

**Cantare Chorale Performs Sorrowful Brahms
Requiem for Spring Concert**

**Oakland Gay Men's Chorus to Perform *Be The
Change*, April 10**



**Food Ministry Team Hits the Street with Vituity
Doctors to Provide Care**

**Weekly Bible Study to Focus on Intimacy with
God**

**Eggs & Lillies Needed for First Church Easter
Festivities**

April 3, 2022

Weekly Newsletter

Temple Tidings

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland

M a k i n g G o d ' s W e l c o m e K n o w n

Help Needed for Special Easter Sunday Fellowship Time

Julia Marquez is looking for volunteers to help make Fellowship Time special on Easter Sunday. If you are able to put together refreshments at home that can be brought to church Sunday morning, contact Julia. Items that can be served at room temperature are best.

Have you noticed that we haven't served refreshments after the service on Sunday mornings lately? Fellowship Time is a volunteer offering of hospitality. If no one signs up, nothing gets served. If you would like to help keep this ministry going, pick a Sunday and contact Julia.

Ceasefire Night Walks Call for End to Violence

First Church joined other Faith in Action congregations on the evening of February 18 for a Ceasefire Walk for Peace, calling attention to the ongoing problem of gun violence in the City of Oakland. Organized by Faith in Action East Bay, the "night walks" are an opportunity for faith communities to make visible demonstrations of Christ's call for peace and an end to violence. **Contact Suzie Inadomi to learn more about the April Night Walk.**



Easter Bunnies Needed to Return Eggs to First Church Lawn

Brightly colored plastic eggs stuffed with Easter treats will dot the First Church lawn Easter Sunday, giving young children an opportunity to scramble for candy following the service. Congregational Life leader and part-time Easter Bunny, Julia Marquez is looking for donated candy and some help prepping eggs before Easter Sunday. To help out, hop on over to Julia.



Sponsor a Lily for Easter

Easter Lilies will be decorating the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022. If you wish to donate an Easter Lily in honor of, or in memory of a family member, friend, or other significant person in your life, please see Diane Hill, Deacon, on Sunday mornings.

Intimacy With God to be Topic of Wednesday Bible Study

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, we spend time developing new prayer practices during our regular Bible Study meeting on Zoom. These practices are designed to be incorporated as a daily rituals during lent, with a new prayer incorporated each week Shawn Jones, right, lead last week with a meditation practice.

This coming Wednesday, Rev. Joel Mackey will study prayer and intimacy with God, focusing on Psalm 42. **Contact Pastor Matt for more details on how to join this dicussion group.**



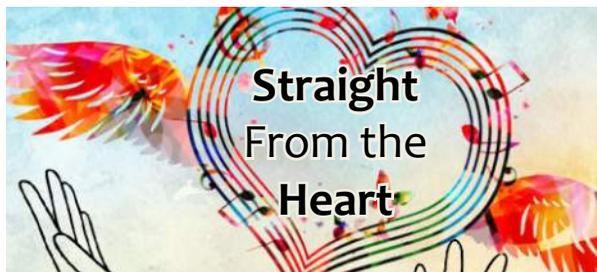
Spring Concerts Bring Art & Advocacy to First Church



Oakland Gay Men's Chorus Sunday, April 10, 4 pm

Oakland Gay Men's Chorus proudly presents our Spring Concert, *Be the Change* - a concert with a special emphasis on intergenerational collaboration and advocacy. Join us to hear songs that will empower courage, hope, and action in the face of growing concerns for both our local community and our world.

This two-act concert features some of our favorite songs like *Seize the Day* (from *Newsies*), *Make Them Hear You* (from *Ragtime*), *You Will Be Found* (from *Dear Evan Hansen*), and *Home* (by Phillip Phillips). A special treat will be our premiere performance of *Look Out Above*, arranged for OGMC by composer Jocelyn Hagen and hip hop artist Dessa.



Community Women's Orchestra Sunday, May 1, 4 pm

Join Community Women's Orchestra for an evening of spectacular music, featuring the world premiere of Jessica Krash's *Seven Kinds of Happiness*. Community Women's Orchestra concerts showcase contributions by women in classical music as composers and musicians.

