San Luis Obispo*

# *The Kirk*

## July/August 2022



Greetings!

I've been thinking a lot about Worship lately. In all of that thinking I thought, why not go back to the basics, and remember why we, as Christians, Worship? What is Worship all about? What should Worship be all about?

The word Worship comes from an Old English root: "worth-ship." That suggests something or someone worthy of honor, glory, and praise. Worship as a noun can mean an act of reverence, a religious practice, or a feeling of respect.

It is more appropriate to think of Worship as a verb. To worship is to love the one who first loved us, from whom all blessings flow, and to be grateful for God's amazing grace. You know, Love God, Love People, Do Things!

As Christians, our Worship is trinitarian. Directed by God, through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit. God is the only one worthy of our worship, Jesus is our model and mediator, and the Holy Spirit shows us God's words and actions and enables us to show our grateful response.

Worship and Service are two sides of the same coin. Our Sunday Worship of God should not contradict our daily service to God. Our Worship on Sunday should be connected to how we live our daily lives. Worship should then mean, to lead a life that honors God and makes a difference in the lives of our neighbors. I'll say it again, Love God, Love People, Do things. As we grow into becoming a Matthew 25 Church, this is important to remember.

I've also been thinking that Christian Worship isn't meant to be easy. It should challenge us and make us uncomfortable. Jesus challenges us to step out of our comfort zones--to not do things the way we've always done things. That gets us nowhere. We should be challenged to not only think outside of the box, but also to get out of that box. We should respect our traditions and at the same time acknowledge the differences of our communities, our country, and our world today.

Worship is meant to be done in community. If something makes us uncomfortable or challenges us, it may just be what someone else needs and is life-giving to them. Worship is intended to be a lifelong practice—changing as we grow and change. Parts of Worship that seem draining to you now may sustain you later. Worship isn't about you, or I. Worship is about serving God and one another in the name of Jesus. Worship isn't about being entertained. The music and liturgy shouldn't be about performing. Rather, the congregation should be in community, praising God for all God has given us, and to glorify God forever in everything we do.

Looking forward to Worshipping with you,  
Jen Rabenaldt

# CHILDREN'S ED

Happy Summer everyone! We had the best program year. We learned all about worship, what it means to be a good neighbor and to Love God, Love People and Do Things. Thank you, Calvin, the Church Mouse, for helping us with all of this.

We will take a break for the Summer, but we look forward to VBS in August.

Speaking of VBS, the topic will be "I've Got This" with Jesus.

Date: August 8 - 12

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Ages: All kids 3 years through going into 5th grade are welcome.

Registration: Watch for registration, which will open soon on the webpage—[fpcsl.org](http://fpcsl.org).

If you would be interested in volunteering or helping out in any way, contact Jen know.

Also, mark your calendars for National Night Out on August 2. National Night Out is returning this year, and First Pres will sponsor a "Block Party." We are excited and hope you will join us.

Our Nursery needs Staff for the Summer. If you are interested, please let Jen know. We hope to be able to keep the Nursery open this Summer—on Sundays—but will not be able to without proper staffing.

Have a great Summer!  
The Children's Ed Team



# YOUTH

The Youth had a great end-of-the-year celebration at the Stapp's home. We had so much fun and enjoyed each other's company before embarking on individual summer plans. Our Youth are amazing and have many adventures planned. Youth Group will continue this Summer, but we will not meet every Sunday. Special Events are planned, and we look forward to spending time together.

We had so much fun this school year. Our small, but mighty group, is amazing and First Pres is blessed by them. We look forward to regrouping in the fall and are excited about all the possibilities and opportunities coming our way.

Thank you to all who have supported us and will continue to support us.

Save the date—July 22—"Night of Faith" at the Mid State Fair. Details to follow.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

To the following seniors (over 85) who have birthdays in July and August:

George Ohgi – July 21

George Mach – July 23

Eva Brown – July 26

Jean Starkey – July 31

John Stechman – August 1

Harry Sharp – August 1 – 85 in 2022

And to everyone else with a July or August birthday!

Our church records may be incomplete. If we have overlooked someone, please contact the church office.

