

# the SPIRE

April 2024

First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills

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# From the Pastor's Desk

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## *“For God So Loved...”*

*“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*

It is arguably the most beloved, most memorized verse in all of scripture: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” I’m guessing everyone who is reading this at this time knows this verse. Songs have been written using the text. Signs are held up in stadium endzones. Many people refer to John 3:16 as the “Gospel in a Nutshell.”

I recently read John 3 in my own personal devotional time, and then I used it as inspiration for my Morning Coffee with Pastor Lance podcast on facebook. John tells the story of Nicodemus – one of the first-century Jewish religious leaders – who came to talk to Jesus at night. It’s a conversation for the ages! Rich in historical, theological and doctrinal truths. I remember during one of my podcasts saying, “I should do a sermon series on John 3.” Several people remarked that they thought that was a good idea.

So, here we are, in the season of Easter. Did you know Easter was a season in the liturgical calendar? The Sundays after Resurrection Sunday and before Pentecost are called the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, *et al* Sundays of Easter. So during this season of Easter, between Resurrection and Pentecost, we’ll be looking at this chapter in a series titled, “Late Night Conversations.”

What does it mean to be “Born Again”? How is the Spirit of God like the wind? What does the gospel have to do with the bronze serpent in the wilderness wanderings of the people of Israel? What does Jesus really say about condemnation? Given some of the most critical truths about what it means to be a Christian found in this chapter, this season is an excellent time to invite friends, family, neighbors to come to a Sunday worship service and checkout First Pres.

On another note, please pray for the staffing here at FPCGH. After the three-month probationary period, Helen Magaña stepped down as co-Director of Youth Ministry. So, Maggie Benjamin is currently flying solo. After Carol Morain retired, Juliana Price graciously stepped up to serve as Interim Director of Children’s Ministry. We are posting for the Children’s and Youth Director positions. If you know any good candidates, please send them our way! We want God’s best for our children and students. And we pray God brings the right people to serve with us here in the heart of the Valley. Your prayers would be greatly appreciated!

I remain yours in Christ’s Love and Service,

Pastor Lance

# Morning Coffee with the Pastor Lance

Have you heard about Pastor Lance's morning devotional on Facebook? It is free and open to anyone. Simply search "Morning Coffee with the Pastor Lance." (it says "the" Pastor, because Lance's Spanish-speaking wife set the page up).

Every morning around 8:00 a.m. Pastor Lance gives a brief, live devotional on a passage in scripture.

That livestream is then posted and available on the page.

Like it and follow the page.

Even share a video that you like on your personal page.

Let's get the word out about what is going on in the heart of the Valley.



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## From Carol Morain

Dear Friends!

Thank you for the love gift I received. Your generosity humbles me and I am so honored. It has been such a privilege to serve in

Children's Ministry. I love the team, Sunday school teachers and volunteers that make sure every week Sunday school is a place where kids feel loved by God and by us. I am privileged to be able to see our kids grow up and some of them have families of their own now. Our families at First Pres are amazing!

I always enjoy the interaction we have with them every week. I feel blessed to be able to have a job that I loved! I could not have done it without the help and support of everyone.

I love all of you dearly.

Carol Morain

# Family Ministry

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## JOIN US FOR A **FIRE-GRILLED FUNDRAISER**



Come enjoy fire-grilled chicken while also supporting a great cause!

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRANADA HILLS**

Visit the El Pollo Loco location listed below on the designated date and bring this flyer in person or electronically. El Pollo Loco will donate 20% of the proceeds to us!

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Participants must present this flyer to the cashier at the time of purchase. Flyers cannot be distributed in or around the restaurant.



**SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH**  
**10:00AM-3:00PM**

10651 Balboa Blvd, Granada Hills



**Upcoming- The Habit Fundraiser**  
**May 5**

# THE ALL CHURCH RETREAT

## UNCLUTTERED



WITH COURTNEY ELLIS

**SATURDAY, MAY 25**

9:00 am-4:00 pm

At First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills

Childcare provided, breakfast/lunch/activities included  
\$30/person for over 12, \$20/person for 12 and under.

