WPPC is now worshipping in person at 10:00am while also providing a Zoom connection for those who cannot attend on any given Sunday.



For those of you who don't know, and I assume many do know, this week for our Jewish friends is Passover. It starts at sunset on April 22nd and ends April 30th at nightfall. During this time, Seder meals are prepared and eaten in remembrance of the exodus story, liberation from slavery. It is one of the most observed Jewish holidays for Jewish faith. As Christians, we know Jesus' last supper was the Seder meal during Passover under Roman occupation and oppression.

Two days ago, Jewish Voice for Peace organized a protest in front of Senator Shumer's house in Brooklyn NY, to celebrate Passover, <a href="https://youtu.be/U75KcMUjMyl?si=oXNn8Od84NDQwccq">https://youtu.be/U75KcMUjMyl?si=oXNn8Od84NDQwccq</a>) raising questions (which is part of the Passover ritual) about what does it mean to share the Passover narrative with one another over a meal that reminds them of journey that led them to freedom, when people in Gaza are suffering and slaughtered, and Palestinians are under occupation and are not free? Naomi Klein (award winning social activist, filmmaker, journalist, writer, and professor) eloquently spoke during the protest, and retold the story of Moses coming down from Mount Sinai in rage when he found his people worshiping an Idol, the golden calf. The ethno-nationalistic project of Zionism, she called it, the golden calf, an idolatry, forgetting that biblical value and faith calls for liberation of all people. Therefore, Zionism is antisemitic as it transgresses all the central tenets of Judaism. I was profoundly moved by Naomi Klein and the moment in which her speech was delivered. It gave clarity and faith action in its authenticity.

Then I saw in the crowd, front and center that gathered there my friend and spiritual mentor, Rev. Charles Ryu, whom you met at my installation as a guest preacher! I texted him worried that he got arrested (it would not be his first!) because toward the end of the protest many were by NYPD. He texted me back with words of assurance that he was okay and that to be there gave him so much hope. When the protest started at Columbia University, which is just a block away from his church, he was able to see firsthand what was happening at the protest. He also reminded me that the stories of Jewish students being harassed is not true, but talking points of misinformation to weaponize antisemitism.

During this Passover, we are witnessing protests and encampments spreading through many campuses all over the country with demands to divest in Israel. We are witnessing the younger generation, students claiming their historic moment to live out the Passover narrative in their lifetime. We who are privileged and want to normalize oppression as business as usual, and have been complicit over the decades that led to the current crisis, can now best serve by stepping aside and not getting in their way into the future of the promised land. Amen. Pastor Dae



With thanksgiving, we were joined by these people on ZOOM on April 21, 2024

Virgil Robinson, Curt Pettegrew,
Brenda Hoffman,
David and Judy Mack
Dennis Hayman



This week's hospitality is sponsored by Linda and Virgil Robinson in honor of Amanda Robinson's birthday

This week's flowers are given to Glory of God by Linda and Virgil Robinson in honor of Amanda Robinson's birthday.



On Sunday, May 5, as part of our worship service, WPPC will participate in a **Service for Wholeness**. A portion of the service will mark, with prayer, the one-year anniversary of the May 6, Allen Outlet Mall shooting.

All are invited to seek Christ's grace and peace.





#### **Property Workday**

Let's Try Again!

The weather has not cooperated for us to have a Property Workday. We'll try again this **Saturday, April 27**<sup>th</sup> – even though the forecast is not promising.

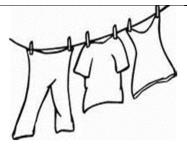
The tasks that need our focus:

- Pulling weeds around the building, especially in the front, the Courtyard, and around A/C units
- Raking around the building, especially in the front and toward the Office
- Trimming shrubs and junk trees around the building
- Picking up litter along Custer Road

Two things to remember:

- Bring garden tools
- It's easier to pull weeds if the ground is saturated!

We'll see you Saturday, weather permitting, at **8:30am**. Questions? Contact Mary Ann Dudko.



Our support of the Plano Clothes Closet never stops! Fortunately, we are able to donate by using the receptacles in the back of the fellowship hall. A member of First Presbyterian Plano is now coming over to pick up the items donated. Don't stop!