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE CORNER

Please pray for our church family, especially the following:

For **Pastor John D'Elia** as he leads our congregation;

For our **Elders** as they guide our congregation in making decisions about the life of our church;

For the **Deacons** as they care for our church family;

For **Jen Rabenaldt, Sarah Jane Scott**, and others as they work with our children and youth;

For **Scott Glysson, Sarah Jane Scott**, and the wonderful musicians in our church;

For our church members, friends, and family who are undergoing treatments for various health issues;

For our church's seniors and for their families and care givers;

For those who support our worship services with their technical help to make it possible for live streaming and recording of the services;

For members, family, and support personnel serving in the military;

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

If you have a prayer concern, please call the Church Office at (805) 543-5451 or write me at [gdeklein@calpoly.edu](mailto:gdeklein@calpoly.edu).

God bless us all,  
Gloria DeKleine

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## ENDOWMENT FUND CREATE A LASTING LEGACY

### THE JOY OF GIVING

The newest contribution to the Church's endowment was given by two long-time members. Those members have served this church in many ways over four to five decades.

This latest "Ten thousand dollar" donation for the future of First Presbyterian Church, San Luis Obispo,

was given by Bert and Elaine Townsend. Bert happily exclaimed that it gives him joy to make this gift to the Church, which has been and is a constant part of their lives. Elaine and Bert don't wish to conceal this gift any more than any of us want to put the light of the Good News under a basket. Bert added that part of his regular prayer is "*share our surplus.*" Fact is, they hope this legacy gift will be an inspiration to others.

The Townsend family was in this column a few years ago, July 2018, as part of the series about those who are known to have included FPCSLO in their wills. So this current gift is an early sharing of what they plan to bequest eventually. They wish the gift to be added to General Endowments, Unspecified, meaning any allotment will be used at the discretion of Session.

The Townsends are but two of several members who have created a "*gift that keeps on giving*" by including the church in their wills. They have done this as a symbol of the importance of the church in their lives and wish to help the church prosper well into the future by endowing a portion of their current stewardship.

The Townsends have and are serving the church in multiple ways. Elaine has served as an elder and chaired the Missions Committee, was a member of the Peace and Social Justice Committee, and Women of the World. Bert enjoys the fellowship and friends made as a member of Frist Pres and keeping Christ in focus. He has served on various committees including the Endowment Committee, Worship Committee, and as a Deacon. He is the Assistant Church Treasurer at the present time.

A special thank you to all the other present and past members and friends of First Pres who have included the church in their wills or trusts and those who have contributed to the creation of our endowment.

If you are currently doing tax or estate planning and/or feel led to include a gift to the First Presbyterian Church of San Luis Obispo in your financial or estate planning, please contact any member of Endowment Committee: Peggy Estes, Don Green, Jerry Kaml, Ray McKelvey, Diane Shervem, Bert Townsend, or Virginia Walter (Chair). We can help guide you through this important process or steer you to the right people and resources.

Even a modest gift will make a difference.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We will be reaching out to everyone in our church during the month of August for contributions to Presbyterian Women sponsored Thank Offering. Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio planted the seed for the Thank Offering in 1888 when she urged each woman to give one dollar over and above her usual contribution to express our thanks for our many blessings. This offering provides much-needed financial assistance to 20 to 30 worthwhile national and international programs each year thru grants. Often funds go to health ministries, helping the most marginalized members of God's community.

This is one of four annual denomination donations supported by our Missions Committee. Donate by sending a check or giving thru on-line giving with Memo line PW Thank Offering.

Presbyterian Women includes all women in the church, not just those attending Women's Bible. We invite women to join one of our groups. Currently there are three different groups meeting at different times and on different days. Dorcas and Friendship generally meet on Thursday mornings. Virginia Terry meets on Wednesday evenings and Women of the Word (WOW) meets first and third Wednesdays. Please contact one of the board members to learn more. They are Nellie Beecher, Peggy Estes, Gloria DeKleine, Judy Springer, and Evelyn Ruehr. All are listed in the church directory.

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## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Congregational Life has several upcoming activities.

The first activity is a BBQ Potluck held on Sunday, July 10, after the service (at approximately 11:15 a.m.) with beverages available in the courtyard. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share, to the kitchen to be kept warm or to be refrigerated. We will be eating on the patio with some room for overflow in Wilson Hall.

Zoom Bingo will be back on Friday, July 29, at 7 p.m. If you need a card, you may contact either Ray McKelvey at (805) 704-9352 or Pam Rodewald at (805) 215-2396.

