



# The Beacon

Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ so all may experience God's life-giving love

First United Methodist Church of Seal Beach

May 2024

## From Pastor Tia

Greetings Friends,

"April showers brings May flowers." Boy I hope this is true because it will make finding a gift for Mother's Day that much easier. Yes, May is upon us and I am well into my vacation. On the first weekend of May my niece Katarina will be marrying Rory and I will be the celebrant. This is a joy for the entire family.

But more importantly the church is busy as usual this time of year. The United Women in Faith will be hosting their annual *Mothers and Others Tea* on May 11th. These women are incredible they have hosted this Tea for decades now, not even the pandemic stopped them as they became a take out service for a few years. But once again we are back in the Fellowship Hall for the feast. This year all the proceeds will go to help "We Care of Los Alamitos." If you don't know what they, do come to the Tea. Kathy has lined up a speaker from there to share their story and mission. This is a wonderful opportunity to help out those in need, have some tasty treats, and visit with old friends. Check with the office for more information and reservations.

On Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate in worship Mother's Day. On this day we acknowledge not just our mothers but all the women in our lives who have nurtured and cared for us. All the women in church will receive a flower in appreciation of all they do. I hope you will join us for this special Sunday.

The Sunday after Mother's Day, May 19<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost. For 50 days after

Easter, we remember Christ's appearances and commandment to the Disciples. He commands them to go out and preach the Good News. To help them with this new calling, God sent the Holy Spirit to empower them for the work ahead. This is Pentecost! On this day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit not just to the disciples but also to us. We too are called to share the Gospel by living a life that reflects the love of God through Jesus.

The last Sunday of May we will begin a new sermon series, "The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss." This is a fun and serious look at the Scriptures and some of the many books by Dr. Seuss. This will be an eight-week series.

During this time Jay will be facilitating a men's study for several weeks. What I would like to know is if you women would like to do a study of your own that I would lead? Send me an email and if there are more than three, we will do it.

Sometimes when we get past Easter and get closer to summer we neglect our faith lives. We pray a little less, we go to church a little less, we just take a break. But maybe this is a time to focus. A time to pray because we just want to talk to God, not because we made a promise. It's easy to get out of the habit of spiritual disciplines, maybe this is the time to make the habit more secure. Maybe it's time to focus on God.

Shalom

**In-Person & Virtual Worship Sundays**  
9:30am

### E-mail Prayer Chain

prayerchain@firstchurchsealbeach.org

### Tea Time Tuesdays

Tuesdays @ 3:00pm Zoom. Contact Pastor Tia if you'd like to attend.

pastortia@firstchurchsealbeach.org.

### Men's Breakfast Group

Thursday's @ 7:30am @ Blackboard Bistro on PCH.

### Miracle Prayer Group

Charlotta Butler (562) 431-8540. Third Sat. May 25<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am.

### Mission Ministry Fellowship

First Thurs. May 2<sup>nd</sup> & June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am.

### Music Ministry

Anjanette Navarro (714) 305-2313. Chancel choir rehearsal Sundays @ 8:30 & 11:00am. Beach Bells Tuesdays @ 5:45pm.

### United Women in Faith

Mon. May 13<sup>th</sup> @ Zoom 10:30am  
Kathy Fellers (562) 296-5889,  
Charlotta Butler (562) 431-8540

### Lunch Bunch

Mon. May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30am  
@ Finbars on PCH.



**First United Church of Seal Beach  
Special Administrative Council Meeting Minutes — April 3, 2024**

*by Kathy Fellers*

**Present:** Pastor Tia Wildermuth, Carolyn Nicks, Dan and Charlotta Butler, Joyce Strawn, Barbara Arnold, Lynn Adkins, Richard Irving, Harlene Goodrich, Greg and Kathy Fellers.

Greg Fellers opened our virtual meeting with a prayer at 5:08 pm.

All items on the Agenda are repair issues:

Dan Butler, Trustee president, started the repair list with the leaking of water around the windows in the Serenity Room and the hallway at the top of the stairs. The proposal from Broadway Glass & Mirror to repair the leaks in 3 windows is \$1,480. That comes with NO guarantee or Warrantee. The major concern is with the caulking. The recommendation is to have it removed and replaced. Dan researched the recommendation and the \$1,480 estimate and found them reasonable. Dan moved that we go ahead with the project and pay the first half (\$740). Carolyn Nicks 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed by a hand vote. The expense will come from the Jubilee Fund.

