

Sunday Worship Online

10:00 a.m.

Go to www.faithpresby.org for
livestreaming of the service.

Sunday School

Pre-K–Grade 6: 11:10 a.m. on Zoom

Sunday Evening

Adult Christian Formation Class

7:00–8:00 p.m. on Zoom

Virtual Coffee Hour

November 1

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Pastor's Column

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Team World Vision Results

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***Between the Swastika and the Sickle:
The Life, Disappearance, and Execution
of Ernst Lohmeyer***

November 1 and 8

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Why and How We Give

Presented by Faith's Stewardship Team

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Midweek Classes

Wednesdays and Thursdays

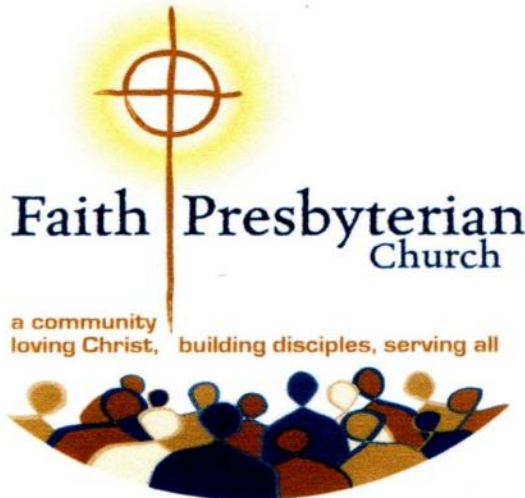
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Next PresbyNews Deadline:
November 20



[facebook.com/
FaithPresbyterianChurch](https://facebook.com/FaithPresbyterianChurch)

Happy Thanksgiving!!

Thanksgiving is right around the corner – can you believe it?

This issue of the Presby News includes information on how to get a ride for voting (see Page 2), details and photos of Team World Vision's recent run to raise money for clean water (see Page 4), and lots of information about Adult Education opportunities.

Also, we will move in-person worship services into the sanctuary on November 1. The service will be at 10:00 a.m. and will also be livestreamed. The plan for this is on our website, if you'd like to take a look!

Enjoy your holidays!!

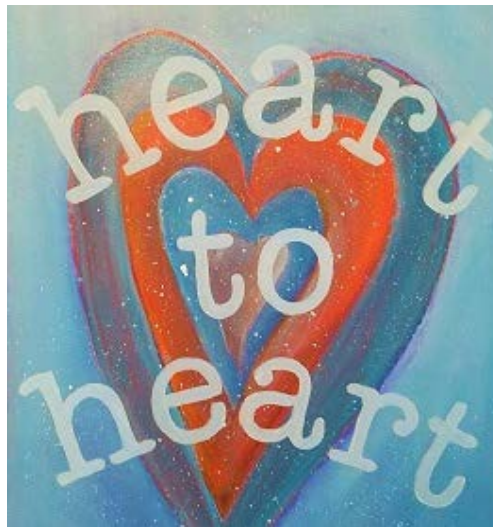
News You Can Use

Virtual Coffee Hour on Sunday, November 1!

On the first Sunday of every month, you are invited to a virtual coffee hour. Immediately following the online service (around 11:10 a.m.), you'll have the opportunity to head to coffee hour by clicking on a Zoom link. Normally as folks arrive, we randomly assign you to small groups where you can connect with some others from Faith. You'll find the Zoom link for this Sunday's virtual coffee hour on our website at https://faithpresby.org/?page_id=7610.



Then have your coffee ready and enjoy the fellowship!



Need a Ride to the Polls November 3rd?

We can assist with that!
Please contact Kathy Ellis

trvkath@comcast.net

916-215-4997

If you would like to assist by driving, please call.

Pastor's Column

The Most Important Work

Pastor Jeff Chapman



It's something I've always known. Why is it that it sometimes takes me so long to believe what I already know? There is no more important work than prayer. The Scottish evangelist, Oswald Chambers, once said, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." The Danish philosopher, Søren Kierkegaard, put it this way: "Prayer is like breathing. If you don't pray you spiritually die."