Register on the patio

or online at [fpcgh.org/family](http://fpcgh.org/family)

Children's Day Camp is doing a Biblical STEAM curriculum!



# Blood Drive

## Thursday, April 11

### in Lee Hall



Sign Up on the church patio for the Deacon Blood Drive on Thursday, April 11 in Lee Hall

# New Members Classes

## April 14 & 21 at 12:30 pm

### in Hampton Lounge.

Interested in joining First Pres? Join our New Members class on April 14 and 21 at 12:30 pm in Hampton Lounge.

# PAPER SHREDDING

## MAY 4

### 9 AM TO 12 PM

### IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT

Paper Shredding in the church parking lot on May 4 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.  
We are accepting envelopes with windows and stapled documents.  
We will NOT be accepting large binder clips, paper clips, or metal hanging folders.  
Coffee, cookies, prayer booth, and donations accepted.

## Youth & GMen

# BOWLING

**May 4 at 11 am  
at Matador Bowling**



Youth and GMen are going bowling  
May 4 at 11:00 am  
At 9118 Balboa Blvd. Northridge CA 91325



## *Women's High Tea May 11 in Lee Hall*

Join us for the Women's High Tea Luncheon on May 11 in Lee Hall  
\$25 per person  
We will also be presenting the recipients of the Women's Honorary Life Award.

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## Mother's Day Gift Baskets

Mother's Day Gift Baskets for Moms in Need! The Deacons would appreciate your help in providing moms who live in a transitional shelter with a gift basket for Mother's Day. Your donations of hair, skin, and nail products, as well as cash donations and \$10 Target or Starbucks gift cards are welcome. The Deacons will be on the patio between services to receive your donations from April 7 through May 5.

Thanks!

# Music Ministry



The Music Ministry has been up to quite a lot this last month! The Kids Chorus sang with the adult choir on Palm Sunday, the Gloribells joined us on Easter Sunday, and the Youth Ministry Worship band is growing into itself nicely! Further away from home, members of the Cathedral Choir sang at Forest Lawn in Glendale for their Centennial Easter Sunrise Service!

A group of 11 members of the Cathedral Choir got up on Easter Sunday and to Glendale in time for a 5 AM rehearsal, singing with a choir of 80 singers in their Hall of Crucifixion and Resurrection. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the Risen Lord as well as Forest Lawn's Centennial. If you'd like to join us for some amazing musical worship experiences, please reach out to me or come to rehearsal one Thursday!



The Gloribells were ecstatic to get to be a part of the Easter Celebration here at First Pres! As we were getting ready to rehearse Anne Herring's *Easter Song* with the choir, I noticed that the song begins with "Hear the bells ringing," but didn't include any bells! I whipped up some bell parts for them, and they were ready to ring in no time! It added such a nice touch, and we're glad they could be a part of the service.

Our brass friends joined us again for Easter Sunday and filled the room with a joyous noise! Thanks so much to Larry Hall for helping coordinate the group and rehearsing with them. We are so blessed to get to have some of the best brass players in the city join us for Easter!



Palm Sunday featured our littlest singers! The Kids Chorus joined the adult Cathedral Choir in singing our Introit that Sunday, Victor Johnson's *Lift High The Palms of Praise*. They were adorable in their little choir robes and standing proudly in the front row! We loved having them sing praise with us and are excited for next time!

Youth Worship is hitting its stride, and we're so grateful to our Youth Ministry Worship Team for their incredible contribution to the program. Thanks to their

help, the Youth Ministry is able to celebrate the moment together of opening up their hearts to God, who will make it clean and ready for their study.

Thanks to all of these wonderful people for their contribution to our musical offerings this month! As we move forward, please mark your calendars for our visit from the Westmont College Choir and Orchestra program, which will perform on our chancel on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>! This group of nearly **100 students** will be arriving on the afternoon of the 9<sup>th</sup> for a brief rehearsal before eating dinner here on campus and staying the night here in town.

We are hopeful for a few volunteers to help with the needs of Westmont College's visit. Please reach out to me if you are able to host any number of students at your home when they visit. Offering a home-stay gives their program a way to offset tour costs and keep this opportunity available to the program in the future. The college students aren't picky about their sleeping arrangements – let us know if you've got even a couch they could crash on for the night!

