

BIRTHDAYS COMING UP

- 4/21 Theresa Kim
- 4/23 Heather Felix
Alexander Schloss
- 4/25 Gabrielle Bosley
- 4/27 Genevieve Brown

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



PRESBYTOPICS

Our love and prayers are with—

- + Jura Adams as she recovers from successful surgery for a very rare tumor.

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

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

CONNECT WITH WPC!



New-ish to our church? Curious about ways to be involved? Please take a moment to fill out the “Connect” card in the pew rack – then return it to a pastor, the offering plate, or an usher. Let us know what you’d like to know more about, if you have a prayer request, if you’d like to receive WPC emails, and more. We are so very glad you’re here!



This Sunday, the Flame of Unity will be at **First Presbyterian Church of Gardena**. 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.

COMING UP

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Sun. April. 20 | Easter Sunrise Communion Service | 7:00am |
| | Easter Sunday Services | 9:00am & 11:00am |
| Mon. April. 21 | Church Office Closed | |
| Sat. April. 26 | Esperanza Spring Playground Morning | 8:30am |
| Sun. April. 27 | WPC Worship Service— | |
| | Jazz Sunday | 10:00am |
| | Westside Voices Concert | 3:00pm |
| Mon. April. 28 | WPC Softball Game | 8:30pm |
| Thurs. May. 1 | Ember | 7:00pm |
| Sun. May. 4 | WPC Worship Service— | |
| | 3rd Sunday of Easter | 10:00am |
| | Faith Conversation | 11:20am |
| | <i>May the 4th Be With You!</i> | |

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS

All the People

PASTORAL

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

- Tajmaya “Taj” Anders, Preschool Curriculum Specialist
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Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care
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Michelle Whelan, Interim Student Ministries Director
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SUPPORT

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Javier Torres, Maintenance
Joshua Torres, Custodial
Lourdes Torres, Custodial

WORSHIP

- Abi Abanto, AV Tech
JA’Michael Davis-Hoag, Sunday Receptionist
Aidan Hall, AV Tech
John James Hickey, AV Tech
Emily Leaver, AV Tech
Nick Pelayo, AV Tech
Laurel Sanders, Organist
lsanders@westwoodpres.org
Paul Workman, Sound & Lighting Engineer

SECTION LEADERS

- Elias Berezin, tenor
Emerson Boatwright, tenor
Christina Borgioli, soprano
Devon Davidson, soprano
Emily Kerrigan, alto
Matthew Lewis, bass



NEWS & CONCERNS

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025

WE WELCOME YOU TO JOIN US!

Whether you are new to WPC, a long-time member, or returning after a time away, we are glad you are here this Easter morning! Join us Sundays for worship at 10am to refresh your spirit - and try out other activities to engage your heart and mind, your voice and hands. Contact our staff for more information!

MUSIC

- Chancel Choir rehearses Thursday evenings; all are welcome
- Vespers Ensemble: women’s vocal group for our occasional vespers services

FELLOWSHIP

- Coffee Hour on the side porch - meet new people and see old friends
- Interfaith Softball League at Cheviot Hills Rec Center (see details inside)
- Poetry Group meets monthly to share and grow in our writing
- “Monday Nighters” hosted quarterly for fun and refreshment

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Sunday School for children and youth each Sunday
- Children & Young People’s Spring Variety Show on May 11

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- PATH, FosterAll, and Westside Coalition partnerships
- Esperanza School Spring Playground Morning on April 26
- Monthly Hunger Appeal to help Westside Food Bank and Wilshire Food Pantry the 1st Sunday of the month

ADULT EDUCATION

- Adult Bible Forum Sunday mornings in person or by Zoom
- Faith, Search, and Support book discussion Sundays in person
- Faith Conversations on the 1st Sunday of the month

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- Vespers services for each special season
- Small groups, including periodic book studies

WOMEN’S PROGRAMS

- Women’s Meditation on Thursday mornings in person or by Zoom
- Women Reading meets monthly by Zoom

COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

- Ember, a space for curiosity and connection 1st & 3rd Thursday evenings

PRESCHOOL—WPC Preschool is enrolling now for fall! Visit their website at wpcpreschool.com for more details

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The Westwood Presbyterian Church Office will be closed **tomorrow, April 21**. We will resume regular office hours **on Tuesday, April 22**.

ESPERANZA SPRING PLAYGROUND MORNING & BOOK DRIVE —*THIS SATURDAY!*



Our Mission & Outreach Committee invites you to join us as we return to Esperanza Elementary School for our Spring Playground morning **this Saturday, 8:30-11:30am**, at 680 Little St, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

WPC has built a very special relationship with Esperanza Elementary over the last several years with many in our congregation participating in meaningful ways. Twice a year we put on a playground morning for the students and their parents. It's always very fulfilling and lots of fun. And the students always make sure to give us a tour of their wildlife habitat that they've cultivated right there on their campus near downtown. There are many ways to be involved from playground games, arts and crafts, snacks, kickball and lots of pizza but no skill is required! Sign up online at westwoodpres.org. All participants must sign up by this Wednesday!

In addition, today is the last day the Youth Ministry will be collecting children's books for elementary through middle school ages for Esperanza families on the Side Porch!

