

Weekly Newsletter July 21, 2024

Temple Tidings

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland

Making God's Welcome Known



Banksy – Forgive Us Our Trespassing

W E L C O M E

Visitors:

- If you would like to be added to our email list, please go to firstchurchoakland.org and fill out the form at the bottom
- Need help hearing? Ushers can provide **hearing devices** to assist you.
- Please feel free to take the Sanctuary flowers home to enjoy after the service.

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 rejoin their families during Fellowship Time.

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: Come to worship the God of our salvation.

All: God's goodness has called us here.

One: Seek, and you will find.

All: With joy, we sing of Christ's steadfast love.

One: Knock, and the door will be opened for you.

All: Here, steadfast love and faithfulness meet.

One: Ask, and it shall be given to you.

All: Here, righteousness and peace kiss.

One: Come to worship the God of our salvation.

All: God's goodness has called us here.

Gathering Prayer

One: Sustaining God, grants us this day the blessings of your faithfulness and your grace.
Where there is hunger, give us bread,
Where there is thirst, give us cool water.
Where there is loneliness, give us friendship.
Forgive our transgressions and our errant ways, as we forgive those who transgress against us.

And where we have been wronged, guide us on the journey of forgiveness.
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

All: Amen

Please rise in body or spirit

Hymn

Fortunate Fall
by Audrey Assad

**Oh happy fault, oh happy fault
That gained for us, so great a Redeemer
Oh happy fault, oh happy fault
That gained for us, so great a Redeemer**

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

Confession

One: How long, LORD will you hide your face from us? As our world is ripped apart, we long for the day of your salvation. As our lives are tattered and torn, we yearn for you to restore our fortunes. As we knock on the door and seek your face, open the door to us, for we need your presence if we are to be whole once more. Show us your steadfast love, Holy One. Fulfill your promise to answer our prayers, and we will dwell with joy in your house forever.

Silent Reflection

You are invited into a time of silent, personal reflection

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

All: Amen

Please rise in body or spirit

Assurance of Pardon

One: The one who gives us our daily bread each day, blesses us with what we need each and every day of our lives. The one who forgives our sins answers our prayers and offers us fullness of life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Passing of 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.

P R A Y E R S o f t h e P E O P L E

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

You may share requests for prayer with the congregation aloud. Children may go with leaders to Godly Play.

Prayer

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.

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

#469: LORD, Listen to Your Children Praying

T H E W O R D

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 6.9 - 14 NRSV

One: "Pray, then, in this way:

Our Father in heaven,

may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

May your will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts,

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Scandal of Grace

R E S P O N S E t o t h e W O R D

Sermon Continued

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

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

Psalm 91

Music by Keith Ogden

**Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty (repeat)**

I will say of the LORD, God is my refuge, God is my fortress (repeat)

My refuge, My fortress, My God in whom I trust

Invitation to the LORD's Supper

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

Communion Music

Amazing Love (You Are My King)

by Billy James Foote

Sharing of the Holy Meal & Offering

*Please come forward when invited by ushers. Communion is alcohol
and gluten free. Donations can be placed in the offering plate.*

Donations may also be made using this QR Code:



