



# FIRST PRES NEWSLETTER

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 850 IVYWOOD DR. - OXNARD, CA 93030 - (805) 983-0204 - FIRSTPRESOXNARD.ORG

April 2012

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## Holy Week

*Maundy Thursday,  
Soup Dinner  
April 5, 6:00 p.m.*

*Easter Sunday  
9:30 a.m.  
Traditional Worship*

*10:30 a.m.  
Egg Hunt  
Morning Breakfast*

*11:00 a.m.  
radiant Word of Life  
Modern Worship*

## Community Carnival and Biblical Faire



**Saturday, April 28  
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church**



Cotton candy! Popcorn! Face painting and games! Get ready to have some fun at the Community Carnival and Biblical Faire. There will be tons of free food, and Biblically themed games for the kids. Don't forget to invite your neighbors.

The event is sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, Women of the Bible, Boy Scouts, American Heritage Girls and Pacific Camps. Volunteers are needed, please call the church office (983-0204) or see Modenia Kramer if interested.

## Let's Celebrate Easter!



### Easter Lilies

Help decorate the sanctuary for Easter! We'll be taking orders for Easter Lilies after worship on April 1 or contact the office during the week. The cost is \$8. You may take your lily home following the Easter service or it can be donated to the Deacons to deliver to a shut-in.

### Maundy Thursday Supper

In remembrance of the Lord's Supper, a soup supper potluck and communion worship service will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please indicate on your Friendship Card if you plan on bringing bread and/or soup.

### Flower Cross

Please bring flowers to donate for the flower cross on Easter morning by 9:00 a.m., or you may drop them off at the church office on Thursday, April 5.



### Easter Morning Breakfast

Our traditional Easter Morning Breakfast will be immediately following the 9:30 worship service on Easter. If you can donate baked goods for the continental breakfast it would be greatly appreciated. Please note on your Friendship Card if you plan to donate a baked treat.

# The Church in Mission: The Power of Hope Event at Seabridge

Last Saturday, March 24, our church extended itself beyond our church campus. We presented an event called "The Power of Hope" at the Seabridge Amphitheatre in Oxnard. Instead of expecting people to come to us, we went out into the world with a message of hope.

A team of church volunteers, decked out in First Pres golf shirts, planned and staffed the event. A wonderful ensemble from Expression Ministries provided the music. Two therapists from Ventura Counselling Center presented messages of hope and help on the subjects of worry and depression.

I was privileged to have met several people who visited the event. One man whom I encountered was a passing bicyclist named Yuri, who stopped for awhile to listen. Yuri refused my offer of a Gospel of Mark booklet, explaining that he was an atheist. I normally do not meet atheists at our Sunday service; going out into the world is the only way this is going to happen.

Another man whom I met was named Gavin. Gavin had a look of desperation in his eyes, but as I spoke with him, I discovered that he was desperate for God. Gavin had attended church for the first time the previous week, and said that he was so drawn to our event that he just had to stop. Gavin thanked me profusely for presenting the event, remarking that we had encouraged him so much.

There are more stories to tell. I loved seeing our church members engaged in conversations about God and church with members of our community. We need to keep on going out into the world to present the message of hope in Christ. Thank you to everyone who helped out!

Pastor Ted



## Happy Retirement

Congratulations Captain Rick Frebe on your retirement! Rick retired last month from his career as a Ventura County Fire Fighter. We thank you for your many years of service to the community.



## Our Condolences and Prayer List

Our Christian love and sympathy go out to the family and friends of Phyllis Miller who passed away last month. A memorial service was held on March 26 at the church.

Please pray for:

Jacqueline Pugh, Mark Kaplan, Irene Rosas, Dr. Rachel Hernandez, Mary Belcher, Carol Powell, Rev. Ernie Morrison, James Gasaway, Tino Confer, Claire Plunkett, Keith Jacobson, Josh Perlmutter, Michael Perlmutter

If you would like someone to be listed in the newsletter or bulletin for prayer, please indicate this on your Friendship Card during church on Sunday or call the office at 983-0204. Prayer requests are listed for three weeks unless we are notified to leave the person's name on the list.

## Westmont College Choir Concert

Westmont College choir will perform in concert at our church on Sunday, April 15, 3:00 p.m. Located in Santa Barbara, Westmont is an interdenominational Christian liberal arts college well known for an excellent music program. Choir members come to Westmont from all regions of the United States, Japan and Kenya. Many students are working toward a degree in music and will go on to study and perform at the highest levels. The choir spring concert series includes selections from numerous composers including Handel, Johannes Brahms and Irving Berlin. Although this is a free concert open to the public, a free-will offering will be taken to support the music program of Westmont College.

