

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- BIRTHDAY
- ANNIVERSARIES
- UPDATES
- PASTOR'S REMARKS
- HEALTH
- MISSION
- FELLOWSHIP
- EDUCATION
- BOOK CLUB
- RECIPE

The First Presbyterian

MISSION & CONGREGATION UPDATES

FOOD PANTRY



The church's food pantry continues to operate twice a week: Wednesdays from 10am to noon and Sundays from 2pm to 3:30. Without our fabulous volunteers, both from within our congregation and from the community, this would not be possible. We are now serving between 200 and 250 households each week and the many ways our congregation contributes is greatly appreciated. Thank you for supporting this valuable resource for our neighbors in need.

We are now only distributing household items on the first Wednesday and Sunday of the month. We are fortunate to receive diapers at no cost through the Orange County Food Bank, but most items we distribute require someone to shop. If you are ever at the Dollar Tree or are willing to make a special trip, please consider purchasing a few items to donate. The most requested items are bleach, laundry detergent, baby wipes and dish soap (pictured to the left). They are \$1.25 each at the Dollar Tree. We also need Tuna and crackers (also pictured to the left) for the food bags we give those who don't have a kitchen to prepare food.

We continue to collect the thick, reusable grocery bags, so if you have any, please bring them on Sunday or drop them by the church office. Thank you!

Pam on behalf of the Mission Committee

BIRTHDAYS



William J. Huff	07/01	Carter Sharp Jr .	07/14
Margaret Carson	07/06	Rick Cota-Robles	07/15
Steve Hill	07/06	Sarah Tannas	07/28
Karen Fuchs	07/13	Abigail Parera-Bolang	07/28
Paul Janke	07/14	Brenna Bell	07/29

ANNIVERSARIES



Bruce & Karen Scott	07/07
Laura & David Compton	07/30
Ron & Connie Noren	07/30



COMPASSION & PRAYERS



Brian Bush & Family, Steve High, Keith Yusko, Beta, Jenny Dickens & all Health Care Workers, Tracy & Lynn Winn, Sofia Gomez, Corinne Scheibel, Laura Hapke, Judi McCoy, Aileen Marsile, Susan Butcher, Terry & Jean Ann Duckworth, Pat Gunderman, Kate Berg & Zeteo Missions, Lyn (Bush) Reynolds-Johnson, Dave & Robbie Lamondy, Cliff & Doris Nelson, Jean Blume and Blume Family, Steve & DJ Hill, Larry Mamchur, Karen Scott, Ellie Schilder, Paul Geisert, Bill Benak, Joe Woollett, Gale Radmall, Jackson & Lori, Alice Mitchell, Bruce Johnson & The Johnson Family, Bill & Gail Telkamp, Amy & Rick Wilson, Fred Baja, Priscilla Groot, The Burt Family, Shirley Hunt, The MacMath Family, Jim Mahoney, Julita Link & Family, Kim Nelson, Linda Rogers, Martha Moyers, Ann Teachout & The Teachout Family, and all serving military personnel.

Dear Church, (my pew view...)

Market estimates for the purchase of hand sanitizers exceed 405 million dollars per year. This now common and hasty way of cleaning one's hands has become a pretty good business—just ask Purell. Most sanitizers contain an alcohol content of 67%. Alcohol not only kills germs, but frequent use leads to harmful, chemical exposures and higher alcohol levels in children. (There are “friendlier” hand sanitizers, too.)

One manufacturer of a friendly hand sanitizer touts the presence of vitamin E. Careful inspection surprises users that acetone is also present. This chemical is used to convert good ole natural Vitamin E for skin absorption. Too many studies note that hand washing is just as good or better in some cases as hand sanitizers. Though, I have to admit that carefully placed dispensers of hand sanitizers in hospital hallways, doorways to supermarkets, and exits from pet stores maximizes my use. (I call it sanitizer maximizer.) This is convenient! Convenience sells products.

What does this growing use of antiseptic, hand sanitizers have to do with the gospel?

My take on this initially is, “nothing.” There isn't anything wrong with the sanitizing of hands by removing germs. Clean is good, unless it is obsessive. Hand washing for cleanliness keeps a lot of germs on the outside of us. Antiseptic is a good word for us, not only for our hands but our mouths - antiseptic mouthwash.

