

BIRTHDAYS COMING UP

ADULT BIRTHDAYS

11/11 Kathy Schreiner
11/12 Emma Puglia
11/13 Robin de Gennaro Grant
11/15 Peter Vash
11/16 Jonathan Stewart

CHILDREN / YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

11/10 Zachary Shi Kin Kinney (11)
Zane Xing Jian Kinney (11)



PRESBYTOPICS

Our love and prayers are with—

† Pastor Mark Jones whose anticipated surgery is scheduled for December 11. Pastor Mark was given a Lumbar Epidural on Monday for potential pain relief management.

Our prayers continue for those of our faith family
in need of God’s healing touch:

Rubina Andonian	Ian Hrachovec	Linda S. Spitser
Polly Berger	Nancy Immel	Kuki Sullam
Susan Chapman	Mark S. Jones Sr.	Amy Tan
Aiden Cohen Davis	Nina Louie	Ron Tranquilla
Christopher Davis	Queen Esther Rankins	Wes Truitt
Earl Ellis	Rita Ries	
Eva Hrachovec	Jim Spitser	



This Sunday, the Flame of Unity will be at **Fuente de Vida Presbyterian Church**. We pray for these congregations as others pray for us when the flame is here. The **Flame of Unity** is a symbol of our shared mission and service in Christ, appearing each week at one of the congregations of the Presbytery of the Pacific.

CHOIR RETREAT— TODAY & SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23



Interested in joining our Chancel Choir? Be part of our retreats **today and Sunday, November 23, at 12:00pm** in the Choir Room, focusing on the Oratorio de Noël (Cantata Sunday) and the Messiah Sing-A-Long. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Music Director Dan Redfeld if you have questions at dredfeld@westwoodpres.org.

YOUTH THANKSGIVING PERFORMANCE!



Youth and young adults are invited to take part in the Thankfulness Sunday worship service **on November 23**. All experience levels are welcome — come be part of leading worship together! **Rehearsal will be held after worship in the Choir Room next Sunday.**

COMING UP

Sun. Nov. 9	WPC Worship Service— Mission Sunday	10:00am
	Faith Conversation	11:20am
	Choir Retreat	12:00pm
Sat. Nov. 15	Esperanza Fall Playground Morning	8:30am
Sun. Nov. 16	WPC Worship Service— Deacon Sunday	10:00am
	New Member Info Seminar Pt. 2	11:00am
Wed. Nov. 19	Women Reading	7:30pm
Sun. Nov. 23	WPC Worship Service— Thankfulness Sunday	10:00am
	Choir Retreat	12:00pm

AMY TAN IN CONCERT —SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15



Check out WPC's own, Amy Tan, **in concert this Saturday, November 15 at 8:00pm at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church**. Join Orchestra Nova LA for An Emotional Odyssey, an evening of sweeping musical narratives that trace the full spectrum of the human spirit. Tickets are free, but there is a suggested donation of \$20. For more information check the email version of News & Concerns.

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS

All the People

PASTORAL

Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian, Pastor
Rev. Mark S. Jones Sr., Pastor of Mission, Outreach, & Pastoral Care
Rev. Paula Mann, Executive Associate Pastor

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Anne Cioffi, Coordinator of Membership Ministries
Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care
Dan Redfeld, Director of Music
Michelle Whelan, Interim Student Ministries Director

MANAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Sarah Davis, Director of Operations
Farrah Mikail, Financial Manager
Linda Martinez, Administrative Assistant & Contributions Coordinator
Javier Torres, Maintenance
Lourdes Torres and Joshua Torres, Custodial

WORSHIP

Abi Abanto, Aidan Hall, JJ Hickey, Emily Leaver, Nick Pelayo, AV Tech
JA'Michael Davis-Hoag, Sunday Receptionist
Laurel Sanders, Organist
Paul Workman, Sound & Lighting Engineer

SECTION LEADERS

Elias Berezin and Emerson Boatwright, tenors
Christina Borgioli and Devon Davidson, sopranos
Emily Kerrigan, alto
Matthew Lewis, bass

PRESCHOOL

Priscilla Glaza, Preschool Office Assistant
Brienne Naiman, Preschool Director
Tajmaya “Taj” Anders, Preschool Curriculum Specialist
Heidi Rudd, Preschool Office Manager



NEWS & CONCERNS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

MISSION SUNDAY



Today in worship, we focus on the hope of our mission: to fulfill our calling as partners with Christ. Our commitments include caring for the hungry and unhoused, children and youth in need, international partners, and the earth. We are committed to being a Matthew 25 church and we are

certified as an earth-care congregation.

During worship we will be blessed by testimony from Katie Tell from PATH and a recorded message from our own Rev. Mark S. Jones, Sr., Pastor for Mission & Outreach and Pastoral Care.

FAITH CONVERSATION —TODAY!



Today following worship, our Mission & Outreach and Adult Education Committees present a powerful Faith Conversation with Rev. Shelvis Smith-Mather **in the Sanctuary**. Rev. Shelvis and his wife, Rev. Nancy, have spent nearly two decades serving in one of East Africa’s most challenging contexts.

Through stories of resilience from South Sudan, learn how faith communities are transforming trauma into healing and conflict into peace—even amid civil war and the world’s fastest-growing refugee crisis. Hear how WPC’s faithful partnership has empowered survivors to become peacemakers, and discover how the church continues to serve as a sanctuary of hope. Come be inspired and gain new insight on how to remain faithful amid national division and turmoil.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

REMINDER

The Westwood Presbyterian Church Office will be closed **this Tuesday, November 11, for Veterans Day**. We will resume regular office hours on **Wednesday, November 12**.