We are still in progress setting up "Date for Eight" groups. Please contact Virginia Walter at [vwalter@calpoly.edu](mailto:vwalter@calpoly.edu) to be added to the list. We are hoping for a kickoff activity sometime in mid/late September!

Save Thursday, September 8, for a gathering of Presbyterian Women's Bible Study groups with more information to follow.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the First Presbyterian Church (or want information about church membership), you may either call the church office (805) 543-5451 or Pam Rodewald. (805) 215-2396.

Please join us for these activities with a goal of furthering our connections to one another!

Pam Rodewald, Chair of Congregational Life Committee  
[psrmony@mac.com](mailto:psrmony@mac.com) or (805) 215-2396

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## THANK YOU!

Below is a thank you from Charlotte Roberts.

"Dear Church friends,

Thank you for your thought, prayers and notes over the last two months when I was ill with pneumonia. I am pleased to report being on the road to recovery.

Hope to be back in person to services.

With grateful heart,  
Charlotte Roberts.

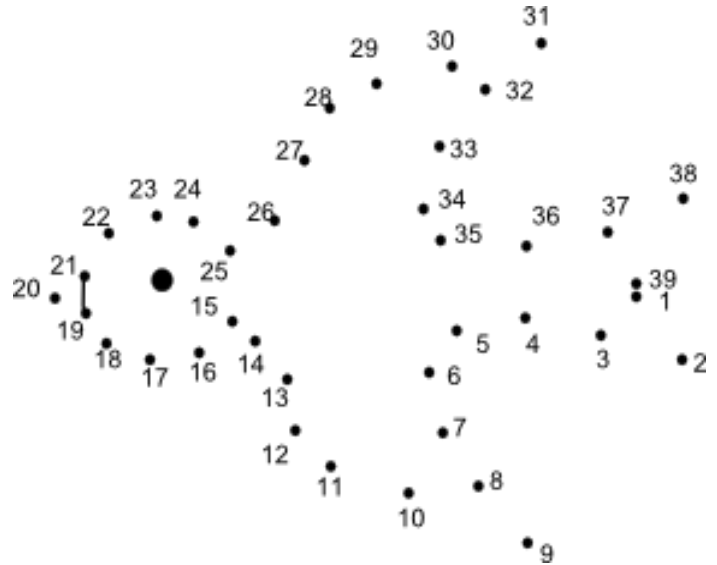
# Learn About The Holy Spirit

## The Trinity

God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three persons who are all the same person – God. This is called the Trinity (Trinity means three).

When we think of God living inside us, in our hearts, and speaking to us each day, this is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives inside every person who has become a Christian.

Work the puzzle to see a dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit.



## The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

Before Jesus came, the Holy Spirit did not live inside every person.

God sent the Holy Spirit into a person when he had a special job for the person to do.

Read each verse, and write the name of the person who received the Holy Spirit.

**Genesis 41:38**

\_\_\_\_\_

who interpreted dreams and advised the Pharaoh of Egypt

**Exodus 31:2-4**

\_\_\_\_\_

who made beautiful things from gold, silver, and bronze

**Judges 6:34**

\_\_\_\_\_

a judge who led the people of Israel

**2 Samuel 23:1-2**

\_\_\_\_\_

who was the king of Israel and wrote beautiful songs

**Daniel 4:8**

\_\_\_\_\_

who advised the king of Babylon and interpreted dreams

## What Jesus Said

When Jesus was on earth, he spent time with his friends. He told them that after he was gone, God would send the Holy Spirit to be with them.

Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would:

come after ↓ + ⇒ ▲ ⇒ went back to ✿ + \* ▼ + →

give them ↓ ↑ △ + ⇐ to △ ↑ ● → + ⇐ ⇐

● + \* ★ ✿ them everything














★ ↑ ← ● ↑ ⇐ ● them when they were sad

Code:


*	★	+	●	✿	↑	↓	←	→	↑	↓	⇐	⇒	●	▲	▼	△
A	C	E	F	H	I	J	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	V	W

## When the Holy Spirit Came

Use the picture clues to read the story of how the Holy Spirit came to all believers.


 told his  to wait for the  to come to them. One day the  of  were all together. A strong wind brought . The  gave the  to each person. They were able to   about  in different languages. About 3000 people heard them and believed in  that day! Now the Holy Spirit lives inside each person who believes in .

 Jesus

 Holy Spirit

  talk

 friends

 tongues of fire



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