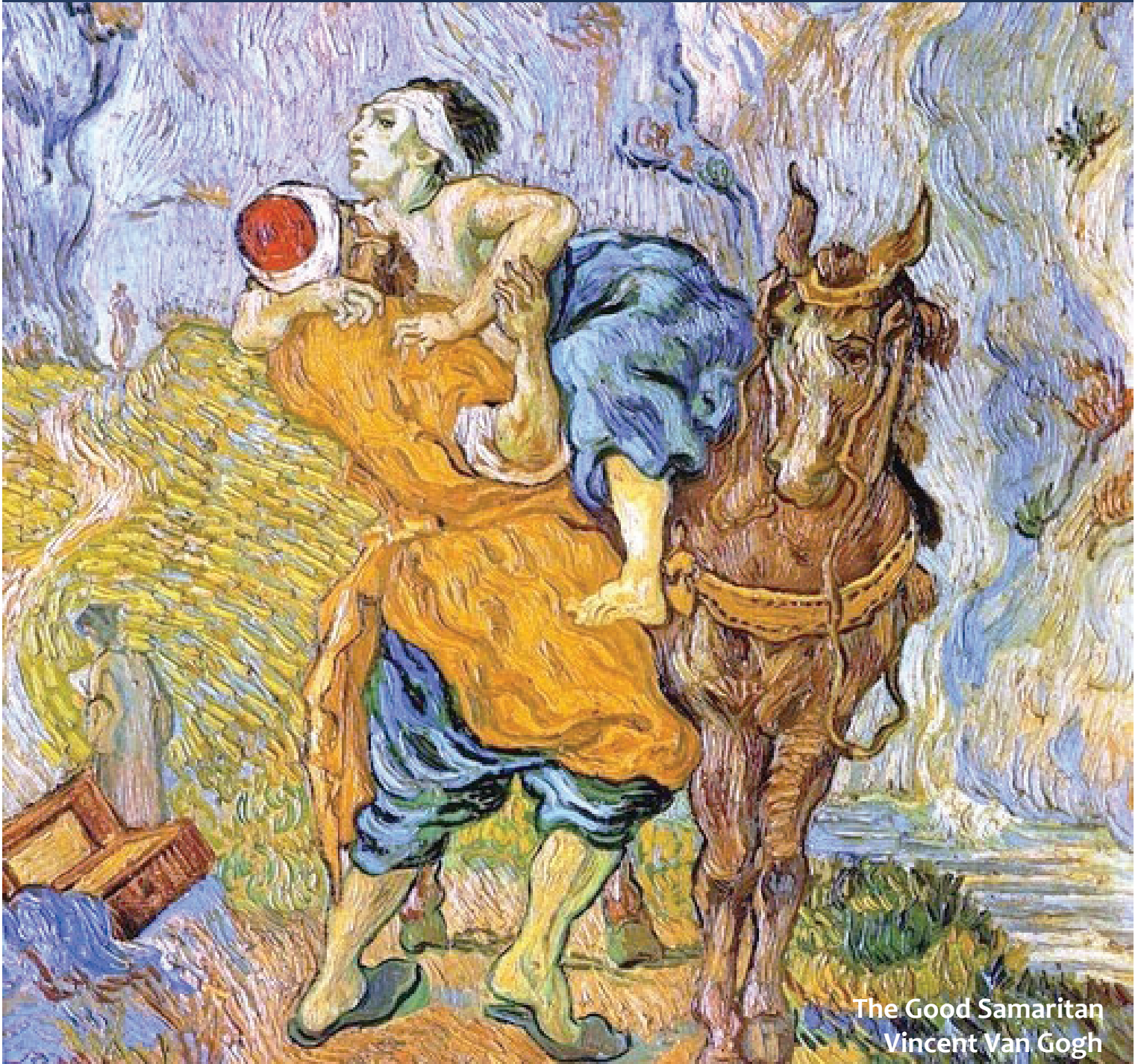


Sunday, August 10, 2025

First Presbyterian Church Oakland

Making God's Welcome Known



The Good Samaritan
Vincent Van Gogh

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** by the Hammond organ and in the back of the sanctuary.
- 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

If I Can Help Somebody

Welcome

Alma Bazel Androzzo

Call to Worship

One: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength,
and with all of your mind

All: We will worship God, the one we love.

One: Love your neighbor as yourself.

All: We will open our hearts to all God's children.

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. Fill us with your grace and peace, that
we may know the richness of eternal life in your Spirit. In Jesus name.

All: Amen.

