



First Congregational Church of Santa Barbara + United Church of Christ

2101 State Street + SB, CA 93105 // PO Box 90945 + SB, CA 93190
805-682-7146 + www.santabarbarafirst.org + office@santabarbarafirst.org

CHURCH LIFE

May 2025



MARTHA'S MODERATOR MESSAGE

Whats Going On?

The spring meeting of the Northern Association of our UCC Conference was a great success! Thanks to all who helped: Robin Rickershauser, Sharon Kayser, Sally Thacher, Kay Utterback, Peter Brown, Dan LaPorte, Steve Butner, Tyler Geck, Madden Westland, Tim, Pascal. Folks came from Bakersfield, Atascadero, Tahachapi, Lompoc, Ventura, and Paso Robles. Everyone was grateful for the beautiful sanctuary, the food, and our hospitality in general. I am grateful, too.

We have the famous "red cards" and they are available for any member who wants to distribute them to targeted people in their circle. Just ask.

A new initiative is underway to revive our church website. If you are a member of one of the groups or activities of the church that you would like to see described on the website, check in with Johanna Preiswerk or Steve Butner. Or they may contact you.

Please assist as you can so we can have a website that shows us as we are now.

There is STILL a need to remodel our leadership team as well as rewrite our constitution. Are there volunteers out there interested in lending a hand? Please contact me with questions, suggestions, offers of help.

Get out your calendars; here are a couple of items to consider. 1) The Annual Gathering of the Southern CA Nevada Conference of the UCC is happening May 30 and 31. Every year, I urge y'all to attend. It is a great way to get connected to the wider UCC; there are interesting workshops; you might run into Greg Davis or Dennis Alger! This year the gathering is at Claremont UCC on Friday and the Sheraton Fairplex Pomona. I will be happy, no, delighted to send you a link to the information and registration if you are interested. Registration closes May 15.

2) The annual Pride Festival is August 23. Please plan to help by spending 2 or 3 hours at our booth on that day. A couple of hours at the beach – what could be an easier gig? If you are tall, I especially will need help at the beginning of the day or the end of the day with the banners we hang on the booth.

Please remember to write up the events you know of and want to share in Church Life. This newsletter is for all of us, and anyone can contribute. It's much more lively with more voices. Whenever you think "There should be an article in Church Life about this!" just sit down, write it, and send it in. Thanks.

As always, please email me at mmpeyton@gmail.com with questions or comments. I love you guys!



RECYCLING NEWS: TEXTILE RECOVERY

(Most of us received this with our recent utilities bill but here's a reminder)

"The Sustainability and Resilience Department's Clean Community Division is pleased to share that, with support from the City of Santa Barbara and City of Goleta, MarBorg Industries has relaunched their Textile Recovery Drop-off Program! Clean, lightly used clothing, shoes and other textiles can be dropped off for free at MarBorg's Goleta Recycling Center at 20 David Love Place. Collected textiles will be transported to Homeboy Threads in Los Angeles, where they will be sorted and processed for donation, reselling, or recycling. Learn more at MarBorg.com/Textile."

Just Peace Working Group



APRIL TRANSITION HOUSE MEAL

The FCCSB Transition House FoodTeam fed ~ 55 residents and the evening manager at the TH Shelter April 8th. Peter Brown, Suzanne Brown, Peter Fordand I Bud Kayser, MaryAnn Lund and I each arrived around 5:30 pm. We all set to making the next-day lunches or finishing up the meal preparations. Lynn Stewart came in a bit later, accompan-ied by her daughter, Jacqui and Jacqui's husband, Bob. Jacqui & Bob put together the salad materials they brought, then left us.

A bit before 6:15 we had a short prayer of thanksgiving for the opportunity to work together and serve those who are working to stabilize their lives. Bud left and we set up to serve dinner.

The two Peters, Suzanne and Lynn served slices of warmed French bread (the Browns), oven-BBQ'd chicken pieces,* rice,* refried beans,* carrots and green salad (both from Lynn) along with orange (fruit from MaryAnn's tree) wedges for the children. Butter* was out on each of the tables. Sliced jalapenos,* salsa* and grated cheese* were on a side table near the serving counter for those who wished.

I prepped plates of Nancy Chase's Choc. chip cake for dessert to be passed out once the dinner was served. MaryAnn stood by to refill serving dishes, etc.. Once dinner and dessert were served and the late plates were prepped, Lynn and the Browns put together plates for themselves and sat down to eat. Peter F. packed up the leftovers—I still must refrain from lifting anything--and we hurried home to eat our dinner, clean our kitchen and put away the extra food.

A very big 'Thank You!' to all the March FCCSB Foodteam Members. Whether you gave financially, furnished food, purchased supplies or worked at the shelter, you were truly appreciated.

The next opportunity to participate as a FCCSB TH Foodteam Member will be on Tues. Apr. 13th. We can always use assistance—whether with food prep, serving, or financial donations.

Mary Howe-Grant, Monthly TH Meal Co-Coordinator

* Purchased using money from FCCSBUCC's TH monthly meal funds.

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS!



HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 10 Marcus McMullen
May 18 Daniel Warren
May 23 Bob Kvaas
May 23 Gary Shumaker
May 28 Mariela Marin
May 31 Cheri Spencer

2025 Officers and Committees

Church Officers

Moderator	Martha Peyton ^{MB}
Vice Moderator	Johanna Preiswerk ^{MB}
Recording Clerk	Peter Brown ^{MB}
Treasurer	Salome Crowley ^{MB}
Asst. Treasurer	Mary Howe-Grant
Financial Co-Secretaries	Lynn Stewart & Sue Lael Katnic
Membership Clerk	Karen Steward
Systems Administrator	Steve Butner
Historian	Karen Steward

At-Large Mission Board Members

Karen Steward ^{MB}	Gail Gillies ^{MB}
Sally Thacher ^{MB}	Sharon Kayser ^{MB}

Conference Delegates

Adult	Karen Steward
Adult	Martha Peyton

Standing Committees

Finance and Facilities

3-7 members

Lynn Stewart*
Peter Preiswerk
Salome Crowley*
Bud Kayser
Peter Ford

Pastoral Relations

3-7 members

Peter Brown
Nancy Chase
Kay Utterback

Personnel

3-7 members

Johanna Preiswerk*
Peter Ford

Nominating Committee

Myrna Tuttle	Robin Rickershauser
Sally Thacher	