Prayer

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

#735: I Need Thee Every Hour

Invitation to Community Life

Music for Reflection

*Sweet Hour of Prayer
by William Bradbury*

Benediction

SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Nina Lapachet

Music Director: Jake Fontana

Song Leader: Susannah Prinz

Head Usher: Di Pagel

Communion Set Up: Diane Hill and Deacon

Godly Play: Raenelle Tauro and Aaron Ruff

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Maggie and Chris Harmon

Save these Dates for Upcoming First Church Community Events



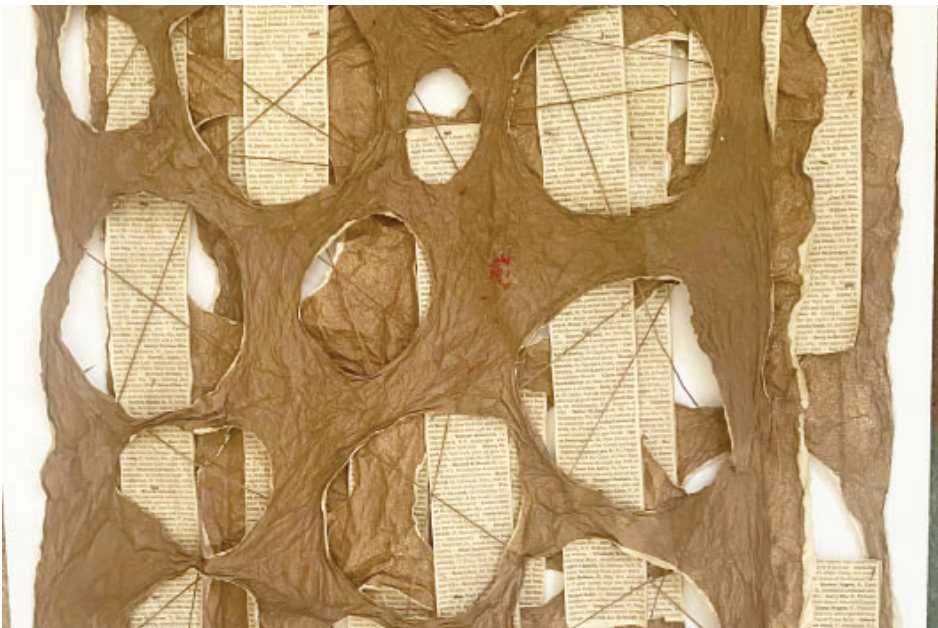
August 4: Inside Out 2

Inside Out 2 is an animated coming of age story following the life of Riley as she juggles friendship, going to summer hockey camp, and preparing to enter high school. Riley experiences new emotions as she turns thirteen, makes a series of bad decisions, and wrestles with who she is becoming as a young adult. We will depart after coffee hour to watch the movie together and Jake Fontana will host a conversation afterwards about the film and its intersection with our lives.

August 25: Oakland A's Game

Come and cheer for the Oakland A's on Sunday, August 25 at 1:05 p.m. The A's will match up with the Chicago White Sox for the game.

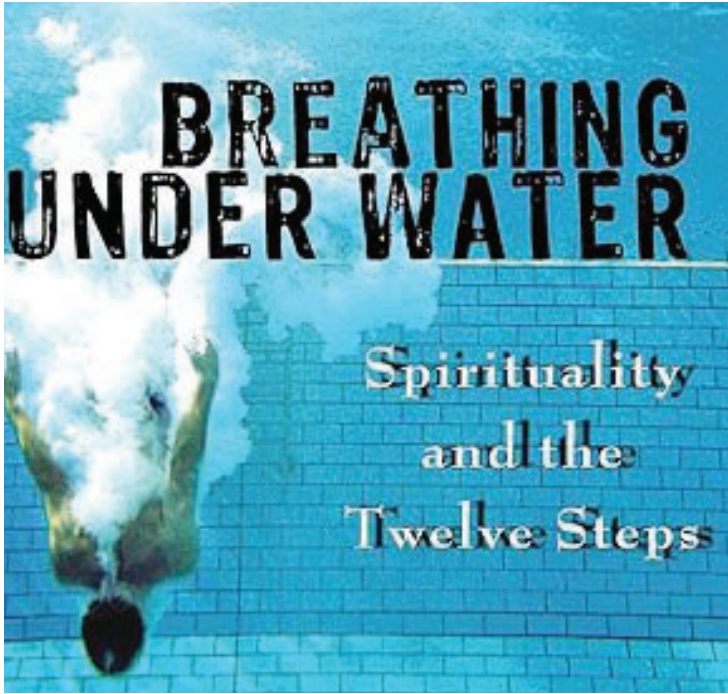
Suzie Inadomi is organizing this event and will have more information about ticket prices and other details in the upcoming weeks! Let's go, Oakland!



