



First Church Welcomes New “Community Relationships Manager” Micheline La Mont

Faith In Action Considers Gun Violence, Affordable Housing

Summer Bible Study Examines Worship & The Psalms

**Summer Concerts Come to First Church
David Morales Honored with Jefferson Award**

July 10, 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

First Church Hires Community Relationships Manager



Micheline La Mont has begun work with First Church as the new Community Relationships Manager. “Mich” will be in charge of First Church’s events calendar and venue rentals, assisting 18 Community Partners

and the public with use of space at First Church. She will also lead the weekly communications effort, overseeing the weekly newsletter, email and social media.

Mich is a San Francisco native who has lived in the Bay Area for most of her life, residing in Oakland since 1989. Micheline thrives on the pulse of the East Bay, enjoying cycling in the hills, hiking, attending community events, and gardening.

As Community Relationships Manager, Mich brings more than 35 years of experience in the marketing and public relations space to First Church. She graduated from San Jose State University with a bachelor’s degree in public relations and a minor in business. Micheline lives with her husband, Edwin and her pets near Lake Merritt. Her daughter, Veronica, lives in Seattle.

Please feel welcome to contact Mich with all future requests for use of space and any other help you may need at the First Church campus. She can be reached by phone or email:

- micheline@firstchurchoakland.org
- 510.488-3810

Chris Weber will continue in his role as Chair of First Church’s Buildings & Grounds Committee and will assist Mich in transitioning into this new role.



“What is the Church For?” Bible Study Resumes in July

A fundamental question, “what is the church for?” is a new topic for mid-week bible study, led by Pastor Matt. In the coming weeks, Pastor Matt will be focusing on the Psalms, and discussing worship practices and music.

The summer bible study topic is intended to create new vision for what First Church can be by examining scripture’s many accounts of Beloved Community. Mid-week bible study is a great way to get to know folks at First Church and exchange views on scripture, theology, and community. Contact Pastor Matt if you do not already receive the weekly email invitation to join on Zoom.

Wednesdays, 7pm, Zoom

Women’s Circle Invites Connection

Every month the Prayer Circle meets, taking time to check in with one another by mutual invitation and then practicing the art of *lectio divina* (a monastic practice of listening to scripture with the eyes of the heart - how does this reading connect with where I find myself in life right now?). We also share prayers and close in prayer or with poetry. Women’s Circle is always open newcomers and one time visitors. Call Di Pagel at 925.324.5271 or email dianapagel@gmail.com for the Zoom link. **The next gathering is Tuesday, July 26 at 7 pm.**

Sundays in Summer to Offer New Ways to Experience the Word

On first Sundays we celebrate “intergenerational worship.” Children stay in the sanctuary and worship with parents. Throughout the summer months, our intergenerational worship services will include places in the sanctuary for contemplation, prayers and response to the sermon. On Sunday, August 7, Di Pagel will lead a Godly Play Story during worship in the Sanctuary.

On Sunday, August 14 & 21, our regular worship services will be held in different locations. On August 8, we will meet in the Reception Room for worship and a communal meal. On August 15 we will meet in the Fellowship Hall, for service that celebrates the Food Ministry.

Donations to Deacons Enable Congregational Care

by Judy Rowan, Moderator of Deacons

The Deacons are a group whose ministry is to care for people. At First Church, the deacons connect with members and frequent visitors monthly and on special occasions. We pray for people with special concerns and we visit people who are ill.

On the first Sunday of the month, a special offering is collected to provide for parishioners’ special needs. Those funds also support the Food Ministry and the Presbyterian Deacon Foundation. Please join the Deacons in supporting the special needs in the congregation by donating to the Deacons’ Fund on First Sundays.

Fellowship Time Help Needed

Julia Marquez is looking for volunteers to provide refreshments for the congregation following worship for Sundays in August - October. To sign up, look for the lady with the clipboard.

Affordable Housing, Budgets & Gun Violence: Faith In Action East Bay to Meet Wednesday July 13, 12 pm

First Church members have been meeting with Faith in Action East Bay to discuss ways that First Church can get involved with Faith in Action community organizing. Faith in Action is a network of churches and community organizations that endeavor to impact public policy concerning health care, gun violence, immigrant justice, mass incarceration, voting rights and economic dignity.

