

## THE MESSENGER



### THE PASTOR'S CORNER "The Question 'Why'"

This is the question I hear repeatedly from my three-year-old granddaughter, Lindsey, these days. "Why, Gigi, why?" I have advised her to never stop being curious. Yet, I also challenge her to figure out her own answer first before I offer one. Often, she knows why I am doing what I am doing, but right now she inquisitively asks why, anyway.

What about you? Are you comfortable with asking "Why" questions? Are you curious about why you do what you do or why this church does what it does? Simon Sinek became famous for a TED talk entitled, "Start with Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Action." It's been viewed over 61 million times.

Simon begins his TED talk explaining his simple theory and to illustrate his theory, he uses three concentric circles. The outer circle is "What," the middle circle is "How," and the inner circle is "Why." Sinek goes on to say every organization knows "What" they do. Most organizations know "How" they do things. But he suggests that very few organizations know "Why" they do what they do. With "Why" being their purpose or why they exist, which is something other than making a profit or balancing a budget.

Sinek uses Apple as an example to explain his theory. He says, "If Apple was like every other company, they would design their marketing message like this: We make great computers (What); they are beautifully designed, simple to use, and user friendly (How); want to buy one?" Not very compelling is it!

Instead, Apple starts their marketing message with their "Why" and it sounds like this: "Everything we do we believe in challenging the status quo, we believe in thinking differently; the way we challenge the status quo is by making our products beautifully designed, simple to use, and user friendly (How); we just happen to make great computers (What). Do you want to buy one? People don't buy **what** you do, they buy **why** you do it. And people buy all sorts of products from a computer company named Apple.

*(Continued on page 7)*



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#### SESSION MEMBERS

- **Jim Appleton**
- **Gayle Timilione**
- **Luann Bangsund**
- **James Rager**
- **Kasim Barus**
- **Al Polchow**
- **Tom Stewart**
- **Jack Brennan**
- **Marcia Fagan—Clerk of Session**
- **Paul Lambert**



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

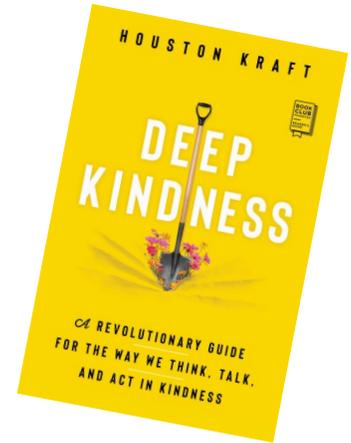
The FPC Book Club will meet Thursday, May 4, to discuss *Deep Kindness: A Revolutionary Guide for the Way We Think, Talk and Act in Kindness*, by Houston Kraft.

The meeting will be hosted by Pastor Cheryl at her home on Revelation Way.

“Spread meaningful kindness in your everyday life with this essential guidebook to making the world a kinder, more accepting place.

Practicing kindness is an essential step in helping to repair a world that has grown to be more divisive, lonely, and anxious than ever. But with quotes like “Just be kind” or “Throw kindness around like confetti,” we’ve oversimplified what it takes to actually demonstrate kindness in a world crying out for it. “\*

\*Goodreads.com



May 9	Arianna Emmanuel
May 8	Sharoon Suhail
May 12	James Cotton
May 13	Karen Buel
May 14	Suneel Jacob
May 16	Shelby Cotton
May 24	Jack Brennan
May 25	Donovan Arnold
May 26	Al Polchow
May 28	Meike Leong
May 30	Sara Alfred
May 31	Jeri Bray Chao

**First Presbyterian  
Church of Redlands**

**MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**All Worship Services are in person and on Facebook Live on Sunday:**

**English Language Worship  
10:00 A.M.**

**Indonesian Language Worship  
5:00 P.M.**

**Urdu Language Worship Service is held on Facebook Live, the third Sunday of the month  
11:30 A.M.**

**May 7, 2023                      Communion Sunday**

First Reading	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Second Reading	John 14:1-14
The Message	No Trouble in Our Hearts

**May 14, 2023**

First Reading	1 Peter 3:13-16a
Second Reading	John 14:15-21
The Message	Kept in Our Hearts

**May 21, 2023**

First Reading	Luke 24:44-53
Second Reading	Ephesians 1:15-23
The Message	Open the Eyes of My Heart

