

## BIRTHDAYS COMING UP

4/27	Genevieve Brown	5/2	Anikia Daly (7)
4/28	Spencer Felix		
4/29	Brooke Larson		
4/30	Emerson Boatwright		
	Celeste Emont		
	Kimberly Gallant		
5/1	Carien Smith Thompson		



## PRESBYTOPICS

Our love and prayers are with—

- † Brooke Larson’s father, Sandy Prater, who is in hospice care following a stroke, and for her mother, Gretchen in her sorrow. .
- † David Hartle & Carole Grogan in their joy and their sorrow, and for God’s gifts of love in many forms. We celebrate their marriage on April 18 – and we grieve the loss of their beloved dog Napoleon that very morning.
- † Elizabeth Evans who is recovering from recent foot surgery.
- † Shane Needham & Kristyn Humphreys Needham and their son, Will, on the birth of baby Isabelle Catherine Needham on April 11.
- † The family of long-time WPC member Nancy Immel who passed away on April 13, 2026. Memorial Service arrangements will be shared when they become available.

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

Rubina Andonian	Eva Hrachovec	Linda S. Spitzer
Polly Berger	Ian Hrachovec	Kuki Sullam
Susan Chapman	Mark S. Jones Sr.	Amy Tan
Aiden Cohen Davis	Nina Louie	Ron Tranquilla
Earl Ellis	Queen Esther Rankins	Wes Truitt
Rose Helm	Rita Ries	Preston Walsh



This Sunday, the Flame of Unity will be at **Bethesda Presbyterian Church Calvary**. 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. Apr. 26	WPC Worship Service— Jazz Sunday	10:00am
	WPC Membership Seminar Part Two	11:30am
Mon. April 27	WPC Softball Game	7:15pm
Sun. May. 3	WPC Worship Service— New Members Received in Worship	10:00am
	Congregational Meeting	11:00am
	Westwood Greenway Field Trip	12:00pm
Mon. May. 4	Monday Nighters—in Hoffman Hall	6:30pm
Sat. May. 9	CFM Movie Night— <i>The Wild Robot</i>	5:00pm
Sun. May. 10	WPC Worship Service— 6th Sunday of Easter	10:00am
	Faith Conversation	11:20am

## WPC SOFTBALL!



Help cheer our team on Monday evenings at the Los Angeles Interfaith Softball League. Next game is **tomorrow, April 27 at Cheviot Hills Rec Center – at 7:15pm, Diamond #2.** (Please see our bulletin board on your way out for a map of Cheviot Hills.)

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 faith communities! If you are interested in joining the team this year, email us at [office@westwoodpres.org](mailto:office@westwoodpres.org).

## WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

### MINISTERS

All the People

#### PASTORAL

Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian, Pastor  
Rev. Mark S. Jones Sr., Pastor of Mission, Outreach, and 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, JJ Hickey, Nick Pelayo, and Levi Yin, AV Techs  
Laurel Sanders, Organist  
Dakota Hodge, Sound & Lighting Engineer

#### SECTION LEADERS

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

#### PRESCHOOL

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



## NEWS & CONCERNS

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

### WPC—WHERE PEOPLE ARE CALLED!

#### PLEDGE SEASON & STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Many of us come to WPC to be refreshed and restored – but guess what? We can all make a difference too – because God calls each of us to do what we can to make this world a better place.

However you are called to roll up your sleeves, it matters – in mission projects like Esperanza School play-dates, in compassionate outreach like visiting our homebound, in the spiritual encouragement of music, adult ed, Ember, and more.

Your financial commitment makes a difference too. We will be dedicating our annual financial pledges on Sunday, May 17.

Your contributions can be paid through whatever installments work best for you. Pledge cards will be mailed this week, or you can pledge online with the QR code on your pledge card.



Whatever your level of commitment, please know that it matters. Because all of us are called to help fulfill Christ’s care for our world!

## WPC MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR PART 2—TODAY!



Join us today right after worship for part 2 of our Membership Seminar. Let's meet in the Downstairs Lounge for a light lunch and to meet our Pastors and membership team. We will discuss opportunities for nurture and service here at WPC along with more about our denomination and how to become a member of WPC. Feel free to bring your questions.

Please sign up on the Side Porch following worship. **New members will be received on Sunday, May 3.** Contact Anne Cioffi, Membership Coordinator at [acioffi@westwoodpres.org](mailto:acioffi@westwoodpres.org) for questions.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING — NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 3



Following worship next Sunday, May 3, we will convene a congregational meeting for two purposes.

First, we will elect new members to the Session, the Board of Deacons, and the Nominating Committee. Nominations can be taken from the

floor, provided the member who is nominated is present and agrees to serve, if elected.

### Session

Class of 2028-2029: Margaret Inglis, Brooke Larson, Emilie Nordhues, Matheus Oliveira, and Michael Sohigian

Class of 2026-2027: Ellen Caldwell and Heather Leatherwood

### Deacons

Class of 2028-2029: Mundi Fomukong, Matheus Oliveira, Robyn Paris, Anne Louise Rice, and Cindy Trangsrud

### Nominating Committee

Class of 2028-2029: Breen Frazier, David Hartle, Kitty Sankey, and Michael Sohigian

Second, we will vote to delay Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian's retirement date to July 31, 2026 at the request of the Pastor Nominating Committee.