As summer approaches, First
Presbyterian again offers us an
opportunity to support the
Streetwise mobile shower ministry.
Watch for details of what items they
need to help the homeless in our
community.



A new clothing support opportunity came to us when the principal of Harrington Elementary requested help providing items for children in sizes Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We have asked for more information (specific sizes and items) and will set up a special collection area in the fellowship hall as soon as it is available.



#### **DENOMINATIONAL SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

WPPC has a history of faithful participation in the PCUSA special offerings. These offerings are like a wave of compassion, reaching those who may have lost sight of the truth that God loves them and that caring communities surround them.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering addresses the needs of those who have suffered from natural disasters, find themselves in food deserts and require sustainable food resources and those living in and working toward change in the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression and injustice.

Our OGHS campaign this year raised \$2,465 which is a 46% increase over last year!

#### \*\* COMING SOON \*\*

#### **PCUSA PENTECOST OFFERING**

Yes, we did just finish a Special Offering, but encouraging, supporting, and helping our neighbors can't subside. The Pentecost offering focuses on the younger members of the church by helping them build strong foundations of faith during childhood. Psalm 71 testifies that the foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. 40% of the Pentecost offering is retained by our congregation to directly impact our own community. As we've done for many years, the Session has approved our share of this collection be used to support Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services ("PCHAS"). We collect the offering on Pentecost, they day we wear red, May 19.

Pentecost means "fiftieth day" as it always falls on the seventh Sunday after Easter, the 50<sup>th</sup> day of the Easter season (including Easter Sunday). Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and followers of Christ in Jerusalem, as described in Acts 2:1-31. Truly a day to celebrate by supporting the next generation of believers.

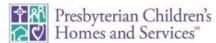


#### Prayer Concerns-Week of April 28, 2024

Remembering in our Prayer
Those with special needs:
Tom and Kathy Koch, Bill Prouty,
Katie Perrin, Marjorie Strong,
Dennis Hayman, Michael McCaffrey,
David Mueller, Kristin Booth (Judy
Dardaganian's daughter),
Nancy Stevens







### SUNNY ADVENTURES BOOK DRIVE

PCHAS has announced the "Sunny Adventures" book drive to benefit children in their care by providing new books for the summer. PCHAS has provided a list of suggested books by age and interests, matched to specific children in their care.

Churches participating the book drive include WPPC, Grace Presbyterian Church (Plano), St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, First Richardson Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Kilgore and Faithbridge Presbyterian.

Due to the number of suggested titles, the full list of books will be available separately. A sign-up and collection area will be set up in the Fellowship Hall. Due to the number of participating groups and the desire to make sure all the children on the list receive an appropriate title, we will be coordinating with PCHAS during the book drive in order that they may alert all churches as to the total already collected by title and monitor which remain to satisfy the list.



spunky, adjective

\'spəŋ-kē \
spunkier; spunkiest

**Definition:** 

full of spunk: Spirited, Courageous, Active

#### The last SUNDAY SUPPER until Fall is May 5, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

The menu? Sloppy Joes, Fruit, Veggies and Dip, and Dessert

You are invited to bring fruit, veggies, or a dip on Sunday morning, May 5:

#### Please sign up in the narthex.

We'll eat, sing, pray, read another special book, and reflect on the Sunday lections. Then we'll finish assembling Hygiene Kits to complete the 2023-24 Presbyterian Disaster Agency "Gifts of the Heart" Mission Project, make Pentecost Fire Sticks, and a gift of love to share with others.

Invite a neighbor or friend.



## SPUNKY CHURCH

#### **HYGIENE KITS**

We plan to complete assembling Presbyterian Disaster Assistance HYGIENE KITS at the May 5 Spunky Church. To reach our revised goal to assemble 150 kits, we need the following items:

We need	One hygiene kit contains
0	1 - hand towel (approximately 16" x 28")
2	1 - washcloth
1	1 - wide-tooth combs
0	1 - nail clipper
32	1 - bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
23	1 - toothbrush (in original packaging)
300	10 - Band-Aids® or other adhesive strips
0	1 - one gallon Ziploc bag with zipper enclosure

Thank you for supporting this mission project.