We will be offering a number of students some couch-space here on campus, but we will need to offer them bedding for the night as well. If anyone has access to bedding that we might be able to use for the night of May 10<sup>th</sup> for our visitors, please let me know. We are especially in need of pillows and fitted sheets. All of these can be returned to you after use, or we can donate leftover items to the homeless shelter on your behalf if you do not want them back.

After their rehearsal, Westmont College will eat dinner here on campus. Daniel Hernandez has graciously offered to prepare food for them at cost, for which we are immensely grateful! If you have any interest in helping with the dinner, we are hopeful that we can find help to offset the cost. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please reach out.

Overall, it's been a wonderful time to be a part of the Music Ministry at FPCGH. I hope you'll join us as we move forward!

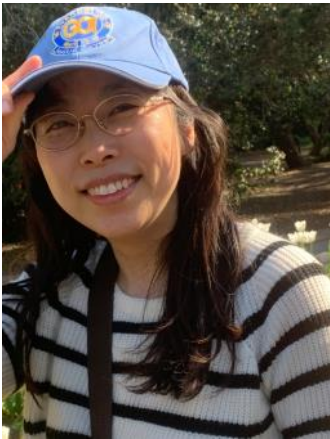


# Music Ministry

## Westmont College Choir Friday, May 10 Host families needed

The Westmont College Choir will be visiting First Pres on May 10.  
Host families for the choir are needed, please contact Aaron at [aaron@fpcgh.org](mailto:aaron@fpcgh.org)

## Welcoming Our New Organist



Kyung Hee was born in Seoul, South Korea. Even before she was a year old, she wouldn't be able to sleep if her mother did not sing a lullaby, and Kyung Hee started learning piano in a young age. She started nurturing her musical talent starting in third grade of elementary school, singing at school showtimes and youth ministries in her church. She became an accompanist for her church since she was in fifth grade, and stayed active playing for kindergarten ministry, youth choir, and college contemporary praise team as a keyboardist. For the next 27 years, she was an organist of some Korean Presbyterian's churches in Seoul. Also she would teach organ in Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary for 13 years, then serve as a chapel organist in that same university. Currently, she is serving in FPCGH as an organist.

Kyung Hee studied church music, organ, piano, and composition in Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary for both her undergraduate and graduate degrees, studied in multiple named organ music academies in Europe such as North German Organ Academy, Romemutier Academy in Swiss, and International Haarlem Organ Festival in Nederland during her summer. She has also studied in USC for her Early Music Graduate Certificate, as an organ and harpsichord major.

She studied organ since her first year of university and developed a deep interest in the music of J.S. Bach, making Bach her inspiration. She has been striving to connect the profound spirituality she derives from the music and life of Bach expressed through his works. To work towards the presence of God through church music, she is currently studying M.Div at Grace Mission University, and is living a journey filled with praising God with her husband and three sons.

# Community Concerns

## Hunger Banks

For a number of years now, FPCGH has been collecting Hunger Banks semi-annually. They are a great supplement to Community Concerns' efforts to feed the food-challenged here in the Valley. We work regularly preparing meals and providing supplemental groceries for the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission, North Valley Caring Services, and Family Rescue Center. Hunger Banks are also a great way for you to corral all your loose change, and turn it in to something very helpful! If you don't have a Hunger Bank, please see someone in Community Concerns, or ask for one in the church office. We'll see that you get one. Then keep it in a convenient place, and drop your change in it whenever you hear jingling in your pockets—or your purse starts getting heavy with too many coins. We will be collecting our Hunger Banks again on April 21, so there's still plenty of time. Every little bit helps!

We are happy that there is another, new—and very easy—way you can contribute to Hunger Banks. Now you can go to the church website's Giving Page. Go to the pulldown menu there, select 'Special Gift' and type in that your contribution is for Hunger Banks.

We on the Community Concerns committee are so grateful for the continuing support from you in the congregation in our work to help those less fortunate that we are!

