

# METHOTERIAN

## PASTOR'S WORD

Dear congregation,

As Lent draws to a close, we reflect on the journey of introspection, sacrifice, and spiritual renewal that we have undertaken together. We have walked through the desert of our souls, confronting our weaknesses and seeking reconciliation with our Creator.

Now, as we approach the dawn of Easter, let us rejoice in the promise of resurrection and new life. Let us celebrate the triumph of light over darkness, of hope over despair. The season of Easter reminds us of the transformative power of Christ's sacrifice and the boundless grace that flows from His love.

In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we find the ultimate expression of God's love for humanity. Through His sacrifice and victory over sin, we are offered the gift of redemption and eternal life.

Let Easter be a time of reflection and renewal, a time to embrace the promise of new beginnings and the transformative power of faith. Let us rejoice in the knowledge that, through Christ, we are made whole and can experience true freedom.

As we enter into the Easter season, may we carry the lessons of Lent with us – humility, compassion, and a renewed commitment to live as disciples of Christ. Let us embrace this time of joy and renewal, sharing the good news of the resurrection with all those we encounter.

May the grace of Easter fill our hearts with peace, our souls with joy, and our lives with purpose.

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Mesake Joji



## Texts & Titles of the Sermons in April

**Sunday, April 7th, 2024**

Second Sunday of Easter  
Communion Service / Quarter (Coin) Sunday  
"Walk in the Light"  
1 John 1:1 - 2:2

This passage primarily focuses on the themes of fellowship with God, walking in the light, acknowledging sin, and the role of Jesus Christ as our advocate and atonement for sin. It highlights the need for honesty about our sins and the assurance that God forgives those who confess and repent.

**Sunday, April 14th, 2024**

Third Sunday of Easter  
"His Great Love"  
1 John 3:1-7

This passage highlights the incredible love that God has bestowed upon us by calling us His children. He emphasizes that although the world may not recognize us as children of God, our true identity is found in Him. The passage encourages believers to purify themselves and live righteous lives, reflecting the character of God. It emphasizes that those who abide in Christ do not continue to sin habitually but strive to live according to God's commandments, as sin is incompatible with the nature of God. Overall, it emphasizes the transformative power of God's love and the call for believers to live holy and righteous lives.

**Sunday, April 21st, 2024**

Fourth Sunday of Easter  
"Abide in Christ"  
1 John 3:16-24

This passage emphasizes the sacrificial love of Christ as the ultimate example for believers to follow. He encourages believers to demonstrate this love by being willing to lay down their lives for one another. The passage underscores the importance of practical love in action, not just in words. It reassures believers that when they love one another in this way, they abide in God, and God abides in them.

*Top: Pastor Mesake brings the bread and chalice to the congregation on March 3rd.*

*Middle: Ariel Escobar reads the announcements on March 24th while holding her niece. Diana McCord sings with the ReMade band on March 17th.*

*Bottom: David McCord joins the Children's Moment like he did when he attended our services as a child himself.*

**Sunday, April 28th, 2024**

Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries  
"We Bear Fruit"  
1 John 4:7-21

This passage emphasizes the importance of love in the Christian life. That love comes from God because God is love. It encourages believers to love one another because love is an essential characteristic of God's nature, and those who love are born of God and know God. The passage highlights that genuine love is sacrificial, selfless, and not based on fear but on trust in God's perfect love.

*You are always welcome to participate in worship! Contact the church office, Worship Planning Team (Al Parham) or Pastor Mesake!*

*(The title and text on any Sunday this month might be changed without notice.)*



# Easter



*Top: Al Parham and the ReMade band participate in the Easter Sunrise Service. Everyone who turned out to join us on Easter morning!*

*Middle: Pastor Mesake with the ReMade band. The children gather during the Easter Festive Service.*

*Bottom-Left: Spring flowers dedicated in loving memory of Earnest & Barbara Moeller and Eleanor Bays from Ken & Michele Bays.*

*Bottom-Right: Pastor Mesake and the flower cross during the Easter Festive Service.*



# Bible Study Groups

## LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

By Al Parham

We meet every Sunday at 9 to 9:50 AM in the Fellowship Hall! Coffee and doughnuts will be served. Everyone is invited to join us!