## Interfaith Choir Rehearsals and Concerts

The interfaith Choir will be performing pieces by Carl Orff and Carlos Surinach later this month during their three concerts.

### Practices:

Tuesday	April 3, 10	7:00-10:00p.m.	VC Guthrie Hall
Saturday	April 14	10:00 a.m.- Noon	VC Guthrie Hall
Tuesday	April 17	7:00-10:00 p.m.	VC Guthrie Hall
Saturday	April 21	10:00 a.m.- Noon	VC Guthrie Hall
Tuesday	April 24	7:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.	Community Presbyterian

### Concerts:

Friday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m., Community Presbyterian, Ventura  
 Saturday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Oxnard  
 Sunday, April 29 at 4:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Oxnard

### Knitting Ministry

The Knitting Ministry will be meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 2 at the home of Mary Belcher.



# Health Notes from the Parish Nurse

**Automated Electronic Defibrillator (aka "AED"):** This potentially life-saving machine was recently installed in the Narthex. Anyone who has completed a CPR course in recent years has learned about this amazing device. Completely automated, the device gives easy to understand directions to anyone using it to assist someone who has had an apparent heart attack. You do not need to be certified in CPR to use the machine. This device does not replace calling 911, it is a part of the CPR response. It does provide potentially life-saving treatment more quickly. The unit is in a cabinet in the Narthex, please stop by to familiarize yourself with the location. If you have any questions, please call me at the number below.

**Senior Support Line:** This service was launched March 1 for residents 60 and older who are living alone, feeling isolated or depressed, who have few or no connections to family or friends locally. The Camarillo Health Care District implemented this program to serve as a vital link between seniors at risk for depression and the rest of the caring community. The senior support line can offer important information and support to someone who might not have anywhere else to turn.



*Senior Support Line  
1-800-235-9980*

Currently the hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. By May 1, the line will expand to seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. The line is staffed by clinically trained interns and volunteers, including Spanish speakers. County residents can call the support line, at no charge, anytime they feel alone, sad, anxious, or just need someone to talk to. The phone number is: 800-235-9980. We are so fortunate to have this unique, one of a kind service in our community.

It is travel time for the Parish Nurse. We will be traveling to Perth, Australia for 5 weeks, (April 15 through May 20) to assist our daughter, Kristen, and her family while she recovers from surgery. This will be more of a working trip than a vacation, although we may need a vacation when we return! Please pray for us as we travel and provide support to her young family.

The next **Blood Pressure** clinic will be held on May 27 in the Verbum Die Room after Worship.

If you or a loved one are in the hospital, or a convalescent home, or would like a visit from the Pastor or the Parish Nurse, please call me at 983-8187, or the church office at 983-0204.

Sue Meagher, Parish Nurse

## Notes of Thanks

To my First Pres. Family,

Words cannot express the deep gratitude I have for all the prayers, love and support shown to my family this past month. A special thank you to the Deacons and staff for providing meals for us, the Knitting Ministry for the beautiful prayer shawl for my mom, the CE committee for the wonderful bag of games, the faithful prayer warriors on the prayer chain, Session and staff. Your care and concern has been a blessing to me and my family.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!  
Annette Tarin

To all my Christian friends:

A big thank you for all the love prayer and support these past few months as I made the transition from California to Texas. I have settled in and things are going well. I will always remember the Christian family in California at Oxnard First Presbyterian Church.

Your friend in Christ  
Robert Gallaher

## Pacific Camps Update

God is continuing to do amazing things at Pacific Camps. Our partnership together has a renewed focus on reaching kids & families for Christ and connecting them to First Presbyterian. There are several camp kids that have been plugged into the youth group and Steve has been making inroads through them to the families. The upcoming Biblical Faire & Carnival on April 28 will be heavily promoted to the camp families. Pacific Camps staff will be there to assist in making some cross connections happen as well. We look forward to serving together with the church body. There are even more opportunities available to reach the kids and families: you could volunteer at Pacific Camps to help out in the homework room, or assist in an arts & craft session, or even just reading a bible story to some kindergarteners. We are always excited to welcome adults who want to show Jesus' love to kids.



We are now actively preparing for summer camp. Activity schedules are being made, field trips planned and camp out dates are starting to take shape. Summer is a great time to get involved. We would love for you to stop by and talk to us about the different possibilities to serve the families that are walking through the front door everyday.

In His Adventure,

Ed Harley, Pacific Camps Director

## From the Senior Ministry Committee

The Senior Ministry Committee is organizing a list of the birthdates of our congregation so that they can be recognized through the Newsletter. If you have an April birthday and do not see your name below, please note your birthdate on the back of your Friendship Card or contact the church office.