## Handy Handouts

On April 14 (our usual second Sunday of the month), Community Concerns will sell Handy Handout bags on the patio between services, 1 bag for \$3 or 2 bags for \$5. Deliver the bags to the homeless person you meet on the streets. The bags contain a healthy non-perishable meal, a bottle of water, personal hygiene items, and brochures on resources for homeless people. As always, please collect the small personal-sized soap, shampoo, conditioner, and lotion from hotels and dental hygiene items from your dentist's office, and bring them to the church office marked for Community Concerns. We depend on your donations for the bags.

Thanks!

We will continue to collect beanies to either donate to the North Valley Caring Services, or store until later. So keep on knitting!

## Foster Children's Resource Center

Just a quick reminder that the Foster Children's Resource Center is in continual need of handled paper bags (the kind from nice department or specialty stores, not the kind from grocery stores). Large and small sizes are needed. Please bring your donations to the church office marked for Community Concerns, and we'll get them to the FCRC. Help make a child feel that they've had a special shopping experience!

Questions? Call Ginny Field at 818.363.1850.

# Mission Ministry

## Arizona Mission Trip

### Exciting News! Arizona Mission Trip this June!

Our Mission Ministry invites you to share this exciting opportunity to work with Arizona Reservation Ministries in Globe, Arizona from **June 16-22, 2024**. Come follow Jesus' commandment to love one another by helping build a much-needed addition to an overcrowded home on the reservation. Learn about life on the reservation, and interact with others on the team. Arizona Reservation Ministries are waiting for us!

#### How to Go:

If God leads you, fill in a Mission Trip application available in the church office, or online at [fpcgh.org](http://fpcgh.org). The application due date is **April 21, 2024**. Bring the application to North Lounge on our first Trip Meeting on **April 21, 2024**, after the 11 am service. Lunch is provided. A nonrefundable deposit of \$25 for students, and \$50 for adults will be required. Mission Ministry will pay for all expenses while in Globe, Arizona. You are responsible only for gas and meals to and from Globe, which will include your deposit. Carpooling is available. A limited number of scholarships are available.

#### Questions?

Contact Rick Spence at [rjspence@gmail.com](mailto:rjspence@gmail.com) or Diane Howard at [dianeadhoward@hotmail.com](mailto:dianeadhoward@hotmail.com)



## From Tom Shedd

I leave Sunday, April 7, for Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda - a 5-week trip where we will do 8 trainings, Lord willing. Each of those are 3 days for 6 hours/day - usually 9 am to 4 pm with an hour for lunch. Lots of driving on this trip, so prayers for safety are appreciated. Also ask the Lord to help the City Directors and Organizing Committees in each city to prepare well, and to help all of the participants to be ready in heart, soul, mind, and strength to receive instruction. Same kind of prayer request for me as Lead Trainer and those indigenous trainers who will co-present with me on this trip. So, 2 cities in Tanzania, 2 cities in Kenya, and 4 cities in Uganda. Home May 16. Please pray for Mary Lou and our girls as they stay here with the stuff.

# Children's Ministry

## VBS: Underwater Adventure Week

July 22-26 from 9-12pm

\$60 per child

Preschool & Elementary Ages

Scholarships Available contact [juliana@fpcgh.org](mailto:juliana@fpcgh.org)

Please fill out the Registration link, Health forms, and

VBS Payment at [fpcgh.org/childrens](http://fpcgh.org/childrens)



A summer kids' event called Scuba VBS will be hosted at First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills from July 22 to July 26. At Scuba, kids explore what it means to have a friendship with God! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out sciency-fun experiments that get imagination bubbling. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Fin-tastic Finale that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 11:35 am to 12 pm. For more information, contact [juliana@fpcgh.org](mailto:juliana@fpcgh.org).

## VBS Volunteers

### Looking for 20 Volunteers!

You will need to attend a Volunteer Training: meet for 1 hour the week before summer camp week (date and time to be scheduled).

Underwater Adventure week is July 22-26<sup>th</sup>

Volunteers arrive July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8-12:30, and July 23-26 from 8:45-12:30 snacks and drinks included.

