

Connecting. Sharing. Serving!



Thursday, June 5, 2025



ON SUNDAY

Join us for worship on Sunday, June 8 at 10:00 AM. The Scripture lessons are Acts 2:1-4, 17-21 & Genesis 111:1-9. The title of the sermon is, "The Power of Our Words." The Lay Leader is Scott Minor. The Usher is Andy Balog. The Tellers are TBA. AV tech is William Ruygt. Fellowship is TBA.

If you prefer to meet online, you can watch our live-stream service on the church's <u>YouTube channel</u>. The service begins promptly at 10:00 AM. The service will be posted later in the afternoon and evening if you're not able to watch it live.

Pastor's Page

Dear Friends,

In October 2017, a quiet moment of courage sparked a global reckoning.

Tarana Burke, a longtime activist, had been using the phrase "Me Too" since 2006 to support survivors of sexual violence. But it wasn't until actress Alyssa Milano tweeted the words—"If you've been sexually harassed or assaulted, write 'me too' as a reply to this tweet"—that the

world began to shift.

The tweet was simple. It carried no legal power, no official sanction. But within 24 hours, it had been shared millions of times. People—women, men, non-binary individuals—from every country, background, and profession began telling their stories. Some for the first time. Their words, once bottled in shame, poured into the open.

In boardrooms, perpetrators resigned. In courtrooms, victims were believed. Laws changed. Companies rewrote their codes of conduct. And across dinner tables and classrooms, the conversation about consent and power began to evolve.

But it started with just two words. *Me too*.

It proved that a phrase—truthful, timely, and vulnerable—can become a revolution.

The power of one's words, when echoed by many, can ripple into policy, justice, and healing.

And it reminded the world: silence protects power, but speech can reclaim it.

On Sunday, I'll be preaching on the observance of the Day of

Pentecost, when God's Spirit was poured out on the early believers, filling them with power. Such a power allowed them to bear witness with their words to all who had

gathered at the Temple to celebrate the Festival of Weeks, the day Jewish people observed the giving of the Law to Moses by God. That law was and is a set of words that told them how to live.

The power of using our words well is covered throughout the Bible. In story after story, God's Spirit inspires us to speak our words of truth to a world that believes lies and falsehoods and conspiracy theories. God's Spirit inspires us, when we're open to it, to speak truth to power and do our best to set captives free.



There are many ways we can speak truth to power. One is to bring God into our conversations and implore others to follow in the way of love, forgiveness, and sacrifice. Another way to do it is to stand with others, in the name of God, to challenge systems of power and abuse. One

opportunity to do that will be on Saturday, June 14, from 10 AM until 1PM, there will be a gathering at the Capitol, on the same day as Gay Pride but hours before the festivities. That gathering will be a national protest to speak truth to power. It is titled, No Kings Protest and Rally. The rally is for all who value democracy to condemn authoritarianism and to demonstrate to the world what democracy truly represents. There will be several Pioneers attending the rally, and I hope you can join me.

I pray that your Pentecost will be filled with the love and power of God so that God may use you to help care for others. On Sunday, we'll be observing Pentecost through liturgy, choral anthems, Scripture reading, and an inspiring sermon. You are invited to participate by wearing red, orange, and/or yellow clothing to represent the fire that descended from heaven on Pentecost and rested on each of the believers present when the Holy Spirit was poured out. Afterwards, we'll have cake in Fellowship Hall, observing the birthday of the church, which is traditionally understood to be the day of Pentecost.

Blessings to you, See you on Sunday!

Pastor Bo



Music Musings, by Dr. Elliot Jones

The prelude and the postlude this week are settings of the same Pentecost hymn, Come Holy Spirit, God and Lord, from two composers of the Baroque period. Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau's chorale prelude is introspective, while Andreas Armsdorf's is more jubilant. The choir will sing Simon Andrews' arrangement of A Mighty Wind, based on Thomas Tallis' famous canon, and

the spiritual God's Gonna Set this World on Fire arranged by Moses Hogan.

Word Find Puzzle: Acts 2:1-21

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G	F	1	L	L	Ε	D	Н	D	1	В	L	T
Α	F	K	Α	Α	P	Р	Ε	Α	R	Ε	D	Н
V	R	Ε	С	N	٧	М	Α	Α	Ε	G	1	Ε
Е	Т	0	Ε	G	ı	Т	٧	М	N	Α	٧	R
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0	N	D	С	Α	L	D	N	Z	1	С	D	Α
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S	1	Т	Т	ı	N	G	S	Р	Ε	Α	к	R
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D	z	Р	E	N	Т	E	С	0	S	Т	Н	Р
		AMAZED CAME		APPEARED		BEGAN						
				COME		DIVIDED						
		EACH			ENTIRE		FILLED					
	FIRE HEAVEN			GAVE			HEAR					
				HOLY			HOUSE					
	JEWS NATIVE		LANGUAGE			LIKE						
			/E	OTHER			PENTECOST					
	PLACE SITTING			RESTED			RUSH					
				SOUND			SPEAK					
		SPIRIT			SUDDENLY			THERE				
	TOGETHER			TONGUE			VIOLENT					

Birthdays

06/05 Emily Balestrini

06/17 Clyde Wilson

06/23 Betsy Wilson

06/24 Bernadette Wallace



If you know of other birthdays of Pioneer Church members and friends not listed here, please let us know. Thanks!

Wearing Pentecostal Colors

You are invited to wear red, orange, or yellow for Sunday's Pentecost service. It'll be like having tongues of fire over the congregation. A special thanks to William Ruygt for decorating the sanctuary for the service!