This summer our church read through the book of Acts and as I read along I noticed something I never noticed before. Acts, the story of the early church, is full of God's activity to move believers out to share the gospel, in word and deed, to a world desperately in need of good news. What I never noticed before is how central prayer is to this movement. In nearly every account of those early days we find the church praying. It really was the greater work for them!

In Acts 1:14 we learn that the believers devoted themselves to constantly being in prayer. This is highlighted again in Acts 2:42. They pray in Acts 1:24 before choosing a new apostle. We find Peter and John heading to the Temple for the hour of prayer in Acts 3:1. Before they select deacons and other leaders the church prays (Acts 6:4, Acts 14:23). Visions come from the Lord after believers have been in prayer (Acts 9:10, Acts 10:3, Acts 10:9). Believers pray before miracles (Acts 9:40). When Peter is in prison, the church gathers to pray (Acts 12:12). Before Paul & Barnabas are sent off on a missionary journey, they fast and pray (Acts 13:3). I could go on, but you get the point.

Many of you are committed to prayer. I know that daily, even throughout the day, you turn to God in prayer, praising and thanking God, bringing confession, praying for your needs and the needs of others around you or even across the world. Sometimes I'll meet somebody who, because of age or infirmity, cannot serve in the way that they used to be able to serve, and they will say to me, "Jeff, there is nothing I can do anymore to serve in the church." I am quick to gently correct them. Even if you are bedridden you can still do the most important work the church is called to do!

I've asked our elders and staff to commit to a season of prayer for the church. I believe this is what God is calling us to do during this season (and maybe every season!). Know that we are praying every day for the church, listening for God's voice in scripture and then responding in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads. I invite you to pray with us. As you also spend time in scripture each day, perhaps reading along with our daily readings, pay attention to how God's Word leads you to pray for the church among other things.

We have also started a Tuesday morning prayer meeting on Zoom. Every Tuesday (at least) to the end of the year we will pray from 7:00-7:30 together online. This will be a guided time of prayer, often prompted by scripture. As your schedule allows for it, I encourage you to join us for this time. There will be opportunities to pray aloud, but you can also pray along in silence if that's what is most comfortable for you. If that time doesn't work, we will record the prayer meeting and you can use it to pray at another time that is better for you.

Ephesians 6:18 reminds us, "**And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.**" Know that I will be praying for you. Thank you for praying for me and for the whole church. It is through our prayers that we will perhaps see God do his greatest work!

Grace & Peace,

Jeff

Team World Vision Update

Thank you! We are overwhelmed by what God has done through this community in 2020. This was the most difficult training season we have had since we have been part of Team World Vision. From launching our team during the pandemic, through record heat, a canceled event, injuries and unhealthy air, our small but mighty team members persevered!

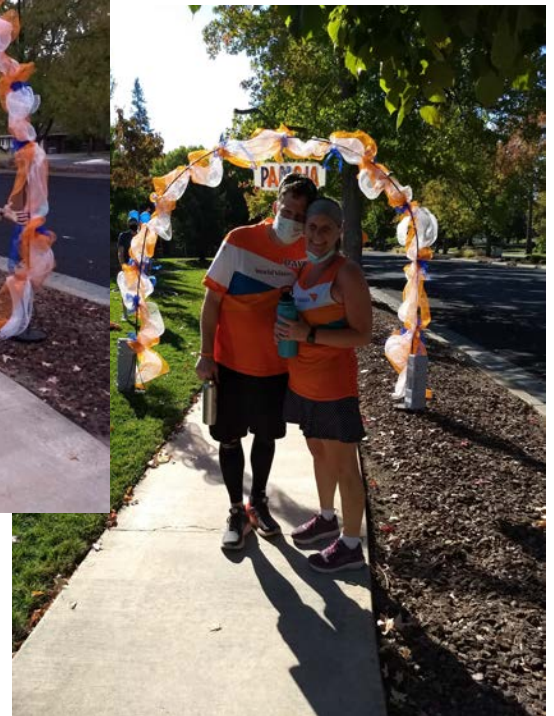
God reminded us time and time again He is in control. When we were hesitant to ask for donations, He brought us generous supporters who were longing to make a positive difference in our broken world. As I write this, we have raised \$28,411, which will provide clean water for life for 568 people!