**May 28, 2023**

First Reading	Acts 2:1-21
Second Reading	John 7:37-39
The Message	The Heart of the Matter



**REGISTER FOR TEAM  
PRESBYTERIAN  
REDLANDS HUNGER WALK  
JUNE 3, 2023, AT 8:00 A.M.**

The Family Service Association of Redlands (FSAR) 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Hunger Walk, scheduled for June 3, 2023, is organized to help alleviate food insecurity in our community and bring awareness to this critical issue. With rising inflation, the low-income clients FSAR serves are increasingly vulnerable to food insecurity and hunger. This 5k walk seeks to raise funds to help ameliorate this situation.

The 5K walk is a family friendly event. It begins and ends at the University of Redlands Memorial Chapel.

***Pre-registration deadline for Team Presbyterian is Mother's Day, Sunday May 14, 2023.*** So, check your calendar and plan to participate as we step up to stop hunger in our community. All proceeds benefit the FSAR's food pantry and breakfast program.

Last year, FSAR provided over 1,200 client families with emergency food assistance, 900 families in our community with food boxes, and more than 5,000 individuals with hot meals at their breakfast program during the last quarter of the year.

**Team Donation (We need 10 or more walkers!)**

Adults (13 and over)     \$30  
Children (12 and under) \$10

Register with Pastor Cheryl and let her know your T-shirt size! Make checks payable to FPCR with the note, "Hunger Walk", in the memo line.

The Kiwanis Noon Club will sponsor a pancake breakfast that starts at 7:00 A.M. The walk begins at 8:00 A.M. You can eat then walk, or walk then eat, your choice!

***Let's walk, Team Presbyterian!***

# GIVING

## Per Capita

### THE GIFT OF THE CONNECTIONAL CHURCH

Are you a member? Have you taken the opportunity to support the gift of the Connectional Church? As of March 26 we have received **\$2,050.36** towards our commitment of **\$6,720**, which represents \$40.00 per member. Here is how this gift will be distributed:

Presbytery	\$27.30
Synod	\$ 2.85
General Assembly	\$ 9.85

Our gift is paid in six increments, which started in February and will conclude in July.

Please consider helping our church make its commitment to the whole church. Thank you for your faithful support of our ministries and our whole church!



### Greetings from your Presbyterian Women's Circles.

We are planning our Spring Birthday Gathering on June 4, Sunday, at 11:30 AM after Church. Our program will be a Dedication Service honoring the Gifts of Women and the Birthday Offering. We will start with a boxed lunch consisting of a subway sandwich, bag of chips and cookies. Coffee, tea, and drinks will also be available. Everyone from the Congregation is invited, but you need to let Karen Dwight know before May 31. Also an attendance donation will be asked to be sent to Karen either by cash or check, written out to Presbyterian Women, for \$10.00. This will help with the cost of lunch and provide a small donation to the Birthday Offering. We hope that many of you will attend and enjoy our late Spring Gathering.

Blessings from the PW Coordinating Team - Gayle Timilione, Karen Dwight, and Jerri Rodewald

### GRATITUDE

We have so much to be grateful for and sometimes we are just struck by the generosity of others. Today, we are especially grateful for the work our Cub Scout troop did cleaning out the basement windows of the Christian Education building.

We are also grateful to the Garden Grove Presbyterian church for their generous donation of 96 organ pipes that we were missing, and a set of chimes. These are a great addition to our organ!

