

## Westview Chimes – July/August 2025

---

### *Ugg! How Do I Find Peace These Days!*

**If you read the news, you will see that our world is anything but peaceful right now, anything but shalom. If you are like me, at times you are having trouble finding peace with all that's going on--every day is a new source of stress!**

**Shalom...**Shalom is this wonderful word throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, which lies behind the English word “peace.” *Shalom* is one of the key words and images in the Bible for salvation--all things being made right! The Hebrew word refers most commonly to a person being uninjured and safe, whole and sound. In the New Testament, *shalom* is revealed as the reconciliation of all things to God through the work of Christ as Colossians 1:19-20 states: “God was pleased . . . through Christ to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through Christ’s blood, shed on the cross.” *Shalom* experienced is multidimensional, complete well-being — physical, psychological, social, and spiritual; it flows from all of one’s relationships being put right — with God, within oneself, and with others.

**Shalom and Justice are Intertwined:** Shalom is not achieved without justice. A society that is unjust cannot truly be said to have shalom, as everyone's well-being and rights are not being upheld.

**Justice as a Prerequisite for Shalom:** Justice, in the sense of giving each person their due, is a necessary foundation for shalom. It ensures that everyone has the basic needs met and their rights protected, contributing to a more harmonious and peaceful society. Shalom extends beyond just the absence of conflict; it includes a flourishing and thriving community where relationships are healthy and well-being is promoted in peace and wholeness. Psalm 85:10-11, speaks of how when all is right, justice & peace shall kiss!

And somehow this all is connected to our Baptism. First and foremost, Baptism is about us being children of God—a foundation that carries us our whole lives. AND, as we live as God’s children, God works through us, yes us, to love others and change this broken world. The blessing of our baptism spills out to others, and indeed is meant to transform ALL of creation!

It is about the justice of God and the God of justice. Because justice is God righting the wrongs, the Lord brings about shalom transformation so all of creation is made new, so baptism is not just about my well-being, or the well-being of my congregation, Baptism is about the flourishing of ALL!—every human, every creature, every mountain, every stream, every tree! Shalom in ALL of creation.

So, when you are stressed about personal or world happenings, and are not feeling peace, remember 2 promises through your baptism.

First, that you are a beloved child of God! The most powerful, most loving Being in the universe holds you lovingly in his hands! The Good Shepherd’s got your back!

Second, that God is working through you and through other followers of Jesus (and even those who aren’t followers) to bring about Shalom, peace to our world!

Also, it helps, sometimes, when we are feeling overwhelmed by the events of this world, to take action, even if it is very small, to help bring about shalom, peace. It helps us hold onto HOPE. If you are feeling this way, what can you do to bring a little more love, more hope, in this world?—maybe caring for a neighbor, donating or volunteering at church or a non-profit, sign up to be on alert to be an observer/videographer for immigration

raids, write your representative, take time to pray. And never forget it's ALL in the hands of our God, who loves us enough to die for us and calls us beloved!

Also, you, the Westview Family, help me feel shalom in your care for me, each other, and the needy (especially the unhoused) in our community.

You are a wonderful family! Bless you!  
Pastor Dan

---

### *Recurso de Fuerza Village*

**Recurso de Fuerza village**, "Resource of Strength," village for the unhoused got the greenlight by the city to be built by Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties behind the church gym, hopefully by November 2025. Groundbreaking is May/June. Counselors coordinated by CAB will be on site 24/7 to help the residents heal, plan and then move on to permanent housing. Please be in prayer for the transformation of the lives of those who will get to live and heal at Recurso de Fuerza!

**Consider Sponsoring a Room:** Please pray about if you, a club, a classroom, or workplace colleagues would like to sponsor the decoration of one of these 32 rooms with things like a welcome mat, pictures, a flowering plant, bedside lamp, twin sheets, 2 pillows with cases, colorful throw pillows, warm fleece blanket, small trash can, small area rug (3x5 or 4x4 washable, storage bins, etc., so we can welcome with loving arms these people who have felt like unloved outcasts for far too long. Bless you! (contact Pastor Dan)

Or consider making a **Welcome Basket:** filled with towels (body, hand, wash), shower caddy, laundry detergent, shampoo, lotion, toothbrush & paste, deodorant, razor and cream, feminine hygiene products, Command Hooks (removable) for hanging towels, bathrobe & slippers for walk to the shower, etc., all in a new Laundry basket with a bow! 😊

---

**Luncheons:** We have Social Hour with a light lunch the **1st Sunday of each month** along with cake for Birthdays! Come enjoy! And we are now having coffee hour (a snack, not lunch) weekly as well. Come, enjoy some time together!

---

### *SonRise Kitchen*

Experience the joy! We need volunteers to help with serving breakfast by River Park M-F 7:30 - 8:15am & making snack bags Wednesdays 9:15am. We also need donations of cereal, and lightly used: jackets & sweatshirts, sleeping bags, blankets, shoes, & socks. Thank you!

Contact Margo or Pastor Dan.

---

**True North Vacation Bible School (VBS):** Westview is doing VBS **with the Lutheran Church** at the **Methodist Church July 14-18**. Call Jolly if you would like to help (831) 840-3802.

---

*Wednesday Zoom Scripture Reflection & Mid-Week Check-In  
Will be Taking a Break Until September 3, 2025*

---

---

## *Live and Zoom Worship Services at Westview!!*

Live and Zoom Online Worship Services are being held at Westview Presbyterian Church Sunday at 10 am.!!  
**Masks are now optional** for those attending the **Live Worship Service**.

To join Westview for **Live Zoom Sunday Online Worship Service** please send **Westview** an email at [westviewpc@gmail.com](mailto:westviewpc@gmail.com) so you can be added/accepted to our Zoom live recordings and can receive an **automatic email** reminding you of our upcoming live services. **If you are in need of any assistance with Zoom** call Westview at (831) 724-6222 and **leave a message**. Someone will call you back as soon as possible.

**Guest Speaker: Pastor Julie Center Porras (with Rev. Hoffman) – July 6th**  
**Pastor Mick Erickson – July 27th**

---

## *Photos*



**Photos Above: June Sunday after Church luncheons**

**Right Photo: Easter Sunday Potluck**



**Left Photo: Isaac Veal graduates in Marine Biology from CSUMB  
(California State University Monterey Bay)**

---