

the LANTERN



First Presbyterian Church, Las Cruces, NM

April 2011





One Great Hour of Sharing

The annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be taken on Easter Sunday, April 24. Our church has always been one of the best churches in the state supporting this national offering.



As always the money goes to support three of the efforts of the national church; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%), Presbyterian Hunger Program (33%), and the Self-Development of People programs (32%).

Few people will forget the vivid pictures on television showing the progress of the tsunami through towns in Japan, in slow motion carrying boats through low bridges, tumbling cars over ditches, and slowly moving large buildings before breaking them into small pieces. The scale of destruction was unprecedented.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is there. The nine mission workers and their families in Japan are safe but thousands of people are not. By mid March PDA has sent \$100,000 from One Great Hour of Sharing funds to help in the initial response. This initial response included basic aid to 250,000 individuals in 100 evacuation sites in northeast Japan. This aid included

- Ready-to-eat food
- Sanitation kits
- Water
- Blankets
- Batteries
- Fuel.







The need is obviously great. You are urged to give generously.

Columbarium Dedication

The Columbarium and Memorial Garden were dedicated after church service on Sunday March 6. The service was very simple and short. The picture shows the service. In the picture is Bob Taylor who first presented the idea of a columbarium. The end result was not quite what he had initially envisioned, but without his initiative we would not have the facility that we now possess. The first niche will be occupied by the time you read this.



APRIL 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27 9:00 AM Confirmation class 9:00 AM Sunday School for Preschool-Adult 9:15 AM Spanish Worship 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Sermon discussion</p>	<p>28 6:00 PM NAMI family to family class/Library & kitchen</p>	<p>29 10:00 AM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>30 9:00 AM Quilting group 4:00 PM Salt & Light 7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1 4:30 PM Set-up for reception in Jones 5:00 PM Dinner for UNM concert in Reeves Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM Confirmation youth lock-in/Reeves Hall 8:30 PM Reception for UNM concert/ Jones fellowship</p>	<p>2 Confirmation youth lock-in/Reeves Hall 4:45 PM Faith and Fellowship child care in Jones Parlor 5:00 PM Faith & Fellowship Pot Luck in Jones Hall 5:00 PM Faith and Fellowship Worship in Sanctuary 5:30 PM Faith and Fellowship Communion in Sanctuary</p>
<p>3 NO Communion today 9:00 AM Confirmation class 9:00 AM Sunday School for Preschool-Adult 9:15 AM Spanish Worship 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Sermon discussion</p>	<p>4 9:15 AM Westminster Guild II/Jones Hall parlor 6:00 PM NAMI family to family class/Library & kitchen 7:00 PM Bells of Praise</p>	<p>5 9:30 AM Morning Circle/Jones Hall parlor 10:00 AM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Quilting group 4:00 PM Salt & Light 7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p>7 Rev. Story will be out of the office 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 62 7:00 PM Jennie Curry Bible Study in Parlor</p>	<p>8 Rev. Story out of the office Rev. Story will be out of the office</p>	<p>9  Rev. Story out of the office 8:00 AM Garage Sale 4:45 PM Faith and Fellowship child care in Jones Parlor 5:00 PM Faith and Fellowship Worship in Sanctuary</p>
<p>10 9:00 AM Confirmation class 9:00 AM Sunday School for Preschool-Adult 9:15 AM Spanish Worship 10:30 AM Worship-Rev. Ray Kersting 12:00 PM Sermon discussion</p>	<p>11 10:00 AM Mary Martha Circle sewing comfort caps for cancer patients 10:00 AM Mary Martha Circle/Comfort caps/Jones fellowship & Library 6:00 PM NAMI family to family class/Library & kitchen 7:00 PM Bells of Praise</p>	<p>12 9:15 AM Mary Martha Circle/Jones Hall parlor 10:00 AM Staff meeting 6:15 PM CE Ministry team 6:30 PM Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Admin. Ministry Team 7:00 PM B & G team 7:00 PM Mission Team 7:00 PM W & M Team 7:30 PM Cong. Life mtg</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Quilting group 10:00 AM Ruth-Naomi Circle 4:00 PM Salt & Light - Tailgate party 7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p>14 5:00 PM "Solo Passages"</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16  9:00 AM Church Work day 4:45 PM Faith and Fellowship child care in Jones Parlor 5:00 PM Faith and Fellowship Worship in Sanctuary</p>
<p>17  PALM SUNDAY 9:00 AM Confirmation class 9:00 AM Sunday School for Preschool-Adult 9:15 AM Spanish Worship 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM S&L Musical & Luncheon 12:00 PM Sermon discussion</p>	<p>18 6:00 PM NAMI family to family class/Library & kitchen 7:00 PM Bells of Praise</p>	<p>19 10:00 AM Staff meeting 5:00 PM NAMI Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Session</p>	<p>20 7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p>21  MAUNDY THURSDAY- Communion 6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack 62 7:00 PM Deacons meeting in Fellowship area, Jones Hall 7:00 PM Worship service</p>	<p>22  GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>23 Youth lock-in/Sunrise service 4:45 PM Faith and Fellowship child care in Jones Parlor 5:00 PM Faith and Fellowship Worship in Sanctuary</p>
<p>24  BEHOLD CHRIST HAS RISEN! EASTER SUNDAY and One Great Hour of Sharing 6:30 AM Sunrise Service 9:00 AM Sunday School for Preschool-Adult 9:15 AM Spanish Worship 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Sermon discussion</p>	<p>25 6:00 PM NAMI family to family class/Library & kitchen 7:00 PM Bells of Praise</p>	<p>26 10:00 AM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM Quilting group 7:00 PM Choir</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Presbytery in Ruidoso 2:00 PM Watkins hall set up 6:00 PM Inbetweeners in Watkins/Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>30 Presbytery in Ruidoso 9:00 AM Kairos-training in Watkins/Reeves Hall 4:45 PM Faith and Fellowship child care in Jones Parlor 5:00 PM Faith and Fellowship Worship in Sanctuary</p>

