



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

August 2024

From Pastor Tia

Greetings Friends,
 We all have favorite passages in the Bible. Mine are ones that Jesus speaks, and I have been thinking about them a lot recently. My number one is quoted in Matthew, Mark and Luke's gospels. Jesus is responding to a question asked by a religious authority of the time. *Jesus said to him, "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 like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."* Matt. 22:37-40

The second passage is one my Nana and Mother quoted to me often, "The Golden Rule." This is also Jesus' words: *"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you ..."* Matt. 7:12

I mention these two passages because of the polarizing climate we are experiencing in our country, really the world right now. How should we as faithful followers of Jesus Christ respond? How should we navigate these waters with friends, family, church family, etc.?

There are those in different states who think posting the 10 Commandments will do the trick or making children study the Bible in school will make all the difference. Look, I like the top 10 and studying the Bible is one of my favorite things to do but it's not an easy book to understand let alone teach. And as far as the 10 commandments are concerned if you think we need a better moral foundation well then post Jesus' words, Jesus' commandments.

It is easy to pick a side and say that it is all good while the opposition is evil. There is evil in this world, we see it on the news every day. But just because someone thinks politically differently than you do not make them evil.

When Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment, he answers with one we can all agree on: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."*

But then comes the kicker: "And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now when the religious authority asks Jesus who is my neighbor Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan. Now think of a group of people you dislike the most...with Jesus' parable reminds the religious authority and us that that person is our neighbor. The one who has the lawn sign you don't like is our neighbor. "Those people" they are our neighbors, they are children of God too.

There will be times when you do not agree with your neighbor and what they believe and say. But if Jesus is the one who calls you? If Jesus is the one you worship? Well than, we are all called to something new, something better, something more of Jesus than of this world.

Love God! Love your neighbor! Treat others how you would want to be treated! It's simple but it's difficult all at the same time. But that is the life of practicing Christians!

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. August 17th @ 10:00am.


Mission Ministry Fellowship
First Thurs. August 1st @ 10:00am.

Music Ministry
Anjanette Navarro (714) 305-2313. Summer Choir rehearsal Sundays @ 8:30am.

United Women in Faith
Mon. August 12th @ Hybrid 10:30am
Kathy Fellers (562) 296-5889,
Charlotta Butler (562) 431-8540

Lunch Bunch
Mon. August 19th @ 11:30am
@ Sunny Side Café for those who missed July's lunch bunch.



<p>Trustees <i>by Dan Butler</i></p>	<p>Missions <i>by Carolyn Nicks</i></p>	<p>Events</p>
<p>All the recovery and repair work caused by the recent heavy rains has been completed. Thanks to Pastor Tia, Greg Fellers and everyone else who made it happen. We still have to move stuff back into the storage room upstairs.</p> <p>We have a new problem. Termites are active in the ceiling above the Clavi nova in the sanctuary. Our contractor has inspected the problem, and proposed a spot treatment. We will have the work done shortly.</p> <p>Our buildings are old. Problems will continue to arise. If you see something, please notify one of the trustees.</p> <p>Dan Butler President, Board of Trustees</p> <p>Dan Butler, President, Sanctuary Richard Irving, upstairs Fellowship Hall Harlene Goodrich, downstairs offices & bathrooms Lynn Adkins, Parsonage Greg Fellers, Church Landscaping Garry Chapman, Fellowship Hall, Kitchen</p>	<div data-bbox="602 394 732 527" data-label="Image"></div> <div data-bbox="786 394 1013 520" data-label="Image"></div> <p>September 22, 2024 11:00 am to 1:30 pm</p> <p>Be a part of a team that assembles 10,000 meals in about 2 hours. There are different jobs available to make this happen. Stand -up: filling bags with rice, vegetables, vitamins Sit-down: weigh food bags other sit-down jobs seal packed bags other stand-up jobs count bags and fill boxes for shipping.</p> <p>Use the Q code below to register your willingness to participate. A free will donation would be greatly appreciated to help pay for product being packed. Make checks payable to First United Methodist Church with Rise Against Hunger on message line. Thank you for your help in ending world hunger.</p> <p>Register Here </p>	<div data-bbox="1057 373 1117 443" data-label="Image"></div> <p>In-Person & Virtual Worship Sundays 9:30am.</p> <div data-bbox="1430 457 1495 506" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Tuesdays Tea Time 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> <div data-bbox="1052 716 1122 764" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Men's Breakfast Group Thursdays 7:30am Men's fellowship group meets for breakfast every Thursday at Blackboard Bistro on PCH.</p> <div data-bbox="1052 905 1122 940" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Mission Ministry Fellowship Thurs. Aug. 1st @ 10:00am</p> <div data-bbox="1057 1024 1110 1087" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Admin Council Sat. Aug. 10th Hybrid @ 9:30am</p> <div data-bbox="1052 1150 1149 1184" data-label="Image"></div> <p>UWF Mon. Aug. 12th @ Hybrid 10:30am</p> <div data-bbox="1398 1241 1468 1297" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Lunch Bunch Mon. Aug. 19th @ 11:30am @ TBD Contact Jeanne if you'd like to join us.</p> <p>Sept. Beacon DEADLINE Mon. Aug. 26th @ 11:00am</p> <div data-bbox="1052 1541 1127 1619" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Wear your Aloha Shirts Sunday, Aug. 28th.</p>
<p>Since the last Beacon we have given out 39 lunches & peanut butter sandwiches.</p>		<div data-bbox="1068 1745 1182 1877" data-label="Image"></div> <p>Casual Worship Sunday July 7th to August 25th</p> <p>CASUAL WORSHIP</p>