Other works in the concert include *Karelia Suite* by Jean Sibelius, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel Overture*, Kalinnikov's *Symphony No. 1*, Copland's *Variations on a Shaker Melody*. The orchestra will be guest conducted by Martha Stoddard. Tickets are available at CWO's website. All attendees will need to provide proof of full vaccination at the door.



Linda and I continued on, delivering 87 meals and many extra containers of beef stew, mac and cheese, salads and desserts. We delivered to the people on Wood Street, the underpasses as well as the recycling center and individuals sleeping on bus stops and on the many streets of our city.

Food Ministry Kitchen Report

By Bill Coburn

Our weekly food pickup started on Friday with groceries picked up from Western Service Workers by Devon and Bryan. On Saturday the team, including, Steve, Paul, Peer, Henry, and Rajiv, continued the pickups to Whole Foods and Good Eggs. We also received groceries from Omni Commons and Food of God. We picked up bread from Firebrand Bakery and shared foods with Presbyterian Homes Berkeley. Teri Bleckner joins us Saturday mornings to coordinate Monday food planning.



Sunday, the program put together 150 lunches of tuna fish sandwiches, chips, fruit, dessert items and boiled eggs. We also prepped ten cooked chickens, and cooked four turkeys for use in the Monday meal. We prepared carrots and green beans for vegetables and composed the green salad. We thank team members Ann, Stacey, Kyong, Gal from Temple Sinai, new volunteer Tim, Jeannie, Navdeep, Victor, Peter, Bryan, Pauline, and Bonnie. We gave away a good amount of extra meals at the gate. We had two teams distribute foods to the streets on Sunday, Tivo and Carmelo. We appreciated everyone's efforts.

Food Ministry Street Report

By Lexine Alpert

This last Monday we had the opportunity to deliver meals with a group of doctors and nurse volunteers from Vituity Cares Foundation following along for our first few stops. They joined us at Lafayette Square Park as well as a couple of sites in the Lower Bottoms (West Oakland along the 80 freeway). Many of the people living at Lafayette Square Park welcomed them and were happy to get their blood pressure and blood sugars checked. Travis (who lives beside the 80 freeway) was very happy to see the medical team as he had just been bitten by a dog and was worried about infection.

For Monday Teri's team put a chicken/turkey, rice and gravy meal together along with fruit salad, the green salad and dessert items. We had a full team there (although I had to be absent) and prepared 150 meals for gate distribution and giving out on the streets.

You Can Help Make Care Packages for Neighbors

By Anne Margaret Manay

From time to time, Arav and I make care packages for our unhoused neighbors. We try to include items that will be useful and comforting, as well as easy to obtain in bulk by ordering online. Seeing in the weekly Food Ministry reports the level of need in the camps, we wanted to make a lot of them this time. So, we invited Arav's friend Nataleigh to help us pack the bags. We made about fifty of them. Here is a list of items we always try to include:

- **A new pair of socks (probably the most important item)**
- **Pre-moistened body cleansing wipe**
- **Sanitizing hand wipe**
- **Facial tissue**
- **Toothbrush (individually wrapped)**
- **Toothpaste**
- **Mini deodorant**
- **Lip balm**
- **Face mask (individually wrapped)**

We pack the items in gallon-size plastic zipper bags. The bags are useful on the street to keep things dry, and they make it easy for volunteers to hand out the supplies. You could also include such items as granola bars, band-aids, underwear, feminine sanitary supplies, chewing gum, dental floss, mouthwash, hand cream, or anything else you think would brighten someone's day or make their life on the street a little easier.

Care packages can be given to Bill Coburn, Dorothy Dugger, or anyone else working for the Food Ministry on Sunday mornings. They will be distributed by the Food Ministry Team, either at the gate here, or by the food delivery team on the streets.

First Church to Hire Community Events Manager

If you've been to the First Church campus anytime other than Sunday mornings, you've probably noticed how bustling the place can be. The Fellowship Hall, the Reception Room and even the Sanctuary are used by community groups and performing arts groups every day of the week for meetings, rehearsals, and concerts. School dances have even made their way to First Church. There are 17 groups that call First Church home now. And every month there are at least two or three private parties on Saturdays.

