



**PResPress**

**May 2022**

Presbyterian Church of Novato, 710 Wilson Ave., P.O. Box 631, Novato, CA 94948

## **“A Beacon of Hope, reviving the world through God’s love”**

PCN’s Strategic Plan Update

It has been 9 months since the PCN discernment team presented an articulated call for how PCN will live into the future. Through a series of town halls, surveys, and information gathering, we were able to create a list of ministry priorities to help us live out our call together. They include:

- **Building Connections; Creating Visibility; Transforming PCN’s Leadership Model; Bolstering Worship Music; Creating New Stewardship Opportunities**

### **BUILDING CONNECTIONS**

As we move forward in creating a robust *Life Groups program* managed by a new *Director of Community Life*, the newly formed Community Life Committee has worked to create and flesh out a Community Life Ministry Description and a Director of Community Life job description, as well as: a) a New Member Assimilation Strategy; b) a Hospitality Team who are trained to help new people ‘connect’ members and programs at PCN; c) and a Hospitality Team training curriculum and video.

Ongoing the Community Life Committee will be:

- Recruiting team members
- Researching and Developing a robust Life Group framework
- Working with the Personnel Committee to fashion a Director of Community Life Search Team.
- Discerning new and intentional ways to connect with our neighbors

PCN has also entered into a partnership with North Marin Community Services to share in the Emergency Response efforts in Marin County. This partnership has resulted in the reception of grant funds that support our Emergency Response initiatives.

### **CREATING VISIBILITY**

In early 2022, PCN hired a ½ time Director of Communications (Sydney Fletcher) to manage and update our website and our church database, as well as our social media presence. She is also helping with the creation of promotional media.

Ongoing, the Communication’s Director, working in conjunction with the Community Life Committee, will discern new ways to share, market, and connect people to our ministries and programs.

### **TRANSFORMING PCN’S LEADERSHIP MODEL**

In our efforts to move from a traditional leadership model to a collaborative, transformational model that leads from vision, we have:

- Created a new leadership segment in our Officer Training curriculum
- Have begun focusing our efforts on PCN's ministry priorities.

Ongoing, we are planning a Session Retreat in August for the purpose of worship, fellowship, leadership training, ministry reflection, organizational goal setting. This Session retreat will become an annual event.

## **BOLSTERING WORSHIP MUSIC**

We have:

- Hired musicians on Sunday morning to support our praise team.
- Following the departure of our wonderful Worship Tech, Kendall Kenney, we hired a Sound Tech to support our music in person and online
- Formed a Contemporary Music Director Search Committee who is actively at work.

## **CREATING NEW STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

In the wake of an ambitious and hope-filled strategic plan, the Finance and Administration Committee, in concert with the Stewardship Committee leaders, has been hard at work finding creative ways to fund and support our life and ministry as we live into our Call. More information will be coming in the week and months to come, but this is an exciting time in the life of our church as we begin to see that God, indeed, provides!

Blessings to you, dear saints, as we grow each day in Jesus Christ.

With Care,  
Adam



Where your treasure is, there your heart will lie also. ~Matthew 6:21

Below you will find evidence of the many places where your hearts, time and money are making a difference, both locally and abroad.

## LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



### Gilead House Upcoming Events

Join us for MOTHERS MATTER at West Wind Winery in Nicasio, Saturday, May 14th, for a very special *Only-in-Marin* afternoon. If you would like to donate an auction item, please email [carly@gileadhouse.org](mailto:carly@gileadhouse.org).



Would you consider donating:

- A stay at your time-share
- A gift card to your favorite restaurant
- A tasting at your wine club
- A good or service
- A unique experience



This Mother's Day, **Sunday May 8th**, give a special donation in her honor to help a mother in need.

In return, Gilead House will send a beautiful card on your behalf to recognize your gift. Go to [www.gileadhouse.org](http://www.gileadhouse.org) and click 'ways to give'.