September Art Show

Susan Allison-Hatch is an Episcopal priest and mixed media artist who served at St. Paul's Episcopal church in Oakland and currently lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Allison-Hatch creatively weaves fabric, text, yarn, and ribbon to invite others into the intersection of faith and social justice. We are planning to display several fabric pieces by Allison-Hatch in the reception room in September. If you would like to be a part of this new ministry experiment, talk with Pastor Matt or Aaron Ruff.

Join us for a First Church Contemplative Study Starting July 28



Please join as First Church takes a summer break to dive into the spirituality of awakening into our life as beloved children of God. Over the course of three months we will gently explore *Breathing Under Water* by Father Richard Rohr. This book will guide us in 'breaking negative patterns and experiencing greater internal freedom' to help us find 'bold hope and transformation.'

Build contemplative practices, consider how to break negative patterns, and have fun with your community! This is for believers, non-believers, the spiritually curious, and anyone who is willing to be surprised by God.

Come to one session or all - please RSVP to the monthly host so we can plan food.

July 28 @ 12:00pm Di Pagel
(dianapagel@gmail.com)

August 25 Pastor Matt (time tbd)

September 29 @ 4:00pm Maggie Harmon
maggieafh@gmail.com

Brother Rohr may just take you to places you've both avoided and longed for, to truth, union, joy, laughter, and the greatest of all, to your own precious self, here on earth with us, a child of God.

- Anne Lamott, from the forward

More about the book:

We all suffer from unhealthy dependencies that we continually return to in hopes of having a better life. But after yet another TV show is streamed or another drink is swallowed, we find we once again feel worse, not better, than we did before. Where is the hope for that fully awakened life we long to live?

World-renowned author Richard Rohr says we can only be healed and find true fulfillment by facing our dependencies head-on. *Breathing Under Water* will guide you to:

- Disentangle from cultural cycles of sin and emptiness
- Discover how to get free from your personal dependencies
- Learn how the Twelve Step program can supplement Christian teaching
- Find compassion for others and yourself
- Enjoy a deeper spiritual life, feeling God's love for you.

Those who are ready to break negative patterns and experience greater internal freedom will find bold hope and transformation in this insightful book.

Mandela Partners Seeks Participants for Upcoming Cohort

CULINARY EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN THE CULINARY FIELD?

Culinary Employment Pathways is a 13-week culinary training program that connects residents facing barriers to employment to food jobs with a livable wage, supportive work environment, and personal growth opportunities.

This program delivers career growth and secure employment in collaboration with local East Bay food businesses.

RECEIVE
\$21
PER HOUR

KITCHEN TRAINING

8/26/24- 9/27/24
Monday –Thursday
1:00 pm – 4:00 PM

MUST be available these hours during the first 5 weeks.

CULINARY INTERNSHIP

Begins 9/30/2024
Hours and location TBD for a max of
24 hrs/wk at \$21/hr.

SIGN UP TODAY

by visiting <http://bit.ly/CEPapply>

Or scan this code!



Creative Versions of the LORD's Prayer from *A Liturgy for all Bodies*

We are studying and reflecting on the 'LORD's Prayer' from Matthew 6 throughout the month of July in our worship services. We are looking at this prayer as a template for our own lives of prayer and conversations with God. Read through these two creative renditions of the 'LORD's Prayer.'

We are inviting our community to re-write the LORD's Prayer in their own words. What would you change? What would you emphasize? Would you be willing to share your version with the larger church community?

Jesus Prayer/Disciples Prayer (Version 1)

By Armanda Udis-Kessler

Source of all that is beautiful, you are the heart of beauty in all.

May the gratitude and joy, the compassion and love that you imagine into being fill our lives every day.

Help us to offer your generosity and your hospitality to ourselves and to each other.
Inspire us to choose the better way, cultivating peace, resisting hatred, and rejecting violence.