Get Your Pride Kit: \$8

Gay Pride in Sacramento will take place on June 14-15, 2025. The Pride Parade begins

at 12:00 Noon, and booths will be open on the Capitol Mall Saturday and Sunday of that weekend. Our church shares an information table with the First United Methodist Church, which allows us to share the expenses of renting the table. This year, we are selling Pride Kits to help us cover the cost of the table we share with the First

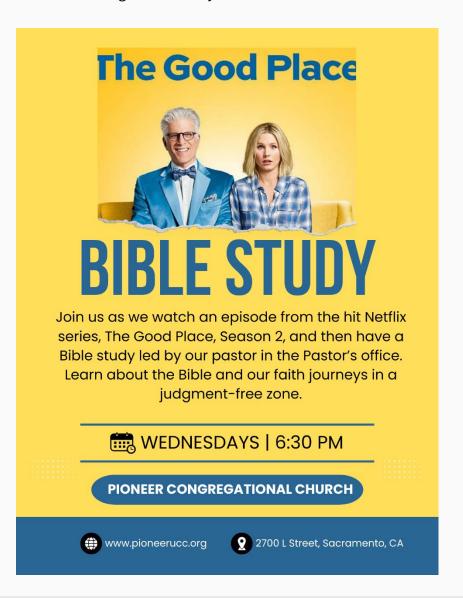


United Methodist Church. The kits are \$8 and include a miniature pride flag, stickers, and other pride items, including a lei, wristband, and bandana in a colorful bag. Please consider purchasing a kit for yourself or a friend. Kits will be available on Sunday and throughout the week in the church office. Thanks!

Staffing the Pride Table

If you are interested in staffing the Pioneer Pride table at Gay Pride, please contact the Outreach Committee led by Kat Copple or Pastor Bo. We will be staffing the table Saturday, June 14 from 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM and Sunday, June 15 from 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM. We are looking for two volunteers for

each 3-hour segment. Candy and information from the church will be provided.



3 Ways to Give to Pioneer

- 1. Follow this link to Paypal and make your donation there.
- 2. Worship services on Sunday at 10:00 AM or stop by the church office.
- 3. Mail in your donation: Pioneer Congregational Church, 2700 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95816



Signup Sheets Available

Have you been interested in volunteering at the church? One way to do that is to volunteer to be a Sunday reader, an usher, a teller, or to bring treats and food for Fellowship Hour. You are invited to see where you'd like to help out and sign up. Look for the signup sheets in Fellowship Hall on Sundays after church. Your help and contribution make Pioneer shine!



Offices and Spaces to Rent @ Pioneer

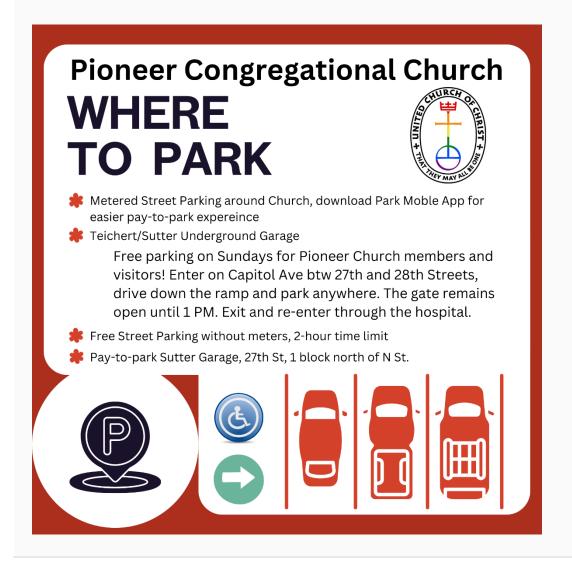
We need your help in finding people to rent our available rooms, Fellowship Hall, weddings or funerals in the sanctuary, use our kitchen as a 'ghost kitchen' or anyone who would like to work out of one of two offices at the church. Please spread the word, share with your friends, and let us utilize these spaces that often sit empty throughout the

week. We have office spaces and a stainless-steel commercial kitchen for rent. Our beautiful stained-glass sanctuary is an ideal setting for weddings. The large fellowship Hall has a full theatrical stage with lighting. A 100" screen is available for visual presentations, perfect for business meetings. Underground parking is available for rent.

For more information, please call the church office or visit http://www.pioneercoworking.com.

CONTINUING ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE CHURCH

- + If you're looking for a **home health aide**, we have a regular church attendee who is available to meet your needs. For more information, please call the church office or talk with the Pastor.
- + Where to Park. There is no free metered parking outside the church. However, there is free parking underground next door/behind the church in the underground car park at the Teichert/Sutter underground parking garage. Enter Capitol Street between the garage and the hospital. The parking gate is open 9:00 AM 12:30 PM on Sundays. You may park in any space, even if it says reserved.



During the weekdays, we have the entire basement level (B2) available for our parking needs. However, you will need to obtain a parking card to access the closed gate, unless we have prearranged an event for the gates to be open. On-street parking is available where meters are present. If you are willing to walk a couple of blocks, onstreet parking with no meters allows for 2 hours of free parking.



- + **Do you have a prayer request?** Heidi Munoz collects prayer requests and emails them to our prayer champions, and we pray over all prayer requests each Sunday. If you have a prayer request, please email Heidi at prayingpioneers@gmail.com.
- + We provide **large-print bulletins and hearing devices** for individuals who are hearing or visually impaired.

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