### April Birthdays

1-Johnna Painter  
2-Ben Bachman  
6-Corey Crovisier  
8-Helen Biddle  
11-Helen Pidduck  
12-Karen Arias  
13-Jo Nell miller  
15-Thomas Roland  
20-Dave Baumgartner  
Mary Baumgartner



21-Betty Ann Humphrey  
25-Rilla Harvey  
26-Robin Gregg  
27-Lyndon Shaftoe  
Maria Moreno  
28-Martin Sixbey  
Mike Wellesley  
30-Jaime Nava

It was brought to the office's attention that the birthdays printed in last months newsletter were actually for a different month. We apologize for the error and would like to wish a belated happy birthday to all those who celebrated their birthday in March:

Dave Petit, Don Jones, Ray Kilius, Arthur Hopwood, Kay Brainard, Lois Simmons, Barbara Gregg, Dorothy Minnich, Frank Rojas, Jack Argue, Catherine Taylor, Irma Sixbey, Laurence Humphrey, Linda Rubow, Claire Plunkett, Tom Wei



### LOST:

A small zippered change purse containing the Brown Bag keys has gone missing. If found, please turn them in to the church office or put them in the Deacon's box. Thanks!



## Kids Korner

This month's theme in Sunday school is **Puzzled: Believing There's a Bigger Picture**. We will learn about hope-believing that something good can come out of something bad.

Easter is all about hope. We see how God made something good (The Resurrection) out of something bad (The Crucifixion). When things are challenging we can only see one piece at a time, it is often hard to see that something good will come out of it. When we put our hope in God, He brings all the pieces together.

- In Week 1 (Palm Sunday), we will hear Jesus' last words to His disciples. He shares about heaven and being together again.  
**Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember what Jesus promised.**
- In Week 2 (Easter), we focus on Jesus coming back to life 3 days after dying on the cross. We will learn why we can have hope through this amazing story.  
**Bottom Line: Whatever happens, God is stronger than anything.**
- In Week 3, we hear about the confusion Jesus' disciples and others who knew Him had as they try to wrap their minds around all that happened. We learn about Jesus joining two guys walking on the road to Emmaus and how they finally realize who He is and what is really happening.  
**Bottom Line: Whatever happens, God has a bigger story.**
- In Week 4, Jesus shares more with His disciples before He returns to His Father in heaven. The disciples must have felt they were being left alone, but Jesus leaves something in His place; the Holy Spirit.  
**Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember Jesus is always with you.**
- In Week 5, we learn how Jesus' friends and disciples continue to carry on the ministry Jesus had while He was here on earth. They lived their lives the way Jesus taught them, and they shared the gospel. We will hear about Peter and John and how they got into trouble by the Sanhedrin.  
**Bottom Line: Whatever happens, tell others what God has done.**

Life can be hard at times, but we can have hope because of all that God has done. Even when we can't see the whole picture, we need to place our trust in Him to know something good will come out of it. Jeremiah 29: 11 says "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

So friends no matter what happens, never give up hope. God's got the bigger picture in mind!

Wishing you a blessed Easter!

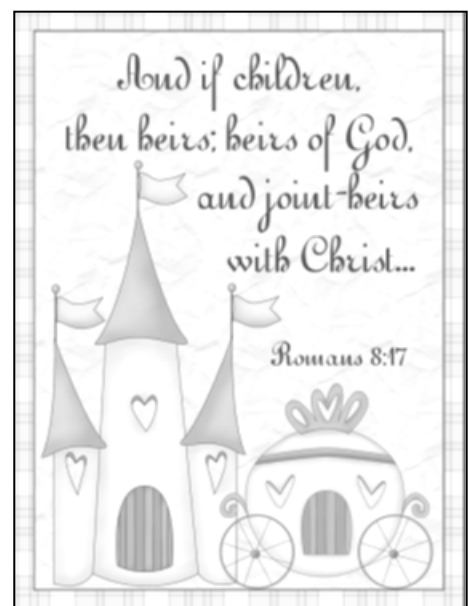
Annette Tarin, Director of Children's Ministry

## Celebrating our Royalty in Christ

*"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit,  
that we are the children of God:  
And if children, then heirs; heirs of God,  
and joint-heirs with Christ..."  
Romans 8:16,17*

When we were little, most of us probably longed to be a princess of some type and have a fairy tale life. With Christ, we can have so much more. When we accept Christ as our Savior, we are born into the family of God. As women, we are daughters of the King.

