



April showers bring **MAY** flowers! I hope you and your families are doing well as we approach another month of "sheltering in place", which we know the importance of why, yet it doesn't make it any easier, but we will get through this together! *"If God brings you to it, HE will bring you through it."*



Congratulations to Carolyn Gamino on the birth of her 1st grandchild, Lil' Miss **"HAZEL GRACE MADRIGAL"** arrived on time and healthy on April 29, weighing in at over 8lbs! Welcome to the world, Hazel!

I'm happy to announce, we have a new Clerk of Session, **"ALEX PINEDA"**! With his knowledge, experience, and history with FPC, there is no doubt in my mind, he'll do great!

Sunday, May 10 is Mother's Day! I would like to wish all the Mothers and Grandmothers of our congregation a blessed day!



Online Schedule

Sunday Worship: 11am, Facebook & YouTube Live (Zoom gatherings afterward.)

Sunday Evening Prayer: 5pm (Zoom only)

Mid-Week Devotions: Wednesday Psalm series & Friday 1 Peter series, each @ **11am & 5pm**
Facebook Live / YouTube Live (Zoom gatherings afterward)

How to Join In:

Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/TracyFirstPres/live **YouTube Live:** bit.ly/TFPC-PDA-YouTube-Live

Zoom Gatherings: <https://zoom.us/j/7372716366?pwd=RUIJBRnNMR2tUWVWdhOGMzOFZWS9WZz09>

>>manual dial in: (669) 900 9128, enter mtg ID 7372716366, enter pw 2092325310

Text 2 Give: (855) 912-3423

(text the word "give" first time set up)

Weblink to Give: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1459258>

PD's Pickings"

I have two stories to share, shamelessly stolen from Simon Sinek, a breakout session leader this week at the ReThink Leadership conference I'm (virtually) attending.

Story #1: Simon, talking pandemic with a theater owner, asked "So how are you adapting theatre in all this?" The reply contained what you'd expect: cutting costs, layoffs, etc. to stay afloat. Simon's reply was "That's not what I asked. I asked, 'how are you adapting *theatre* in all this? How are you doing *theatre* without *theaters*?" Response: blank stare.

Story #2: Dimo's Pizza, Chicago. 70% of their business was selling by the slice. The pizza delivery market is saturated. So what to do? Rather than lay off employees, they asked "what else can we use our ovens for?" They discovered they could make... medical face shields! And they deliver them to hospitals in, you guessed it: pizza boxes!

How in the *world* does someone make the jump from putting pizza in pizza boxes to putting face shields in them? By asking the right question, and answering it with the resources one already has. Instead of "How do we make money selling pizzas?" or "How do we survive until things go back to normal?" their question was "How do we serve the need we see with the resources we have?"

This is the difference between those organizations who will (maybe) survive our current crisis, and those who will thrive, whether during the crisis or long after it. It is *mission-resource* orientation, not a product-method orientation. Dimo's *product* was pizza, but serving a need was their *mission*. And they found a way to do so with what they had.

However long this crisis lasts, the world we return to will not be the one we left. And even if it were to be, that world itself had already been changing for decades, like waves pulling sand from under our feet as we stand in the surf. Will we have a *mission-Resource* orientation—drawing people to Jesus Christ?—or will we be focused on a "product" and/or method (even if "tweaked" for some new venues)?

In Matthew 9:17 Jesus employs this analogy: "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine is stored in new wineskins so that both are preserved." The old wine is by far the better wine. But it is meant to be shared and enjoyed, then it is gone. Meanwhile, new wine must be produced and put in new skins, which stretch as the wine ages, so that it too can someday be enjoyed.

One more story: Kodak. This was the company that invented camera film and cameras as we know them. Until then, photography was only done and developed by professionals who had expensive equipment, space, and know-how to work with chemicals. Kodak's original mission was more than their product: it was to democratize photography. Yet, when *they themselves* invented the first digital camera, they suppressed their own invention for fear of cannibalizing film sales. We know the rest.

Hunger for Jesus has not abated my friends. Since long before the crisis we now face, those seeking authentic connection with God have been increasing. They just weren't finding it in our churches, so they stopped looking there.

Eventually, at a time yet unknown, we will be able to again gather and function in-person. Can we learn to do theatre without a theater, or repurpose pizza ovens to make face masks? Will we adapt, innovate, and reinvent with what we have, responding to our world's need to meet Jesus through us long after this crisis ends?

We have proven in recent weeks that the answer to "can we" is yes.

The "will we" part is up to us.

In it with you, praying for you.

Pastor Doug

Happy Birthday:

1- Daniel Burnett
7- Gracelynn Estridge
9- Mitra Juarez
10- Helen Dubie
13- Jill Bailey
14- Faith Tyler
15- Alex Pineda
15- Sandi Clarke
16- Brandon Keith
25- David Rusch
28- Nathaniel Brandes

Happy Anniversary:

1- George & Kathleen Buffleben
17- David & Reiko Flanigan
18- Doug & Shelley Abel
22- Harold & Cathie Reich
29- Manuel & Mitra Juarez

Treasurer's Report:

General Fund:	<u>MONTHLY</u>	<u>TO DATE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Balance Forward		\$ 36,028.17	
Income	\$ 10,954.46	\$ 10,954.16	
Expenditures	\$ 19,537.90	\$ <u>19,537.90</u>	
Balance:			\$ 27,444.43
Special Fund Balance:			\$ 25,442.55
In-and-Out Fund Balance:			\$ 7,881.34
Memorial Fund:			
Undesignated:		\$ 5,350.00	
Designated:		\$ <u>11,843.55</u>	
Balance:			\$ 17,193.56
New Site Fund:			
Balance:			\$ 5,153.30
Synod Savings Account			
Youth Reserve		\$ 1,075.58	
Manse Fund		\$ 61.84	
Julia Sturtevant Fund		\$ <u>26,805.03</u>	
Balance:			\$ 27,942.45