Our goal is to end the clean water crisis in our lifetime. Thank you to everyone who joined us in this mission this year. If you made a monetary donation, ran or walked with us, prayed for us, or cheered us on, we are so very thankful for your contribution! You are making this world a better place.

Hopefully by next year, things will be different than they are right now. Our plan is to run the Urban Cow half marathon (or 5K, or relay) in October of 2021. If you would like to join us, we would love to have you join our team. We will continue going farther together. If you have questions or you would like to express your interest, please contact me, Jill Whitney, at whitneydds@gmail.com.



I'll close with World Vision's Vision Statement:
Our vision for every child: life in all its fullness.
Our prayer for every heart: the will to make it so.



Online Adult Christian Formation Opportunities for November 2020

Adult Sunday School

All Sunday Classes are from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Zoom

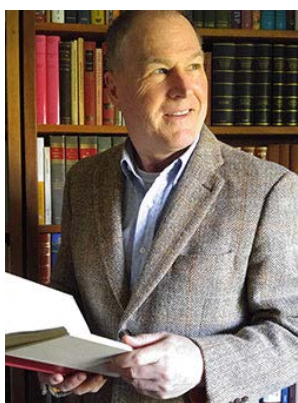
All Adult Christian Formation opportunities in November 2020 will be offered online on Zoom. To participate, you must either download Zoom to your computer (<https://zoom.us/>) or download the Zoom App to your smartphone. Links to all online offerings are available on Faith's website at www.faithpresby.org. Click on the link a few minutes before the class begins to join the group.

Between the Swastika and the Sickle: The Life, Disappearance, and Execution of Ernst Lohmeyer

November 1 and 8 – 7:00 p.m.

Online Via Zoom

Teacher: Dr. James Edwards



Our 2021 All-Church Retreat speaker, Dr. James Edwards, will teach the final two sessions of his three-session class based on his recently published book, *Between the Swastika and the Sickle: The Life, Disappearance, and Execution of Ernst Lohmeyer* (Eerdmans, 2019). Dr. Edwards states that “Ernst Lohmeyer is not a household name as is Bonhoeffer ... but his story is quite compelling. His resistance to autocracy and advocacy for Jews ... are particularly instructive for America today. His theology is also of greater relevance for us today than is that of almost any other figure of the first half of the 20th century in Germany.”

On **November 1**, we will consider the theological contributions of Ernst Lohmeyer, especially those that continue to affect church and theology today. On **November 8**, we will explore Ernst Lohmeyer's understanding of Judaism, how and why he advocated for Jews in the face of Nazi anti-Semitism, and how this interfaced with his opposition to political autocracy and terror.

Dr. James Edwards is a Presbyterian minister and New Testament scholar, retired now from the faculty of Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. Dr. Edwards possesses the unique ability to combine an amazing depth of scholarship with a remarkable ability to communicate to a wide audience. He was a favorite among the college students who studied under him and is a regular teacher in the local church where countless Christians and seekers alike have been enriched by his ability to help bring the scriptures to life.



Why and How We Give – a Presentation by the Faith Stewardship Team

November 15 and 22 – 7:00 p.m.

Online Via Zoom

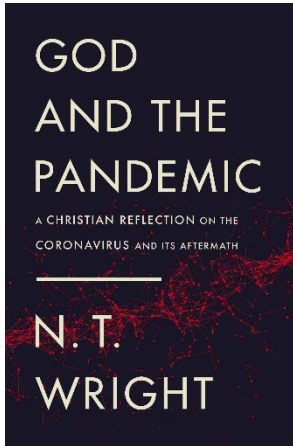
Facilitators: John Rodriguez, Jon Coupal and guest speaker Maggie Harmon from the Presbyterian Foundation

In this two-class presentation, the Stewardship Team will focus first on stewardship generally and *why we give*. Then they will teach us *how we can give* and share new and creative ways we can support the ministries that are important to us.

Adult Sunday School, continued

Midweek Classes and Groups

God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and Its Aftermath



Wednesdays through November 18

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Online Via Zoom

Book Study Facilitated by Ron Beams

We will continue this ongoing eight-week study of the book, *God and the Pandemic*, by N. T. Wright. It's not too late to join! Ron Beams is leading this endeavor to "[d]iscover a different way of seeing and responding to the Coronavirus pandemic...drawing on Scripture, Christian history, and the way of living, thinking, and praying revealed to us by Jesus." (*God and the Pandemic*, Book Overview).

