


BIRTHDAYS COMING UP

ADULT BIRTHDAYS		CHILDREN / YOUTH BIRTHDAYS	
5/5	Nancy Immel	5/7	Clark Dzuban (7)
5/6	Gabrielle Price	5/9	Elizabeth Reinert (9)
5/7	M.C. Haslett		
5/8	Ali Maghsoudi		
5/9	Dianne Berman		
	Michele Scott Hauser		
	John Lewis		
	Anna Winkenbach		
5/11	Marianne Truitt		

PRESBYTOPICS


Our love and prayers are with—

+ Mimi Hart as she continues to regain strength, following recent surgery, in rehabilitation.

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

WOMEN READING —WEDNESDAY, MAY 21



Women Reading invites you to join us on Zoom on **Wednesday, May 21 at 7:30pm** to discuss the book, *Breaking Through: My Life in Science*, by Katalin Karikó. This autobiography shares the difficult and inspiring experience of this pioneer researcher who devoted decades to the molecule called "messenger mRNA," which eventually formed the basis of the vaccine that helped save many people from the worst impacts of the COVID-19 virus

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!



This Sunday, the Flame of Unity will be at **Presbyterian Church of Hawthorne**. 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. May. 4	WPC Worship Service— 3rd Sunday of Easter	10:00am
	Faith Conversation <i>May the 4th Be With You!</i>	11:20am
Mon. May. 5	WPC Softball Game	7:15pm
Sat. May. 10	Spring Variety Show Dress Rehearsal	10:00am
Sun. May. 11	WPC Worship Service— Spring Variety Show	10:00am
Fri. May. 16	WPC’s New Website and Logo Launch	
Sun. May. 18	WPC Worship Service— 5th Sunday of Easter	10:00am
	Congregational Meeting	11:00am
	New Membership Seminar	11:30am

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS All the People	SUPPORT Priscilla Glaza, Preschool Office Assistant pglaza@westwoodpres.org Linda Martinez, Administrative Assistant & Contributions Coordinator lmartinez@westwoodpres.org Heidi Rudd, Preschool Office Manager hrudd@westwoodpres.org Javier Torres, Maintenance Joshua Torres, Custodial Lourdes Torres, Custodial
PASTORAL Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian, Pastor cchakoian@westwoodpres.org Rev. Mark S. Jones Sr., Pastor of Mission, Outreach, and Pastoral Care mjones@westwoodpres.org Rev. Paula Mann, Executive Associate Pastor pmann@westwoodpres.org	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
LEADERSHIP Tajmaya “Taj” Anders, Preschool Curriculum Specialist tanders@westwoodpres.org Anne Cioffi, Coordinator of Membership Ministries acioffi@westwoodpres.org Sarah Davis, Director of Operations sdavis@westwoodpres.org Farrah Mikail, Financial Manager fmikail@westwoodpres.org Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries mmiller@westwoodpres.org Brianne Naiman, Preschool Director bnaiman@westwoodpres.org Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care jputich@westwoodpres.org Dan Redfield, Director of Music dredfeld@westwoodpres.org Michelle Whelan, Interim Student Ministries Director mwhelan@westwoodpres.org	SECTION LEADERS Elias Berezin, tenor Emerson Boatwright, tenor Christina Borgioli, soprano Devon Davidson, soprano Emily Kerrigan, alto Matthew Lewis, bass



NEWS & CONCERNS

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

THANK YOU TO OUR ESPERANZA SPRING PLAYGROUND SUPPORTERS!

What an incredible day we had at the Esperanza Spring Playground Morning, despite the rain! Your enthusiasm and community spirit truly shined through the cloudy skies. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to our Book Drive - your generosity will help put books in the hands of children who need them most.

Special recognition goes to Scott and David Hartle for their exceptional dedication and support throughout the event. Their tireless efforts helped make our rainy day gathering a remarkable success. And a heartfelt thank you to Jules Whelan, whose energy and commitment to our community continues to inspire us all.

The weather may have been wet, but our community's warmth and generosity proved that nothing can dampen our collective spirit when we come together for a good cause.



