

Unitarian
Universalist


Planned
Parenthoo

A source of love and support

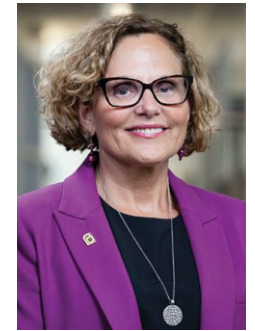
Rev. Tim Kutzmark
of Fresno



Letter from PPMM CEO Stacy Cross

Dear friends,

Recent court cases in Texas and extremist legislation across the country have confirmed our worst fears: overturning *Roe* was just the beginning. Opponents of reproductive rights are emboldened to continue their war against access to abortion, birth control, comprehensive sex ed, marriage equality, transgender youth, other LGBTQ+ rights, and more.



Even in California and Nevada, safe haven states where PPMM operates 34 health centers, we frequently see anti-abortion protestors and face constant obstacles to care. And the court cases in Texas affect patients in reproductive freedom states, too.

But we also see you, your neighbors and friends, our staff, volunteers, and supporters.

On page 2 of this newsletter, you'll read about our Faith Leaders Network (FLN), a group representing diverse religious traditions that is committed to speaking out publicly in support of PPMM, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ+ equality.

On page 8, you'll also read about PPMM's first resident artist, Sacramento photographer and curator Sarah Marie Hawkins. The Artist in Residence (AiR) program is named in honor of longtime board member, Tanuja Bahal, who is also a community advocate and artist.

On page 10, you can learn about our Legacy program and ways you can join the fight, forever.

We're wrapping up this newsletter with information about our event series - our first in-person gatherings in nearly three years! We have several more of these regional "Roadshows" this year, plus a virtual event for everyone on May 24.

Check page 13 to see where we'll be next. I hope you can join me at a future event.

Stacy Cross
President & CEO

Community faith leaders supporting the good work of PPMM

In recent years, PPMM staff and patients have seen an increase in aggressive protestors who falsely claim that all people of faith oppose abortion, family planning, and gender-affirming care. But we know from supporters like you that so many people of faith in our communities value and are grateful for the health care we provide.

So, in 2021, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte's Public Affairs team began developing an exciting progressive coalition, the Faith Leaders Network (FLN). These are people from diverse religious traditions who have committed to speaking out publicly in support of PPMM, reproductive justice, and LGBTQ+ equality. Currently, there are 19 active network members from 10 communities in California and Northern Nevada, representing twelve religious traditions.



Mar Ephrem, Robert Lopez at the *Bans Off Our Bodies* rally in Oakland in 2022.

"I want the PPMM FLN to provide bold public witness in support of health care and abortion access for all," said Rev. Tim Kutzmark of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Fresno, a longtime supporter. "I hope the FLN reminds the (patients) of PPMM that there are people of faith who honor and bless the deeply personal choices they are making about their body and their health care."

For many affiliates across the country, including PPMM, Planned Parenthood health and education services began with the support of a local faith community. In Fresno, it was in the basement of the First Christian Church in 1971. That support has now flourished into an interfaith network of spiritual leaders speaking to the community about the importance of Planned Parenthood health care in a way that only they can.



Rev. Tim Kutzmark speaking with PPMM supporters in Visalia, on their way to a city council meeting in 2022.

In Nevada, Rabbis Sarah Zober and Benjamin Zober of Reno's Temple Sinai are working with our team to expand the faith network in that state.

Just last year, an Episcopal priest who is also a Central Valley FLN member, strongly advocated for PPMM patients when anti-abortion groups impeded the opening of a much-needed health center in Visalia.

And, shortly before the U.S. Supreme Court overturned abortion rights, Rev. Kutzmark arranged a special service to honor the 49th Roe anniversary - which would prove to be its last.