*Sunday, April 7th*

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31 - "The Church is Born"

**Think About It:** Once they recognized Jesus, he again offered them peace; now they could receive it. Then he commissioned them to continue the work God had sent him to do: As God has sent me, so I send you. He "breathed" the Spirit into them to empower them to continue his work.

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*Sunday, April 14th*

**Gospel:** Luke 24:36-48 - "The Fulfillment of Scripture"

**Think About It:** Jesus reminded the disciples that he told them all these things while still with them. There is, therefore, a mystery about the resurrected Jesus. He appeared to them, but he was no longer "with them." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

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*Sunday, April 21st*

**Gospel:** John 10:11-8 - "The Good Shepherd Knows"

**Think About It:** The flock whom the shepherd knows is not limited to Israel (or to Christians). All who hear and obey Jesus' voice, however different they may be and however much we may not like them, belong to Christ's flock. We reach out to those who are not of the flock, but who hear the voice of Jesus.

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*Sunday, April 28th*

**Gospel:** John 15:1-8 - "The Relationship of Vine and Branch"

**Think About It:** Jesus said, "I am the vine you are the branches" (John 15:5). "I am" is a statement both of self-identity and of relationship with God, since it is a way of saying the divine name. Jesus claims for himself not only an intimate relationship with God, but also the very nature of God.

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## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

By Pastor Mesake

We have an Online Bible Study group that meets on Zoom every Wednesday at 7 PM! Please come and join us as Pastor Mesake discusses the Old Testament!

*Wednesday, April 3rd*

**Text:** Psalm 133

**Summary:** Psalm 133 celebrates the beauty and significance of unity among God's people. The psalmist emphasizes that unity is not only pleasant but also brings about God's commanded blessing and life everlasting. This psalm reminds us of the importance of harmony and cooperation within the community of believers, reflecting the unity of the body of Christ. It inspires us to strive for peace and reconciliation, recognizing that when we dwell together in unity, we embody the presence and favor of God.

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*Wednesday, April 10th*

**Scripture:** Psalm 4

**Summary:** Psalm 4 is a prayer of David, expressing his trust in God amidst distress and seeking His favor. David calls out to God for mercy and relief from his troubles, acknowledging God as his righteous judge and refuge. Despite the challenges he faces, David expresses confidence in God's provision and peace, urging others to trust in Him as well. The psalm concludes with a declaration of assurance and joy in God's presence, affirming that true happiness is found in Him alone. Overall, Psalm 4 illustrates the intimate relationship between faith, prayer, and trust in God, even in the midst of adversity.

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*Wednesday, April 17th*

**Scripture:** Psalm 33

**Summary:** Psalm 33 is a hymn of praise to God for His power, creativity, and faithfulness. The psalm highlights God's sovereignty over creation, emphasizing His role as the Creator who spoke the world into existence. It celebrates God's wisdom and righteousness, contrasting His power with the limitations of human strength and earthly rulers. The psalm concludes with a call to trust in God's unfailing love and to hope in His deliverance, affirming that His presence brings joy and security to His people.

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*Wednesday, April 24th*

**Scripture:** Psalm 22:25-31

**Summary:** The passage declared God's sovereignty and faithfulness. A declaration of God's universal sovereignty, acknowledging that all nations will bow before Him, and future generations will serve Him. It is a proclamation of God's enduring faithfulness and the assurance that His kingdom will endure forever.

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When it is time for Online Bible Study, please click here to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362419027>.

## Education

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

By Christine Dodd

During the month of March we have been focusing on how the impossible can become possible with God. Some of the stories we discussed were Moses parting the Red Sea, the 3 men that got thrown in the furnace in the book of Daniel, and Jesus coming back to life.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone that donated eggs, candy, baskets, and the time and energy to stuff the eggs. The children appreciate it!



