The Chimes

August 2025

Calendar

Al Anon:

Aug 7, 14, 21, 28, 10am

Back Row Boys:

Aug 6, 9am @ The Iron Kettle

Christian Education:

Aug 4, 6:00pm

Deacons:

Aug 26, 7pm

Ms. Bridget's Sprouts:

Aug 12, 10:00am

Session:

Aug 4,7pm

Worship Committee:

Aug 10, 11am

ENJOY THE SUMMER

FYI

Jesse will be in Sacramento from August 11 - August 29. The Worship Committee has secured pulpit supply for August 17 & 24. If you have a pastoral emergency, you can contact a member of session or Annie in the office. Please note that Jesse won't be sending out his weekly enews while he's on vacation. If there is any crucial information to share while he's away, Annie will email the congregation.

A Note from the Pastor

September always brings with it a big burst of energy – school reopens, church committees start meeting again after summer, confirmation class and Wednesday morning Bible studies resume, and, of course, the Bills' season kicks off! Once again, life shifts into high gear. I love the fall and I enjoy the good energy of the beginning of a new program year, but I also hope that we strive to maintain a healthy schedule – let's focus on events that are meaningful and avoid burnout. I've met at least a few congregants who appreciate coming to FPCEA to refill their spiritual batteries after yet another busy week. If people are feeling overwhelmed with too much to do, then church may become a drag as opposed to a source of joy. Church should remind us of the abundant life Christ offers us – so we recharge, share in hope together, and are ready for another week, regardless of what it brings.

It is in this spirit of the balance of church life that session has been discussing holding a congregational meeting on September 14 immediately following worship. There is no official business for this meeting, but rather it's an opportunity for us to come together as a church family to share a bit about the coming year and what we are really interested in, as well as what we may not have as much interest in. We'd like to gauge how we all are feeling at this time and place as FPCEA. We aren't the same community who we were even five years ago; some friends are gone and new ones are with us. As we inventory the gifts and passions of our congregation, we are then able to identify our church's vision and direction. Our hope is that a few ideas may generate some good energy, and by doing so, we may birth some new ministries and programs. We hope you'll join us and feel free to share an idea or two if you have any; perhaps you'd enjoy an evening of painting and wine or you have a passion for helping at a local animal shelter. All ideas are welcome! We'll share more details as the date draws closer.

Enjoy these beautiful, fleeting summer days and we hope to see you soon! -Jesse

RALLY DAY IS SUNDAY, SEPT 7th!

Christian Education Update

August brings us to the halfway point of summer break. I pray all are having an amazing summer. As September approaches, preparations are underway for the 2025-2026 Sunday School year. Below you will find some important information to help make a smooth transition into the new year.

- -September 7th is Rally Day followed by the church picnic which is the traditional kick off for the Sunday School year. NOTE: If you have ideas for fun games or activities during the picnic, please share them with me. CE is responsible for this part of the picnic.
- Every class will include a teacher and assistant each Sunday.
- -Consider volunteering to teach or to assist with one of the classes. A sign-up sheet will be emailed (and placed in the assembly hall) to all parents in August. Sign up is open to all adults in the church. You can sign up for one slot a month, a season, or a year. Any help is greatly appreciated. If you think you may be interested in teaching but are not sure, sign up to be an assistant first to get the lay of the land.
- -Parents be sure to fill out a registration form if your child is new to the program. A QR code to access the form is available outside the CE office, or you can request the link be sent to you via email. The information will help us stay in contact throughout the year as well as provide important information unique to your child.
- -There will be three classes offered again this year. The official calendar will be sent out in August.
- -If you have any questions, please contact me at ce@fpcea.org.
- -Our CE next CE Committee meeting for August 4th at 6:00pm.

Car Show Parking Instructions for Aug 24th!

Church attendees that need a ride will park at the townhall lot on Oakwood Ave or park at the EA Middle School lot. They are to contact Curt Colopy or Fred Thornley and request a ride. Curt or Fred will inform the legions POC of the request. They will have a golf cart to transport folks. After church, attendees needing a ride back to their car will go to the bottom of the ramp and inform the POC from the legion.

The Scouts of America will be operating a food stand on the corner if Main and Paine. The scouts have also offered to assist in getting persons dropped off on Paine Street to the Sanctuary. Thanks to Lloyd DeMario for coordinating with the EAPD!

Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee is currently laying out our calendar of this Fall's events for the 2026 campaign as well as our Consecration Sunday kickoff in October. Our Stewardship theme for this year is "Serving The Lord, Rejoicing In Hope". More details will follow next month. Our church is so thankful for all your 2025 pledge payments to date which are so vital in staying current with paying our annual operating expenses.

August Birthdays! Happy Birthday Everyone!

Brenda Best Martin Beyer Mary Bullerdiek Amy Bush Emily Bush

Emerson Byer Jake Clark Jeff Frier Natalie Hernandez James Lowell Nathan Majchrzak Kim Phillips Bradley Seifert Maeve Specht Edwin Stohrer Jr. Diane Thurn