August 2024 Worship Schedule

In-Person Worship 9:30am
Streaming live on Facebook

Sunday Worship Services 9:30am

August 4th
Communion/Baptism
1 Corinthians 12:4-6

First Church at the Movies "Gifts to Share" - "Encanto"

August 11th
Matthew 22:37-40

First Church at the Movies "To Serve is to Love" - "Harriet"

August 18th
Psalm 23

First Church at the Movies "Moving Through" - "Frozen II"

August 25th
Luke 10:25-37

First Church at the Movies "Won't You Be a Neighbor?" - "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood"

Rev. Tia Wildermuth, Pastor

July/August

Upper Room Available

The daily devotional Upper Room is available. They do enrich your life. If you would like one mailed to you

Life at First Church

Finance Report as of July 16, 2024

Table with 4 columns: Category, Monthly, Year to Date, Budget Year to Date. Rows include Income Totals, Expense Totals, and Difference.



August Altar Flowers

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

- Aug 4 - Open
Aug. 11 - Open
Aug. 18 - Open
Aug. 25 - Open

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

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

Lay Leader

by Barbara Arnold

Summer is almost over. School has almost started. Summer heat has not been too bad in Seal Beach.

Soon we will be saying "Goodbye" to Jennifer (King J) as she moves back east to continue her education.

August has been "awesome" once again.

Blessings, Barbara Arnold

Prayer Chain

Leslie's Mom, Myrna, is having back issues. Leslie is helping her through this.

Children of Palestine are dying and being injured. Pray for the children & families in that region.

Debbie's friend Cheryl passed away, pray for her family & friends.

Brenda had eye surgery last Thur. and is recovering. Patty has brain cancer.

August Birthdays

- Dylan McCarthy
Cash Lopez
Colin Jordan
Patricia Hines
Mary Thompson
Anjanette Navarro
Pastor Tia



August Anniversaries

- 5th - Leonard & Ruth Jordan
14th - Dan & Renate Carnegie
17th - Greg & Kathy Fellers

**First United Methodist
Church Seal Beach**

148 10th Street
Seal Beach, CA 90740-6421
First United Methodist

August 2024

Phone: (562) 431-0494

Office Hours: M-F, 10:00am-2:00pm

Web site: www.firstchurchsealbeach.org

Email: Office@FirstChurchSealBeach.org

September 2024 Beacon Deadline

DEADLINE 11:00am, Mon. Aug. 26th

Beacon Editor: Jeanne Mignacca

Rev. Tia Wildermuth

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.