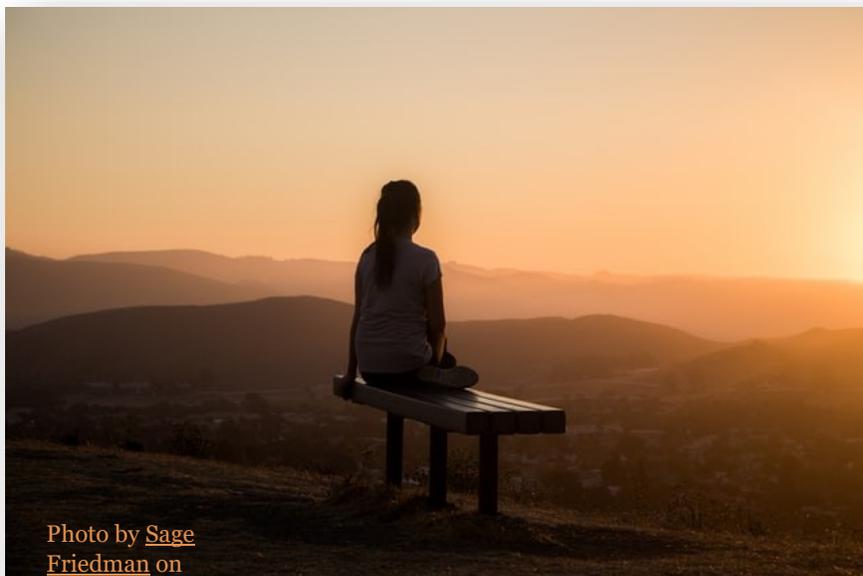


Photo by [Sage Friedman](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## Contemplative Corner

### Praying with the Gospel of Matthew

During this season of Eastertide, I invite you to reflect on the following passage this month from the Gospel of Matthew:

“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ Jesus said, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is similar: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

What do you hang your life on? Do you hang it on love? I would be the first to admit that love is not always center stage in my life, as other emotions creep in as I judge and criticize others. I believe we all would have to make that confession sooner or later. Yet, Jesus tells the lawyer these two commandments are the root of everything else.

As you move through the month of May, notice what you are rooted in. Are you rooted in love? Are you tapped into the source of all love? For we read in 1 John, “Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God... We love because God first loved us.”

Our love has a source and when we fail to tap into this source, our hearts become hardened. We start only loving those who love us. Yet, we are called to something more. This month reflect on your spiritual practices that help you drink deeply from the source of all love. How might you develop practices in your daily rhythms that connect you to the God who is love?



**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**  
**APRIL 2023**



The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Redlands held its regularly scheduled Stated Session Meeting on Monday evening, April 17, 2023, via a Zoom Meeting, and took the following actions:

- Received the Unaudited Financial Report for the month ending March 31, 2023.

Total Unrestricted Income:	\$22,969.20
Total Unrestricted Expense:	\$28,675.14

(NOTE: Expenses reflected this month include  
 the quarterly payment of the FPCR Insurance premium)

Unrestricted Income (Loss):	(\$5,705.94)
Less Principal Payment on Loan:	(\$652.83)
<i>Adjusted Unrestricted Income:</i>	<i>(\$6,358.77)</i>
<i>Operating Fund Amount in General Account:</i>	<i>\$36,682.60</i>

- Received information about the work of the committees and the Board of Deacons during the months of March and April 2023.
- Approved, with regret, the removal of Jane Major Dana (Member #203) from the active FPCR Membership Roll. It was recently learned that Jane died in Redlands two years ago.
- Also approved, with regret, the removal of Diane Glascom (Member #2431), and Susan Glascom (Member #2432) from the active FPCR Membership Roll.

## VIA INTERNATIONAL PROVIDES AN UP-CLOSE LOOK AT THE U.S./ MEXICO BORDER

Join an immersive delegation experience for Presbyterians from across Southern California to learn about the realities at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Our trip facilitators will be from Via International (Via), which led our virtual border trips in 2021. Rooted in California/Baja California region and founded in 1975, Via is a non-profit organization with extensive relationships of trust across Mexico. Our group will spend time in Tijuana meeting with local communities and have the opportunity to learn from the people about their strategies to improve their lives, educate their children, and achieve their potential. We will have facilitated conversations with recent migrants who are finding their way to new lives as well as experts in the fields of migration and social justice. This trip is open to teenagers (with adult family member) on up. All participants are required to have a passport. Participants will meet up in San Diego in the early afternoon of June 30 and walk across the border together. People can be dropped off right at the border crossing, but some walking is involved to get through passport control, customs, and to the street in Tijuana. We will return to the U.S. before lunch on July 4. Lodging will be in Tijuana at a community house/retreat center. Thanks to the generosity of the Synod JPIC Committee and the mission/justice committees of four presbyteries, the per person cost for this 5-day study trip is only \$465. This covers lodging, meals, transportation, and all programming in Tijuana. Carpooling to San Diego is encouraged. Transportation to San Diego and parking at the border are not covered by the registration cost.