# Gilead House Current Needs

Vacuum

Gas Gift Cards

2 Twin Beds

Amazon Gift Cards

Gilead House is a large house that is home to many people, and like your home it has the same basic needs to keep it clean, organized, and running smoothly.

There are many needs to be continually met and we have listed those needs on Amazon. If you would like to help in this way, you can view the lists by clicking the link below to see our current needs.

Did you know that we have a list of all our current needs on our website as well as items that we can and cannot accept? Go to [www.gileadhouse.org](http://www.gileadhouse.org) home page. Click on 'ways to give' to view our items needed  
THANK YOU for caring about our women and children and this ministry.

Inspiring Hope. Empowering Moms.  
Gilead House  
1024 7th Street  
Novato, CA 94945  
415-895-5575

**Mission Committee Liaison: Carolyn Gerrans**



**We're Hiring!**  
**Help us find the right fit.**

Ceres has job opportunities for your consideration.

**[Bilingual Client Care Coordinator](#)**

Sebastopol, California

**[Associate Chef](#)**

Santa Rosa, California

**[Kitchen Assistant](#)**

Santa Rosa, California

**[Support Chef](#)**

Sebastopol, California

**[Healthy Eating Community Educator \(Paid Youth Internship\)](#)**

Sebastopol, California

**[Delivery Driver \(Sonoma, Marin & Surrounding Areas\)](#)**

Sebastopol, California

For more information regarding these job opportunities, go to <https://www.ceresproject.org/job-openings>.

**Mission Committee Liaison: Barbara Gildea**

## CENTER FOR DOMESTIC PEACE & PCN



Thank you for this month's groceries for C4DP. All of your efforts are really appreciated! The next drop off dates will be May 16 & 17.

*Fear of homelessness is often a cited barrier to leaving a violent relationship, and Center for Domestic Peace's housing programs make all the difference for domestic violence survivors who have no place else to go. C4DP's emergency shelter and transitional housing program provides a seamless continuum for survivors and their children to establish independent, self-sufficient lives and to address the factors that place them at risk for long-term poverty.*

*The Presbyterian Church of Novato's Mission Committee has chosen to help the Center for Domestic Peace with grocery delivery this past year. The residents of Second Step could not have been more thrilled. Having these bags delivered right to their apartments saved them time and energy by not having to take a bus to the food bank, allowing these moms to focus on more important things.*

*"I am so grateful for these groceries," Luz, mother of six, shared with us. "This has been extremely helpful, so I can spend my money in my budget that I saved on food and spend it on things that my children need for school."*

To Learn more about Center for Domestic Peace go to [www.c4dp.org](http://www.c4dp.org)

**Mission Committee Liaison: Barbara Gildea**

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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### **PCN Kids had a Special Seekers Night with the Science Guy!!**

On March 22, Mr. C brought his reptile and amphibian friends to PCN! We have done this for many years at Seekers, many of the children know Mr. C from school and his after-school programs!





### **Kids Easter Eggstravaganza Was a Blast!**

We set up Easter stations with games, crafts and cookies on our turf field! Over 40 kids from little nursery dudes to middle schoolers took part in the fun! We built a tomb and Ms. Saysette lead groups of kids in acting out the Easter story! Thank you everyone who helped us make it a super fun Eggstravaganza!

Also, we delivered Easter baskets to some kids who were not able to attend and to 13 kids from Gilead House!!





# MONUMENTAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING

June 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>



Join us from June 13th - 17th, 9:00am - 12:00pm. Incoming kindergarteners through 6th graders are invited to participate! Each day at Monumental VBS, kids celebrate God's greatness! Monumental is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Register NOW at [www.pcnovato.org](http://www.pcnovato.org)!



BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA

Prepared. For Life.®

## Cub Scout Pack 186 - Blue & Gold



On Sunday afternoon we delivered the extra food from our Blue & Gold event to Homeward Bound. The folks there were very nice and appreciative of this food donation (Tommy's Salsa catered our Event). We would like to extend our gratitude to the PCN for allowing us to use their facilities for our Blue & Gold event, it was the perfect venue for the Pack. We would also like to thank Den Leader Robert Boehm and his wife for organizing the event, they did a wonderful job.