All this activity is helping to bring new revenue which contributes to keeping the campus maintained and available for community use. But it's also creating a fair amount of extra volunteer work for First Church Buildings & Grounds Committee Chair, Chris Weber, who is eager to pass the responsibility on to someone else.

Session has agreed to hire a new Community Events Manager, whose job will be serving the community and church by managing campus rentals, the church calendar and coordinating campus use by our Community Partner groups. This new, part time job is expected to take about 8-10 hours per week, with some office hours required for public interface. The work requires a fair amount of interaction with the campus community and neighborhood and some careful organization. Additional details about the job can be requested from Chris Weber or Pastor Matt.

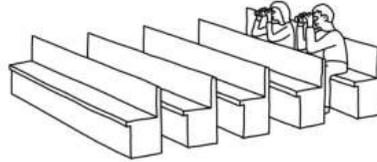
The new job position has been posted online, but word of mouth is always a great way to make introductions and recruit. Any candidate with a talent for making people feel welcome and keeping a busy campus organized is encouraged to inquire.

NEWCOMERS

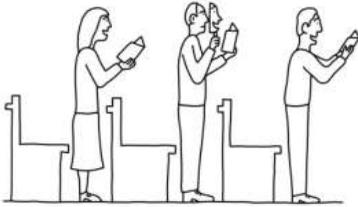
HOW TO GIVE CHURCH A TRY WITHOUT DETECTION



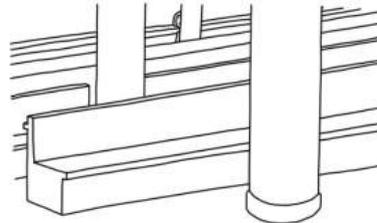
EVADE THE WELCOMERS



SIT NEAR THE BACK



TRY TO BLEND IN



MAKE FULL USE OF THE PILLARS

Elders

Linda Carter, Dorothy Dugger, Henry Gardner,
Suzie Inadomi, Elizabeth Cureton, Chris Weber,
Alessandra Mohar

Session Officers

Rev. Matt Prinz, Moderator
Anne Margaret Manay, Clerk
Rose Mary Richmond, Treasurer

Deacons

Judy Rowan, Louise Hill, Chris Kovach, Marjorie
Witt, Barbara Goodroe, Martha Bauman, Diane Hill,
Lorraine Provost

Church Staff

Rev. Matt Prinz, Pastor
matt@firstchurchoakland.org
510.488.3812
Office Hours: Mon-Th, 8 am - 4 pm
Aaron Nee, Director of Music & Organist
aaron@aaronnee.com
Chris Weber, Facility Management
chris@firstchurchoakland.org
Gus Lopez, Head Custodian
510.290.9677
Rose Mary Richmond, Treasurer, office volunteer
rosemary@firstchurchoakland.org
Joan Clerk, Bookkeeper
joan@firstchurchoakland.org

Temple Tidings Contributors This Week

Writing by Chris Weber, Anne Margaret Manay,
Bill Coburn, Lexine Alpert
Photos by Suzie Inadomi, Susannah Prinz
& Chris Weber

Temple Tidings is a weekly publication. All are
welcome to contribute news, events and opinion.

First Church is proud to support its COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- Cantare Con Vivo
- College Awareness
- Community Women's Orchestra
- Faith in Action East Bay
- Food Not Bombs
- Habitat For Humanity, East Bay-Silicon Valley
- Oakland Civic Orchestra
- Oakland Early Head Start Preschool
- Oakland Gay Men's Chorus
- Oakland Kids First
- Piedmont East Bay Children's Choirs
- Quinteto Latino
- ReCares
- Sacred & Profane Chamber Chorus
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vitivity Care Foundation
- Western Service Workers Assoc.



PROPHET
JONAH

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OAKLAND
AD 1853

Fifth Sunday of Lent, April 3, 2022

Jonah

The Reluctant Prophet

Making God's
welcome known

Traditional Orthodox depiction of Jonah

Welcome to this time of intergenerational praise and worship

Visitors:

- Please fill out a **Prayer Card** if you would like prayer from our pastor and deacons.
- Please also fill out a **Welcome Card** so we can become acquainted with you, or if you would like to be added to our email and mailing lists and keep up to date on things happening here at First Church.
- Need help hearing? Ushers can provide **hearing devices** to assist you.