Job Description: Assist Teachers by leading preschool or elementary students through our campus from station to station. Underwater Adventure week has an Opening Music, Dance, and skit. Then off to classrooms: Ref Rec Games Station, Imagination Station, Sticky Scripture Station, Deep Bible Station, and Snack time. You will be responsible for getting your crew from classroom to classroom on time, and keep their items safe til the end of the week. You also have a 15 minute break with snacks and drinks in the volunteer lounge. Katie will be your contact to answer any questions or concerns you have, [katie@fpcgh.org](mailto:katie@fpcgh.org).

## 5th Grade Graduation

Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> Graders: Please save the date for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Brunch May 26<sup>th</sup>.

RSVP to [juliana@fpcgh.org](mailto:juliana@fpcgh.org) with the number in your party attending.





5 Week Summer Program  
for Grades K-8  
Open to students from  
all schools

In-person instruction  
with highly qualified  
teachers

Register online at:  
[gpsa.campbrainregistration.com](http://gpsa.campbrainregistration.com)

Contact:  
Paulette Collins  
(818) 835-4950  
[SummerAcademy@gpsschool.org](mailto:SummerAcademy@gpsschool.org)  
  
[www.GPSSchool.org](http://www.GPSSchool.org)  
10400 Zelzah Ave. Northridge  
  
Preschool Camp (2.5 - 5yrs)  
Contact: (818) 368 -7254



## Scholastic Book Fair

Wednesday, April 17th

Lunch: 12:10-12:50pm

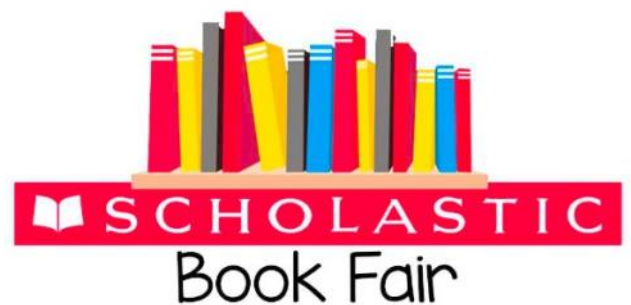
Pick up: 2:30-3:30pm

Thursday, April 18th

During Open House: 5:30-7:30pm

Friday, April 19th

8:00-8:30am



All visitors will need to stop by the office to get a visitor badge and to be on campus.

# Youth Group

If you or someone you know is between the ages of 11-17 (6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade), please join our Youth Ministry's weekly meeting on Sundays, after the eleventh hour, from 12:30-2:30 in Fellowship Hall! Come worship, play games, eat some grub and grow in your relationship with Christ through our Bible studies and small group discussions.

## CALLING ALL STUDENTS! SAVE THE DATE(S):

**May 4<sup>th</sup>:** Let's go bowling! with the GMen/Men's Ministry on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 11am, at Matador Bowling Lanes on Balboa Blvd, in Northridge. Due to their incredible generosity, admission is free of charge! A huge thank you to our Men's Ministry for that!

**May 30<sup>th</sup>:** Parking Lot Fundraiser for the GHC graduation! Please keep mid-afternoon and evening open to help with Youth Ministry's largest fundraiser! All proceeds go toward funding amazing adventures for our Youth students (a.k.a., you).

Thanks for all of your prayers as we continue to grow our ministry and work to bring our students closer to Christ!

# Finance

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## 2024 Per Capita

Every year our budget includes money to cover our congregation's share of the administrative costs of being a part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). An individual congregant's share is calculated on its total membership. This is called "Per Capita." This year the per capita is \$37.18 per member, or \$74.36 per couple. There is a blue Per Capita offering envelope located in your box of offering envelopes. The Per Capita assessment covers overhead cost of our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. You can also make your Per Capita payment through our web page utilizing the Online Giving feature at [www.fpcgh.org/donate](http://www.fpcgh.org/donate) or use the QR code.