*Left-Top: The altar area of the Sanctuary after Palm Sunday on March 24th.*

*Left-Bottom: The narthex decorated for Psalm Sunday.*

*Right: The children walk in a procession with Christine Dodd and wave palm fronds during Children's Time on Palm Sunday.*

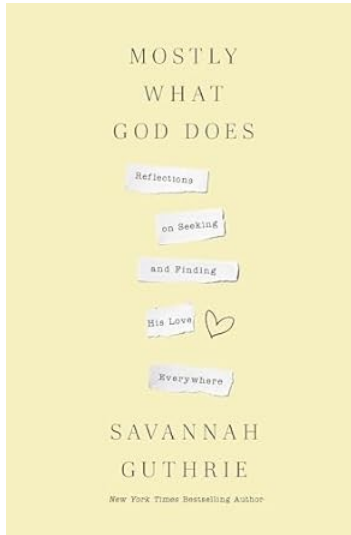
## Small Groups

### BOOK CLUB

By Eric Langstaff

The Book Club meets on **Fridays on Zoom** at 4 PM. Our new book is **Mostly What God Does** by Savannah Guthrie, an essay collection that "reveals the transformative ways that belief in God helps us discover real hope for this life and beyond."

When it is time for the Book Club use this link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85904335595>



### PRAYER SQUARE

When it is time for Prayer Square on **Wednesdays at 6:45 AM**, please click here to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84603116702>

You can also dial into the Prayer Square with the following phone number: +1 669 900 9128, Meeting ID 846 0311 6702

Prayer Square online is led by Pastor Mesake.



### KNITTING/CROCHET GROUP

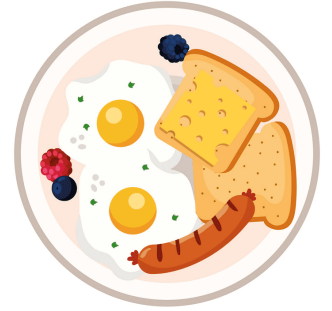
All skill levels welcome. Crochet hooks will be provided for free. The group meets at 1:30 PM every Saturday in the back of Samantha's shop, Village Yarns at 32 S 3rd St here in Patterson. If you have any questions, Samantha's phone number is (209) 222-1772.



### MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast at Mil's will be meeting on **Saturday, April 27th at 7 AM**.

The more men the merrier!



### LADIES' BRUNCH

Please come and join us for Ladies' Brunch at Mil's at **9:30 AM on Saturday, April 13th!** All women are invited!

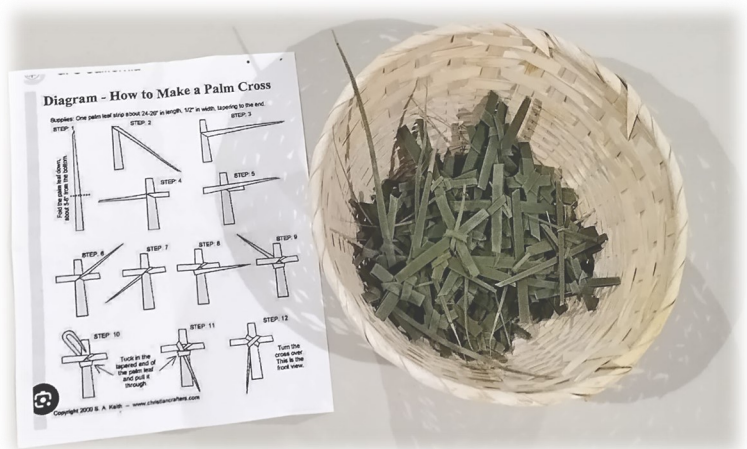


### PUB THEOLOGY

Please come and join us on **Saturday, April 27th at 4 PM** for another meeting of Pub Theology!