All members are encouraged to attend the meeting (in person and on livestream). And though they cannot vote, non-members are very welcome to attend!

**Donate to WPC today**

 offering baskets in the narthex
  10822 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90024
  online at [westwoodpres.org](http://westwoodpres.org)
 Scan our QR code

## MONDAY NIGHTERS —MAY 4

### SPRING INTO CHANGE!



Our Spring Monday Nighters will be held in Hoffman Hall on May 4 at 6:30pm...now that's a big change! Here is another, let's have a picnic!! Please bring your favorite picnic food to share. For extra fun, dress in your overalls and gingham dresses. Come and celebrate WPC's upcoming changes together.

Please sign up on the Side Porch today or online at [westwoodpres.org](http://westwoodpres.org) to let us know what food or drink you will be bringing.

## FAITH CONVERSATION —SUNDAY, MAY 10

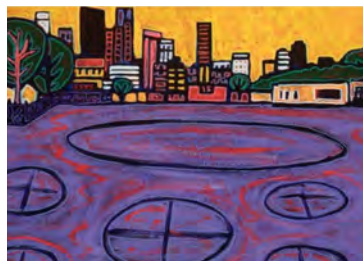


Join us for a Faith Conversation on one of the most pressing challenges facing the church in America today on **Sunday, May 10, in the Sanctuary.** Christian Nationalism corrupts Christian witness by blessing exclusion, elevating power, and weakening our commitment to the dignity and flourishing of our neighbors. As the church continues to reckon with these realities, we are grateful to welcome back Dr. Reinhard

Krauss, Executive Director of the Academy for Judaic, Christian, and Islamic Studies. A Germany-born Bonhoeffer scholar with a Ph.D. from the University of St Andrews, Dr. Krauss brings rare insight into what can happen when the church becomes entangled with nationalism. He has studied these dynamics in history and recognizes troubling echoes in our own time. The Adult Education Committee is grateful to have him once again for what promises to be an illuminating and meaningful conversation.

## ESPERANZA SPRING PLAYGROUND MORNING

### —SATURDAY, MAY 16



The Mission & Outreach Committee invites the congregation to join us for our Spring Playground morning at Esperanza Elementary School on **Saturday, May 16, 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 by Wednesday, May 13 at [westwoodpres.org](http://westwoodpres.org).**

## JO —AMERICAN SONG WRITER WIN!



Jo-The Little Women Musical is celebrating their honor in the American Songwriter Magazine's "2025 Song Contest" with a special music video. The selection "Fly Away", with music by Dan Redfeld and lyrics by Christina Harding & John Gabriel Koladziej, is the first place winner in the publication's first-ever category for "Musical Theater" song. The "Fly Away" music video – featuring Grammy Award nominee Christine Allado (Hamilton) as Jo March and Tobias

Turley (Mamma Mia!) as Theodore 'Laurie' Laurence– was recorded live at January's all-star concert at London's Theatre Royal Drury Lane. Congrats to our Music Director, Dan Redfeld, for this tremendous honor.

## CREATION SEASON AT WPC!



This Spring at WPC, as we consider our calling to cultivate new life in this world, we're excited to announce our Creation Season programs! In addition to our regular worship gatherings that focus on our Christian calling to tend and to keep God's world, let us explore opportunities

such as the Westwood Greenway field trip, to deepen our understanding of what it means to be caretakers in the garden of creation.

### Westwood Greenway Field Trip

*Sunday, May 3 at 12:00pm*

Explore a local natural preserve on a guided tour that highlights the beauty and life-giving power of native plants. A perfect outing for families and nature lovers! **You can sign up on the Side Porch today or online at [westwoodpres.org](http://westwoodpres.org).**

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES' (CFM)

### IMPACT ON EARTH CARE

The Children & Youth are participating mightily in this year's Creation Season! CFM offers programming rich with environmental themes encouraging a r/evolution of empathy and right action in covenantal kinship with God's creatures. Our prayer is that these experiences support our children's sense of joyful belonging to each other, our natural world, and God.



**Noah's Ark in Concert** is a Children & Youth Summer Musical performed in worship on **Sunday, June 7**, with DIY sets and props the children are creating entirely of reclaimed/ recycled/recyclable materials. **Rehearsals are every Sunday during Sunday School and after fellowship in the Sanctuary, 11:30am-12:30pm.** A mandatory Dress Rehearsal will be on Saturday, June 6, 9:00am-12:00pm.



CFM Movie Night on **Saturday, May 9**, featuring *The Wild Robot* celebrates mothers, Mother Earth, and its wild ones! We're inviting fellow westside PCUSA K-5ers over for a movie night. (WPC youth are welcome, too!) Marin and her fellow CFM Directors will provide adult supervision. Parents can stay for the show or drop children off and go treat Mom this Mother's Day Eve.



**Nature Vacation Bible School** taking place **June 17-19** at Malibu Creek State Park will be a Forest School meets Christian Contemplation. Join us for three days of creek stomping, play and wonderment as we heed Job's advice: "*Speak to the earth, and it will teach you.*" (Job 12:8)