# Youth



Saturday, April 2nd 2022 • 10 am  
10,000 Meals Packed in 1.5 hrs!

The Rise Against Hunger food-packaging event was a fun success as we packaged more than 10,000 meals. Thanks to everyone, the youth group and congregation who helped with this tradition.



At the beginning of May, we will be hosting the 2022 ALL MARIN YOUTH Nerf War! Youth Groups and youth from all over the county will be joining us to wage an epic nerf war- but we need **PCN YOUTH** and **THEIR FRIENDS!** If you know of any youth who want to join us for this nerf bullet-tastic fun, have them bring \$5 themselves to PCN on May 1st. In exchange for \$5, they'll get to be a part of the fun, and get some pizza too! If your youth is planning to come, they can bring your their own nerf gun- but we've got some to loan out to those who don't have one to bring! The Nerf War will go from 6-8pm, and we'll have prizes for those people who pick up the most nerf bullets!



The **Kid's Night Out Fundraiser** is a night for kids and parents alike to be able to get out of the house! On Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5pm to 8:30pm, families with kiddos aged 6-11 can drop kids off at PCN for a night of games, pizza, movies and more, giving the parents a chance to get a night out themselves. There is a suggested donation of \$20 a child, with each additional child in a family being only \$10. Funds raised by this event will go to help support our High School Mission Trip 2022 this Summer!



# *Session*

## Session Highlights - April 2022

In April, Session approved:

- On April 11, 2022, Session approved the baptism of John Reuscher via EVote.

At the April 20, 2022, Session Meeting:

- Session approved the following Elders to serve as church officers in 2022 to comply with California non-profit law:
  - Brad Praun: President/CEO
  - George Pilloton: Treasurer/CFO
  - Kathy Takemoto: Secretary
- Session reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between North Marin Community Services and PCN to participate in the Novato Emergency Response Team. The MOU will provide PCN with \$14,500 for services rendered as outlined in the MOU.
- Session reviewed suggestions from Finance & Administration to increase and maintain income to the church to achieve PCN's vision and goals.
- Session discussed a request from a church to use PCN facilities.
- The Mission Committee is planning a church-wide "Mission Day" in September.
- The Personnel Committee informed Session that Mark Hines will serve as bass guitarist for the Praise Band and Dave "Bubba" Armato as the sound booth technician.

Kathy Takemoto, Clerk of Session

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## COVID-19 Updates

For the latest Marin County COVID-19 information such as local resources, data, info on vaccines & contacts go to: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org>

### Marin County Indoor Mask Mandates:

The health officers for 11 local jurisdictions issued a [joint statement](#), confirming indoor face covering guidance. In alignment with the State, Marin County lifted universal mask requirements for most indoor public settings starting Wednesday, February 16. The State's [new guidance](#) is currently in effect

For the latest guidelines on Isolation and Quarantine, go to: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/isolation-and-quarantine>

## Local Updates

[Click Here](#) for the latest weekday Coronavirus status updates from Marin County.

Please click [here](#) for a pastoral note on the COVID vaccine and religious exemptions.

For information on how and where to get vaccinated or receive a booster shot, go to: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/vaccinefinder>

## Novato Covid Response Team Update



**COVID** *still loves us, but, we can fight back!* Get vaccinated OR boosted at Margaret Todd Senior Center, at county expense, on May 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, from 4pm to 7pm. No appointment needed.





A Big Thank You to all the volunteers who made the Palm Sunday Brunch a delicious success! Kudos to the Men's Group for taking care of the tables and chairs, all the bakers for the muffins, donut holes, egg bites and who can forget those 'Heavenly Eggs'. Thank you to our Deacons for helping with serving their delicious coffee and beverages.