Wendy Gist can answer your questions at [gist.wendy@gmail.com](mailto:gist.wendy@gmail.com).

*(Continued from page 1)*

*The Pastor's Corner*

So how does this relate to the church? Well, it seems that churches have a message that sounds like this: we have a great kid's program (What); we hire great staff (How); Don't you want to join us? Churches often forget about their "Why" as a church. Why do we do what we do? Why do we exist on the corner of Cajon and Vine?



Why do we exist? According to the Foundations of Presbyterian Polity we are gathered to participate in God's transforming mission of love. We gather to receive God's love, to share God's love with one another, and be equipped to share God's love with our neighbors. As a church we are to entrust ourselves to God alone, even at the risk of losing our life as a church. This Eastertide the heart of matter is whether we are conduits of God's transforming mission of love. On the last day of the festival of Booths in the Gospel of John, Jesus cried out, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

May we as a church know why we exist. May it be because we are committed to participating in God's transforming mission of love.

Committed to God's Why,  
Pastor Cheryl



### STAFF WHEREABOUTS

Judy will be in the office Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, from 11:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M., except for Tuesday, May 9, when she will be leaving at 1:30 P.M.

Pastor Cheryl's office hours vary each week, given her schedule, so check the Sunday Updates.

She can be reached at (714) 801-4345.

## PROPERTY AND FINANCE UPDATE



### Organ Pipes

Part of the sanctuary renovation required the small visible organ pipes to be moved. Thanks to six volunteers this was done at a cost savings to the church! Many hands not only make the work light, but it helps us be good stewards of our resources!

### First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove – More about Organ Pipes

We received a generous donation of 96 organ pipes that we were missing and a set of chimes that will be a great addition to our organ. Thank you, First Presbyterian Church of Garden Grove.

### Sanctuary Glass Entryway

Rondy Glass Service was able to repair our glass entryway adjacent to the sanctuary doors stopping rain water from seeping into the sanctuary and discoloring the entryway carpet. Now to clean the carpet!

### Cub Scouts

A special thank you to the cub scouts for their workday, cleaning out the John Knox hall basement window well (under the grates outside the kitchen door).

### Financial Update YTD March 31, 2023

Here are some broad highlights from our financial reporting Year to Date March 31, 2023:

	<u>Actual</u>	-	<u>Anticipated</u>	=	<u>Difference</u>
Donations and Pledges	\$ 42,736.80		\$ 51,499.98		(\$ 8,763.18)
Rental Income	\$ 30,210.40		\$ 29,462.52		\$ 747.88
Total Income	\$ 78,695.83		\$ 84,593.79		(\$ 5,897.96)
<u>Total Expense</u>	<u>\$ 78,456.08</u>		<u>\$ 82,135.89</u>		<u>(\$ 4,890.68)</u>
Net Unrestricted Income*	\$ 239.75		\$ 1,247.03		(\$ 1,007.28)
Less Principal on Loan	(\$ 1,953.98)				
Adjusted *NUI	(\$ 1,714.23)				

At the end of the first quarter, our total income was less than expected by \$5,897.96. Notice that our donations and pledges, that is, our collective giving was \$8,763.18 less than anticipated. Our collective generosity makes our ministry possible. Our expenses year to date are thankfully lower than anticipated, resulting in an adjusted net restricted income of (\$1,714.23).

Direct any questions you might have about Property and Finance issues to James Rager, our Moderator and Treasurer or to Pastor Cheryl.

## YOUNG DISCIPLES CORNER MAY HAPPENINGS



### **Sunday School, Worship Leadership, and more!**

Sunday school is available all Sundays, except the first Sunday of each month, during morning and evening worship thanks to our wonderful lead teachers, Gayle Timilione and Wilson Kayange along with their very capable teaching assistants. We are so grateful for those who commit to helping our young and youth disciples grow in faith. If you would like to be a part of those who teach let Gayle or Wilson know!

A big thank you to each Young Disciple and Youth who have helped lead worship through the sharing of the Prayer for Illumination -- Alison Kayange, Penelope Cunningham, Rich Cunningham, Veronica Cunningham, and Hunter Polchow. Thank you, parents, for helping your Young and Youth Disciples participate! If your child or youth has not had an opportunity, and would like to, please let Wilson Kayange know! Wilson schedules our young disciples and youth for this opportunity.

