



TUSTIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

PARISH PRESS

FEBRUARY 2021

The most up-to-date information can always be found on our website: www.tustinpresbyterian.org.

WHAT DO I WANT TO BE AT TPC?

Steve Ranney, Pastor

In the January Parish Press, I wrote about what we wanted Tustin Presbyterian Church to be like when we re-gather. Over this last month, in our worship service, I have been explaining the three ways that God calls to us, to be Reconciled to God, to be a part of God's church so we can grow, and to be God's ambassadors to our communities, our nation, and our world. The only way that we can be the TPC that God wants us to be is for each of us to respond to God's three calls. Therefore, the question each and every one of us needs to answer is "What do I want to be as part of TPC and the church of Jesus Christ?"

I think that the first thing that will be required of each of us moving forward is a deep love for Jesus. The reason the Church exists at all is because of what Jesus did for us. If I want TPC to flourish, I first need to have a passionate love for Jesus. As I reflect on all that He has done for me, I really can't help it. (For more on this, watch the January 31 sermon on our website at tustinpresbyterian.org.)

As I allow that love to grow inside of me, it should lead me to be a part of God's Family. It is in Christ's church that I can further discover who God is and what God wants from me. It is also here where I can learn to accept and be accepting of others that God loves. It is here that I can try out my gifts. It is here where I find care and support and offer it to others. It is here where I can find my gifts and practice using them. It is here that I can grow from a spiritual infant into a mature Christian. It is here where, each week, I can recharge and renew to face the challenges of this life. TPC can be a place like that if we choose to make it so.

(Continued on next page)

As we grow up in our relationship with God, the third thing that I need to do is be willing to be used by God to reach others who are looking for God's love. I have been blessed with three children to raise. I loved the years that they spent with me, but they have grown up and are out in the world using their incredible gifts. While I loved those growing up years, if they had never become adults, I would have been a terrible parent. I would not only be hurting them, but I would be depriving the world of their gifts. Likewise, at TPC we need to grow up in our relationship with God and then take those gifts out to share with God's world. As God directs us, we will find people and places where we can do the incredible work of helping our world to be reconciled to God. As we gather each week to recharge, God will show us how we can be used by Him.

On January 31, I will begin an eight-week sermon series that will talk about all of this. If you are interested in helping TPC become the church that God wants us to be, I invite you to join each week asking the question "How is God calling me to grow?" If we want TPC to be the church that God wants it to be, we have to work at being the people that God wants us to be. The question is, are we willing?

*******CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS AND TPC EVENTS*******

Some of the articles that follow may discuss events that were originally planned for February but which have been postponed or cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Other articles may present information about events planned for February and later that have not yet been changed. Some of these events, however, may also have to be modified, postponed or cancelled in the coming days. Further information will be made available as the restrictions on gatherings that will be in effect during February are clarified.

SIMPLE GUIDE TO SERMON LISTENING

A simple way to grow through the sermon is to seek to complete the three following statements:



1. One point I heard in the sermon today was....
2. One way I can apply this in my life is....
3. This sermon brought to mind....

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Communion will be celebrated on
Sunday, February 7



2021 PLEDGES

PLEDGE CARD 2021



Great News! The deadline for your 2021 pledge has been extended! We still have a few families that have not returned their pledges for the current year. While the response to our 2021 Stewardship Campaign has been impressive, we still need a few more members to pledge in order to ensure the financial health of the church for the coming year. To all those who have pledged, a great big THANK YOU for your faithfulness. If you have not yet pledged.....it's not too late.

JOIN US FOR TPC'S FIRST VIRTUAL INSTALLATION

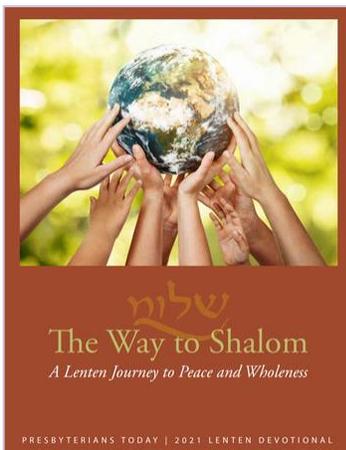
This year we will be holding a virtual installation service for those incoming elders and deacons who have previously been ordained.