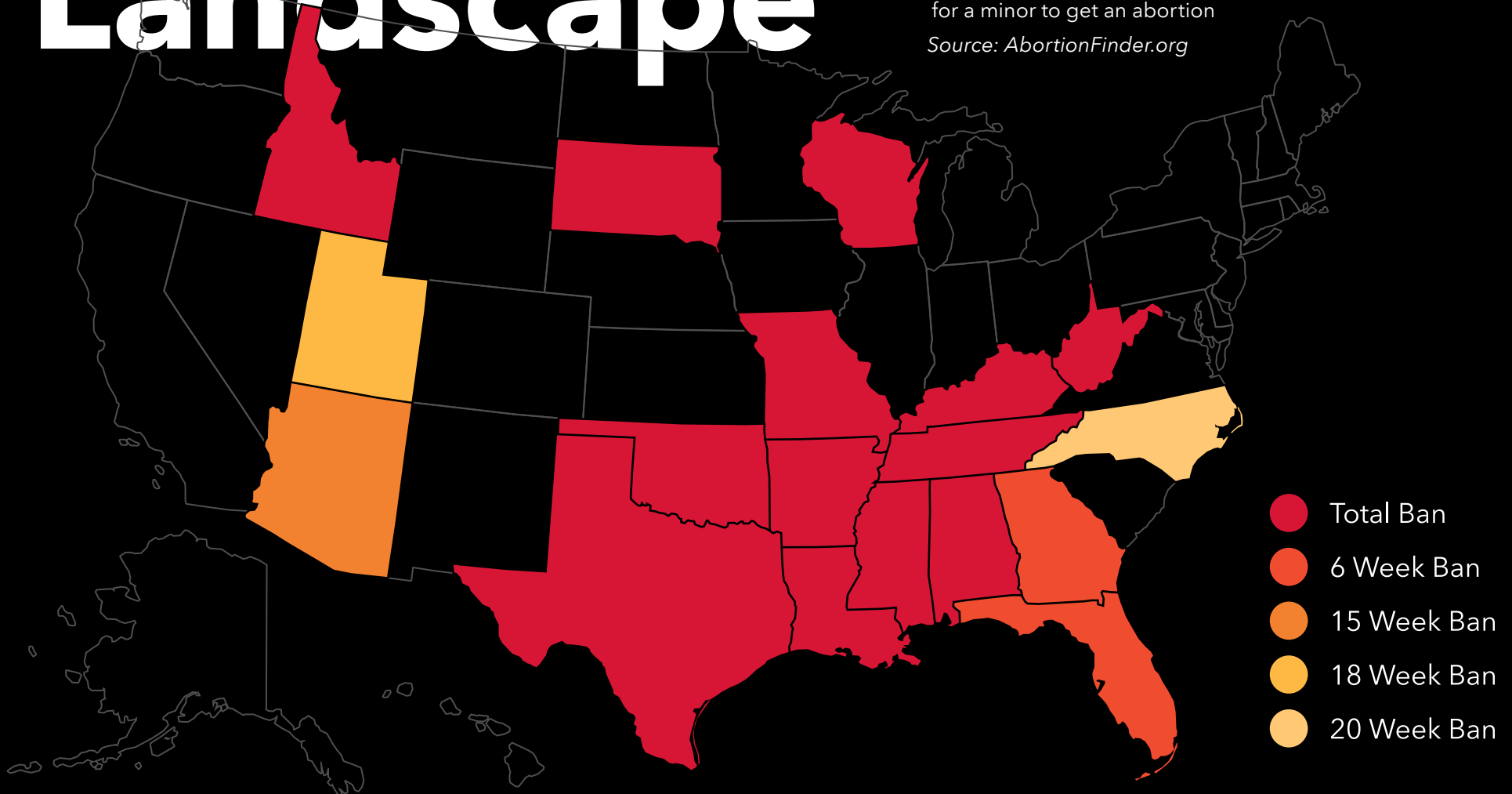
Mar Ephrem, Robert Lopez, Bishop at the Mar Thoma Orthodox Church in Fresno, took part in a Bans Off Our Bodies rally in Oakland last year. Bishop Lopez said he believes that it's important that people understand the issue of justice and equity is at the core of most of our religious, spiritual, and philosophical beliefs.

"My commitment to the Planned Parenthood Mar Monte Faith Leaders Network is to offer my support, time, and abilities to offer faith support to achieve this endeavor," he said. "I have spoken out publicly for PPMM as a member of the FLN to support the reproductive rights of every individual so that they might feel some moral and spiritual support in their decisions to remain happy, healthy, and free."

This kind of deep community work has made our interfaith network an extremely valuable ally. FLN members have written op-eds, provided letters of support for funding applications, shared PPMM's social media posts, and welcomed Public Affairs team members to their congregations to share our mission and services.

"Radicalized right-wing religious zealots don't speak for all people of faith," Rev. Kutzmark said. "There are many progressive faith leaders who are appalled to see religion used as a weapon rather than as a source of love and support." ■

Current Abortion Landscape





— Meet
Sarah Marie
 PPMM's First AiR

We are excited to introduce Sacramento photographer and curator Sarah Marie Hawkins as the first-ever artist selected for PPMM's Tanuja Bahal Artist-in-Residence (AiR) program.

The project-based residency is focused on furthering the conversation around sexual and reproductive health. This unique program is a new way to inform, inspire, and influence how we talk about and conceptualize our bodies and our rights.