WPC ESPERANZA FALL PLAYGROUND MORNING —THIS SATURDAY!



The Mission & Outreach Committee invites the congregation to join us for our Fall Playground morning at Esperanza Elementary School **this Saturday, November 15, 8:30am-11:30am at 680 Little St, Los Angeles, CA 90017**. We'll participate in fun activities with students and their families. There are many ways to be involved: games, arts and crafts, snacks, and lots of pizza! No skills required. We'd love to have you there! Sign up online at westwoodpres.org. We need all participants' names **by this Wednesday**.

DEACON SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 16



Next Sunday at WPC is Deacon Sunday - Deacons will be hosting in the service and in the fellowship hour. You can spot Deacons wearing boutonnieres. In our denomination, "The office of Deacon is one of compassion and service after the example of Jesus Christ."

Here at WPC our deacons are committed to delivering flowers, cards, and visits to those dealing with a loss, a surgery recovery, or simply to cheer. Deacons prepare communion in church each month and deliver home communion quarterly to our home bound members. Deacons lovingly decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias or lilies during the holidays. If you feel a call to serve and have a more meaningful relationship with our members in the service of Christ, let us know and ask questions. It is very likely that you will receive more than you give. Please say "hello" to a Deacon and find out more!

NEW MEMBER INFO SEMINAR — NEXT SUNDAY!



If you are a visitor, we encourage you to attend this seminar! This session help you get to know WPC (including our Presbyterian tradition), ask questions, and find ways to get involved. Though this sessions is required for those

interested in official membership, they are open to ALL!

Join us for part 2 of the seminar next Sunday, at 11:30am in Hoffman Hall. Those wishing to join will be received into membership during worship Sunday, November 23. All are welcome! For more information, contact Anne Cioffi at acioffi@westwoodpres.org, or reach out to any of our pastors.

WESTSIDE COALITION HONOREES 2025



On October 23, the Westside Coalition (WC) "Celebrating Success Breakfast" included WPC Honorees Linda Martinez, Administrative Assistant, and Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries, for their extraordinary contributions to WPC's ministries that ultimately serve the homeless and others in need of supportive services in our community!

Also honored as the WC Board of Director's "Honoree of the Year", was our own beloved and deserving Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian, for exemplary leadership in encouraging partnerships with and supporting the mission and ministries of the Supportive Services Agencies and Faith Based Organizations of which WPC is an actively contributing member. Congratulations to WPC's outstanding Honorees!



WESTSIDE FOOD BANK HUNGER WALK 2025

A huge thank you to everyone who donated and walked in the Westside Food Bank Hunger Walk last Sunday! The WFB reached their fundraising goal and raised enough funds to provide over 608,000 nutritious meals to those in need. Thank you WPC!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On Sunday, October 26, WPC blessed our beloved pets! And thank you to all who donated to two wonderful animal rescue centers in Los Angeles!



PLEASE RECYCLE —A MESSAGE FROM MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE



PLEASE RECYCLE- WPC needs paper or plastic bags to support churches who provide weekly food distribution. Please deposit them in the marked receptacle located by the Visitor's Table on the Side Porch. THANK YOU!

Donate to WPC today



offering baskets
in the narthex



10822 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024



online at
westwoodpres.org



Scan our
QR code

MESSIAH SING-A-LONG—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5



Join us on Friday, December 5, at 7:00pm as Music at Westwood presents the "Messiah Sing-A-Long", under the baton of Music Director, Dan Redfeld. Featuring WPC's Chancel Choir Section Leaders singing on the arias and our WPC Chamber Orchestra, the audience

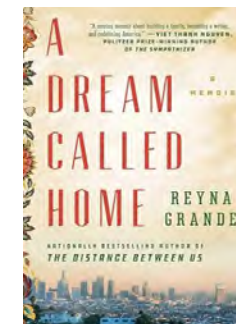
will sing along on many of the well-known choruses from Handel's masterful oratorio led by the WPC Chancel Choir. This is the perfect way to kick off the Advent season, get into the holiday spirit, and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus! Tickets-\$25 for adults and \$10 for students are available today on the Side Porch following worship and on Eventbrite. Scholarships are available.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS



Rehearsals for our Children's Christmas Pageant, "The Friendly Beasts," meet Sundays after worship, 11:30am-12:30pm. Today's rehearsal will be in Rooms 1 & 2. We will also use time in Sunday School to rehearse each week. All children are welcome! If you would like to join the cast or if you have any questions, reach out to Marin Miller at mmiller@westwoodpres.org.

WOMEN READING —WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19



Women Reading invites you to join us on Zoom on Wednesday, November 19, at 7:30pm to discuss the book *A Dream of Home* by Reyna Grande. This 2018 memoir begins when the author arrives at UC Santa Cruz after crossing the border from Mexico when she was 9 years old. Growing up in Los Angeles, she shares her journey to try to find her own identity and pursue her dream of becoming a writer.

Newcomers are always welcome—contact the church at office@westwoodpres.org if you would like to receive the Zoom link to join our thoughtful community of women readers!

THANKFULNESS SUNDAY —NOVEMBER 23



Every year we celebrate Thanksgiving - but WPC celebrates in a special way! It was in November 1947 that our church was founded and every year we gather to give thanks.

Join your family of faith on Sunday, November 23, for worship,

followed by finger-food and festivities in Hoffman Hall. This year we'll be treated to a special premier screening of our Sunday School's claymation short film: *A Friend for Zaccheus*. Thank you, children, for this offering! Be thinking about something for which YOU are personally thankful this season!