**May we instill in our children and youth a lifelong passion for nurturing their relationship with God!**



## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE, MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST AND SHARE MINISTRY**



Did you know that as a church we support the Redlands Area Interfaith Council (RAIC)? This organization works to promote dialogue across the diverse faiths represented in our City. The organization works to build relationships that can help can improve the overall health of our community. This organization sponsors the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, which will be held Thursday morning, May 4, 2023, in Orton Center at 7:00 A.M. Pastor Cheryl will be giving the opening prayer. Breakfast Tickets cost \$20 this year due to rising costs.

See Al Polchow to register for the event.

On Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. we will be serving a hot meal to those in our community who are in need. We are serving an enchilada casserole with rice and beans, topped off with fruit and cookies. If you would like to help cook, or donate fruit or cookies, let Pastor Cheryl know. Many hands always make this work light and the guests are always appreciative.



## **MOMENT FOR DEACONS**

I know you all enjoy seeing each other at church and the best way to get to see everyone is to sign up to be a greeter at church on Sundays. We have a table just after you pick up your bulletin from the greeter that has signup sheets for greeting, coffee fellowship, and flowers for the church services. Deacons coordinate these fun tasks and we really love it when members of the congregation volunteer to help with them. They are all easy tasks that take up very little of your time but, your participation means a lot!

We want to thank everyone that helped with our Easter lily fund. The church looked beautiful because of your generosity. Any funds over the cost of the lilies, goes into our Deacon fund to help people in the community as well as those whom might need help through the church. Some of the organizations we help are Youth Hope, Refresh and Renew, Family Services and some of the local veterans by supplying bus passes for them to get to doctor appointments. These are just a few of those we help! In addition, Deacons send out all those birthday, holiday, sympathy and thinking-of-you cards that we all love to receive in the mail.

One of the main reasons I love this church is because of the congregation. You are a caring and generous group; the Deacons appreciate all of your support!

God Bless,

Patti Robertson, Moderator of Deacons

**Parents of Young Disciples  
save the dates!**

**Vacation Church School  
July 10-14, 2023**

Three churches – Methodists, American Baptists, and Presbyterians - are joining together for Vacation Bible School this summer for elementary school disciples. The First United Methodist Church located at 1 Olive Street will be hosting the program on their campus. The theme this year is **Hero Hotline**, where our young disciples will be invited to explore the ways to be God's heroes in the world serving others. It will be a great week with bible study, crafts, science and more! Stay tuned for more details!

MORE FUN STUFF  
FOR KIDS!

**Big Bear Lake Presents**

# SUMMER CAMP

Registration Form

JR. CAMP (4TH-6TH GRADE) WEEK 1: JULY 2ND - 8TH  
JR. HIGH (7TH-8TH GRADE) WEEK 2: JULY 9TH - 15TH  
HIGH SCHOOL (9TH-12TH GRADE) BOTH WEEKS!

**@ BIG BEAR LAKE CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER**  
575 Prairie Lane, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

**CHECK IN AT 2PM IN THE LODGE**

Join us for summer camp designed for grades 4th - 12th. Starting at \$350 per camper (see registration form for more detailed prices) Enjoy one of the longest running summer camp programs as we continue the tradition of summertime fun and worship. We offer several outdoor activities such as rock wall, archery, zipline, leap of faith, and many more.

## GAMES. WORSHIP. OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL UNTIL MAY 30TH!**

+1-877-285-0119  
www.bigbearlakechristianconferencecenter.com  
email: registration@bblccc.com

First Presbyterian  
Church of Redlands

Living the heart & mind  
of Christ at the heart of  
the city

The mission of the First  
Presbyterian Church of  
Redlands is to grow  
spiritually with the  
community by sharing  
the love of Jesus Christ  
with all who seek to  
know God through  
worship, relationships,  
exploration, and prayer.



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF REDLANDS

AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY  
OF FAITH, LIVING THE HEART  
AND MIND OF CHRIST AT THE  
HEART OF THE CITY

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welcome your comments!

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[www.fpcredlands.org](http://www.fpcredlands.org) and then click on The *Messenger*  
tab at the top of the page.

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**Return Service  
Requested**

PLEASE  
PLACE  
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HERE