Your big and generous hearts are such a blessing!

with gratitude,  
Program & Fellowship Committee



**BLOOD DRIVE** The Deacons will be sponsoring another blood drive on June 12 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Go to [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) to register. Contact Janalee Holmes at (415) 898-8418 for more information.





A Fundraiser to Benefit the Marin Interfaith Council  
**23rd Annual Prayer Breakfast**  
*Reunited*

Wednesday, May 11th, 8-10am  
Congregation Kol Shofar  
215 Blackfield Drive, Tiburon



Join us for an interfaith celebration of the  
National Day of Prayer

**Speakers:**

- **Bethany Nelson** – Associate Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tiburon
- **Shri Sidharth Kaw** – Committee Member for the North Bay Hindu Center
- **Rabbi Susan Leider** – Senior Rabbi at Kol Shofar in Tiburon

Individual Reservations: \$50-\$35 Sliding Scale  
Table of 8: \$350

Reserve: [www.marinifc.org](http://www.marinifc.org), call MIC at 415-456-6957,



Marin Interfaith Council  
@marininterfaith



# Summer Camp Positions Available

📍 Santa Rosa | Novato | Petaluma | +Multiple locations in the San Francisco Bay Area



## Change the world, one kid at a time.

EDMO's team members spend their summer connecting with kids, honing leadership skills, and making a real impact - all while rocking wacky costumes and getting pied in the face!



### Camp Director

Provide all operational oversight including hiring and training staff, while bringing your own unique vibe to your camp location!

### Instructor

Prepare to inspire the next generation of learners while engaging campers in our STEAM & SEL curriculum!

### Site Assistant

Become the life line of camp, training on and being ready to hold any position camp has to offer - including Camp Director!

### Counselor

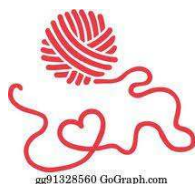
Bring the vibe as you oversee campers in multiple fun activities throughout the day, including social emotional learning and game time!



[edmo.org/jobs](https://edmo.org/jobs)

*Virtual  
positions also  
available*

EDMO makes every attempt to ensure an environment that is safe and healthy for the staff and children who attend our camps. As such, employees are required to be COVID-19 vaccinated for all in-person positions.



## Wits That Knit

**Wits That Knit** (previously known as The Knitting Group) received a letter from North Marin Community Services thanking us for three bags of hand-knitted items (valued at \$300.00) that were donated prior to Christmas.

Cheryl Paddock, CEO, wrote:

*Your beautiful hats, blankets and sweaters were distributed to our case managers who are giving them to very low-income families that we are currently serving in our community.*

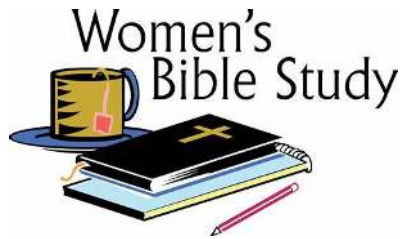
We Wits That Knit are pleased to be able to participate in this ministry of outreach. Come and join us the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the PCN library.



Would you like to be one of the first at PCN to welcome new visitors? Or to welcome back members who have not attended for a while? Please join our Hospitality Team if you are interested in serving in this ministry. Contact Beverly Winsor at [winsor6@gmail.com](mailto:winsor6@gmail.com) with any questions.



**REQUESTING A PRAYER BLANKET** Requesting a prayer blanket is easy. Email Tonya or Laurie. Give us their first and last name, address, phone, and what colors they like. We try to send a prayer blanket that is meaningful for the recipient. Questions? Contact Tonya Church at [tonya.church@comcast.net](mailto:tonya.church@comcast.net) or Laurie Dougherty at [ldougherty@me.com](mailto:ldougherty@me.com).



## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

The Women's Bible Study will finish their year in person at the Church on Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> in the 16<sup>th</sup> Chapter of 2 Samuel with their annual closing potluck. We began our studies seeing how God chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; from tending sheep and brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel inheritance. David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them.