Visiting Parents:

- Ushers can guide you to the **nursery** for certified childcare for children age three years and younger.
- You may also make use of the **Parent Corners** at the rear sanctuary entrance or up front by the font.
- Children's **worship bags** are available in the narthex or from the ushers with materials that can be used by children during the worship service.
- On the first Sunday of every month we celebrate **communion** and children remain in worship with families to participate.
- **Godly Play** is offered for children all other Sundays. Children are escorted to Classroom 2 during *Passing of the Peace* and can rejoin their families during Fellowship Time.

SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Cole Provost

Guest Musician: Joe Warner

Song Leader: Dorrie Dodge

Head Usher: Matthew Inadomi

Audio & Online Support: Diane Hill, Linda Carter, Bex Fortin, Anne Margaret Manay

Communion Setup: Diane Hill & Martha Bauman

Flowers: Bill Coburn

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland is a **More Light** faith family,
on a journey toward becoming the **Beloved Community**.

We welcome and affirm persons of every age,
national origin, racial and ethnic heritage, gender identity, sexual orientation,
socio-economic status, physical ability and spiritual leaning.

ORDER of SERVICE INVITATION to WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: When the Lord restored our fortunes, we were like those who dream.

All: Then our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongues loosed with shouts of joy.

One: Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”

All: The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad.

One: Restore our fortunes, God, like ancient, flowing streams.

All: Let those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy!

Gathering Prayer

One: Walk with us, Spirit of Christ, on this Lenten journey. Show us what to bring with us and what to leave behind. Give us the courage to leave the past behind, that we may see the new things that lie ahead. Then let us pick up our very best gifts in order to give them to others in your name, that our lives may be complete, and our hearts may be made whole. In the Spirit and the joy of Christ, our friend, we pray.

All: Amen

Please stand as you are able

Opening Hymn

#649: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

CONFESSIO N of SIN & ASSURANCE of GRACE

Confession

One: God of grace, you call us into your glorious future. When we dwell on the past, you tell us to remember no longer the things of old. When we fail to notice the poor among us, you call us to give freely of what we have. When we are reluctant to share our gifts and talents, you give your own life so that we may live. Forgive us. Free us, Holy Spirit from self-absorption and from fear.

Silent Reflection

You are invited into a time of silent, personal prayer

One: In the name of the one who loves us unconditionally, we pray.

All: Amen

Please stand as you are able

Assurance of Pardon

One: As God's children, forgiven and free, we are blessed to give our best gifts in God's name.

All: Amen

Passing the Peace of Christ

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace

Greet those around you with a sign of Christ's peace.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Sharing of joys and concerns

You may share requests for prayer with the congregation aloud, or fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate to privately share your prayer need with the pastor.

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

T H E W O R D

Please stand as you are able

Hymn #728 : *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door*

Scripture Lesson

Jonah 4 : 1 -11

One: But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

One: For the Word in scripture, the Word made flesh, and the Word in our hearts

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

RESPONSE to the WORD

Sermon Continued

Pastor Matt will lead the congregation in reflection on the reading and sermon.

Please stand as you are able

Hymn #853: *We Are Marching In The Light of God*

Invitation to the Lord's Supper & Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The bread of heaven is here, leading us into life.

All: We draw strength from the bread of life.

One: The cup of blessing is at hand, bringing us salvation.

All: We find life in the cup of salvation.

One: Eat and drink, for Christ is here, offering us eternal life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Words of Institution

Musical Offering

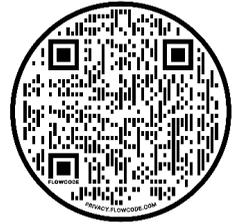
Sharing the Holy Meal

Please come forward as the ushers allow. Communion is alcohol and gluten free.

Donations, Welcome Cards & Prayer Cards can be placed in the offering plate.

You may also make a donation by using this QR code on your smart phone:

Note: donations made online are subject to a 4% service charge, paid by us.



Prayer of Dedication

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Sending Hymn #307: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Benediction

One: May our service to others become a fragrant gift in God's name.

Go with God, the one who is about to do a new thing in and through us

All: Amen

Postlude