- Elders: Char Derby and Loren Webb
- Deacons: Sandy Alford, Brenda Benjamin, Nancy Gerhard, Ellen Groves, Patricia Stout, Tricia Webb and Deanna Welle



The installation service will be held on Sunday, February 7, at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. The service will precede the regular weekly coffee hour. To join the service, click on the link in Steve's weekly email or go to the TPC website, click on the picture of the church on the home page and then click on the link to the installation service. We hope that as many of you as possible will join us to honor and support our incoming elders and deacons.

A DEVOTIONAL FOR YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY TO PEACE AND WHOLENESS



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. This year the annual Lenten devotional from *Presbyterians Today* is being made available at no cost online at bit.ly/Shalom2021. While Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, service and contemplation, at the top of our list should be a prayer for the acquisition of peace. How can we receive the gift of shalom and, in turn, bestow it upon the world? In *The Way to Shalom*, the Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, director of the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness in Washington, D.C. and his colleagues, guide us along the path to tranquility, security, well-being, health, welfare, completeness, and safety. Print copies of this devotional are available on request by contacting Lori Ruff-Schmalenberger by email at lori@tustinpresbyterian.org or by telephone at 714-544-7070 Ext. 104.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

We have the new offering envelopes for 2021. As you know, our office hours are limited and varied. If you want to come by the office to pick up your envelopes, please call first at 714-544-7070 to be sure that someone will be there to get the envelopes for you. If you are unable to come by the office, please leave a voice message at the church office at 714-544-7070 or send an email to receptionist@tustinpresbyterian.org, and we will figure out a way to get the envelopes to you.



LIBRARY



The youth have offered to deliver library books to individuals. If you are aware of a title you would like to borrow, please let Sandy Alford know. She'll add it to the list of tasks that the youth perform on a weekly basis. Unfortunately, we don't have a catalog of books. You'll need to rely on your memory or ask for a specific author.

SCRIP NEWS

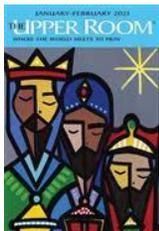
Scrip is still available! You just need to contact Janette Ditkowsky by telephone at 714-350-8668 or by email at jtditkowsky@gmail.com, and you can make a plan to get the scrip that you need for:



- Groceries: Stater Bros, Vons/Albertsons, Sprouts, Smart & Final, Walmart and Target
- Take-Out Food: We have a big list. Call Janette and ask her if she has your favorite!
- Ordering Online: Amazon
- Home Projects: Home Depot, Target, Walmart and Staples
- Gifts: Amazon and Barnes & Noble

Every time you buy Scrip, you benefit in two ways:

1. You receive the full-face value of the gift certificates.
2. You contribute a percentage of the total to the TPC Music Program.



THE UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONAL (JANUARY – FEBRUARY)

The Upper Room Daily Devotional is available for mailing upon request. If you would like us to mail you a copy, please contact Patty Sanchez at receptionist@tustinpresbyterian.org, or you can get an electronic copy online at <https://www.upperroom.org/standingorderchurches>.

THE PRISCILLA PATTERSON PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you would like to knit or crochet prayer shawls, please contact Patricia Stout at 714-875-1009 or at pcs-3@cox.net. She will give you access to the yarn, complying with all social distancing and face mask requirements.



DEACONS' FUND

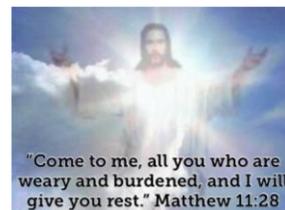


Deacons' Fund

Did you know that the TPC Deacons are funded solely by donations? If you give regularly to TPC, you have gold and white envelopes in your box. This offering is welcome at any time, but it has traditionally been a part of our communion service on the first Sunday of each month. Please consider giving a gift to the Deacons' Fund. It will be money well spent.