As we conclude we will see in 2 Samuel 16 the humiliation that marks David's journey into exile. We will see the concept of humbling oneself before the Lord:

- Sometimes we have no choice – the Lord works out our circumstances to humble us.
- Sometimes we have a choice and can lash back in anger and pride or choose the course of humbling ourselves.
- How do we humble ourselves before God?

King David embarks upon a journey of humiliation (both forced and chosen) as he flees into exile and his rebellious son Absalom assumes the throne in Jerusalem.

Come and join us for our last lesson before summer and enjoyed a delicious potluck and meet some wonderful ladies and prepare to come to the Bible study in the Fall.

Link for the Zoom meeting:

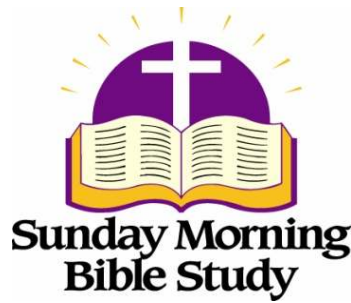
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89432531783?pwd=dE44aEhKQm1FTeg0Zmg0WXRoNVVPZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3253 1783

passcode: pcnovato

Grace and Peace,  
Carol Dacquisto, Melodie Baird and Margaret Franz-Costello





The Sunday Adult Class meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 A.M. in the Church Library. During the month of May, our lessons are based on Romans and Galatians exploring Paul's understanding of the radical nature of Christian freedom, concluding with the fruit of the Spirit emanating from that freedom. We have an exciting class that engages in great discussion and learn so much from each other as we review each lesson together.

**ROMANS:**

We will see the freedom from sin that comes to those who trust in Christ's sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins. In Christ, we are no longer slaves to sin but free to live for Him. Now that is great reason for everyone to trust in Him for the forgiveness of sins! Freedom from sin comes not from our own efforts, but from the Holy Spirit that lives within us once we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior.

**GALATIANS:**

In the Letter to the Galatians, the apostle repeatedly stressed that we are saved and justified by faith, not by keeping the law. Paul calls us to live by the Spirit. We can do this in part by showing love and care to others. We can read god's Word and make conscious choices to leave behind anything in our past lifestyles that will pull us away from living a new life in Christ.

Come and join in great discussion throughout the month of May in the books of Romans and Galatians.

Link for the Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88401949220?pwd=QS9MMHJsbU5TVtJ6enVpU1hDL0VNQT09>

Meeting ID: 884 0194 9220

passcode: pcnovato

Grace and Peace,  
James Baird, Doris Dooley, Carol/Larry Dacquisto



### WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Spend time praising God for His many blessings through prayer and receive His assurance for you. Together we seek His intimate presence, led by the Holy Spirit and fed by scripture. Meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Use the same Zoom link each month. Contact Janis West at [Janisw99@gmail.com](mailto:Janisw99@gmail.com) with questions.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81107446679?pwd=Yy9ub1pReGdMTHVhbDJpRzhHVVdHQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 0744 6679 Passcode: pcnovato



### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Come join us for study and fellowship. We meet every **Wednesday at 7:15 a.m.** via Zoom. All men are welcome. To be added to the Zoom contact list, contact Phil Dougherty at (415) 328-6674 or email [phild@dhis.com](mailto:phild@dhis.com) for more information.



Here's an important number to jot down: (415) 472-0911. This is the **non-injury** lift assist phone number from the Novato Fire Department. If you or someone you know has fallen and you can't lift him/her, the fire department will come help!