Next issue is the possible leaking roof. The area was reviewed by Darrel Stoskopf and GM Roofing and found to be basically sound. GM Roofing did recommend some work to extend the roofing life in one corner where it pools for \$2,350. There was considerable discussion on whether to do the stopgap maintenance or go ahead and do the entire roof (possible total for \$20,000). The other option was to hold off on any decision on the roof until a definitive

answer could be found for the water damage to the southwest corner of the building. The latter idea was approved by a consensus.

The termite issues at the parsonage were inspected by Jesus of New Systems Exterminators. He felt that the termites were only in the parsonage garage and recommended spraying for \$945. Lynn moved to approve the recommendation and the motion passed. Jesus noted the termite issues in the church supply room, the fellowship hall and the storage room above the office may be due to moisture; the affected areas would be treated by drilling small holes then sprayed. Other areas of termite concern are the sanctuary subfloor area which will need to be sprayed for subterranean termites. The quote for the total service is \$2,840. With more widespread termite issues than in previous years, Greg asked Jesus for an estimate for tenting and was given a number of \$6000-\$8000. After much discussion on how much to do now, Barbara Arnold moved that we start by taking care of the termite issues with just spraying. Dan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and it passed.

Another moisture issue: Water leaking and damage to the Southwest corner of the Fellowship Hall (near the stage), as well as the same area in the large storage room above. Pastor Tia called out Coastline Services for an inspection and recommendation. The acoustic ceiling tiles in the corner got wet as well as the drywall from ceiling to floor mostly on the west side of the corner out about 8'-10'. The fellowship hall drywall got water damage all the way down to the stage, with the carpet on

the stage getting wet as well. Again, the apparent damage extends 4'-5' on the south wall and 8'-10' on the west wall. Since the ceiling tiles contain asbestos, Coastline is recommending that Burns Environmental Services be engaged to do the work in the storage room.

Water damage to drywall was also found next to the exterior office door at the bottom of the stairs. This apparently coming from the leaking window at the top of the stairs.

We are awaiting the written report from Coastline as well as a work proposal for removal of all water damaged materials as well as remediation for possible mold issues. The handling of asbestos materials will be done by Burns and we are awaiting a proposal from them also.

It was decided that further decisions would be handled by email at the time the work proposals are submitted. The proposal would be shared and discussed and voted on via email.

Our insurance company was also notified and has been out to inspect the water damage both on the interior as well as the roof and exterior. We are awaiting their report also.

**Next meeting: Administrative Council-Hybrid: 5/18/24 at 9:00am**










**Opening Prayer:** Barbara Arnold

**Closing Prayer:** Kathy Fellers

Meeting adjourned: 6:16pm

Kathy Fellers, Secretary



<p align="center"><b>Trustees</b> <i>by Dan Butler</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Lay Leader</b> <i>by Barbara Arnold</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Events</b></p>
<p>Thanks to a generous donation we will soon have a new rug in the narthex,</p> <p>The windows in the Serenity Room and at the top of the stairs were re-sealed on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. This will prevent any further leaks. Thanks to Darrel Stoskopf for meeting with the contractor.</p> <p>We have a contract for asbestos removal and demolition work in the south-west corner of the upstairs storage room. A date remains to be set for the work to be done. Arrangements for the remaining water damage repairs are in progress.</p> <p>Dan Butler Dan Butler, President, Sanctuary Richard Irving, upstairs Fellowship Hall Harlene Goodrich, downstairs offices &amp; bathrooms Lynn Adkins, Parsonage Greg Fellers, Church Landscaping Garry Chapman, Fellowship Hall, Kitchen</p>	<p>Thought I'd share this prayer with you from a Norwegian Church in Rapid City, South Dakota:</p> <p>As you go on your way,     May God go with you. May He go before you     To show you the way. May He go behind you     To encourage you:     Beside you to befriend you,     Above you to watch over you,     And within you to give you peace.     Amen</p> <p>May you have a marvelous May !</p> <p>Blessings, Barbara</p>	<p> <b>In-Person &amp; Virtual Worship</b> Sundays 9:30am. </p> <p><b>Tuesdays Tea Time</b> 3:00pm Zoom Tuesday is a time to join together to chat and catch up. Pastor Tia will send out the Zoom invite each week, please contact Pastor Tia if you would like to join.</p> <p> <b>Men's Breakfast Group</b> Thursdays 7:30am Men's fellowship group meets for breakfast every Thursday at Blackboard Bistro on PCH.</p> <p> <b>Mission Ministry Fellowship</b> Thurs. May. 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am</p> <p><b>Men's Spring Study</b> "The Life You've Always Wanted" Starts Wed. May 8<sup>th</sup> Ends Wed. June 19<sup>th</sup></p>
	<p align="center"><b>May Birthdays</b></p> <p>Dan Butler Linda Stoskopf Bonnie McCarthy  Jerrie Chapin Jeanie Barnett Barbara Arnold</p> <p align="center"> <b>May Anniversaries</b></p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> - Chris &amp; Deanna Butler 16<sup>th</sup> - Don &amp; Jeanie Barnett 27<sup>th</sup> - Mike &amp; Joyce Strawn</p>	<p> <b>UWF</b> Mon. May 13<sup>th</sup> @ Zoom 10:30am</p> <p> <b>Ad Council Hybrid Meeting</b> Sat. May 18<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am</p> <p><b>Lunch Bunch</b>  Mon. May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30am @ Finbars on PCH Contact Jeanne if you'd like to join us.</p> <p><b>June Beacon</b> <span style="background-color: yellow; padding: 2px;"><b>DEADLINE</b></span> Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am</p> <p>Jeanne will be out of the office from May 20<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. Some wonderful volunteers will watch the office for 2 hours a day. Thank You Ladies.</p>



