

This Week at SPC

ADVOCACY VISIT WITH SENATOR SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO POSTPONED/CANCELED.

As of noon last Thursday, we have not yet heard back from Senator Capito's office to confirm Monday's visit. Therefore we are postponing and possibly canceling this effort. Stay tuned.

MORAL MONDAY RALLY, Monday, June 30, 11am, East Side of the U. S. Capitol. Founded in 2013 in North Carolina by Bishop William J. Barber, II, Moral Mondays centers impacted people, people of faith, and moral leaders who hold elected leaders and government accountable to enact a moral agenda that responds to the urgent needs of the poor.

PENTECOST OFFERING collected through June. The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. The Pentecost Offering helps nurture the faith of children, youth, and young adults. Congregations keep 40% of raised funds to initiate or support programs for young people in their communities. The remaining 60% is remitted to the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

**PASTOR GUSTI TAKING VACATION AND STUDY LEAVE
JULY 7 - AUGUST 3.** The Parents of SPC will offer Guest Reflections. Contact Deacon Moderator Donna Dettling (301/467-0423) or Jen Jones (681/247-0193) or your own Deacon for pastoral emergencies. They will contact a local pastor to support you in Pastor Gusti's absence, if needed.

1 Corinthians 3: 5-9: What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Ephesians 4:1-7 I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

This Week in Presbyterian Public Witness

REV. JIMMIE HAWKINS, ADVOCACY DIRECTOR FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A) RECEIVED “THE DRUM MAJOR AWARD FOR JUSTICE” FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN BLACK CAUCUS, Sunday, June 22.

A DAY OF PRAYER, PETITION FOR REHEARING, with APACHE STRONGHOLD, Monday, June 23. The Presbyterian Office of Public Witness joined a coalition of Apaches, other Native peoples, and non-Native allies dedicated to preserving Oak Flat, a sacred site for the Apache and other Indigenous nations. Ecumenical allies committed to religious freedom and Indigenous sovereignty welcomed Apache Stronghold at the Supreme Court on Monday, praying alongside them as proceedings unfolded inside.

FAITHFUL RESPONSE TO ICE RAIDS, Monday, June 23. The Presbyterian Office of Public Witness unequivocally condemned the separation of families; the unlawful deportation of fathers, mothers, and children; and the use of the National Guard and Marines on the streets of Los Angeles. The Office further calls Presbyterians to steadfast prayer and advocacy.

THE PRESBYTERIAN ADVOCACY HOUR was held Wednesday, June 25, noon. Held on the fourth Wednesday of the month via Zoom, these gatherings explore justice issues with spiritual grounding, in-depth analysis, and practical tools for advocacy. Optional breakout for networking, movement-building, and community connection. *June Topic: Seeking Peace, Speaking Truth: Presbyterian Advocacy for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land. July Topic: Principles and Practice of Faith Based Organizing.* Contact the SPC church office for a link to sign up.

Prayer for Planting and Watering

U PICK

STRAWBERRIES, said the roadside sign,
big red letters on a white-washed board.
We followed the signs to the farmer’s field
and wandered into long green rows,
one stiff blue carton my hands. Such blessing
to kneel on the ground and gather
ripe red sweetness with our fingertips,
to pull the small fruits into our mouths
and hum as their sun-warmed flesh turned
to juice on our tongues. How simple
to smile, thinking of nothing but finding
the deepest red berries, praising
our backroad luck. Oh innocent minutes
spent only in joy, forgetting for a moment
how everything is fragile. Later, the news
came crashing in. Such difficult news.
But for those moments, we lived in such
generous sweetness, such abundant
red sweetness, such wholly shared sweetness,
the kind of sweetness so real that while
you’re in it, you slip out of time
and mistake sweetness for eternity.

Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer