


BIRTHDAYS COMING UP

ADULT BIRTHDAYS		CHILDREN / YOUTH BIRTHDAYS	
9/2	Amy Tan	9/5	Skye Burt (8)
9/3	Lawrence Liu		
	Rebekah VanderStoep		
9/6	Marc Labinger		
	Madeleine McDowell		
9/7	DeAnne Crossley		
	Adam Sohigian		

PRESBYTOPICS

Our love and prayers are with—

- + Jim Spitsers who is in the hospital for an infection.
- + Steve Hauser who suffered a stroke on Saturday, August 23, and is now recovering at home. Steve is doing well and is being cared for by his wife Michele.
- + Marilyn Robertson’s daughter, Jocelyn, as she recovers from surgery for cancer.
- + The family of Benjamin Alanis who died on Friday, August 15.

The Memorial Service will be this Friday, September 5, at 11:00am at Westwood Presbyterian Church.

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

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



This Sunday, the Flame of Unity will be at **University 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.

COMING UP

Sun. Aug. 31	WPC Worship Service— 12th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00am
	Church Directory Photo and Update Day	11:00am
Mon. Sept. 1	Labor Day / Church Office Closed	
Sun. Sept. 7	WPC Worship Service—	10:00am
	Congregational Meeting	11:00am
	Homecoming	11:20am
	Last Day for Church Directory Photos and Updates	
Sun. Sept. 14	WPC Worship Service— 14th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00am
Wed. Sept. 17	Women Reading	7:30pm
Sat. Sept. 20	Homeboy 5k Walk/Run	8:30am

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS All the People	
PASTORAL Rev. Dr. Christine Chakoian, Pastor <i>cchakoian@westwoodpres.org</i> Rev. Mark S. Jones Sr., Pastor of Mission, Outreach, and Pastoral Care <i>mjones@westwoodpres.org</i> Rev. Paula Mann, Executive Associate Pastor <i>pmann@westwoodpres.org</i>	
LEADERSHIP Tajmaya “Taj” Anders, Preschool Curriculum Specialist <i>tanders@westwoodpres.org</i> Anne Cioffi, Coordinator of Membership Ministries <i>acioffi@westwoodpres.org</i> Sarah Davis, Director of Operations <i>sdavis@westwoodpres.org</i> Farrah Mikail, Financial Manager <i>fmikail@westwoodpres.org</i> Marin Miller, Director of Children & Family Ministries <i>mmiller@westwoodpres.org</i> Brianne Naiman, Preschool Director <i>bnaiman@westwoodpres.org</i> Jake Putich, Director of Faith Formation & Creation Care <i>jputich@westwoodpres.org</i> Dan Redfeld, Director of Music <i>dredfeld@westwoodpres.org</i> Michelle Whelan, Interim Student Ministries Director <i>mwhelan@westwoodpres.org</i>	
SUPPORT Priscilla Glaza, Preschool Office Assistant <i>pglaza@westwoodpres.org</i> Linda Martinez, Administrative Assistant & Contributions Coordinator <i>lmartinez@westwoodpres.org</i> Heidi Rudd, Preschool Office Manager <i>hrudd@westwoodpres.org</i> 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 <i>lsanders@westwoodpres.org</i> 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, AUGUST 31, 2025

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND HOMECOMING —
NEXT SUNDAY!



Our gathering begins with worship at 10:00am, followed by our brief congregational meeting. We will receive the 2025-2026 budget, an update on the building project, and approve terms of call for Revs. Paula Mann and Christine Chakoian. Our

annual meeting is open to all (though only members may vote), and will be available on our YouTube channel.

Then stay for Homecoming fun and fellowship! Join us for lunch, games, and conversation as we kick off the new program year. There will be lots of fun for children, too - including a water slide!



WPC HOMECOMING



CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

REMINDER

The Westwood Presbyterian Church Office will be closed **tomorrow, September 1, for Labor Day**. We will resume regular office hours on **Tuesday, September 2**.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL FUN!



Another Ice Cream Social on the books! Last Sunday, the WPC kids served us ice cream and sweet treats on a scorcher of a Sunday!

Thank you to Marin Miller and the Children & Family Ministries Committee for organizing and to the kids who volunteered to dish out ice cream sundaes.