Religion as an antiseptic isn't a good idea. Religion as antiseptic defines purity and seeks to cull the unclean and exclude others from the widespread love of God. Religion as antiseptic forms a notion that a pure, unadulterated form of human life can be created by the antiseptic treatment of the “unclean” or “sinners.” Religion as antiseptic discusses inclusion and exclusion: who's in and who's out. Religion as antiseptic seeks “acceptable” people to help and “unacceptable” people to shun. This isn't Purell, but pure-hell.

If you get a gnawing twinge inside when you listen to someone talk about the homeless poor as anything less than children of God, then it is probably antiseptic religion or politics. If it sounds like: “Poor people are just another germ to be kept on the outside.” Or “if they would clean themselves up (and their behavior)” —this is antiseptic religion. Poor people are not germs to be talked about as if they should be kept on the outside.



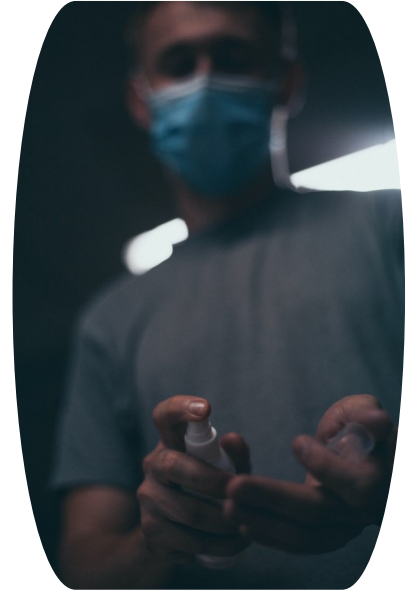
The gospel religion in Jesus' name to help the poor and sinners does not come with a disclaimer: unless they are unclean or alien or strange.

Lepers were excluded from fellowship and temple rituals by the uncleanness of their skin (and the lack of understanding of their condition, as well as narrow religious applications of what it meant for Israel to be set apart.) We can pick our own “lepers” today—those “unclean” or too “dirty” to be helped or included.

I choose to serve at a food pantry, shake hands and hug some pretty smelly people, too. It challenges my Lysol way of life on a number of levels. Religion should not be an antiseptic struggle. The people I help don't have to be clean or straight or pure. When people have to clean themselves up for me to help them, then this is a religious problem. The gospel has a lot to say about this struggle and does from the mouth of Jesus: a whitewash tomb doesn't mean a person is religious or the unclean have been kept away. It means that the stench of death may be on the inside from a heart with an antiseptic religion. Jesus condemns it. We should, too.

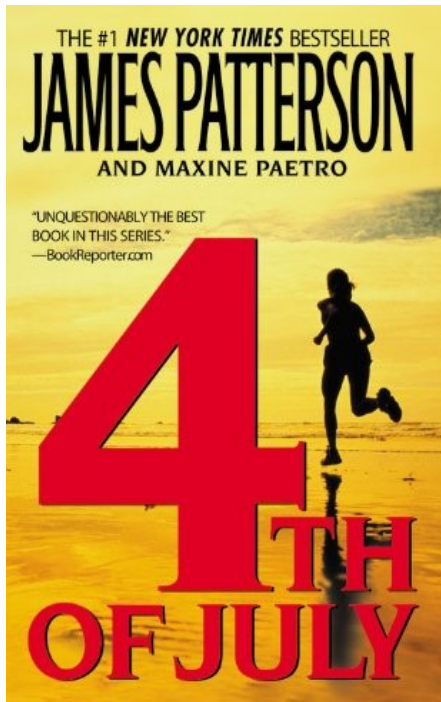
Your Pastor,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Winston".



EDUCATION & EVENTS

BOOK CLUB



July 26th • 11:00 am • Flippen Chapel

The Book Club will be reading *The 4th of July* by James Patterson. Here is a synopsis of this intriguing tale:

The world's bestselling detective series has never been more suspenseful. Trapped in deadly showdowns, courtroom trials, and dangerous secrets, the Women's Murder Club must fight for their lives. In a deadly late-night showdown, San Francisco police lieutenant Lindsay Boxer fires her weapon and sets off a dramatic chain of events that leaves a police force disgraced, a family destroyed, and Lindsay herself at the mercy of twelve jurors. During a break in the trial, she retreats to a picturesque town that is reeling from a string of grisly murders-crimes that bear a link to a haunting, unsolved case from her rookie years. Now, with her friends in the Women's Murder Club, Lindsay must battle for her life on two fronts: in a trial rushing to a climax, and against an unknown adversary willing to do anything to hide the truth about the homicides-including kill again?

Please Join us on July 26th at 11:00 in Flippen Chapel to discuss this suspenseful story. Bring a sack lunch.

If you have any questions, please call Lynda Stewart at (714) 639-5076.

HORIZON WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

3rd Saturdays • 10:00 am • Flippen Chapel

Ladies, join our new Horizon Bible Study Group just for women! Books will be provided. Do not miss out on this wonderful opportunity to learn more about our Lord with the women of our congregation.

For more information call Connie Noren: (714) 633-7246

WATCH SUNDAY WORSHIP ON YOUTUBE

Every Sunday • 10:00 am • YouTube

Watch our Sunday Worship Service anytime and anywhere by following this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2qn5IWUH4yNGmS_2eWEzNg

You can also reach our YouTube channel by clicking on the video on our homepage at www.firstpresorange.org

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

June 9th • 11:00 am • Sanctuary

Session has called a Special Congregational Meeting on July 9 immediately following Worship in order to hear and act on the Nominating Committee's report to fill the unexpired term of Rick Cota-Robles in the Class of 2024 and any other business that pertains to nominations.

TNT

2nd Saturdays • 11:00 am • McAulay Hall

TNT, formally Tuesday Nights Together, is a program designed specifically for adults who are developmentally challenged. We provide lunch, teach a developmentally appropriate Bible Study, participate in the TNT choir, and create meaningful friendships and personal relationships with God. Meets in McAulay Hall.

Contact Liz Calvo for further information: LizC2806@aol.com



COFFEE AFTER WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP HOUR

We will be serving coffee while we have Fellowship Hour after worship on the first Sunday of every month in McAulay Hall. Come and grab a cup of hot coffee while catching up with fellow parishioners!

Upcoming Coffee and Fellowship Dates:

July 2nd

August 6th

Sept 3rd

FAITH AND PRACTICE: SEARCHING FOR HAPPINESS

Sundays • 11:00 am • Flippen Chapel

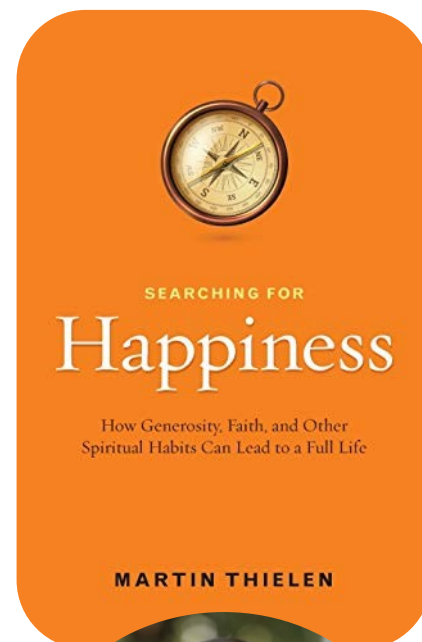
Faith & Practice is our Sunday morning Christian Education class for adults following our Worship service. All are invited to participate in this class which explores a variety of topics and themes that we can all relate to and apply to our own lives in faith. F&P is led by Pastor Winston Presnall and occasional guest speakers. Come and see what these thought-provoking sessions are all about!

Starting May 14th, we will be discussing material from Martin Thielen's book, "Searching for Happiness" which explores many points about achieving happiness and how life satisfaction has 3 primary sources: theological and biblical teachings; scientific research; and personal and professional experiences. Dates and topics are listed below.

Schedule of F&P: Searching for Happiness

- May 14 External circumstances do not determine happiness
- May 21 Contented people use trials as growth opportunities
- May 28 Contented people cultivate optimism
- June 11 Contented people focus on the present
- June 18 Contented people practice generosity
- June 25 Contented people nurture relationships
- July 9 Contented people care for their bodies
- July 16 Contented people care for their souls

There will be no F&P classes on the first Sunday of every month due to Fellowship Hour.



WORD & WINE – NOW THE WEDNESDAY WORD!

Wednesdays • 5:30pm • via Facebook



The Wednesday Word, formally Word and Wine, still meets on Facebook at 5:30 pm every Wednesday. If you would like to drink your favorite beverage, do it!

The Wednesday Word explores the background and context of each week's Gospel reading. Pastor Winston shares word studies, history, theology and some doctrinal information related to the text. It is hoped that this will enhance your weekly prayer life, study, and hearing of each week's Sunday Sermon.

You can view prior broadcasts on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/firstpresorange

Contact Winston to join our W&W email list: rwinston@firstpresorange.org

FLAVORS AROUND THE WORLD: USA - BLUEBERRY COBBLER



We're going to make a pit stop at home to celebrate USA's birthday, the Fourth of July with some all-American blueberry cobbler! Time to see just how an unknown land turned into one of the world's greatest countries.

The United States began around 15,000 BC when the ancestors of Native Americans started migrating to the country from Siberia over the frozen over Bering Strait. They started in Canada, making their way down to what would be the United States.

With the dawn of the Age of Exploration in the 1400's, came Christopher Columbus searching for a seaworthy way of traveling to Asia. He instead discovered the Americas in 1492. However, "another land," as Columbus called it, was not yet seen as a new continent. In his letter to Lorenzo di Pier Francesco de



Medici in 1504, *Mundus Novus* or "New Land," Amerigo Vespucci writes about his voyage to the new world and its inhabitants and describes the land as a new continent (South and North America were still seen as one land). This letter would later be published along with a map of the world signed by geographer Martin Waldseemüller who named the land masses America after Amerigo (see how he drew the Americas to the right).

Following the initial discovery of America, the first permanent settlement was established in 1565 in St. Augustine. Many more pilgrims will come from Europe in hopes of religious freedom. Over the next century, the new colonists would go through quite a bit of turmoil: a war with the French and some Native American tribes; the Salem Witch Trials; British tax implementations; the Stamp Act; the Boston Massacre; the Boston Tea Party; and the Revolutionary War - which leads us to the reason we celebrate Independence Day, the Declaration of Independence.

On July 4th, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was ratified, officially establishing the United States of America. By this time, there were an estimated 2.5 million settlers living in the 13 colonies of America. Before the Declaration could be signed, however, it had to undergo 86 revisions and 3 re-writes. It's no wonder that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams debated that the other person should be the writer! Ultimately, Adams won the debate and Jefferson was entrusted with writing the Declaration. Since then, the U.S. has been through many trials and triumphs, wars and resolutions, opportunities and obstacles. Even with all this, what better place is there to live? Let's get to baking!

Blueberry Cobber

Ingredients

Blueberry Mix

- ◆ 4 Cups Blueberries (Fresh or Frozen)
- ◆ 1/2 Cup Granulated Sugar
- ◆ 1 Teaspoon Lemon Zest
- ◆ 6 Tablespoons Butter

Cobbler Batter

- ◆ 1 Cup All-Purpose Flour
- ◆ 1 Cup Granulated Sugar
- ◆ 2 Teaspoons Baking Powder

Directions:

- 1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- 2) Slice butter into pieces and add to a 9x13 inch baking dish. Place the pan in the oven while it preheats, to allow the butter to melt. Once melted, remove the pan from the oven.
- 3) Add blueberries, sugar and zest to a bowl and stir to combine.
- 4) In a separate bowl mix together the batter ingredients: flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt. Stir in the milk, just until combined.
- 5) Pour blueberries over melted butter in pan. Drizzle batter over the top. Sprinkle with a little bit of cinnamon.
- 6) Bake at 350 degrees for about 35-40 minutes, or until lightly golden on top.
- 7) Serve warm, with a scoop of ice cream, if desired!