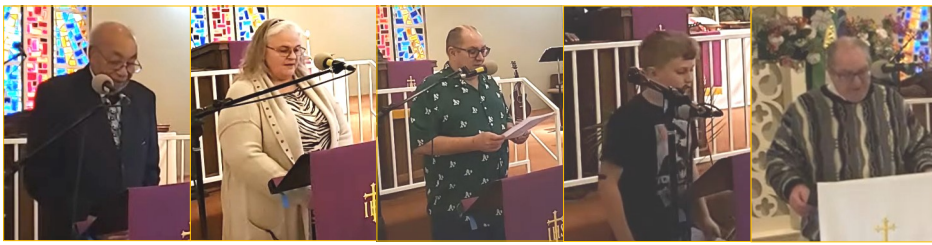
Please click this link to join: [https://us02web.zoom.us/](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81987356290)

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Above: A basket of crosses made of folded palm fronds from the Soup & Supper Activity on March 19th

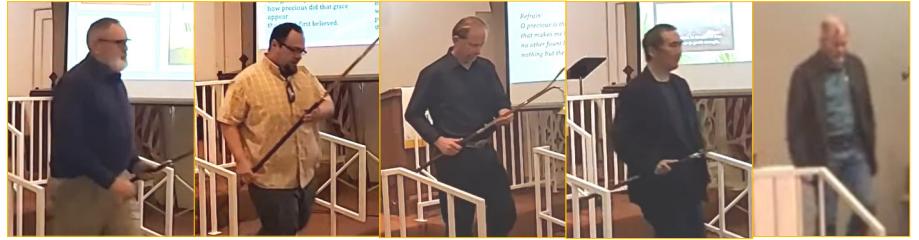
Left: Our Laurustinus bushes in bloom on March 5th.



A very warm thank you to our worship volunteers in March!

Liturgists: Al Parham, Lori Cryer-Brown, Eric Langstaff, Eli Sierra, and Eric Langstaff.

Usher Captains: Kevin Debler, Ben Sierra, Kevin Nelson, Johnny Kwon, and Ken Moeller.



Liturgists for April	
Sun	Liturgist / Alternate
4/7	Lorene Moeller / Cynthia Homen
4/14	Al Parham / Ken Bays
4/21	Lee Scoles / Lori Cryer-Brown
4/28	Michele Bays / Kevin Cardenas-Herrera

Usher Captains for April	
Sun	Usher Captain / Alternate
4/7	Jim Cox / Ben Sierra
4/14	Kevin Debler / Kevin Nelson
4/21	Ben Sierra / Johnny Kwon
4/28	Kevin Nelson / Ken Moeller

Fellowship Volunteers for April	
Sun	Volunteers
4/7	Harris & Laura Ginyard
4/14	Aracely & Alejandro
4/21	OPEN
4/28	OPEN

### BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

- 3-Apr Robert Dodd
- 10-Apr Judy Noah
- 12-Apr Karl Ginyard
- 15-Apr Sandra Arnett
- 16-Apr Joy Allicock
- 17-Apr Aileen Marble
- 19-Apr Kimberly Johnson
- 20-Apr Eloise Barsamian
- 20-Apr Soon Bae Kwon
- 21-Apr Chrissy Debler
- 22-Apr Joshua Martin
- 26-Apr Lee Scoles
- 27-Apr Wilson Langstaff
- 30-Apr Makeida Joji

### ANNIVERSARIES IN APRIL

None




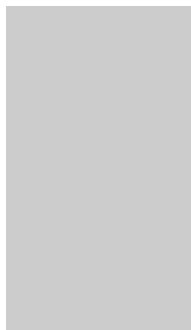
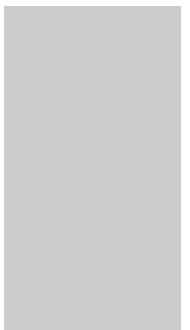
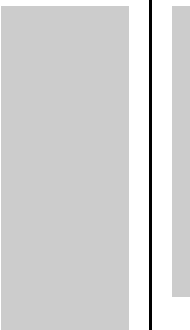
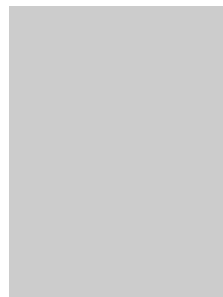
### METHOTERIAN ARTICLES