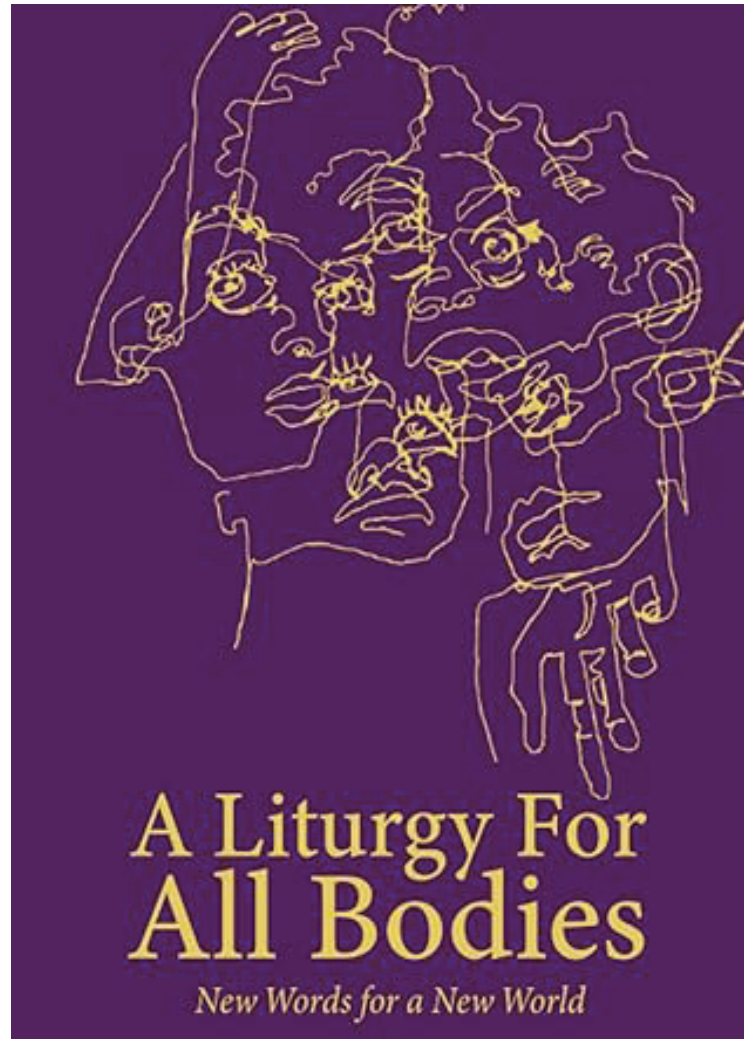
Source of all that is beautiful, yours is the beauty.
Yours is the wonder.

Yours is the power to love and be loved.

May we embody your beauty, give thanks for your wonder,
And use your power for good, for joy, and for love.

In this work we rest, blessing each other and endlessly blessed.

May it be so this day. May it be so all days. Amen.



Jesus Prayer/Disciples Prayer (Version 2)

By Armanda Udis-Kessler

Love, sacred mystery at the heart of all things,
holy are you.

May your domain spread out across the world.

May all have what they need, today and all days.

May we forgive ourselves for our failings and
strive to do better.

May we forgive others for their failings and
invite them to do better, even as they forgive
themselves and us.

If we must face difficulties, may we do so with
courage, humor, humility, and grace.

If we must face evil, may we not be overcome
with it but may we overcome evil with love,
For love is the measure of all things and the hope
of humanity, now and forever. Amen.

Food Ministry Kitchen Report

Over the weekend, Grocery donations were picked up by Ben, Martha, Dorothy, David, Michael, Devon and Paul. Teri and Ellen, even with one arm in a cast, helped in the kitchen to sort and store groceries, plan the menus for Sunday and Monday.

275 eggs were hardboiled and 175 of them peeled for egg salad for Sunday sandwiches. We are delighted Bryan got in one more week of vacation and wish Steve a speedy recovery.

On Sunday, Louise, Ann, Martha, Ben, Matt S., Pauline, Derrick and Bonnie prepared and bagged lunches. We were glad to welcome Stewart and Betsy back from travels as they have been missed.

Lorraine, Gay and Matt S. with Victor distributed lunches at the gate. Jean, filling in for Carmello and Jaz from Berkeley Presbyterian Homes community picked up the sandwiches for our unhoused neighbors. MACRO picked up 15 sandwiches to give to the people they interact with. 125 lunches in total were served.