TPC SPANISH MINISTRY

The Spanish Ministry has started a Sunday worship service via Facebook. If you would like to download the service, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/josejorgeborjon>. The group is also meeting via Instant Messenger every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to join them, please contact Patty Sanchez at 714-864-8549.



SUNDAY SPANISH WORSHIP SERVICE VIA FACEBOOK



YOUTH NEWS

The youth group has been able to connect with each other and the larger community of Tustin Presbyterian Church in spite of the current stay at home mandates. We have been enjoying virtual youth group and delivering groceries, books, crafts and even helping someone move. This coming month we will be hosting a bake sale fundraiser and will deliver baked goods to your home (or to the home of someone you want us to send baked goods to). Reach out to Emily at emily@tustinpresbyterian.org for more information.





KEEPING CHRISTMAS MARKET EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS!

At the completion of our month-long Virtual Keeping CHRISTmas Market, the total receipts were \$6,890, nearly \$1,000 more than estimated* total donations to the same organizations in 2019! Your gifts were distributed as follows:

- Family Promise — \$895 in gift cards
- Habitat for Humanity — \$2,067
- Heifer International — \$2,067
- Hope Harbor — \$965 in gift cards
- La Semilla Learning Center — \$896

Janette Ditkowsky, who coordinates TPC Choir Scrip sales, reports that the Market's gift card purchases for Family Promise and Hope Harbor resulted in a \$55.65 contribution to the music program. (The gift cards purchased for the TPC Giving Tree resulted in a \$123.69 contribution.) Thank you to all who responded so generously to this outpouring of love for neighbors near and far using a new model of giving!

*The value of gifts collected by Hope Harbor, formerly Laurel House, are not reported to TPC. A value for Hope Harbor's 2019 receipts was, therefore, estimated based upon 2018 records, when TPC was responsible for collecting gifts.



Hope Harbor House Mother Donna Giddings was delighted with their gift cards packaged as "valentines".

COMPASSION

The TPC family extends its heartfelt sympathy to Socorro Ching on the loss of her father, Felix Ching, and her grandmother, Socorro (Lola) Ching, who passed away a few weeks ago. We ask the members of the TPC family to remember Socorro and her family in their prayers.

Also, the TPC family extends its heartfelt sympathy to Dick Schmid on the loss of his wife, Patty Schmid, who passed away on January 5. We ask the members of the TPC family to remember Patty and her family in their prayers.

In addition, the TPC family extends its heartfelt sympathy to Nan Gunnell on the loss of her nephew, Frank Goodale, who passed away on December 26. We ask the members of the TPC family to remember Nan and her family in their prayers.

Also, the TPC family extends its heartfelt sympathy to Helen Anderson on the loss of her husband, Gordon Anderson, who passed away a few days ago. We ask the members of the TPC family to remember Gordon and his family in their prayers. If you would like to mail Helen a card, please send it to: 40 Camino Alto Apt. 11101, Mill Valley, CA 94941.

In addition, TPC family extends its heartfelt sympathy to Sara Gutierrez on the loss of her cousin, Martin Hernandez, who passed away on January 12. We ask the members of the TPC family to remember Sara and her family in their prayers.

Finally, the TPC family extends its heartfelt sympathy to Victor Perez on the loss of his cousin, Ricardo Perez, who passed away on January 10. We ask the members of the TPC family to remember Victor and his family in their prayers.

A NOTE FROM DORA CLARK

2020 sure has brought a lot of changes in all of our lives. In March, I made a big move to the beautiful Stutz home in Palm Desert, CA so that I could be with my family during the many months of quarantine. I deeply miss time with all of my friends, and I pray that 2021 will be filled with many more visits, phone calls and good health for us all. Please note my new address: 22 Merrill Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92660. My phone number is the same: 714-744-1590.

— Dora Clark

THANK YOU TPC

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and sympathy. I am eternally grateful for my church family during this extremely tough time.

— Socorro Ching

THANK YOU TPC

Thanks so much for all your prayers for my daughter-in-law Francine Perez. She had COVID pneumonia, which left her with some breathing difficulties. She's getting better every day.