UWF

by Kathy Fellers

UWF Movin' into May

We have been "on the move" in preparation for our

Mothers & Other's Tea  
May 11th - 1:00-3:00pm

For your donation of \$20.00, you can enjoy a variety of tea sandwiches, scones with toppings, desserts and, of course, TEA!

We will also be offering a chance to share our delicious, traditional lemon curd. Our enthusiastic "curd team" is collecting only the "best" seasonal lemons for their presentation! Not a lemon-lover? We will again feature fresh fruit jams to enrich your home-baked scones. Space is limited so for Tea reservations, call the church office 562-431-0494.

Our mission focus for the Mothers & Others Tea is



Family Support Center

For the past 35 years We Care has been helping families and individuals transition out of the social services system and poverty, into self-sufficiency. We encourage you to plan to attend our Tea Party with family and friends on May 11th and help us support these dedicated, compassionate volunteers and board members.

Looking for MORE?

All are welcome to attend our UWFaith meetings. Our May 13th UWF meeting will be held on Zoom at 10:30am.



When you drive by the church notice that the UWFaith is Flying the Tea Cup Flag as a reminder to make your Tea Party reservations soon.



There is a box in the kitchen by the freezer for recycled mason jars. Thank You.

Eastertide

The Great Fifty Days – This is the time between Easter and Pentecost. During this season we are reminded of the resurrection story and its glories for us.



May 19th

Pentecost Sunday is the birthday of the church, remember to wear red to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit.

UWFaith: Continuing Our Mission Journey

We hope that it is helpful for you to learn a little more each year about the missions that we have chosen to support. This month we are sharing our response from We Care. We concentrate our donations (YOUR donations) on our local area through contact with We Care of Los Alamitos.



Family Support Center


We Care of Los Alamitos is a family support center sponsored by local churches, community groups, corporations and concerned citizens. They serve families residing in the areas of Northwest Orange County including the cities of Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Rossmoor, Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley, Cypress and Stanton.

It is a non-profit organization that pools the resources of the community to meet the emergency needs of families and individuals such as rental assistance, utility assistance, DMV fees, food, personal care items, clothes and more.

We Care's Mission is to do our best to keep families within our community safely housed, by providing a comprehensive, seamless range of services that begin by preventing homelessness whenever possible.

Cont. on page 5



<p align="center"><b>UWF (cont.)</b> <i>by Kathy Fellers</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Missions</b> <i>by Carolyn Nicks</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Mother's Day</b></p>
<p>Cont. from page 4</p> <p>We Care's Vision is to identify and understand how to properly administer the basic services needed to prevent homelessness. They provide the under privileged and the poorest members of society with the financial support they need to prevent them from losing their home. Their fight to help prevent homelessness requires a clear vision of what they are trying to achieve, the specific strategies they must implement to achieve this vision, and a system for measuring their progress. They are a busy and productive mission in need of our support.</p>	<p align="center"><b>Save The Date</b></p> <p>Rise Against Hunger is coming in September.</p> <p>Once again the Missions Group will be sponsoring Rise Against Hunger where we will put together 10,000 meals in about 2 hours.</p> <p>There are jobs for all between 4 and 104. It is a fun activity for all.</p> <p>Please keep an eye open for the exact date in September. This year there will be no walks-ins you will need to pre-register.</p> <p>Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup> is food for pantry day.</p> <p>Since the last Beacon we gave out 35 lunches &amp; sandwiches.</p>	<p>The second Sunday in May is Mother's Day in most countries. This day is observed in many countries in Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia and Americas, but the tradition to celebrate the holiday is native to the USA. Although world-wide celebration of Mother's Day is influenced by different traditions, they are all common in origin. The very first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1908 in the USA, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial service to honor her mother.</p> <p>Then she started a campaign to establish Mother's Day as a national holiday, and later as international holiday. The U.S Congress passed a law on May 8, 1914, that designated the second Sunday in May to be Mother's Day. The holiday was proclaimed by President Woodrow Wilson on the next day as the holiday when all American citizens raised the flag in honor of the mothers, whose sons had died in war.</p>
<p align="center"><b>Prayer Chain</b></p>		
<p>Dan &amp; Renate's granddaughter Abbey's husband, Tobin Bolter, was shot &amp; killed in the line of duty. Tobin was a sheriff in Idaho.</p> <p>Abbey is Shelly's daughter and is 8 weeks pregnant. Prayers for Dan, Renate, Shelly, &amp; especially Abbey and the entire family.</p>		<p>Mother's Day became very popular in other countries. The holiday includes churchgoing, distribution of flowers (carnations are symbolic flowers) and family dinners. More than 80 countries around the world celebrate Mother's Day according to the American traditions.</p>
<p align="center"><b>May/June Upper Room Available</b></p> <p>The daily devotional Upper Room is available. They do enrich your life. If you would like one mailed to you please contact the office.</p>		<p align="center">             Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup> </p>