July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00am - Worship (S/YT) 11:00am - Fellowship & Coffee (MH/CY) 11:00am - Faith and Practice (FC) 11:15am - Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 02:00pm - Food Pantry (MH)	3	4 Happy 4 th of July!	5 10:00 am - Food Pantry (MH) 05:30 pm - Word & Wine (FB) 7:00pm - Session (Z)	6	7	8 11:00am - TNT (MH)
9 10:00am - Worship (S/YT) 11:00am - Congregational Meeting (S) 11:00am - Fellowship (MH/CY) 11:00am - Faith and Practice (FC) 11:15am - Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 02:00pm - Food Pantry (MH)	10 12:00pm - CE (Z)	11	12 10:00 am - Food Pantry (MH) 05:30 pm - Word & Wine (FB) 7:00pm - Worship Committee (Z)	13	14	15 10:00am - Horizon Women's Bible Study (FC)
16 10:00am - Worship (S/YT) 11:00am - Fellowship (MH/CY) 11:00am - Faith and Practice (FC) 11:15am - Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 02:00pm - Food Pantry (MH)	17	18	19 10:00 am - Food Pantry (MH) 05:30 pm - Word & Wine (FB) 07:00 pm - CMC (Z)	20	21	22
23 10:00am - Worship (S/YT) 11:00am - Fellowship (MH/CY) 11:00am - Faith and Practice (FC) 11:15am - Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 02:00pm - Food Pantry (MH)	24	25	26 10:00 am - Food Pantry (MH) 11:00am - Book Club (FC) 05:30 pm - Word & Wine (FB)	27	28	29
30 10:00am - Worship (S/YT) 11:00am - Fellowship (MH/CY) 11:00am - Faith and Practice (FC) 11:15am - Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) 02:00pm - Food Pantry (MH)	31					

WOMEN UNITED: AN OPINION PERIODICAL BY MELISSA CPLEY

Welcome to Women United! Every couple months or so, I will be pulling a quote from various sources, then examine it through my own Christian female eyes. My hope is that this will help you take some time to think about the quotes and reflect upon yourself, your community, and your relationship with God. For July, I have chosen a quote from Thomas Jefferson that may surprise you:



"The appointment of a woman to office is an innovation for which the public is not prepared, nor am I."

This quote is from 1807 when white women were second-class citizens, and women of color were slaves. Jefferson was talking to a world in which many would justify mistreatment of others, especially if that meant they could stay on top. While this quote is controversial in many ways, especially by today's standards, it is even more controversial in that there is little evidence of what role or woman Jefferson was speaking of. However, many scholars agree that it was about a woman named Rebecca who was expected to be a lighthouse keeper (there is an interesting history here you may be interested in reading, just search the quote to find many viable sources).

A lighthouse keeper role in the 1800's was different than other jobs at the time because a wife could help her husband with his work duties. Rebecca was such a wife who already knew the ins and outs of

maintaining a lighthouse. She sounds like the perfect person to fit this appointment, so why did Jefferson not only disagree but also condemn *all* women from attaining roles in office? To put it simply, he thought women should not be distracted from their normal duties as housewives and mothers, and they should also be spared jobs in industries such as farming and politics which were typically seen as men's work. ^[a]

Even though Jefferson was an avid study of the Bible, his religious beliefs are even more disputable than his aforementioned quote. Despite his controversial beliefs, he still believed in the core of the Bible and Jesus' morals for the most part. ^[b] Because of this, I feel Jesus' teachings and morals should have impacted Jefferson's views. So, I skimmed through the New Testament for things Jesus said about or did for women. Here are a few verses I found: women would travel with and be taught by Jesus - typically men were only educated at the time (Luke 8:1-3, 10:38-42); Jesus' first resurrection witness was a woman (Mark 16:9-20); Jesus included women in parables taught to His disciples (Parable of the Unjust Judge, Luke 18:1-8); He helped many women of ill repute, despite society's judgement (Luke 8:43-48, John 4:1-42, John 8:1-11, Luke 7:36-50, etc.)



There are so many instances of Jesus showing the public the true equal

treatment of men and women. It also seems that he knew men and women are more naturally good at different roles due to our physicality. It is true that the 12 apostles were all men, but a woman bore Jesus and a woman was the first to see Him after his resurrection. Furthermore, from the very beginning, God created Eve as a companion to Adam so he may not be lonely, and as a "helper" in tending the Garden of Eden (NSRV, Genesis 2:18). He did not create her to be a servant to Adam. God made women and men differently so they could fulfill different roles, but each role is equally necessary as the other and neither gender are confined to a specific role if they do not want to be.