— Martha Romick

PER CAPITA

Each year, each congregation pays the Presbytery a modest sum per member. This "per capita" payment helps with the administrative costs of Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. For 2021, the amount per member is \$36.83. We ask that all active members contribute this amount at the beginning of the New Year. Those with offering envelopes have a "per capita" envelope in the front of their boxes. Because TPC will pay this full amount, when you pay your per capita, you are making those funds available to the General Mission of TPC. Thank you for your generosity.



FINANCE REPORT – OPERATIONS ACCOUNT

Period: January 1 – December 31, 2020

Income: **\$679,965.17** Expenses: **\$612,410.86**

Surplus as of December 31, 2020: \$67,554.31

Your gifts serve God's work. Thank you for your continued support!

SESSION SUMMARY

The following are the significant items from the January Session meetings:

- Received a new member.
- Approved the 4th quarter 2020 basic mission payment to the Presbytery of Los Ranchos.
- Approved the payment of the 2021 TPC per capita obligation to the Presbytery of Los Ranchos.
- Approved the 2020 TPC annual statistical report to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).
- Approved the congregation-at-large members for 2021 for the Personnel Committee.
- Approved a virtual forum for parents of the youth entitled "Mental Health of Teenagers during the Pandemic" on February 9.
- Approved expenditures for repairs to the church carillon and to the church organ.
- Approved the scheduling on a date to be determined of a virtual service of installation for recently elected ruling elders and deacons who have previously been ordained.
- Elected Sue Currie as Clerk of Session for 2021.
- Elected Sue Currie as Corporation Secretary for 2021.
- Authorized the youth to have a virtual bake sale as a fundraiser to support a proposed Los Ranchos Presbytery project to help provide free testing for those who have been unable to receive COVID-19 testing, with the bake sale to begin on February 1 and continue through the end of the month.
- Approved a list of chaperones/teachers for youth trips and activities in 2021.

SESSION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2021

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>MODERATOR</u>	<u>VICE-MODERATOR</u>
Christian Education	Char Derby	
Endowment	Bill Groves	Bob Evans
Fellowship	Heather Philips	
Finance	Bill Groves	
Membership & Outreach	To be determined	
Mission	Sue Currie	
Nominating	Loren Webb	
Personnel	John Kleponis	Socorro Ching
Property	David Young	Angel Ocampo
Spanish Ministry	Jorge Gutierrez	
Stewardship	Bob Evans	
Worship	Ryan Reithmeier	Jorge Gutierrez

Clerk of Session: Sue Currie
 Church Treasurer: Bill Groves
 Corporation President: David Young
 Corporation Vice-President: Heather Philips
 Corporation Secretary: Richard Loeble
 Corporation Treasurer: Bill Groves

TUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Steve Ranney	Ext 103
Chancel Choir Director.....	Colin Stave	Ext 109
Organist	Dr. Dennis Siebenaler	
Director of Children’s Ministries	Lori Ruff-Schmalenberger	Ext 104
Director of Youth Ministries/Worship Assistant	Emily Fuentes	Ext 105
Financial Secretary	Martha Romick	Ext 106
Receptionist.....	Patty Sanchez	Ext 101

TUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

225 West Main Street at “C” Street
 Tustin, California 92780-4319
 Phone: 714-544-7070
 Fax: 714-544-1948
 Email: info@tustinpresbyterian.org

February 2021 Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	 Happy Valentine's Day		 Ash Wednesday February 17		 Please watch for updated information and plan to join us when we are able to resume our regular worship services and other activities.	

TO BE DETERMINED

BR: Bride's Room; CE: Christian Education Building; CR: Choir Room; FH: Fellowship Hall; FL: Fireside Lounge
 GR: Groom's Room; K: Kitchen; L: Library; MPR: Multi-Purpose Room; O: Office; P: Patio; PL: Parking Lot; S: Sanctuary
 SR: Scout Room; TCP: Tustin Community Preschool; TTPC: Tustin Taiwanese Presbyterian Church; YL: Youth Lounge