First Church members have been focusing on specific ways that the church can be impactful in some of these areas. First Church has so far been involved in monthly Night Walks for Peace, sponsored by Ceasefire. Discussion is ongoing about ways that First Church can influence City of Oakland budget priorities, or participate in the funding of affordable housing. Faith in Action has invited First Church members to participate in forums (on Zoom) with other network churches:

Ceasefire Community Engagement Wednesday, July 13, 4 pm

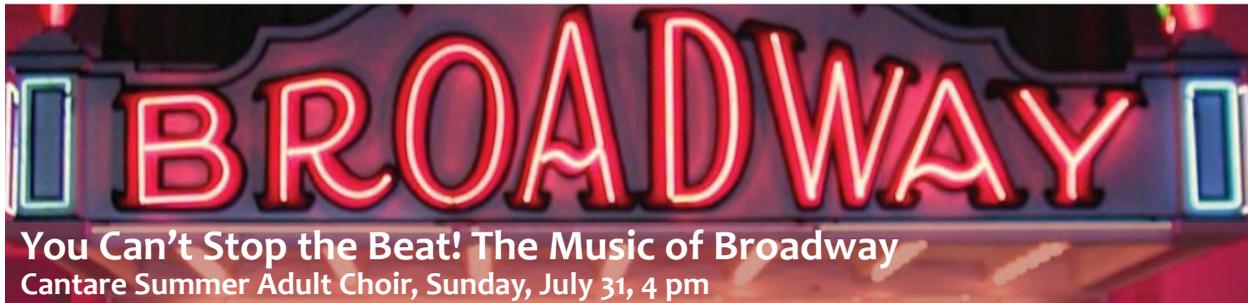
This discussion will examine the work of Ceasefire, a strategy for violence reduction that saw success until gun violence began spiking again in 2020. Ceasefire is funded by Measure Z, which is set to expire in 2024.

Leadership Assembly Meeting Thursday, July 14, 6 pm

This discussion will be primarily about affordable housing and civic engagement.

Wednesday’s noon meeting is in-person, in the Courtyard. All are welcome. Please contact Pastor Matt for more details.

Summer Concerts at First Church



Cantare's non-auditioned summer adult choir, for ages 14 and up, returns to open the 2022-23 season with the favorites from Broadway musicals. The concert will feature well known works from *Porgy and Bess*, *Oklahoma*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Sound of Music*, *My Fair Lady*, *Cabaret*, *A Chorus Line*, *Miss Saigon*, *West Side Story*, *The Music Man*, *Hairspray*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats*,

Wicked, *Avenue Q*, *The Color Purple*, *Dear Evan Hansen* and more.

Nova, Cantare's choir for children and youth in Oakland Public Schools, recently finished their summer camp at First Church, offering 75 students new performing arts skills and an opportunity to express themselves with music.



This concert will honor the lives and victims lost to both the pandemic and racism in the past two years. This concert also honors the 50th anniversary of Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On?" (ranked number one on Rolling Stone's list of the 500 Greatest Albums of All Time).

The emotional and powerful program includes a wide range of composers and genres, including a movement from the Brahms Requiem, a stunning motet by Henry Purcell, African-American spirituals, Cynthia Erivo's "Stand Up" (from the movie "Harriet"), Alicia Keys, Sara Bareilles,

"You're All I Need to Get By" by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell, and the gospel classic "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood. This concert also features work by Greg Murai, former First Church worship consultant.

AfterGlow Chorus is an advanced, auditioned chamber choir of 45 highly-skilled, experienced singers based in Oakland. AfterGlow's mission is to perform beautiful choral works of all genres with the highest level of musicianship and emotional impact. They are First Church's newest Community Partner.

Cantare's David Morales Presented With Jefferson Award for Public Service



From Cantare News

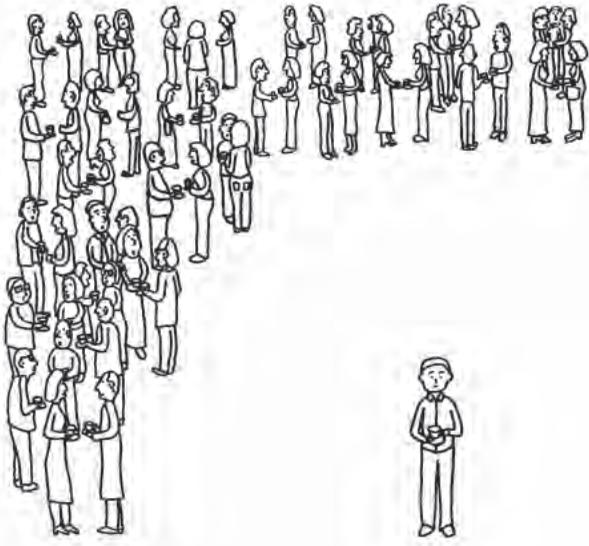
Cantare's Artistic Director, David Morales, was presented with a Jefferson Award, in recognition of his work with Cantare. The Jefferson Awards for Public Service are presented at both national and local levels by the American Institute for Public Service. The award was founded by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis in 1972.

For more than 50 years, David Morales has impacted thousands of children and adults as a conductor, teacher and a visionary community leader. David began Cantare in 1987. Cantare has grown from a 26-voice adult chorale ensemble, to include multiple choirs and music education and outreach to Oakland Public School students. The award is recognition of David's lasting community impact and the Cantare mission of fostering a diverse community of compassion and understanding across generational, cultural, and economic boundaries through the beauty and power of choral music.

