

All of our Prayers & Squares meetings include devotionals brought by our members. When we have a retreat, we love to invite someone from the outside world to present a devotional. This year's guest speakers are people relatively new to First Church.

Friday Lunch Time Speaker



Troy Hebblethwaite has served as the Director of Facilities and Events at First Church since December. His role is to oversee all aspects of the facilities and properties, leases and special events, safety and security for the Mission Valley and Ocean Beach Campuses. Troy says, "I grew up in Kansas City and Butler, Missouri, as the oldest of three siblings. I'm married and have a family, plus a 10-year-old dog (Cockapoo) named Mattie. Besides spending time with my family, I enjoy cooking (currently Asian food), gardening and watching football and soccer. I live for the arts: music, theater and visual arts. My music style ranges from Rat

Pack standards to 80's hits to hip-hop and R&B. One of my favorite quotes is by Maya Angelou: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Saturday Lunch Time Speaker



Dr. Elaine Amerson, the wife of our interim pastor, is a retired educator and administrator at the university level. She has been a professor at universities in the U.S. and Latin America, a director of leadership in California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church, and a Director of Admissions at two seminaries. She has also been a member and president of the school board in Evanston, Illinois. She and Pastor Phil were founding members of Patchwork Ministries in Evanston. Patchwork Central grew into a multifaceted program, including ecumenical worship services, after-school programs for children, an economic development center, health programs, minority leadership and other activities focusing on social and economic justice. She and Pastor Phil also served as missionaries in Latin America. The Amersons have two children and four grandchildren. Elaine enjoys keeping up with her grandchildren, reading, travel, sewing, painting and sports.