The next set of Methoterian articles will be due on **April 23rd!** If you are at all interested in writing or editing the Methoterian, please let Aileen, our church secretary, or Pastor Mesake know.

*Below, Left-to-Right: Milly Joji reads the scripture on Maundy Thursday, Chas Sierra and Milly Joji both read a section of scripture on Good Friday, the children light candles on Good Friday, and Pastor Mesake extinguishes the candles during the scripture reading on Good Friday.*



# April 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 6:45 am Prayer Square (Zoom)  7 pm Bible Study (Zoom)	4	5 4 pm Book Club (Zoom)	6 1:30—3 pm Knitting/ Crochet (Village Yarns)
7 9 am Bible Study (Hall) 10 am On-site/Online <b>Communion / Quarter (Coin) Sunday Service.</b> In-person Joys & Concerns. Indoor Fellowship.	8	9	10 6:45 am Prayer Square (Zoom)  7 pm Bible Study (Zoom)	11	12 4 pm Book Club (Zoom)	13 9:30 am Ladies' Brunch at Mil's  1:30—3 pm Knitting/ Crochet (Village Yarns)
14 9 am Bible Study (Hall) 10 am On-site/Online Sunday Service. In-person Joys & Concerns. Indoor Fellowship.	15	16	17 6:45 am Prayer Square (Zoom)  7 pm Bible Study (Zoom)	18	19 4 pm Book Club (Zoom)	20 1:30—3 pm Knitting/ Crochet (Village Yarns)
21 9 am Bible Study (Hall) 10 am On-site/Online Sunday Service. In-person Joys & Concerns. Indoor Fellowship.	22	23  <b>Methoterian Articles Due!</b>	24 6:45 am Prayer Square (Zoom)  7 pm Bible Study (Zoom)	25	26 4 pm Book Club (Zoom)	27 8 am Men's Breakfast at Mil's  10 am Ad Board  1:30—3 pm Knitting/ Crochet (Village Yarns)  4 pm Pub Theology
28 9 am Bible Study (Hall) 10 am On-site/Online Service. In-person Joys & Concerns. Indoor Fellowship.	29	30				 <b>8</b>



# Committee Members

## Ad Board

Chair: Eric Langstaff  
Lay Leader: Al Parham  
Membership Secretary: Michele Bays  
Board of Trustees Chair: Kevin Nelson  
SPPRC Chair: Ken Moeller  
Finance Committee Chair: Jim Cox  
Financial Treasurer: Jim Cox  
Financial Secretary: Phyllis Myers  
Endowment Committee Chair: Dennis McCord  
Lay Members to the Annual Conference for 2024: Al Parham, Bobbie Parham  
Presbyterian Session: Jim Cox  
Pastor: Mesake Joji

## Board of Trustees

Chair: Kevin Nelson  
Secretary: Christine Dodd  
Pastor: Mesake Joji  
Class of 2024: Lorene Moeller, Richard Cardenas  
Class of 2025: Christine Dodd, Riley Brown  
Class of 2026: Kevin Nelson, Kevin Debler

## Nomination Committee

Chair: Mesake Joji  
Secretary: Cynthia Homen  
Class of 2024: Michele Bays  
Class of 2025: Harris Ginyard  
Class of 2026: Eric Langstaff

## Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee

Chair: Ken Moller  
Lay Leader: Al Parham  
Pastor: Mesake Joji  
Class of 2024: Thaddeus Martin  
Class of 2025: Cynthia Homen  
Class of 2026: Ken Moeller