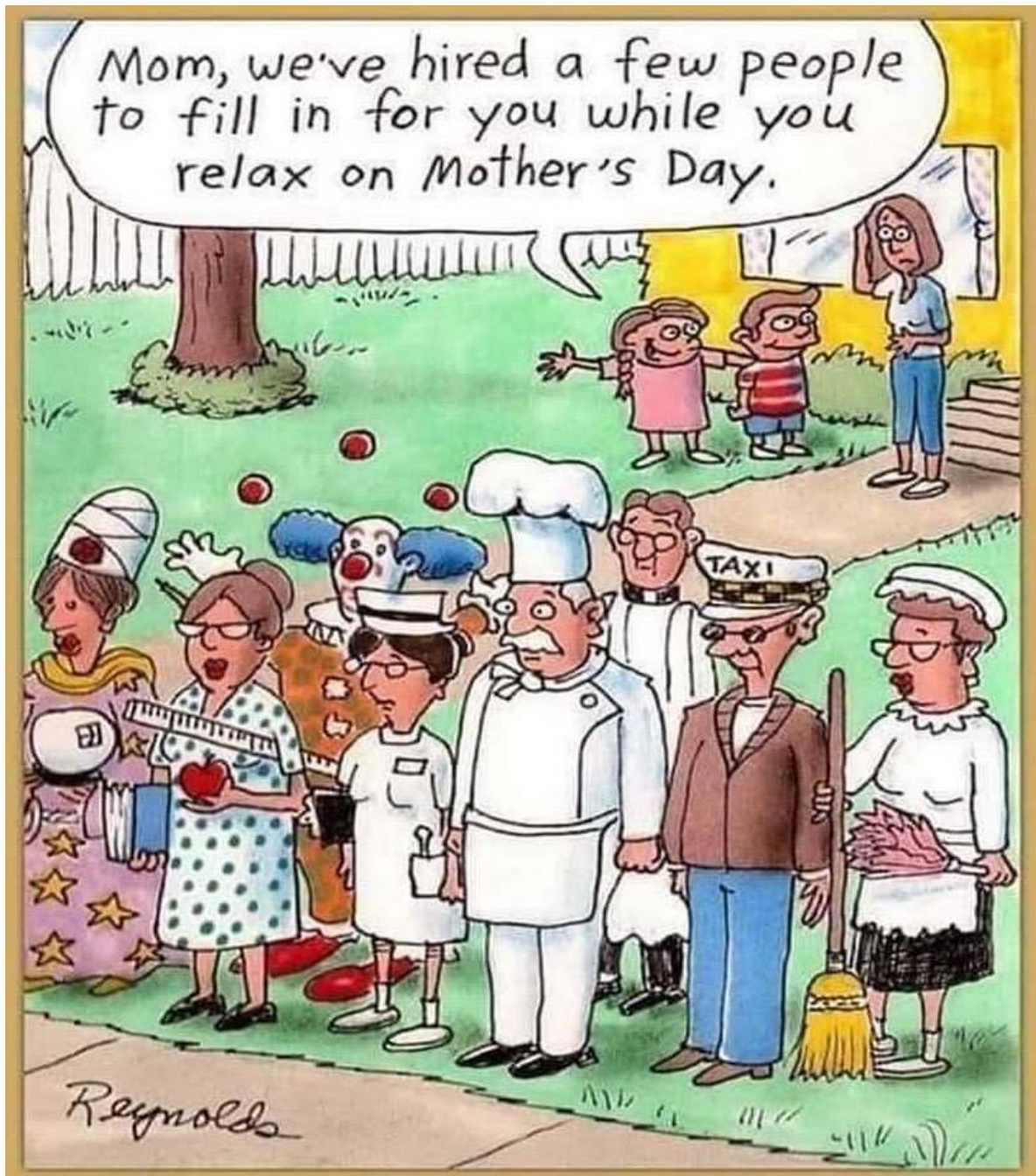


If, during this unprecedented time, you find yourself in need of someone to talk to, the Stephen Ministers are here to listen, and all conversations are confidential. Please contact Alan Dunham at (415) 897-8886 or Athena Craig at (415) 898-1252 for more information.



### Community Outreach for PCN

We would like your help in spreading the word about PCN's activities. Please share PCN info on your social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, NextDoor, etc.). Share links to the music videos, worship services, children's sermons, etc. This will help broaden our outreach. It's always a good time to get the word out about our congregation and what God is up to through us!



Happy  
Mother's Day