

First Presbyterian Church Newsletter - June 2021

“THE GRAPEVINE”



Church Calendar:

- June 15 – Statewide Reopening
- June 15 – Newsletter Deadline (July)
- June 20 – Father’s Day
- July 11-16 – Zephyr Point Family Camp
- August 2 -5 – Vacation Bible School



Treasurer’s Report:

Matching Fund:	\$ 49,725.04
Balance Forward:	\$ 14,541.23
Income:	\$ 64,931.10
Expenses:	<u>\$ 46,616.72</u>
General Fund Balance	\$ 82,580.65

Special Fund Balance:	\$ 22,068.58
In/Out Fund Balance:	<u>\$ 17,614.96</u>

**Total Checking
Acct. Balance: \$ 122,264.19**



- 9- Kathleen Pribyl
- 11- Robert Burnell
- 12- Mike Little
- 17- Belle Twitchell
- 29- Terry Harries
George Buffleben

Happy Anniversary

- 3- Bill & Ann Swenson
- 15 – Roger & Tricia Winkler
- 15- Jim & Pat Kruse
- 16- Don & Char Bisbee





The righteous man walks in his integrity; **His children are blessed after him.**
PROVERBS 20:7



“PD’s Pickings”

We are now entering a season of the church liturgical calendar called “Ordinary Time”—the time of the church calendar during which there are no “special” days or seasons like Christmas, Lent, Easter, or Pentecost. Get used to the color green in our sanctuary: it won’t change again until we near Advent.

Coming off the pandemic this summer (hopefully for good) we will be more appreciative of the things we used to take for granted. But the name “ordinary time” can still seem to promote the idea that it’s “church coasting season,” that there is nothing significant to expect during such a season. Today, the word “ordinary” carries connotations of uneventful, insignificant, bland ... boring. Its sense on the liturgical calendar though is simply “not the named seasons.”

This season after the seasons is of a different sort of character to be sure. But it is no less active. God Almighty does not take a nap, Jesus does not outsource care for his flock, and the Holy Wind of the Spirit does not stop her creative blowing. It is a season during which we can and should enjoy God’s creation, enjoy worshipping, learning and serving together, and enjoy purposeful life in Christ. Even when we are going through the most difficult, uncertain or anxious circumstances, we have much for which to be thankful. That is not to minimize the difficult things, but to refocus us on the One who is God over all of our circumstances, fair weather or foul.

Ordinary Time is a great season for reflecting and resetting. To seek God, to rest and renew, and to discern and respond. Again, for some of us, circumstances may leave us wondering how in God’s green (or brown!) earth to do that. Yet when we seek God and renew our trust in God, God delights in bringing us the peace that passes understanding—the peace that depends on knowing God’s goodness and faithfulness, not on circumstances. This is something that can be cultivated by seeking God in prayer and devotion, and by learning to see God’s faithfulness, just as Abraham had to.

How we each do that will be different, but the goal of the discipline is the same. As Henri Nouwen puts it, it is “the effort to create some space in which God can act.” I appreciate what Nouwen is saying, yet I think perhaps it is more to the point to say ... *in which we will see how God is already acting*. Either way, to do that will entail routine practices like prayer, study, and worshipping together. Sometimes it will also mean courageous moments of choice and action like facing our own demons, letting go of something precious, or embracing something uncomfortable in order to be set free.

Ordinary Time is indeed ordinary in the sense that these sorts of things are healthy and good all year long. But it is far from inactive or boring. It is an opportunity to turn our hearts anew toward Jesus and follow him. It is a time for us to open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, welcome her creative wind, and see what God does in and through us.

When we follow Jesus, “Extraordinary” is ordinary.

Shalom,

Pastor Doug



The centennial of the Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center is approaching and one of the activities planned to celebrate this occasion is, "Love Letters to Zephyr Point." People with fond memories of time spent at Zephyr Point are asked to log onto the website and submit a "love letter."

If you are interested in reading about Zephyr Point's history, you can log on to www.zephyrpoint.org/about/history. If you are interested in writing a "love letter to Zephyr Point" you can log onto www.zephyrpoint.org/love-letters.

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## **COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE**

Great things have been happening at our Community Garden and it has never looked better! Currently we have rented 38 of our 40 plots, an all-time high. The April 10 garden work day had a great turn-out and a lot of hard work was completed on the garden. The Korean Church that is sharing our sanctuary came and helped with our garden maintenance. We thank them for their support. The blackberry bushes along the fence line will soon be providing ripe berries, come out and pick a few.

We are investigating grants that would provide materials and supplies to support our gardeners. We hope to plant some additional trees in the garden sponsored by the Girl Scouts on Arbor Day. An invitation has been extended to a Master Gardener from UC Davis to come to the garden and give demonstrations and advice. We will let you know once the date is determined.

I want to especially thank David Weisenberger, Roger and Trish Winkler and Elizabeth Kirby Miller for working so hard to make the garden a success.

# HELP WANTED – Bookkeeper

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## Abbreviated Job Description

Under general direction of the Pastor, the Church Treasurer and Finance Committee, work closely with Staff members to update and maintain all church account records, reconcile the General and Memorial Fund from bank statements and stubs, prepare monthly reports for the Finance committee and the Session. Prepare budget report for the monthly church newsletter. Prepare accurate State/Federal payroll reports. Report, track and maintain payroll records.

## Job Requirements

The ideal candidate must have a mix of formal education and work experience. Must have strong math skills, an eye for detail, ability to meet deadlines, organized, ability to prioritize, knowledge of accounting principles, data entry and computer skills, and experience with spreadsheets applications such as Microsoft Excel. Knowledge and experience with Intuit's Accounting software, QuickBooks, and their Cloud Service is a plus.

## Compensation

\$22.00 to \$25.00 hourly

## Work Hours

Flexible, but not to exceed 9.0 hours a month

## To Apply

Contact the church office for a job application.

Submit the application and resume by email ([office@tracyfirstpres.com](mailto:office@tracyfirstpres.com)) or in-person between the hours of 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Thursday.