In the book, Wright asks, "What are we supposed to think about the Coronavirus crisis?" and he examines various reactions to the virus. He acknowledges that some say the pandemic is a sign of the End or God's judgment upon the world and a call to repentance. Others believe that it's the fault of governments or institutions such as the Chinese or U.S. governments, or the World Health Organization. Wright finds these reactions wanting.

Using the Bible and Christian history, Wright offers simple yet profound answers to foundational questions, including "What should be the Christian response?" "How should we think about God?" "How do we live in the present?" "Why should we lament?" "How do we recover?"

Wright is one of the world's foremost New Testament scholars and has been a major contributor to the Christian faith as a writer, author, teacher, and pastor.

There is still time to purchase a book at the church office for \$10. For more information, please email Ron at rdbeams@prodigy.net.

Embracing the Gift of Life

Thursdays, 2:00 p.m.

Online Via Zoom

Facilitated by Ron Beams

This class is designed for seniors of all ages to celebrate what life is like right now. This includes how we see our life fitting into the broad spectrum of relationships, spirituality, and meaning and purpose. Each week's gathering will have a specific focus or theme, which we will address together with a spirit of open discussion. If you would like to know more, feel free to email Ron at rdbeams@prodigy.net.

Session October Highlights

What is Session? Session is the governing body of our congregation. Made up of 16 members (pastors and elders) who are called by God and elected by the congregation, the Session is charged by God to oversee the ministry and mission of Faith Presbyterian Church. By God's grace, Session works hard to make sure that we are becoming, day by day, the sort of church God wants us to become – *A community loving Christ, building disciples, serving all.*

What has Session been up to lately? The following are some of the decisions which were made this month at Session and some of the areas of ministry which were celebrated. We hope you share in the enthusiasm of Session in all that God is doing in our midst. As a reminder, Session meetings are held the 2nd Monday of most every month at 7:00 p.m. here at church. Unless otherwise determined, they are open meetings and church members are always encouraged to come listen in. We'll even share our snacks!

**Note: During this time of quarantine Session has been meeting online with Zoom. If you are interested in attending the meeting, please contact Jeff Chapman for the link at jchapman@faithpresby.org*

- **Deacon Report** – Deacon Stephanie Homen joined the meeting to give an update on the work of the deacons. Session receives these reports 3-4 times a year to keep the Session informed of their ministry and let the elders know how they can be a support.
- **Vision Process** – The elders spent a majority of our meeting together picking up on a process that was begun last winter. We are reflecting on our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) as a way to prayerfully discern where God is leading us in this season. In the process we allow time for prayer, discussion, reflection and teaching.
- **Budget Process** – Session has begun the process to develop a 2021 Operating Budget. Each elder will work with his/her team to develop a proposed budget. Session will wait until the Stewardship Campaign is complete before finalizing and approving the budget.
- **Online Ministry Fair** – Session hosted an online version of this annual event. It was an opportunity for Faith members to learn about the various ministries and find out ways they can plug in to serve.
- **Worship in the Sanctuary** – It was confirmed that we will move in-person worship services into the sanctuary on November 1. The service will be at 10:00 a.m. and will also be livestreamed. The gathering will be in accordance with our previously-approved Phase 1 of our reopening plan. A copy of this plan is posted on the web page.
- **Nominating Committee** – On October 18, the congregation approved this year's Nominating Committee: Suzy Hughes (Elder Chairperson), Helen Frisch (Deacon Representative), Tanya Anderson, Steve Mauch, Bill Kirk, Donna Touros, Linda Olsen.



NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Sunday 10:00 AM Worship (Online; Sanctuary - Preregistration required) 11:00 AM First Sunday Virtual Coffee Hour (Online) 11:10 AM Children's Sunday School (Online) 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Class: Between the Swastika and the Sickie (Online)	2 9:00 AM Faith Staff Meeting (Onsite) 5:00 PM Camellia Orchestra Rehearsal (Courtyard, Link Hall) 7:00 PM Women's AA Meeting (Online)	3 9:00 AM Election Day Prayer Vigil (Sanctuary) 6:00 PM AA Business Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Election Day Evening Prayer (Online, Sanctuary) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	4 10:00 AM PW Board Meeting (Link Hall) 10:00 AM Women's Life Group (Patio, Choir Rm) 7:00 PM Class: God and the Pandemic (Online) 7:00 PM Crunchies (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	5 9:00 AM Staff check-in (Online) 2:00 PM Class: Embracing the Gift of Life (Online) 6:00 PM Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Class: Marriage Course (Online) 7:00 PM Women's Life Group (Courtyard, Link Hall) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	6 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	7 8:30 AM Tai Chi (Church parking lot)
8 10:00 AM Worship (Online; Sanctuary - Preregistration required) 11:10 AM Children's Sunday School (Online) 12:30 PM Deacons Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Class: Between the Swastika and the Sickie (Online)	9 9:00 AM Faith Staff Meeting (Onsite) 5:00 PM Camellia Orchestra Rehearsal (Courtyard, Link Hall) 7:00 PM Session Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Women's AA Meeting (Online)	10 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	11 10:00 AM Women's Life Group (Patio, Choir Rm) 7:00 PM Class: God and the Pandemic (Online) 7:00 PM Crunchies (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	12 9:00 AM Staff check-in (Online) 2:00 PM Class: Embracing the Gift of Life (Online) 6:00 PM Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Class: Marriage Course (Online) 7:00 PM Women's Life Group (Courtyard, Link Hall) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	13 6:00 PM AA Planning Meeting (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	14 8:30 AM Tai Chi (Church parking lot)
15 10:00 AM Worship (Online; Sanctuary - Preregistration required) 11:10 AM Children's Sunday School (Online) 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Class: Augustine, a Thoroughly Modern Man (Online)	16 9:00 AM Faith Staff Meeting (Onsite) 1:00 PM Women's Daytime Book Group (Online) 5:00 PM Camellia Orchestra Rehearsal (Courtyard, Link Hall) 7:00 PM Women's AA Meeting (Online)	17 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	18 10:00 AM Women's Life Group (Patio, Choir Rm) 7:00 PM Class: God and the Pandemic (Online) 7:00 PM Crunchies (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	19 9:00 AM Staff check-in (Online) 2:00 PM Class: Embracing the Gift of Life (Online) 6:00 PM Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Class: Marriage Course (Online) 7:00 PM Women's Life Group (Courtyard, Link Hall) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	20 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	21 8:30 AM Tai Chi (Church parking lot)
22 10:00 AM Worship (Online; Sanctuary - Preregistration required) 11:10 AM Children's Sunday School (Online) 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Class: Augustine, a Thoroughly Modern Man (Online)	23 9:00 AM Faith Staff Meeting (Onsite) 5:00 PM Camellia Orchestra Rehearsal (Courtyard, Link Hall) 7:00 PM Women's AA Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Women's Evening Book Group (Online)	24 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	25 10:00 AM Women's Life Group (Patio, Choir Rm) 7:00 PM Crunchies (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	26 Office Closed - Thanksgiving 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	27 Office Closed - Thanksgiving 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	28 8:30 AM Tai Chi (Church parking lot)
29 10:00 AM Worship (Online; Sanctuary - Preregistration required) 11:10 AM Children's Sunday School (Online) 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Adult Christian Formation Class (Online) 7:00 PM Class: Augustine, a Thoroughly Modern Man (Online)	30 9:00 AM Faith Staff Meeting (Onsite) 5:00 PM Camellia Orchestra Rehearsal (Courtyard, Link Hall) 6:30 PM Life Group Leaders Meeting (Online) 7:00 PM Women's AA Meeting (Online)	1 6:00 PM AA Business Meeting (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	2 10:00 AM Women's Life Group (Patio, Choir Rm) 7:00 PM Crunchies (Online) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	3 9:00 AM Staff check-in (Online) 2:00 PM Class: Embracing the Gift of Life (Online) 6:00 PM Worship Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Class: Marriage Course (Online) 7:00 PM Women's Life Group (Courtyard, Link Hall) 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	4 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Online)	5 8:30 AM Tai Chi (Church parking lot)



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First Class Mail

Happy Thanksgiving!