While I disagree with Jefferson's conclusion that the public was not prepared for a woman in office, I do acknowledge his effort to keep men and women in roles they excel in. It was just entirely misguided. Today, we see a woman in the 2nd highest seat in office - Vice President Kamala Harris. Even though many may not agree with her efficiency in this role, Harris is a shining example of the juxtaposition between women's rights and roles in society today versus the early 1800's, just after this country first became the USA. To believe that women do not belong in certain industries is an outdated idea that women have fought and are close to successfully overcoming.

[a]: Hulen, Tara. "Thomas Jefferson's Gender Revolution." University of Alabama at Birmingham, 4 Oct. 2011, <https://www.uab.edu/cas/news/announcements/item/5121-thomas-jefferson-s-gender-revolution>

[b]: Jefferson, Thomas. "From Thomas Jefferson to John Adams, 11 April 1823." National Archives - Founders Online, 11 Apr. 1823, <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/>

HEALTH MINISTRY – UV 'B' DAMAGING



July is UV Safety month. There are two types of UV light rays – UV-A, which is more harmful to central vision and UV-B which can cause cataracts. Wearing a wide brimmed hat will block about ½ of the UV rays. Wearing proper sunglasses that block UV-A and UV-B will help with the rest. Some people are more sensitive to UV damage to their eyes. They are people who spend long hours in the sun, people who have had cataract surgery, and people who are on certain medications such as tetracycline, sulfa drugs, birth control pills, diuretics, and tranquilizers. Other precautions that one should take are – take special care at peak sun times (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.), don't be fooled by clouds – sun's rays can pass through haze and thin clouds, and avoid dangers of indoor tanning. By following these tips you should be able to enjoy the lovely summer days and not harm your body.

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR MAY 2023

John R. Fotch, Treasurer

CHURCH OPERATIONS	Month of May			Five Months Ending May 2023		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Offerings	\$ 15,239	\$ 15,916	\$ (677)	\$ 75,955	\$ 79,578	\$ (3,623)
Other Income	3,698	2,667	1,032	13,181	13,333	(152)
Special Envelopes	-	117	(117)	1,320	583	737
Special Benevolences	-	83	(83)	75	417	(342)
Income Sub-Total	\$ 18,937	\$ 18,782	\$ 155	\$ 90,531	\$ 93,912	\$ (3,381)
Transfers - GSC Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92,156	\$ 83,064	\$ 9,093
Transfers - Pre-School			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92,156	\$ 83,064	\$ 9,093
Total Income	\$ 18,937	\$ 18,782	\$ 155	\$ 182,687	\$ 176,975	\$ 5,712
Expenses	\$ 45,367	\$ 49,378	\$ (4,011)	\$ 230,261	\$ 237,018	\$ (6,757)
Net Operating Results	\$ (26,430)	\$ (30,596)	\$ 4,166	\$ (47,574)	\$ (60,043)	\$ 12,469

Notes to Income: Total Income for the May was on track with expectations. Income through the first five months of the year is slightly ahead of budget.

Notes to Expense: Expenses continued to come in under budget for May. Total Expenses through the first five months remain below expectations.

DAY CARE	Month of May			Five Months Ending May 2023		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,721	\$ -	\$ 36,721
Expense	\$ (1,978)	\$ -	\$ (1,978)	\$ 48,228	\$ -	\$ 48,228
Net Operating Results	\$ 1,978	\$ -	\$ 1,978	\$ (11,507)	\$ -	\$ (11,507)

Updating our Workman's Comp provider on the current census of church personnel resulted in a \$1,978.34 credit in May.





"A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP THAT ACTIVELY DEMONSTRATES THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST,
FOR EACH OTHER AND FOR ITS NEIGHBORS."

QUESTIONS ABOUT AN ARTICLE? COMMENTS ON HOW THE NEWSLETTER IS GOING?

HAVE AN ARTICLE YOU WANT INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL: OFFICE@FIRSTPRESORANGE.ORG

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Brock Wagner

Chelsea Tonick

Ruth Kutcher

DEACONS

Laura Compton

Karen Godfrey

Jennifer Grissom

Pat Gunderman

Barbara Khazoyan

Barbara Yusko

Keith Yusko

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:00 am

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www.firstpresorange.org