QR Code for the Giving Page



QR Code for the App

# From Gary Ventimiglia

When I think about what this Psalm (below) says about me and you, I think that God wanted me to see myself (and you, yourself) as His unique creation. An Imaged one who can reflect the light of Christ's life through the particular prisms of the diamond that is my mortal life. I become the unique colors of the Light of the World refracted and reflected out into the world by my spontaneous life before Him . Why is this so? Because the Almighty made me so. We who adore The Son are luminaries in a dark and suffering world. So I agree with David here:

"I praise you Lord for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works my soul knows it very well" (Psalm 139: 14)

If this way of looking at yourself strikes a receptive chord, check out David Needham's old book, "Birthright"; I read it in 1978, its biblical message has stood the test of time!"

# From Cobe Crosby

Good Morning all at Granada First Pres!

For many years, like any organization, it has been apparent that we have been part of the 2% - 98% rule.

2% of the congregants, members, guests , do 98% of the work.

In the past we have had upwards of 250+ attendees so 2% was able to pull it off.

Now with an average of 135 attendees at 9am and 50 at 11, this is not possible.

With post-pandemic, and a brand new vibrant, energetic Pastor, we need help!

WE have two families that make coffee EVERY Sunday. RIDICULOUS!

WE have about 3 members on each ushering team each month. RIDICULOUS!

If a few families stepped up for coffee, an easy task, no clean-up, we could have families doing once every 8 weeks!!!! We always have people to fill in out-of-town weeks.

If a number of individuals stepped up for Ushering, its only one month in each trimester, 3 X's a year, and with enough people not even every Sunday in the month would you be needed!! We always have people to fill in out of town weeks.

On a side note, ushering has been the best thing I have ever done in the Church.

For the first 10 years at FPCGH, I did not know many people. Once I joined an ushering team in 1995, within weeks I knew everyone! I have been doing it 29 + years.

It goes without saying that we will always need Deacons and Elders, but our immediate need is Ushers and coffee makers

I prefer not to go through the Directory and call each family. HELP ME OUT!! PLEASE!!

Contact for

USHERING 9 am Cobe Crosby 818.618.5058 11 am Danny Hernandez 818.488.4826  
COFFEE Karen Crosby 818.618 5056

Thank you in advance for your anticipated, enthusiastic help!

Blessings and be safe,

Cobe Crosby

# Senior Singles

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On April 17 we will meet in Fellowship Hall for Happy Hour. Cindi will be in charge of that gathering. On April 28 at 5:30 pm we will meet in Hampton Lounge for an hors d'oeuvres potluck and evening of Bingo. Note the change of time, and yes, there will be prizes!

Call Linda Beaumaster at 818.363.0474 for more information.

## Ministry for Seniors Luncheon

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May 16

Save the date for a delicious roasted chicken lunch in Lee Hall, and enjoy our speaker, Rev. Niki Rodas. She will tell us all about her life from childhood on, family, why and how she became a minister, and much more. Reservations can be made on the patio April 28, and May 5 & 12.

## MOPS

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MOPS (Mothers of PreSchoolers) meets every other Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 am in Lee Hall. Free childcare (by pre-reservation only) for children 0-kindergarten. Come & enjoy 2 hours with like-minded moms. Contact Jodie for more information 818.383.4595.

## Cub Corner

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Cub Scout Pack 307 had a nice time at our Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Dinner and the Zoo recently, and are looking forward to our upcoming Family Camping Trip on April 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>! Our regular meetings are on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm. For more information about Cub Scouting for boys K-5<sup>th</sup>, please contact Lauri Sherbon, Cubmaster at [lsherbon@socal.rr.com](mailto:lsherbon@socal.rr.com) or 818.631.6070.

## Little Dresses for Africa

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Our group has sewn over 2,500 dresses for this national organization, where they will be sent to Christian orphanages in Africa. We can provide lovely fabric for sewing, along with a very simple pattern, to create this gift for a girl who may have never received new clothing. If you have an interest in this opportunity, please contact Ginny Field at [vfield2@twc.com](mailto:vfield2@twc.com).



# Bible Studies

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Are you presently in a Bible study group? If not, how can we help you get connected? Bible studies are offered during the week (both in the morning and evening) and on Sunday mornings. There are several ways you can get connected: (1) Call the church office at: (818) 360-1831 (2) contact Sue O'Connor by email at: [taffie1@verizon.net](mailto:taffie1@verizon.net) or (3) contact a Bible study leader below if you are interested in joining a group.