WOMEN READING —WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17



Women Reading invites you to join us on Zoom on **Wednesday, September 17 at 7:30pm** to discuss the book *Raising Hare* by Chloe Dalton. This book was on the New York Times Bestseller List for a number of weeks and was a finalist for the 2025 Women's Prize. *Raising Hare* tells the author's story of saving a wild baby hare in the English countryside and then raising it, while allowing it to run free.

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!

WOMEN'S RETREAT —OCTOBER 3-5



All women are invited to our annual **Women's Retreat at Serra Retreat Center in Malibu October 3-5**. Join us for a weekend of friendship and centering in Spirit as we explore deeper connection through both community and solitude.

This year's retreat theme is "Breathe. Belong. Build hope." Our featured speaker- the Rev. Heidi Worthen Gamble, Mission Catalyst for the Pacific Presbytery- will draw from her experience leading justice and relief efforts as well as retreats, guiding us in the ways of creating and sustaining hope and giving us tools for tending our own flames as women called to a life of compassionate service. We hope to share this wonderful weekend of renewal with you.

To register online go to westwoodpres.org or sign up in **Hoffman Hall after worship**. Scholarships are available to ensure that no one is left out.

If you'd like to volunteer to help with the retreat, contact Marin Miller at mmiller@westwoodpres.org.



WPC CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTO AND UPDATE DAYS TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY!



Help us update our church directory, including photos and contact information! Volunteers and staff will be **in Hoffman Hall today and next Sunday after worship** to assist you with providing updated contact information (including emergency contacts).

You will also have the opportunity to have a new photo taken for the online church directory! Please contact Sarah Davis at sdavis@westwoodpres.org with any questions.

WPC'S CHANCEL CHOIR IS BACK —JOIN TODAY!



The choir returned to worship last Sunday and regular rehearsals began last Thursday at 7:30pm. If you've been interested in the possibility of joining the choir, all parts are welcome, especially sopranos!

Please contact our Director of Music, Dan Redfeld at dredfeld@westwoodpres.org if you're interested. We're looking forward to a wonderful fall and Advent season!

CELEBRATING ESPERANZA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND WPC



As we celebrate WPC's deepening connection with Esperanza, it's fitting that we shine a light on how it all began. Benjamin Alanis, a longtime, beloved member of WPC, had the foresight to see that WPC and Esperanza Elementary School had similar goals for community involvement, and both could become even stronger through this engagement. (As noted in Presbytistics, we will be

honoring Ben's life in a **Memorial Service this Friday, September 5**.)

Brad Rumble, the esteemed principal of Esperanza Elementary School, and close friend of Ben for many years, shared that "Ben devoted his career in service to the students and families as a teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District... He recognized the importance of community involvement the lives of children: children need to feel a sense of belonging at school and in the wider community as well."

HOMEBOY 5K —SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20



Join us on Saturday, September 20, along with 5,000+ runners, walkers, volunteers, and families for our 16th Annual Homeboy 5K Run/Walk through historic Downtown Los Angeles! We'll begin the morning filled with energetic vibes, joy, and laughter outside our Chinatown headquarters at 130 W Bruno Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. We will end with a street celebration featuring

artists, partners, and vendors from across the city.

Your partnership with the Homeboy 5K Run/Walk supports the work of Homeboy to continue our mission to provide training and support to formerly gang-involved and previously incarcerated people, allowing them to redirect their lives and become contributing members of our community. You can register online at westwoodpres.org.

FAITH, SEARCH, & SUPPORT NEW STUDY —BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21



Starting Sunday, September 21, our Faith, Search & Support class will dive into *Blessed One: Protestant Perspectives on Mary*, an engaging collection of essays edited by Beverly Roberts Gaventa and Cynthia L. Rigby. This study invites us to revisit the figure of Mary not as a distant icon, but as a vibrant theological presence whose witness speaks powerfully into questions of faith, discipleship, and embodiment.

Books are available for purchase in Hoffman Hall for \$20. All are warmly welcome to join the conversation. Join us weekly in the Brides' Room (located in the narthex) with curiosity and an open heart!

Donate to WPC today



offering baskets
in the narthex



10822 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024



online at
westwoodpres.org



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