#### **Justice and Peace Calendar for May 2024**

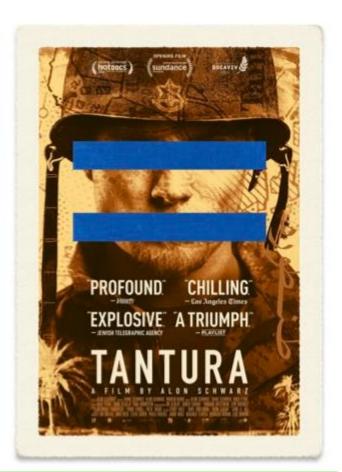
#### Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; asianpacificheritage.gov

- 2 National Day of Prayer; <u>nationaldayofprayer.org</u>
- **2–8** Children's Book Week; <u>everychildareader.net/cbw</u>
- **6** May Holocaust Remembrance Day; <u>ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/calendar</u>
- 7 National Teacher Day; <u>nea.org</u>
- **11** World Fair Trade Day; wfto.com
- **11** Stamp Out Hunger Day; <u>about.usps.com/corporate-social-responsibility/nalc-food-</u>drive.htm
- **12** Mother's Day; <u>presbyterianmission.org/story/a-prayer-for-mothers-day</u>
- J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) on *Transforming: The Bible & the Lives of Transgender Christians* by Austen Hartke. Register at <a href="mailto:presbyterianwomen.org/justice">presbyterianwomen.org/justice</a>
- **15** Palestinian Nakba Remembrance Day; <u>presbyterianmission.org/story/may-15-2022/</u>
- **19** Pentecost; <u>presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/pentecost</u>
- 19 Intercultural Church Sunday; <u>pcusa.org/resource/intercultural-ministries-19226</u>
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity; <a href="mailto:cbd.int/idb">cbd.int/idb</a>
- 27 Memorial Day; <u>presbyterianmission.org/story/may-30-2022</u>

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## Nakba Remembrance Day





In the war of 1948 hundreds of Palestinian villages were depopulated.

Israelis call it The War of Independence. Palestinians call it The Nakba.

This film examines one village, Tantura, and why "Nakba" is taboo in Israeli society.

# Free Food! Free Film! ALL WELCOME!

Saturday May 18, 5:30 - 9:00 pm PLUS: LIVE TESTIMONY FROM A NAKBA SURVIVOR

Trinity Presbyterian Church 2200 N Bell Ave. Denton TX 76207 tel: 940-382-8815



# 2024 HALAL BBQ PITMASTERS 6TH ANNUAL COMPETITION



# GRILLEGA

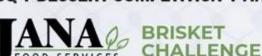
Join us for an unforgettable BBQ experience with a purpose!

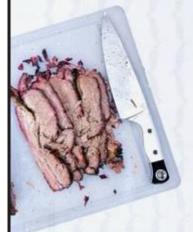
For a donation of \$100 per person

ALL PROCEEDS ARE DONATED TO GAZA



HALAL TX BBQ . DESSERT COMPETITION . AND MORE

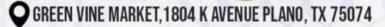






RAISING FUNDS FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY THE WAR IN GAZA SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024







THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS FOR INQUIRIES: HALALPITMASTERS@GMAIL.COM • HALALBBOPITMASTERS.COM

#### **Upcoming Events at WPPC**

Saturday, April 27

8:30 am Property Work Day

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

Sunday, April 28

10:00 am Sunday Worship

Monday, April 29

12:30 pm Lectionary5:30 pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, May 1

7:00 pm Choir

Thursday, May 2

6:30 pm Plano Photography Club

Friday, May 3

6:30 pm Girl Scouts

Saturday, May 4

10:00 am MS Support Meeting

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

Sunday, May 5

10:00 am Sunday Worship

4:00 pm Spunky Church

Monday, May 6

12:30 pm Lectionary

5:30 pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday, May 8

7:00 pm Choir

Friday, May 10

9:00 am 4th Friday Men's Breakfast

6:30 pm Girl Scouts

Saturday, May 11

4:30 pm Girl Scouts