## Finance Committee: Jim Cox

Secretary: Phyllis Myers  
Treasurer: Jim Cox  
Memorial Funds: Michele Bays  
Offering Count: Judy Mullins, Eric Langstaff

## Endowment Committee: Dennis McCord

Finance Committee members  
Members at Large: Kevin Debler

## Presbyterian Session

Clerk: (elected at Session meeting)  
Delegate to Presbytery: Jim Cox  
Alternate Delegate to Presbytery: (elected at Session meeting)  
Members at Large: Kevin Debler, Katie Whitney  
Pastor: Mesake Joji

## Communication Ministry

Communication Coordinator: Aileen Marble  
Website, Ads, Flyers, Facebook: Aileen Marble  
*Methoterian* (newsletter) Editor: Aileen Marble  
*Methoterian* Writers: Christine Dodd, Eric Langstaff, Thaddeus Martin, Al Parham, Ben Sierra, and Chas Sierra.

## Congregational Care

Cindy Sierra, Connie Debler, Lorene Moeller, Margaret DeWitt

## Young People's Ministry

Children's Ministry: Christine Dodd  
Youth Ignite (7-12th Grade): Ben Sierra  
Young Adults Gathering: Chas Sierra

## Intergenerational Small Group Ministry

Book Club: Eric Langstaff  
Lectionary Bible Study: Al Parham  
Online Bible Study: Pastor Mesake  
Pub Theology: Thaddeus Martin  
Crochet/Knitting Group: Samantha Taylor

## Mission & Outreach Ministry

Lorene Moeller, Laura Ginyard (Chair Yoga), Alfred Parham, Lori Cryer, Amanda Cortez

## Music & Drama Ministry

Bell Choir: Michele Bays  
Chancel Choir: Thaddeus Martin  
Drama/Skit: Judy Noah, Lee Scoles  
Music Project Ministry: Thaddeus Martin  
ReMade Band: Ben Sierra, Chas Sierra, Thaddeus Martin

## Prayer Ministry

Prayer Chain: Judy Mullins  
Morning Prayer (Prayer Square): Pastor Mesake Joji, Milly Joji, Andrea Douglass, Al Parham, Bobbie Parham, Lorene Moeller

## Worship Planning Team

Chair: Alfred Parham  
Accompanist and Sound: TBA  
Members: Judy Noah, Harris Ginyard, Alejandro Alva, Aracely Garcia

## Fundraising Committee

Chair: Cynthia Homen  
Members: Riley Brown, Ariel Escobar, Aracely Garcia, Dennis McCord, Lori Cryer

**Patterson Federated Church**  
**PO Box 1418**  
**Patterson, CA 95363**

You can still participate in the traditional way by mailing your gifts to the church at:

**Sending Tithes & Offerings**  
We have online giving! Please visit our website at <https://pattersonfederatedchurch.weebly.com/> for more information! We are very grateful for everyone who has tried online giving so far.

**The Office is Open**  
The office is open Mon through Thurs, between the hours of 10 AM and 12 PM. Our phone number is (209) 892 8907 and our email address is [pattersonfederatedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:pattersonfederatedchurch@gmail.com).

**Social Media Pages!**  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pfc95363/>  
YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3anpKRh>  
Website: <https://pattersonfederatedchurch.weebly.com/>

The Patterson Federated Church

"Called by God, to worship,  
learn and serve, following  
Jesus, growing in Spirit, re-  
sponding to local and global  
needs."

**Patterson Federated Church**

PO BOX 1418  
PATTERSON, CA 95363-1418

Phone: (209) 892-8907  
E-mail: [pattersonfederatedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:pattersonfederatedchurch@gmail.com)  
Website:  
[pattersonfederatedchurch.weebly.com](http://pattersonfederatedchurch.weebly.com)  
YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3anpKRh>  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pfc95363/](http://www.facebook.com/pfc95363/)

**April 2024**

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