American Heritage Girls formally invites the ladies of First Presbyterian Church to a Royal Gathering to be held in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, May 19 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Bring your own special Tea Pot, Cup, and a small treat to share. Space is limited RSVP Annie at [486-5934](tel:486-5934).



# Presbyterian Women

The Spring Gathering for Presbyterian Women of the congregation will be held on Saturday, April 14 from 11:45 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Global Exchange representative Angelica Machail who will be sharing her experiences with us on her time in India. All women are invited to attend this event hosted by the Priscilla Circle. We will be taking the birthday offering and request that you bring toiletry items which will be given to the women's shelter. Some suggestions for donations are travel and regular size shampoo, conditioner, shower caps, tooth brush and paste. The shelter is also in need of toilet paper, facial tissue, etc. These items are greatly appreciated!

## Women's Circles

The **Pricilla Circle** will meet on Thursday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Charlotte White for the meeting location.

The **Deborah Grace Circle** will meet on Monday, April 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

## Women of the Bible

Women of the Bible, will be meeting on Tuesdays, April 3 and 24 at the church from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The evening group will meet on Tuesday, April 10 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the home of Modenia Kramer, 2361 Diamond Head Way in Oxnard. Please contact Modenia at 988-9991 if you have any questions.

## From Steve Sallee's Corner:

Happy Easter to all of you!

I pray that we will experience a renewing of God's spirit in our midst, as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus this year. As I try to be a part of that renewal, there are a few things I would like to share with you.

### Youth News

Thank you for continuing to pray for our youth groups. This month, I established two separate meeting nights for the Junior and Senior high kids. The Junior High group is meeting on Wednesday night, and the Senior High group is meeting on Sunday night. I am currently using an excellent video series to stimulate discussion and growth in the kid's lives. These videos include some powerful testimonies from teenagers who have worked through some of the tough issues that all of our students are facing. They also include powerful teaching from some of the best Christian communicators available, including Doug Fields, Max Lucado, and Francis Chan. If you can include us in your schedule, I invite you to pray during our meeting times, as the kids are being asked to live more actively and courageously for Christ.

### Worship News:

I think most of you know by now that I have been asked to help **coordinate** the various gifts, arts and technologies that go into producing a meaningful and quality worship service. I put the word "coordinate" in bold letters, because I am supposed to be managing and recruiting for the various tasks involved, not necessarily doing them.

Our friend and faithful servant Robert Gallaher left a giant pair of empty shoes in the back of the sanctuary when he migrated to Texas last month. It was a great thing to have someone as dependable as Robert in our midst, but now we need to replace that marvelous one man show with a team. If you would be interested in serving in the video media, or at the sound board, please contact me at [oxnardpresyouth@gmail.com](mailto:oxnardpresyouth@gmail.com). I will only be asking you to serve on a once per month basis, and training will be provided. It is easier than some of you might think. Please consider being a part of this vital and often overlooked ministry.

Serving alongside of you,  
Steve Sallee

## Breakfast Groups

### Men's Fellowship Breakfast

The Men's fellowship Breakfast will resume its meeting schedule on the second Saturday of the month at Tomas Café in Oxnard.

### Breakfast at Carrows

All adults are invited to join us on Saturday, April 28 for the 9:00 a.m. breakfast bunch at Carrows, 1601 Oxnard Boulevard (near Gonzalez Road). Until further notice, the breakfasts will be held at this location on the fourth Saturday of the month. Remember, this is an informal gathering. Our only purpose is to enjoy friendly conversation and the breakfast of your choice. If we are to keep reserving the back room space, we need to re-build the size of our group, so everybody come!

## Get Involved

### Bread of Life

This month we will be reaching out to the community and participating in Bread of Life, a program that feeds the less fortunate. If interested in serving, please arrive at All Saints' Episcopal Church on the corner of Second and C Streets at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 22.

### Sunday Morning Bible Study

It is a great time to join the Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study! The group has just begun a study of the gospel of Luke, for which there is a study guide available (cost \$9.00). If you would like more information or to purchase the study guide please contact Rilla Harvey at 479-2083.

## First Presbyterian Staff

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Choir Director	Dr. Burns Taft	
Organist	Fern Fay	
Bookkeeper	Karen Burch	
Childcare	Martha Aylard	
Custodians	Victor Rodriguez	
	Bonnie Aylard	

**Submissions for the May newsletter are due on April 20** and are subject to editing by the church staff.

Please email submissions to [rosalinda@firstpresoxnard.org](mailto:rosalinda@firstpresoxnard.org) or leave a written copy in the newsletter box in the hallway by the office. We are open to all comments and suggestions, let us hear from you.

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