WPC IS AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION



At Westwood Presbyterian Church, we seek to care for the earth not out of obligation, but as a humble expression of our love for God and for all that God has made. As a certified Earth Care Congregation through the PC(USA), we are learning to walk more gently upon the earth—striving to integrate ecological wisdom into our worship, education, daily living, and public witness. In this time of environmental uncertainty, we long to be a community rooted in hope, reverence, and renewal. We're grateful for your presence with us today and invite you to join us in this sacred journey of care.

JAZZ SUNDAY —*APRIL 27*



With Easter's good news of resurrection and hope springing from darkness and death, our toes should be tapping and our hearts singing with joy! Join us **next Sunday**, when our beloved Bevan Manson Trio will lead us in worship with a different beat, celebrating Eastertide and its divine promises of grace and resurrection. Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care, will be preaching this day.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



Easter's One Great Hour of Sharing offering (OGHS) brings hope to people in difficult times. Gifts are divided between two worthy efforts. One half supports three vital Presbyterian Church (USA) ministries: the Hunger Program,

Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. For decades Presbyterians have come together to fulfill God's vision for a world where all people are cared for and valued. These efforts help refugees find food and shelter, equip underserved communities, and provide relief and rebuilding after disasters like our recent wildfires.

The other half will help the wellbeing of the earth. Our Mission & Outreach Committee recently launched an Earth Care focus (all the more urgent in the wake of the fires). In partnership with Children & Family Ministries, they have identified the support of beekeeping as a tangible way to help. Bees help crops grow, and also help farmers be far more self-sustaining. (In Guatemala alone, farmers earn 23% more each month by selling honey.) Give generously as we wrap our arms around our neighbors in need. Donate by scanning the QR code below and **select One Great Hour of Sharing**; or by check, adding OGHS in the memo line.

SPONSOR THE CHANCEL FLOWERS



The chancel flowers depend on your active participation. A donation of \$75 covers the cost of the flowers

and a chance to remember a loved one with a dedication in the bulletin.

The WPC Deacons deliver the flowers to WPC members and friends after worship each week. You may give in worship on Sundays, by mail, or scan our QR code and select the field **Chancel Flowers**.

Please support this wonderful ministry of encouragement and comfort and schedule your desired 2025 sponsorship date on the side porch after worship today!

SPONSOR COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



The refreshments on the side porch after worship depend on your participation. Members and friends are invited

to host the fellowship hour. You may shop for refreshments, bake something, or ask the church to do the shopping for you!

If you would like the church to shop for you, you may give in worship on Sundays, by mail, or scan our QR code and select the field **Coffee Fellowship** (\$100 per family or team of sponsors).

Please support this wonderful ministry of fellowship and schedule your desired 2025 sponsorship date on the side porch after worship today!

WPC MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR —*MAY 18 & JUNE 1*



Interested in finding out more about Westwood Presbyterian Church? Beginning to explore a sense of belonging? Considering joining our congregation? Explore with us in a two-part seminar **on Sundays, May 18 & June 1**, right after worship. **Join us in Hoffman Hall** for a light lunch with our Pastors and the

membership team. We will discuss opportunities for nurture and service here at WPC along with information about our faith, governance, and more. **Sign up on the Side Porch today**, or online at westwoodpres.org. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Chris Chakioan at cchakoian@westwoodpres.org or Anne Cioffi at acioffi@westwoodpres.org.

WPC SOFTBALL IS BACK!



WPC is off to a great start this season, earning their first win in the Los Angeles Interfaith Softball League! Help cheer our team on **Monday evenings; next game will be on April 28, at Cheviot Hills Rec Center – at 8:30pm, Diamond #4**. Our team has a wide

range of skill levels, and the season lasts until late July. It's a lot of fun and a great way to get to know people from WPC and other similar faith communities! If you are interested in joining the team this year, email us at office@westwoodpres.org.

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU: A FAITH CONVERSATION WITH BREEN FRAZIER



This Star Wars Day, join us for a special Faith Conversation **on Sunday, May 4 following worship in Hoffman Hall**, with longtime WPC member and acclaimed television writer Breen Frazier (*Criminal Minds*, *Alias*).

Drawing on decades of storytelling experience and a lifelong love of the Star Wars universe, Breen will guide us into the deeper spiritual undercurrents of the saga—how its vision of the Force, of darkness and light, has shifted across time and culture. Using film clips and images, he'll open up a conversation not just about the galaxy far, far away—but about the world we live in now, and the forces at work within it.

Come curious. Come costumed, if you'd like! And come ready to see Star Wars with new eyes. May the 4th be with you!

WESTSIDE VOICES CONCERT —*NEXT SUNDAY!*

Join this award-winning acapella ensemble for an hour of great music and fun **next Sunday, at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary**. Westside Voices presents "The Cold of Winter, the Warmth of Love." Listen to classic songs like "In the Stillness of Winter", "You Do Something to Me", and "How Sweet it is to be Loved by You." There will be a Reception on the Side Porch following the concert. **Suggested donation is \$15**. For more information, go to westsidevoices.com.

Donate to WPC today



offering baskets
in the narthex



10822 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024



online at
westwoodpres.org/give



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