

***San Pedro United Methodist Church
Weekly Newsletter – January 8, 2021
Pastor’s Ponderings...Lisa Williams***

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer...

Yesterday marked a day in our Country like no other. The “People’s House” was the scene of loss of lives, violence, and destruction.

Lord in your mercy hear the cries of your children...

Our history will forever be imprinted with the unimaginable scene of people scaling the Capital walls, a scene we cannot and should not erase from our minds and hearts.

Lord in your mercy hear the cries of your children...

The hearts of the American people, and the heart of American democracy have been forever altered.

Lord in your mercy hear the cries of your children...

Today, we rise like the morning sun as we lament the loss of innocence and discern how to heal a wounded nation.

Lord in your mercy hear the cries of your children...

God of love and compassion we cry out to you asking for the courage to model for the world what it means when we say, “our words matter, our actions matter, and our faith matters.”

Lord in your mercy hear the cries of your children...

Show us gracious One with courage and strength to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with you and all of your children. Amen.



Stay home and stay safe!

In the days, I offer a few reasons to rejoice...

midst of all the chaos in our country over the last few

This week the Board of Supervisors heard a motion called, **Promoting Faith Community Involvement in the Countrywide Movement to Prevent and Combat Homelessness.** This motion was written and supported by Supervisors Hilda L. Solis and Holly J. Mitchell.

I am a part of the **Faith Collaborative to End Homelessness**, this group has been instrumental in identifying some of the strengths and weaknesses Faith Based Organizations (FBO's) have in working with service providers while trying to help our unhoused neighbors. We understand that faith organizations are an untapped, underutilized resource and we want to change that.

The purpose of the motion was to request that the Supervisors approve to hire a consultant/s for at least 6 months to provide surveys and interviews, where possible to understand what FBO's in the country have, what are some of their challenges they face and how FBO and service providers can build stronger capacity to align with each other in order to combat homelessness.

There is a great need to quickly deploy resources, especially as our COVID numbers are increasing in our homeless population. We believe this motion is a great first step.

I am proud to say that the motion unanimously passed - 5 to 0.

Thank you to all who supported the motion and who listen to me “rant and rave” about faith-based organizations aligning with our service providers and governmental agencies to make a difference in combating our region’s homeless crisis. Below is the 2-minute talk I gave before the Board of Supervisors.

“Good morning, thank you Supervisors Solis and Mitchell for your leadership and vision in recognizing that the faith community has a role in solving our region’s homelessness crisis.

I am Lisa Williams, pastor at San Pedro United Methodist Church. In 2019 Supervisor Hahn recognized me as Women of the Year for my leadership and work with the unhoused. Our church is pioneering a way forward by utilizing our empty lot to build affordable and permanent supportive housing.

A few years back, I was told that the faith community has abandoned those in need. Appalled by this statement I sought to be a part of changing that scenario. That is why this motion is so important, especially now with our COVID numbers increasing in our homeless population.

Faith Based Organizations have a unique ability to quickly deploy where needed. For example, when COVID hit and we realized that our unhoused did not have access to food on the weekends - so with a help of community stakeholders, and the faith community, every Saturday since COVID began our neighbors receive a lunch and a personal check in at local encampments. This personal check in is important not only for the individual but it can be used to help our service providers know where and how their clients are doing.

Building trustworthy relationships, collaborating, and utilizing one of our biggest assets—property, Faith Based Organizations can be better leveraged to help solve this crisis. Many Faith Based Organization have capacity to help. We have an army of volunteers that have the experience and passion to do this work. But we need better coordination, support, and resources.

You are not alone in this work. We are here to support your solutions. Please support us by approving on this motion. By hiring a consultant, together we can break down barriers that will better equip all of us in solving our region's homeless crisis.

Thank you”

Pam sent me a text this week asking if I had heard the song by the Eagles. I had not so when I heard it, I was struck by the importance and beauty of this message. It was written after 911 and can be found on YouTube. It seems so appropriate for today. Enjoy the below lyrics.

“There's a hold in the world”

There's a hole in the world tonight
There's a cloud of fear and sorrow
There's a hole in the world tonight
Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

They say that anger is just love disappointed
They say that love is just a state of mind
But all this fighting over who is anointed
Oh, how can people be so blind?