## Sundays (Co-ed):

10:30 to 11:30 am– Looking for a spirited discussion group? We meet in North Lounge every Sunday after the 9 am service.-Leader Cindi Treloar- [cindi6906@gmail.com](mailto:cindi6906@gmail.com)

10:30 am to 12:00 pm- Co-ed Bible Study on 2/4th Sundays at 10:30-12:00 in Hampton Lounge. And... I am not sure about May because the 2nd Sunday is Mother's Day and the 4th Sunday is Memorial Day. So IF we do meet, we will no doubt meet off campus. Leader: Sue O'Connor [taffie1@verizon.net](mailto:taffie1@verizon.net)

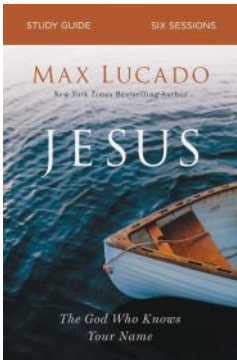
After the 9:00 am service– Are you looking for an opportunity to study and expand your knowledge of Scripture as well as enjoying the fellowship in a small group? We are a co-ed group looking for people to join us on Sundays at 10:30 am after the 9:00 am service. If you are interested in joining, or need more information, please contact Erik Brannon at 310.806.0284.

## Mondays

Men: 7:00 pm in the church library– We are studying Lee Stroble's *The Case For Heaven*.  
Leader Rick Spence –[rjspence1@msn.com](mailto:rjspence1@msn.com)

## Wednesdays

Co-ed 6:00 pm– We are starting a new study! We will be studying "Jesus, The God Who Knows Your Name," by Max Lucado. **"Do you find it more difficult to think of Jesus Christ as a human, like**



**you, than to think of him as God?"** You may believe in God, and you may believe Jesus is God, but many Christians find it difficult to think of him as a real person--fully human as he was fully divine. The concept of Jesus' human and heavenly nature is difficult to wrap our minds around. He's the God who formed the universe and, at the same time, knows your personal struggles...because he went through the same things. For thirty-three years, Jesus felt everything you have ever felt. Weakness. Weariness. Sadness. Rejection. His feet got tired. His head ached. He was tempted and his strength was tested."

Questions? Email Carol Morain [carolmorain1954@gmail.com](mailto:carolmorain1954@gmail.com).

## Thursdays

For Men: 7:00 am- A Bible Study with Dr. Gary Ventimiglia. 818.497.8000, [harvestgv@earthlink.net](mailto:harvestgv@earthlink.net)

For Women: 9:00 am– The Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study will begin a new study on April 25 called *Pursuing God* by Margaret Feinberg. The first six weeks is a study of the Book of Genesis. We will take a break afterwards, and continue with the next six weeks of the study in the fall.  
–Leader Michelle Brekke- [brekkefamily@me.com](mailto:brekkefamily@me.com)

For Men: 7:00 pm– For Men: 7:00 pm We are beginning a study of the book "After You Believe" by N.T. Wright. We meet every other Thursday in the church library. New members are welcome!  
Leader Dave Peterman– [dmp88@earthlink.net](mailto:dmp88@earthlink.net)

# Prayer Requests

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## Hospital/Recovering:

Lee Morain- has upcoming knee replacement surgery on Tuesday, April 9.  
Shasta Elgin- was diagnosed with fibromyalgia and has multiple doctor appointments for other issues.  
Kevin Meihaus- is home and recovering from spinal meningitis.  
Margo O'Connell- has pneumonia and dealing with vertigo.  
Kendra Buck- recovering from surgery on her right thumb.  
Dave Peterman- recovering from surgery at home.  
Bobbi Van Every- healing and is having physical therapy for her elbow.  
Marilynn Matheson- at home in hospice.  
Harold Landon- recovering at home.  
Michele Morse- dealing with rheumatoid arthritis and waiting for hip replacement surgery.  
Stephen Morse- job searching.  
Diana Diehl- recovering at a rehab center.  
Michael Diehl- struggling with personal issues.  
Ally Treptow- recovering from hip surgery

## Ongoing Concerns:

Marian Morrow, Norma Cooper,  
Jill Ralke, Maureen Boyer, Alice Yoder,  
Kenny Thomason, Kathy Palmer

## Our Love and Sympathy:

To the family and friends of Norma "Jackie"  
Lundgren after her passing on April 2, 2024.