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

Blest Be the Tie that Binds
African American Heritage Hymnal #341

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: 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. 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.

All: Amen.

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: Eternal life is ours when we love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and when we love our neighbors as ourselves.

All: Amen.

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.

Children remain in the Sanctuary for the month of August.

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

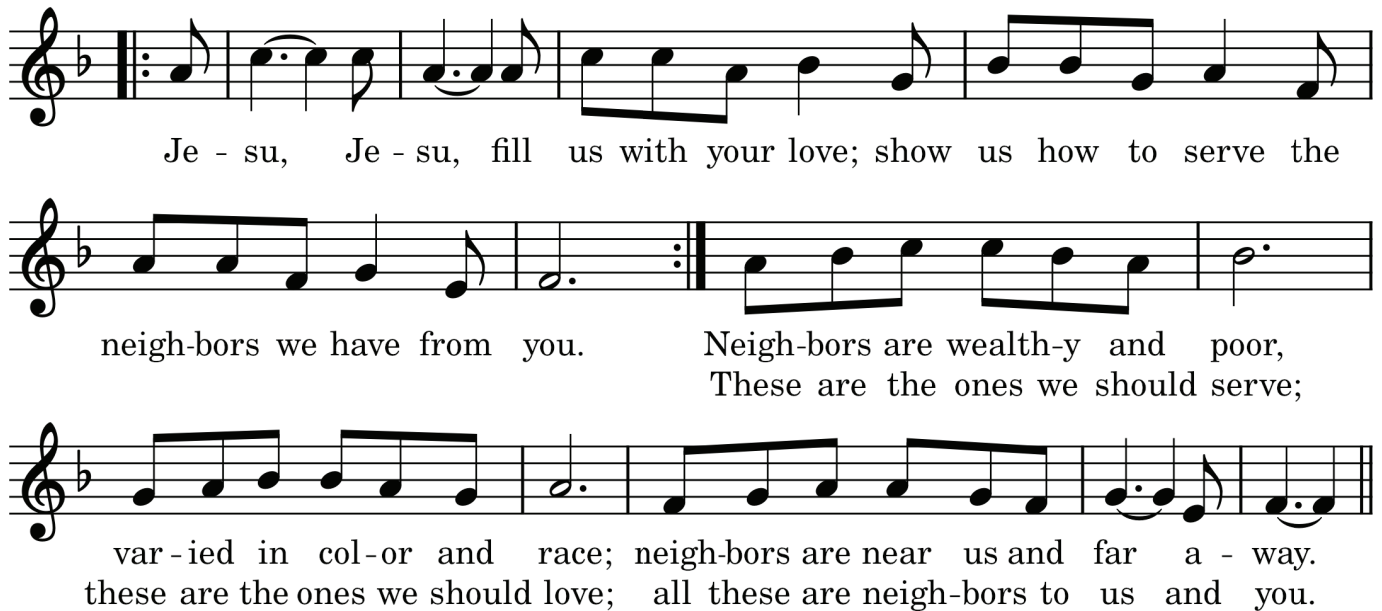
You may share requests for prayer with the congregation aloud or fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate to privately share your prayer need with the pastor. If you would like, there are two tables set up with candles for prayer and salt water for lament.

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.

Song

Jesu, Jesu



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the
neigh-bors we have from you. Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor,
These are the ones we should serve;
var-ied in col-or and race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.
these are the ones we should love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.

THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

Luke 10. 25 - 37 The Message

Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. “Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?”

He answered, “What’s written in God’s Law? How do you interpret it?”

He said, “That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself.”

“Good answer!” said Jesus. “Do it and you’ll live.”

Looking for a loophole, he asked, “And just how would you define ‘neighbor’?”

Jesus answered by telling a story. “There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

“A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man’s condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds.

Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.'

"What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?"

"The one who treated him kindly," the religion scholar responded.

Jesus said, "Go and do the same."

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Conversation - How do we love our neighbors?

Song

Certainly, Lord

Invitation to the Offering

One: We practice generosity throughout the week with our time and money and abilities. Let us practice generosity together through our weekly financial gifts.

Ushers will collect the weekly offering. Donations can be placed in the offering plate. You may also make a donation by scanning this QR code with your smartphone, or by texting your donation to 510.880.1329.



Offertory

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Musical notation for the Doxology in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God from whom all - bless - ings flow, praise God all
crea-tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove ye heav - en - ly
host, praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.

Prayer for the Offering

One: Bountiful God, your love bears the fruit of hope and grace; your ways lead to fullness of life. May today's offering bear fruit in our world, that your love may cause old hatreds to cease, old wounds to heal and old divisions to mend.