There's a hole in the world tonight
There's a cloud of fear and sorrow
There's a hole in the world tonight
Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

Oh, they tell me there's a place over yonder
Cool water running through the burning
sand
Until we learn to love one another
We will never reach the promised land

There's a hole in the world tonight
There's a cloud of fear and sorrow
There's a hole in the world tonight
Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

They say that anger is just love disappointed
(There's a cloud of fear and sorrow)
They say that love is just a state of mind
(There's a hole in the world tonight)

But all this fighting over who will be
anointed

(Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow)

Oh, how can people be so blind?

There's a hole in the world tonight (hole in
the world)

There's a cloud of fear and sorrow (fear and
sorrow)

There's a hole in the world tonight (ooh)

Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

There's a hole in the world tonight (there's a
hole in the world)

There's a cloud of fear and sorrow (a cloud
of fear and sorrow)

There's a hole in the world tonight

Don't let there be a hole in the world

tomorrow (don't let there be a hole in the
world)

There's a hole in the world tonight

There's a cloud of fear and sorrow (oh,
there's a cloud of fear and sorrow)

There's a hole in the world tonight (there's a
hole in the world tonight)

Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

There's a hole in the world tonight

There's a cloud of fear and sorrow

There's a hole in the world tonight

Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

There's a hole in the world tonight

There's a cloud of fear and sorrow

There's a hole in the world tonight

Don't let there be a hole in the world
tomorrow

Source: [LyricFind](#)

Songwriters: Glenn Frey / Don Henley

Hole in the World lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Group

Stay safe and stay home,

Pastor Lisa

Come to me,
all you who
are weary and
burdened, and
I will give
you rest.

Matthew 11:28



Prayer Requests

Lord in your mercy hear our prayers of joy and sorrow.

Family & friends we know of who are affected currently by COVID:

This week: Carol's friends Phil and Tori, Kate and Floyd's friends Jarred and Megan Lewis, David and Vickie Solorzona are in the hospital, Bernice Podesta (retired Methodist minister) Mike Lewis' friend Kimberly is home from Torrance Memorial with COVID. Mike also tested positive and is quarantining. Carol's cousin David in Kentucky. Patrick, who sings in our choir, is caretaking for his parents who have COVID.

Prayers for David Sidney, whose uncle passed away. Sandy Fausceett Smith's son and family have tested positive. My colleague, Molly Vetter's husband Matt. Harbor Terrace where Nancy Knigee is being extra careful due to an employee who was exposed.

Prayers for my brother-in-law John Dachenous who was hit by a truck at a gas station. The result was a ruptured Achilles. He spent two days in the hospital while they monitored wound care and proper blood flow.

Kate and Floyd's daughter-in-law Dani who broke her foot.

Prayers please for my colleague Adrene, she is the pastor at Crossroads UMC, her 31-year-old son died.

Yvonne Shelton has a birthday on January 20. Her phone number is 415-706-3841 and her address is 2650 NW Fawn Run Lane #2, Bend, OR 97703.

San Pedro UMC Weekly News

Joy Weston and her family after the passing of her son Kurt.

Hal Clayson is doing great. He welcomes calls.

Prayers for Marilyn Kloock's husband, Pete, and Cousin Brenda.

Prayers for Lynn Mihovil as she adjusts to the loss of her husband, Don.

Bobbie Enchave's son Roland has moved to a rehab facility.

Gary Sutherland is doing better. Sophia is having an MRI to see if she needs surgery.

Joyce's daughter, LeAnne, is doing better, Joyce Byrd's long-time friends Colonel Thomas Burch and his wife, Ellen. He is suffering from dementia and had to move to a home and Ellen has fallen. Joyce has glaucoma pressure in her right eye.

Nelms family, as their granddaughter's husband is being treated for acute pancreatitis.

David Sidney is suffering from severe back pain.

Prayers for DJ's cousin Rosanne, who has been missing since February. DJ's neighbor Luke.

Andrea Luse who is struggling with a chronic rash.

Christie's Stephenson's stepsister Rebecca, who is having good results from chemo. And Christie's friend Georgia Bates, whose lung cancer has returned and is facing a tough road of chemo.

Jake, my friend Caitlin's nephew, is in a coma.

Uzoma, Neagle-Estrada and Solorzano families.