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## Jigsaw Exchange

Bring or take a jigsaw puzzle on the patio on Sunday, May 5 between services. This is a good opportunity to recycle those jigsaws that have been taking up closet space. It's quite okay to "take" if you don't bring. Any questions- call or text Evie Elliott at 818.923.3359.

## Words of Inspiration



Our weekly devotional written by Vreni Schiess is available at [fpcgh.org/blog](http://fpcgh.org/blog), and does appear "live" on Mondays on our Church Community Group Page. Her passion for God's "living" Word is infectious and makes for a "fun and invigorating" read, as one pastor recently observed. Feel free to reach out to her at [vrenischiess@verizon.net](mailto:vrenischiess@verizon.net) for further conversation.

# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	<b>2</b> 7:00 pm Monthly Children's Meeting 7:15 pm Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Senior Singles 6:00 pm Co-Ed Bible Study	<b>4</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Gloribells 7:00 pm Cathedral Choir	<b>5</b> 6:00 pm Hispanic Ministry Dinner	<b>6</b> 9:00 am HSMS Wellness 10:00 am Marge Roten Memorial
<b>7 El Pollo Loco Fundraiser</b> <b>9:00 am Worship</b> <b>11:15 Called Congregational Meeting</b> 10:30 am Bible Studies <b>11:00 am Worship</b> 12:30 pm Youth 12:30 pm Monthly Family Ministry Meeting	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Monthly Adult Discipleship Meeting	<b>9</b> 9:30 am MOPS 4:00 pm Monthly Personnel Meeting 5:30 pm Monthly Women's Ministry Meeting 6:30 pm Monthly Community Concerns Meeting 7:15 pm Boy Scouts 7:30 pm Monthly Finance Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:00 am GPS Preschool Chapel 12:00 pm Community Concerns Cooking 6:00 pm Co-Ed Bible Study	<b>11 Blood Drive 8 am to 8 pm</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 4:00 pm Monthly Worship Meeting 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Gloribells 7:00 pm Cathedral Choir 7:00 pm Monthly Mission Meeting	<b>12</b> 8:30 am GPS Chapel 11:00 am Monthly Membership Meeting	<b>13</b> 9:00 am HSMS Wellness
<b>14</b> <b>9:00 am Worship</b> 10:30 am Bible Studies <b>11:00 am Worship</b> <b>12:15 New Members Class</b> 12:30 pm Youth 12:30 pm Monthly Family Ministry Meeting	<b>15</b> 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	<b>16</b> 12:00 pm Calendar Meeting 7:15 pm Boy Scouts 7:30 pm Session	<b>17</b> 5:00 pm Senior Singles 6:00 pm Co-Ed Bible Study 6:30 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Deacons	<b>18</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Gloribells 7:00 pm Cathedral Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>8:00 am Men's Breakfast</b> 9:00 am HSMS Wellness
<b>21 Hunger Bank Collection</b> <b>9:00 am Worship</b> 10:30 am Bible Studies <b>11:00 am Worship</b> <b>12:15 New Members Class</b> <b>12:30 pm Mission Trip Class</b> 12:30 pm Youth	<b>22</b> 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	<b>23</b> 9:30 am MOPS 7:15 pm Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm Co-Ed Bible Study	<b>25</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm GPS Board Meeting 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Gloribells 7:00 pm Cathedral Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00 am HSMS Wellness
<b>28</b> <b>9:00 am Worship</b> 10:30 am Bible Studies <b>11:00 am Worship</b> 12:30 pm Youth 5:30 pm Senior Singles	<b>29</b> 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	<b>30</b> 7:15 pm Boy Scouts				





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Porter Ranch, CA 91326

SEND TO: (LABEL)

THE SPIRE (USPS 510-740) is a monthly publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills, Northridge, CA 91326-3510. Periodicals postage paid at Northridge, CA and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills, 10400 Zelzah Ave., Porter Ranch, CA 91326-3510.



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