All: Amen.

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Song

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms African
American Heritage Hymnal #371*

Benediction

*In the end, I want my heart to be covered in stretch marks
By Andrea Gibson*

Poem

My neighbors do not wish to be loved. They have made it clear that they prefer to go peacefully about their business and want me to do the same. This ought not to surprise me as it does; I ought to know by now that most people have a hundred things they would rather do than have me love them.

There is television, for instance; the truth is that almost everybody, given the choice between being loved and watching TV, would choose the latter. Love interrupts dinner, interferes with moving the lawn, washing the car, or walking the dog. Love is a telephone ringing or a doorbell waking you moments after you've finally succeeded in getting to sleep.

So we must be careful, those of us who were born with the wrong number of fingers or the gift of loving; we must do our best to behave like normal members of society and not make nuisances of ourselves; otherwise it could go hard with us.

It is better to bite back your tears, swallow your laughter, and learn to fake the mildly self-deprecating titter favoured by the bourgeoisie than to be left entirely alone, as you will be, if your disconformity embarrasses your neighbors: I wish I didn't keep forgetting that.

*He attempts to love his neighbors
By Alden Nowlan*

SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Elizabeth Goodwin

Music Director: Jake Fontana

Song Leader: Raenelle Tauro

Head Usher: Matthew Inadomi

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Julia Marquez

Reception Room Worship Highlighted by Good Samaritan Parable



First Church Community Remembers Our Dear Friend, Ann Jones

Linda Carter

Ann was a kind woman who never had a bad word to say about anyone. She had a quiet, understated dignity and tremendous strength of character and she was devoted to Rich. She had a great sense of humor and an infectious laugh. I remember when she and I talked about hip replacement surgery during Fellowship Hour; I was scheduled and she was back from surgery and attempted to put my fears at ease. Her good intentions went awry - she said they gave her an epidural and she remembered laying there and hearing them sawing and hammering away but she didn't care at all. That was enough for me to make sure that I was completely sedated!

She was a devoted member of the Lakeshore Women's Club and was a tireless presence in the church kitchen when we put on our annual fundraiser. She will be missed.



Di Pagel

Ann was wonderful to work alongside at church and in 2007 when I arrived at the church she was chairing "Fellowship" and active in the ministry of hospitality. Hosting a Seder dinner had become a tradition during Holy Week and Ann was the calm presence in the kitchen guiding us all through the various steps to produce this ritual meal. She always managed to keep her sense of humor in the midst of the occasional chaos that could happen in a busy kitchen! I think her sense of gracious hospitality and her humor will always be the two characteristics of her spirit that will stay with me always. She became one of my dear friends never to be forgotten.





Anne Margaret Manay

One of my fondest memories of Ann is of the day we brought our newborn son home to California after his birth in Alabama. She and Rich picked us up from the airport. I can still picture her holding our son in the baggage claim at SFO while we gathered our luggage. It felt especially poignant as both she and I became mothers via adoption. She and Rich continued to be an extra set of grandparents during our son's early years, as Siddharth and I had no family on the west coast at that time. We will never forget her loving and generous presence in our lives.



Matthew Inadomi

Suzie and I were looking for a church that was welcoming and I, in particular, was looking for a church that reminded me of the church I grew up in Southern California. When we found First Presbyterian Church of Oakland, there were many aspects that felt right about it, but most of all, what we've come to love are the people.

At the top of that list is Ann Jones.

From the first time we met her, she welcomed us like family with her warm smile, calming voice and genuine personality. We've had the pleasure of knowing her and Rich for almost 30 years, but even from the beginning, she and Rich made us feel like one of the family. And that included her cooking.

We've enjoyed her hospitality all these years through her varied dishes she shared so many years through the Fellowship Committee. We always felt her love through her cooking and, to this day, one of our favorite dishes to make is her enchilada casserole.

Our lives have been blessed knowing Ann and we'll carry on her love through our fellowship with others.



First Church Community Remembers Our Dear Friend, Ann Jones

Diane Hill

Ann Jones was a lovely person with a twinkle in her eyes and an infectious laugh. I worked with Ann on several church activities:

150th Anniversary Committee - 2003 (Our Church was established in 1853): Ann Jones co-chaired the Anniversary Committee, along with husband Rich Jones and Rev. Bob Williams. In December 2002, a committee of 11 was formed of the church family. Ann pulled the committee together in December for anniversary celebrations that began the first of March 2003, and included a Reception, Gala Banquet, tour of the Sanctuary, and a program of music and speakers on March 29, 2003 in the Fellowship Hall.