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



Today is Star Wars Day, so join us for a special Faith Conversation **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. May the 4th be with you!



YOUNG PEOPLE'S SPRING VARIETY SHOW —NEXT SUNDAY!



Children *and* youth are ready for their Spring Variety Show that will be **presented in worship on Mother's Day, next Sunday, May 11**. Families are welcome to join us after worship for pizza on the playground with cake to celebrate both our amazing young people who put in their heart and hard work for this awesome show and the amazing mothers among us! Rehearsals continue today in the sanctuary following Side Porch fellowship, 11:30am-12:30pm.

The dress rehearsal for the Spring Variety Show is this Saturday, May 10, at 10:00am-12:00pm. For more information or any questions, please contact Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries, at mmiller@westwoodpres.org.

WPC SOFTBALL —TOMORROW!



WPC is off to a great start this season! Help cheer our team on **Monday evenings; next game will be tomorrow**, at Cheviot Hills Rec Center – at 7:15pm, Diamond #1. 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.

WPC MONTHLY HUNGER APPEAL —TODAY



Our support for those in need continues! **Every first Sunday of the month**, when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, our Hunger Offering helps those who are food insecure. Two mission partners benefit from your generosity: Westside Food Bank and Wilshire Presbyterian Church Food Pantry. **We encourage you to contribute online or on the Side Porch following worship today.**

Donate online by scanning the QR code below and **select Hunger** (for Westside Food Bank) **or Food Pantry** (for Wilshire PC Food Pantry). You can also write a check to Westwood Presbyterian Church (by mail or in the offering plate) with Hunger Offering or Food Pantry on the memo line.

WPC HAS A NEW LOOK—OUR NEW WEBSITE AND LOGO LAUNCH ON MAY 16



WPC will unveil a new website and refreshed logo **on Friday, May 16**. Since 2020, many community members have connected with us online, highlighting the need for an improved digital presence.

Our Strategic Communication group, a sub-committee of our Vision & Planning Committee, has collaborated with web and graphic designer Daniel Saunders since Fall

2024 to revamp our site and logo. The new website will introduce our church to visitors, provide resources for members to stay connected, and better represent our church community.

We thank our dedicated team: James Babbin, Caryl Carothers, Chris Chakioan, Sarah Davis, Paula Mann, Jake Putich, and Brett Whelan, who worked closely with our designer on this project. For questions, contact Sarah Davis at sdavis@westwoodpres.org. Visit **our new website** at westwoodpres.org **on May 16... and hear more in our congregational meeting on May 18.**

NOW ENROLLING AT WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL!



We welcome children from the age of two into a nurturing environment with programs tailored to spark curiosity and a love for learning. Offering Preschool, Pre-K, and Developmental Kindergarten, we provide options including full-day, half-day, and Spanish Immersion.

With over 60 years of trusted experience, our curriculum supports social-emotional growth, inquiry, and exploration through small group learning in math, science, art, music, and more.

Discover more and schedule your tour today at wpcpreschool.com. We can't wait to welcome your family!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING —SUNDAY, MAY 18



Following the worship service **on Sunday, May 18**, we will convene a congregational meeting to 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. The names of those nominated will be available in next week's News and Concerns. We will also be reviewing WPC's new website! 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!

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.

SUMMER FOOD DRIVE FOR CHILDREN IN NEED



Join the Mission & Outreach Committee as it collaborates with the Children & Family Ministry and Student Ministry for our Summer Food Drive supporting the Summer Children's Nutrition Program through Westside Food Bank! This important initiative helps provide for children who rely on school breakfast and lunch during

the school year. Our children and youth are proudly leading this project to collect nonperishable food that the Westside Food Bank will distribute during the summer months. **Please bring your donations to the Side Porch on Sundays, May 18, 25, and June 1.**

Needed items: *peanut butter, pasta, cereal, canned soup, canned vegetables or fruit, canned meat or fish, and protein bars*

Your generosity can make a significant difference in a child's summer! Thank you for supporting this vital community effort.

Donate to WPC today



offering baskets
in the narthex



10822 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024



online at
westwoodpres.org/give



Scan our
QR code