International Dinner

An abundant variety of dishes from many countries of the world, good fellowship, and talented entertainment marked the International Dinner on Sunday, March 20. More than 100 people attended the event, the youngest just one month old.

After dinner, Blaine Goss told us about his experiences living in Sendai, Japan, much on everyone's minds after the earthquake and tsunami earlier in the month. He explained a bit about the Japanese character that helps them withstand disasters with some equanimity. Neil and Eungeong Moe played a four-hand piano piece, followed by Neil's energetic rendering of "Honeymoon Rag." The evening ended with some people from the Praise Band—Greg Temple, Cindy Medina, and Anna Suggs—presenting some music from their repertoire. All went home with happy bellies and pleasant thoughts. Thanks to the Congregational Life and Outreach Committee for their sponsorship of the event.

Car Wash

On March 26, the youth of the church conducted a car wash in the parking lot on the east side of the church. The day was sunny and warm. Some of the dozen youth who did the washing took advantage of the weather to start their summer tan. A steady, but



well spaced, stream of cars went through the assembly line until the effort terminated at 1 PM. There were rarely more than two cars at the same time but there were enough workers so that there was no waiting time. About 50 cars had their dirt removed.

InBetweeners

The regular InBetweeners Friday night social featured an Irish theme in honor of St. Patrick's Day even if the event was held on March 25. The food included corned beef, cabbage, onions, and potatoes. Of course, there was a green salad and the meal featured soda bread, made with raisins and caraway seeds. Dessert included cherry cobbler, ice cream, brownies, pie, and fruit.



The evening concluded with the whole group signing Irish songs as directed by Winni Quinzi and played by Howard Smolleck.

Youth Activities

Mark Hellman

I am so excited about what is happening with the youth of First Presbyterian Church this year. They have already had 3 fundraisers, been to the Gospel Rescue Mission, helped with Faith and Fellowship (our Saturday night service) and given the lessons for Salt and Light. It is also so exciting to see how the youth have grown in their faith, to see the leaders step up and really start to lead the groups. The youth helped lead the Ash Wednesday worship service and they will continue participating during Lent by being the liturgists on Sundays. On the 16th of April they will also be helping to repair and clean up the church grounds in preparation for Easter. They will be leading the Easter Sunrise service worship on April 24th, at 6:30 am. plus they will be an integral part of the Maundy Thursday service.

The youth are looking forward to their summer mission trips. The High School group is going to New Orleans. To help pay for this trip they are having their yearly garage sale on April 9th. If you have not done your spring cleaning yet, now is a good time. Donate all that stuff you do not use any longer. Just bring your items by the church and we will be more than happy to take them off your hands. Please help spread the word about the garage sale so that we can have a successful event. We will also be raffling a homemade quilt from April 1 to April 10 and the drawing will be during the fellowship time after church on April 10. These mission trips are truly life changing and this is something the youth will be able to take with them for the rest of their lives.

If you would like more information please feel free to contact me anytime. There is a calendar of what we are doing outside my office and outside the youth rooms, or check our web site at fpcyouthlc.org.

The Salt & Light Company

In our Bible classes, the Kindergarteners continue to study a new “Story of Jesus” each Wednesday. They will end the school year by learning about Palm Sunday and Easter. Elementary classes’ topic is “Building Relationships with God.” Mid-School and High School will be discussing God’s care for us, talking to friends about our faith, praying for our enemies, and obeying authorities.

April 13 will be the final Wednesday of the Salt & Light Ministry until fall. Everyone is invited to a *Tailgate Party* to be held outdoors in the parking lot that day. Picnic-style dinner will be served. Y’all come.