In collaboration with PPMM, Sarah Marie will be working on a fresh iteration of her ongoing project *FACELESS*, photography and storytelling art that provides a platform for grief, growth, healing, anger, love, and release for survivors of sexual violence.

FACELESS seeks to capture honest imagery and stories, anonymously, to document each person's journey of healing.

Sarah Marie has been conceptualizing and creating art since 2010. Her principal mediums include ink illustration and public art installations, all of which revolve around socially and politically relevant topics.

Hawkins —

To learn more about PPMM's artist-in-residence program and hear from Tanuja Bahal, you can go to ppmarmonte.org/AiR.

If you are interested in sharing your story for the *FACELESS* AiR project, you can fill out a participation form at ppmarmonte.org/FACELESS.



JOIN THE FIGHT— FOREVER

Reclaiming the rights and access we are owed won't be easy. But with you by our side, we will, without a doubt, still be here for our patients.

Please join the fight - forever - with a gift in your will or trust today.

"My future gift is how I'm making a commitment to generations of patients to come. I love that I will be able to stand with Planned Parenthood Mar Monte for decades - and I am so proud that this is my legacy."

- Denise, Legacy Society member since 2020

HOW TO GIVE

Sample bequest language

In as little as one sentence, you can complete your gift:

"I give, devise and bequeath to **Planned Parenthood Mar Monte Tax ID #94-1583439**, now or formerly located at 1691 The Alameda, San Jose, CA 95126, or its successor thereto, [dollar amount, percentage, percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, or description of property] for the benefit of [its general purposes AND/OR the endowment fund(s) of your choice]."

This is merely suggested wording; please consult your attorney or an estate planning professional when preparing legal documents.

Use our partnership with FreeWill

You can make your legally valid will online, for free, using our partnership with FreeWill.

Visit ppmarmonte.org/legacy to start yours today.

Your local impact

Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (your local Planned Parenthood) is a separate organization from Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Legacy gifts to PPFA are not shared with PPMM unless explicitly specified. **To ensure your gift is used locally, please use PPMM's full name and tax ID (see above) when making your gift.**

Your legacy matters. Contact us at legacy@ppmarmonte.org or **916.325.1705** to learn more about the kind of impact you can make in the future, including new endowment options.



TOGETHER

WE RISE. WE RESIST. WE CARE.

ppmarmonte.org/together



We are nearly halfway through PPMM's 2023 Event Series: *Together We Rise. We Resist. We Care.* And the turnout has been incredible!

Hundreds of PPMM supporters, donors and staff have joined us in person to celebrate and support reproductive health care. Our attendees heard from our inspiring patients, supporters, and staff about how, despite the many obstacles we are facing, PPMM continues to serve hundreds of thousands in our communities: "Care. No matter what."

We hope you will join us at an upcoming event. Roadshow tickets start at \$25, and sponsorships start at \$1,500. To buy tickets or sponsorships and learn more, visit ppmarmonte.org/together. We'd love to see you there!

Specific event location information will be provided upon registration.

Oakland Roadshow

Sunday, May 7 | 10:30 a.m.

Virtual Event

Wednesday, May 24 | 6:00 p.m.

Featuring **Eric H. Holder, Jr.**, 82nd Attorney General of the United States and Chairman of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee and **Olivia Julianna**, Abortion Rights Activist and Director of Politics & Government Affairs at Gen-Z for Change

Monterey County Roadshow

Thursday, June 1 | 5:30 p.m.

Stockton Roadshow

Sunday, July 9 | 10:30 a.m.

We hope you can join us at one of our upcoming events. If you have any questions, please email events@ppmarmonte.org.

5 Things You Can Do Now

1. DONATE

You can make a donation today to support PPMM's mission: ppmarmonte.org/donate-today or call us at 408.795.3780

2. JOIN THE FIGHT FOREVER

You can join the fight to protect sexual and reproductive health - forever - by including PPMM in your will or trust at ppmarmonte.org/legacy

3. VOLUNTEER

Join hundreds of volunteers across PPMM who support our mission daily: ppmarmonte.org/volunteer

4. SHARE YOUR STORY

Inspire others by sharing your experience with Planned Parenthood's health services, education programs, and/or advocacy with our story collectors at ppmarmonte.org/my-story

5. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We've put together a short survey to get to know you better, improve our communications, and understand what motivates you to invest in your community through PPMM. We hope you will share your thoughts. Go to ppmarmonte.org/donorsurvey

To receive future editions of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte News in a digital format, sign up at ppmarmonte.org/newsletter



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