Wedding Coordinator: Ann was Wedding Coordinator at First Church, and I worked with her on the weddings. Before she retired, she trained me to become the Wedding Coordinator and we worked well together. She was always gracious in dealing with people and we had some lovely weddings because of her caring ways.

Lakeshore Women:

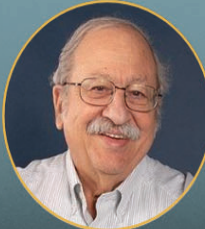
Ann was an active member of the Lakeshore Women, a group of church women who supported First Church with many donations, i.e., the curtains in the Fellowship Hall, etc.

I miss her.

Join PICO for The Time is Now: A Democratic & Spiritual Revival




MODERATOR
JOSEPH TOMÁS MCKELLAR


MARSHALL GANZ


RABBI SUSAN GOLDBERG


BISHOP DWAYNE ROYSTER

THE TIME IS NOW:
A Democratic & Spiritual Revival
Tuesday, Sept. 10 5:30 - 7 PM PT - Via Zoom

HA LLEGADO EL MOMENTO:
Un Renacimiento Democrático y Espiritual
Martes, 10 de septiembre 5:30 - 7pm PT - Vía Zoom

Across this country, we are facing a profound moral crisis. Families are being stripped of health care. Food assistance is being cut. Our social safety net is being dismantled – not because we lack the resources, but because our politics have abandoned care, community, and compassion. In moments like this, we must ask: what would it take

to spark a democratic revival? How can we come together with both strategy and spirit – guided by our values, our faith, and our hope for something better? To register, please go to:

<https://form.jotform.com/252057825122048>

Our Music Director's Graduate School Journey

By Jake Fontana

Many of you know that I am studying at a clinical psychology program, where I am training to become a licensed therapist. I've just finished my third year studying at the Wright Institute in Berkeley, where I'm working on earning a Doctor of Psychology (PsyD). A PsyD is like a psychology PhD but focuses on clinical training instead of conducting research.

As part of the program, I've been working at different practicum sites in our community each year, so that I can get practice and receive training as a therapist. This month I am finishing a year of work at the outpatient clinic of Richmond Area Multi-Services (RAMS), a San Francisco nonprofit which works with underserved populations in the city, particularly immigrants, refugees, and Asian Americans in need of services. My clinic is an amazing environment where many of my fellow trainees are international students or from immigrant families themselves, bringing their own experiences and cultural backgrounds to their practice. I learn a lot from working in a place where, at any moment, the people around me could be speaking Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, Spanish, French, German, and more. We dedicate a lot of time to discussing how critical a person's culture is to their story and examining the challenges we face in a society that often rejects difference.

This month I begin practicum training at a community college in Contra Costa County where I also worked during my first year.

I'm returning as a mentor for the incoming first-year trainees, as well as continuing to work as a therapist myself. Working with up-and-coming psychology students is fun and meaningful, and I enjoy giving something back from my own experience. I am also looking forward to working with college students again, who are at a challenging but exciting juncture in their lives, figuring out what kind of people they'd like to be.

While most of my classwork is done, I plan to take electives in the coming year to round out my education. I'll also be working on my dissertation, which is a theoretical exploration of how we make meaning after traumatic experiences. Finally, this September I'll begin applying for internship sites, beginning in the fall of 2026. Internship is a yearlong intensive training experience, and students apply nationwide in the hopes of finding a match. While I have every expectation that I will match with a site in the Bay Area, it's going to be a long and stressful process to apply. If I ever seem a little preoccupied this fall, just know that I should be through the worst of it by the new year! Your good wishes, thoughts, and prayers for a successful match would be much appreciated.



Food Ministry Team Workers



Sarah Roberts, Steve Cabrera and Suzie Inadomi prepare food for the weekly Food Ministry.

First Church proudly supports our COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- Afterglow Chorus
- Cantare Choirs
- Catalyst Youth Network
- College Awareness
- Community Women's Orchestra
- 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
- ReCares
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vituity Care Foundation



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

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Ben Baab: Building and Grounds
Di Pagel: Worship and Music/Personnel
Gay Plair Cobb: Personnel/Food Ministry
Erick Bevington: Treasurer
Maggie Harmon: Finance
Julia Marquez: Community Life
Suzie Inadomi: Building the Beloved Community

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Anne Margaret Manay, Clerk
Erick Bevington, Treasurer

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Temple Tidings

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

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