The last event of the Salt & Light Company for the current school year, our annual *Spring Musical*, is planned for Palm Sunday, April 17 during the 10:30 Worship service. Following worship, a luncheon will be served in Watkins/Fellowship Hall; donations will be accepted to benefit the start-up of Salt & Light in the fall.

Sewing “Comfort Caps”

In February, members of Mary Martha Circle came together for a very special sewing project. With some cutting, some sewing, and some ironing, those who came were able to make 18 soft caps to cover the heads of cancer patients. These were very well received by Southern New Mexico Cancer Center, and more are requested.

On Monday, April 11, we plan to work in Jones Hall to make additional caps. Anyone who would like to help is invited to come when you can, 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM. You do not need to be a member of Mary Martha. One-half yard of very soft fabric (flannel, knit, soft cotton) and one-half of contrasting material will make two caps, so bring fabric and/or your sewing machine, scissors, an iron. Not a seamstress? There are other tasks to be done: laying out patterns, cutting, and ironing, as well as serving lunch. Bring a salad dish to share at lunchtime, if you like. If you’d like more information, call Millie Conrad at 522-5571.

Notes and Announcements

2011 Mother’s Day Card Project

“Healthy Women, Healthy Families” is a year-round PC (USA) ministry supporting projects that care for women and children in Africa; a mission activity co-sponsored by International Health & Development. At this time of year, an annual mission activity provides a special opportunity for us to support this project while we honor women in our lives on Mother’s Day. The Mother’s Day cards will be available on Sunday May 1 during the after church coffee hour. Donations of any amount are welcome. The

Mother's Day Project is a simple and meaningful mission activity that Presbyterians have supported since 2001.

Vacation Bible School

June 13-17 is the week for our annual VBS. This year we are using the "Sonsurf!" curriculum from Gospel Light Publishers. Your prayer support is much valued as plans are made both to teach the children of our church and to reach others in the community.

Staff News

- Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.
- Michelle Del Rio, bookkeeper in office 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM
- Staff meetings are held on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM.
- **Deadline** for the Sunday Bulletin is 10:00 AM on Thursday mornings.
- Randy's work hours are: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - noon.
- Kristine's work hours are: Monday, Tuesday & Thursdays 10:00 AM-2:00 PM and Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Salt & Light)

New Email Address

Bea Connor – beaconnor@hotmail.com

Doris Morgan – deejmorgan@gmail.com

Mel & Sunny Parish – melorsunnyparish@gmail.com

Lloyd Kirshenmann (please go back to old email add.) – kirsch1013@msn.com

Kip Smits – kipsmits@gmail.com

Church Directory

Changes: Please up-date your church phone directory

Austin & Gena Breck
Austin – (cell) 496-0667
Gena – (cell) 312-6363

Gary Stephens
2970 Sundown Rd.

Barbara Roegge
650-1152

Kip Smith
639-3212
New email is: kipsmits@gmail.com

Communion

April 21 (Maundy Thursday) and May 1.

Attendance

Mar 06 257
Mar 13 228
Mar 20 193
Mar 27 233

Mark your calendars

April 03 – NO Communion
April 09 – Youth Garage Sale
April 11 – Sewing comfort caps for cancer patients
April 13 – *Salt & Light* tail gate party
April 16 – Church Workday
April 17 – Passion/Palm Sunday and *Salt & Light* Musical & Luncheon
April 21 – Maundy Thursday with Communion worship
April 22 – Good Friday
April 24 – Easter Sunday & One Great Hour of Sharing

Don't forget to use your Community Partners Cards

Please use your Community Partners Card at Albertson's. Just have the cashier scan your card and our Salt & Light Co. ministry will receive a percentage of what you spend. The Albertson's chain sends us a check quarterly from the program. Cards are available in the church office, or call 526-5559 or email fpclinda@zianet.com if you would like one mailed to you. This is one huge way that you can help the Salt & Light program.

The Cover

No, the cover is not a crucifix, nor is it a depiction of the act of the removing of Jesus from the cross. It is an illustration of the parable of Jesus on the Good Samaritan. Fittingly it is on a wall in a building of the Good Samaritan Apartments.

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Photographs by Alex Burr

The Lantern is a monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church, Las Cruces, NM. Articles and photos, preferably in computer readable form are welcome, and will be used at the discretion of the publisher. For further information call (575) 526-5559 or send e-mail to fpcl1@zianet.com.

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**Communion
Maundy Thursday - April 21**

Mission Statement

To minister to the members of our Church and prepare them for Christian Outreach

Vision Objectives

- To clearly and courageously communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ to all within our reach.
- To develop spiritual leadership that recognizes and ministers to those in need.
- To develop and maintain specific ways for members to reach out and draw the community into our fellowship.
- To create God-centered atmosphere for worship that will attract and bind individuals, families, and youth into Christian community.