Life at First Church

Finance Report as of April 16, 2024

	Monthly	Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
	3/20/24-4/16/24	12/13/23-4/16/24	12/13/23-4/16/24
Income Totals	27,662.00	104,552.04	99,044.00
Expense Totals	25,046.94	80,234.95	98,936.00
Difference	2,615.96	24,317.09	108.00



May 2024 Worship Schedule

In-Person Worship 9:30am

Streaming live on Facebook

Sunday Worship Services 9:30am

May 5<sup>th</sup>

Communion

John 15:1-17

“What’s Important”

Guest Preacher - Rev. Dr. Catie Coots

May 12<sup>th</sup>

Ascension Sunday

Luke 24:44-53

“The World Fulfilled”

May 19<sup>th</sup>

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21

“The Wind of the Spirit”

May 26<sup>th</sup>

Trinity Sunday

1 Peter 1:3-7

“The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss ...  
Horton Hatches the Egg”

June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Communion

Matthew 26:36-39

“The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss ...  
What Was I Scared of?”

Rev. Tia Wildermuth, Pastor



May Altar Flowers

The 2024 flower calendar is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

May 5 - Open

May 12 - Dan & Carlotta in honor of  
Chris & Deanna Butler’s  
anniversary May 15<sup>th</sup>

May. 19 - Open

May. 26 - Mike & Joyce in honor of  
their 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

If you’d like to provide flowers to honor  
someone or an event, or in memory of  
someone please call or email;  
office@firstchurchsealbeach.org  
and state it’s in honor or in memory of  
a special person or occasion.

Your gift of flowers for the altar on  
Sunday morning really adds beauty  
and meaning to our services.

Men’s Spring Study

“The Life You’ve Always

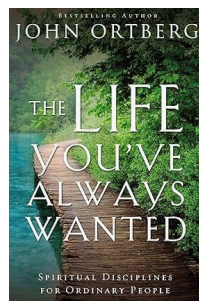
Wanted:

Spiritual Disciplines for  
Ordinary People”

Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm - May  
8<sup>th</sup> through June 19<sup>th</sup> - Fellowship Hall  
Facilitator Jay Bullock

Have you ever been frustrated with  
your life, and wondered if it were possible  
to change for the better? If so,  
this book and this group might be for  
you. The heart of Christianity is about  
transformation, but sometimes change  
seems too hard or too far out of reach  
for those of us who live on Main Street  
and not in a monastery.

Join us as we read and discuss author  
John Ortberg’s book “The Life You’ve  
Always Wanted”. He offers poignant  
and often humorous modern perspectives  
on ancient spiritual disciplines  
that encourage a life filled with joy,  
peace, and a faith that is vital and  
growing.



**First United Methodist  
Church Seal Beach**

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First United Methodist

**May 2024**

Phone: (562) 431-0494

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Email: [Office@FirstChurchSealBeach.org](mailto:Office@FirstChurchSealBeach.org)

June 2024 Beacon Deadline

**DEADLINE** 11:00am, Mon. May 27<sup>th</sup>

Beacon Editor: Jeanne Mignacca

Rev. Tia Wildermuth

[pastortia@firstchurchsealbeach.org](mailto:pastortia@firstchurchsealbeach.org)

Mobile 562-234-0641

**In-Person and  
Streaming Live**

First Church Sunday worship service is streaming live on Facebook. You can find us @ [facebook.com/firstsealbeach/](https://www.facebook.com/firstsealbeach/). Or go to our website, scroll to the bottom right & click on 

Space is available for comments.