Monday volunteers included Shirley, Trish, Bonnie, Diane, Jan J, Ellen, Dan M, Beth, Chrissy, Dan C. Paul and Teri. 55 hot lunches were served at the 27th St entrance and 89 meals were distributed to people living in the streets.

Join the Food Ministry Team!

The Food Ministry is looking to incorporate many more First Church volunteers into our work. Anyone is invited to try one shift. Volunteering is low-stress, hassle free and easy kitchen work. The Food Ministry is primarily sustained by the same volunteer group. It's important for new people to volunteer for our primary charitable effort!

Sunday Morning Lunchbag Prep (8:30 – 10:00 am)

Arrive early and help put together bagged sandwich lunches. This shift operates with seven volunteers, so you'll have lots of help learning how the assembly line works. The conversation is lively, coffee is hot, and the work concludes when worship starts at 10 am.

Sunday Lunch Giveaway & Clean-up (11:30 – 1 pm)

You can also volunteer to distribute bagged lunches and coffee/tea at the 27th Street gate. Some days produce and clothes are also given away (depending on what is available). This is a great way to have conversations with our guests and offer some friendly hospitality. You'll be expected to join in the clean-up effort when the lunches are distributed. To get involved, contact Nina Lapachet, ninalapachet@gmail.com

Sundays not a good day for you to volunteer?

There are opportunities on Saturday and on Monday. Join the Sat crew to sort and put away donated groceries, help with prep for upcoming lunches (usually hard boiling and sometimes peeling) 300 +/- eggs, and light cleanup. There is a lot that happens in a short period of time. Hours 9-11. Talk with Steve Cabrera, Henry Ewoke, Chris Magnuson or Dorothy Dugger at coffee hour. Monday's team is in need of help with washing the pans and utensils used to prepare Monday hot lunch and general cleanup. Not the most glamorous job perhaps, but critical to the operation. Usually between 11:00 and 1:00, could start earlier if that is more convenient. Talk to Dorothy if interested. 510-926-0626.



**First Church proudly supports our
COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**

- Afterglow Chorus
- Cantare Choirs
- Catalyst Youth Network
- College Awareness
- Community Women's Orchestra
- Downtown Streets Team
- Faith in Action East Bay
- Food Not Bombs
- Habitat For Humanity, East Bay-Silicon Valley
- Mandela Partners
- Oakland Civic Orchestra
- Oakland Early Head Start Preschool
- Oakland Gay Men's Chorus
- Oakland Kids First
- Quinteto Latino
- ReCares
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vituity Care Foundation

Elders

Elizabeth Cureton, Chris Weber, Di Pagel, Gay Plair Cobb, Erick Bevington, Elizabeth Goodwin, Maggie Harmon, Julia Marquez

Session Officers

Rev. Matt Prinz, Moderator
Anne Margaret Manay, Clerk
Erick Bevington, Treasurer

Deacons

Marjorie Witt, Barbara Goodroe, Derrick Polk, Su Coburn, Pauline Ahanotu, Monrovia Prinz, Martha Bauman, Charmaine Irmiter

Church Staff

Rev. Matt Prinz, Pastor

matt@firstchurchoakland.org

510.488.3812

email to make an appointment

Rev. Joel Mackey, Parish Associate

joelmackey@comcast.net

Jake Fontana, Music Director

jake@firstchurchoakland.org

Micheline La Mont, Community Relationships Manager

micheline@firstchurchoakland.org

510.488.3810

Office hours Weds: 9:30-4:30; Thurs: 1-4

Gus Lopez, Head Custodian

510.290.9677

Erick Bevington, Treasurer

erick@firstchurchoakland.org

Joan Clerk, Bookkeeper

joan@firstchurchoakland.org

Temple Tidings Contributors This Week

Writing by Matt Prinz, Micheline La Mont. Photos by Suzie Inadomi. *Temple Tidings* is a weekly publication. All are welcome to contribute news, events and opinion. **Sign up to be on our email list:** firstchurchoakland.org/temple-tidings



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