Scenes From Nova Choir's Summer Camp at First Church

Cantare's youth choral arts program, Nova, held its Summer Camp at First Church this year. Seventy-five students took part in the annual program, offered free to Oakland public school students by Cantare. For many, it was their first exposure to self expression through music and performance.





AFTER-SERVICE COFFEE

First Church is proud to support its COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- Afterglow Chorus
- Cantare Choirs
- 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
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vituity Care Foundation
- Western Service Workers Association

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, Diane Hill, Martha Bauman, Lorraine Provost

Church Staff

Rev. Matt Prinz, Pastor

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Rose Mary Richmond, Treasurer

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Temple Tidings Contributors This Week

Writing by Chris Weber, Di Pagel, Judy Rowan, Julia Marquez

Photos by Chris Weber

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



Scan this code with your smart phone for access to all First Church News and past editions of *Temple Tidings*



Moses Parting the Red Sea
by Josette Atme

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OAKLAND
AD 1853

Sunday, July 10, 2022

Into the **Wilderness**

*Making God's
welcome known*

W E L C O M E

- 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 and remember your name and your visit with us. If you would like to be added to our email and mailing lists the welcome card will do that too (you can also sign up on the home page of our website - at the very bottom)
 - 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 worship play items.
 - On the first Sunday of the month we celebrate **Family Worship & Communion** and children remain in worship.
 - **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.

S E R V I N G i n W O R S H I P T O D A Y

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Kerry Sherman

Guest Musician: Joe Warner, piano

Song Leader: Linda Carter

Goldy Play: Di Pagel & Monrovia Prinz

Head Usher: Matthew Inadomi

Audio Setup: Diane Hill & Bex Fortin

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Postma-Ruff Family

O R D E R o f S E R V I C E

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.

I N V I T A T I O N t o W O R S H I P

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Shout to the Lord, you people of God. Bring your petitions before the judgment seat.

All: **Worship the one who hears our cries, rescues the perishing, and lifts up the lowly.**

One: Call to the Lord, you disciples of Christ. Proclaim your case before God's holy council.
Worship the one who heeds our pleas, frees the captives, and sustains the widows

All: **and the orphans.**

One: Sing to the Lord, you children of the Most High. Declare your need before our righteous judge.

All: **Worship the one who responds to our needs, heals our wounds, and fills our world with light.**

Gathering Prayer

One: God of power and might, turn our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh. For only in loving can we lead lives worthy of your calling. Grant us the courage to live with the saints in the glory of your love. And fill us with your grace and peace, that we may know the richness of eternal life in your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen

Please stand as you are able

Hymn

#352 : My Lord! What a Morning

CONFESSIO N o f S I N & A S S U R A N C E o f G R A C E

Confession

One: Judge us in your righteousness, Holy One, and show us who we truly are, for we long to see ourselves as you see us. Against the plumb line of your justice, our ways seem out of balance, and our practices seem wanting. We yearn for the day when the powerful will no longer deny justice to the weak and destitute, or turn a blind eye to the wicked. We long for the time when those who live at ease will no longer ignore the plight of the poor, or turn away from those living paycheck to paycheck. Forgive us. Show us what it means to be a good neighbor, that our works may bear good fruit, and that our lives may shine the light of your justice.

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: God is faithful in love and grace, making our confession welcome and cleansing our soul. Rejoice! We are children of light. Even when we falter, God's love is strong enough to bring us back to the light of forgiveness and grace.

Response

#215 : What Wonderful Love is This?

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

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 & 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.**

THE WORD

Please stand as you are able

Hymn #314 : *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

Scripture Lesson

Exodus 15 : 1 - 7, 11, 19 - 2

One: Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:
“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.
The LORD is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him;
my father's God, and I will exalt him.
The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.
Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.
The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.
In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries;
you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.

Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. 21 And Miriam sang to them:

“Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.”

Then Moses ordered Israel to set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water. When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter. That is why it was called Marah. And the people complained against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” He cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood; he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

There the LORD made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he put them to the test. He said, “If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in his sight, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians, for I am the LORD who heals you.”

Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they camped there by the water.

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

#772 : Live Into Hope

Invitation to the Offering

One: Knowing how much God has given us, let us come with grateful hearts to offer our tithes and our gifts.

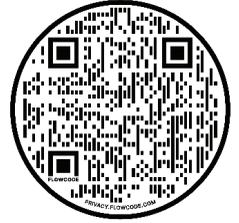
Offertory

Ushers will collect the weekly offering

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

Please stand as you are able

Sending Hymn

#853 : We Are Marching in the Light of God

Benediction

One: Go forth in the strength of God's glorious power.
Go forth in the hope and peace of Christ.
Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Go with God.

Postlude