

The Shepherd's Staff

**Community Presbyterian Church
Cathedral City, California**



JUNE 2011



In June, we will be celebrating Pentecost. Often called the birthday of the church, Pentecost is the Sunday Christians remember as the day the Holy Spirit arrived as Jesus had promised. In the Bible, the Book of Acts chapter 2, records the story of the arrival of the Holy Spirit and how the church was changed.

The name Pentecost comes from the Greek word *pentekoste* (fiftieth), which stood for the Jewish festival that was celebrated 50 days after Passover. To this day both Jews and Christians celebrate Pentecost. For Jews, this celebration, noted in the Old Testament as the Feast of Weeks, was one of three festivals that involved a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to appear at the Temple with gifts and offerings. It was a celebration of the harvest. Christians celebrate Pentecost for a different reason. As noted in the New Testament, during the Jewish celebration of Pentecost, the promised Holy Spirit arrived to strengthen and embolden the disciples. Because the Holy Spirit arrived during the Jewish festival, Christians have named the birth of the Christian Church Pentecost.

For Christians, Pentecost is seen as the fulfillment of both Old and New Testament promises. In addition to the Old Testament passage in Joel, and Peters mention of Pentecost in Acts, there are several places in the New Testament where it is recorded that Jesus promised the Holy Spirit, the counselor, the helper, the advocate. The Holy Spirit came to help Christians in their ministry, to help us bring glory to God.

Our wise God sent the Holy Spirit during the Jewish Festival of Pentecost, a time when people from all over the known world were in Jerusalem to offer gifts and sacrifices. Those who heard and accepted the Gospel took the Good News back to the countries from which they came. In a very short time, the story of God's love expressed in Jesus' death and resurrection travelled to the ends of the earth. For example, the Christian church in Rome believed to have been started by those who heard Peter on that first Pentecost.

Today, we continue to celebrate Pentecost. We thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit and celebrate the day as the birthday of the church. This coming Pentecost celebration on June 12th will be a festive day at Community Presbyterian. There will be a special musical offering to God that day. Our choir will have additional voices accompanied by several instruments. At the beginning of the service, the Holy Spirit will "arrive" at church that morning in a unique way. The worship committee has been hard at work creating what is hoped to be a fresh and meaningful celebration of Pentecost. What is your contribution to the service? Please bring several guests with you to help spread the Good News and together we will praise and glorify God.

Pastor Lee

JUNE 2011: SPECIAL DATES



Sunday, June 5
Wednesday, June 8
Wednesday, June 8
Thursday, June 9
Sunday, June 12

First Sunday Potluck
9:00 Deacons Meeting
10:00 Women's Circle
9:00 Session Meeting
Pentecost Sunday



Don't forget to invite your friends and neighbors to church for the exciting service planned on Pentecost Sunday, June 12th.

HOW YOU CAN HELP TORNADO VICTIMS



Tornadoes ripped through more United States towns this past weekend, including Joplin, Missouri, and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Since spring began, there have already been 18 federally declared major disasters in 14 states due to severe storms, tornadoes, or flooding.

At least one Presbyterian Church was damaged, and some members of the denomination are among the many families who have lost their homes. In addition to homes, the community has suffered major damage to public structures, including schools, fire stations and a hospital. Both triage centers and emergency shelters filled quickly, reports the Associated Press.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance National Response Team members have been requested in Missouri and are en route to the affected area. PDA has funds available to assist Middle Governing Bodies with immediate needs as they begin to assess the impact of a disaster on their communities and how they can help respond to that impact.

Gifts to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance support this and other disasters immediately when they occur. Additional gifts designated to support disaster response in the United States, including response to the many spring storms across the nation during the previous weeks.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
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Gifts should be designated for **account DR000015** - Disaster Relief--USA Disasters & Emergencies
Please respond as you are able.

Pray for disaster survivors, loved ones of those who have been lost, congregations in the affected communities, and rescue workers helping in the response. Pray that the God of peace will guide all those involved, and that the hope of Christ will be evident through those offering assistance.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Lord, make us mindful of your power and your glory as we pray for those in need.
Our Service Men & Women, Our Country & Our President
Pray for our Church at 12:00 noon daily

Death of a Loved One

Don Williamson and family as Lottie recently passed away
Peggy's uncle Alan Coffin recently passed away
Dot Susdorf and family after Bill's passing
BJ Johnson's family as BJ recently passed away

Recovery

Bertha Rawling's son John, recovering from 2nd surgery, recovering well
Bob Barrett's friend Carrie – struggling with shingles
Eloise Haltman – having back problems
Estel Bernard is recovering nicely.
Martha's friend Jerome, 49 years old w/a handicap son is terminal
Linda Faz – daughter with cancer & another recovering from surgery
Nancy Pryor's friend Matthew Stroud is progressing well
Barry Haltman – recovering from surgery at home
Reed & Mary Karr's daughter, Jennifer – recovering from back surgery
Barbara Barrett's in-law, Mary Ann McGilvery, diagnosed with cancer
Rebeca Franz – healing after her fall
Helen Hyde's granddaughter – recently diagnosed with Lyme's Disease
Pastor Karen Greschel, pastor of Northkirk PC – diagnosed with cancer
Doug Bridges' friend, Van Owen – recovering from cancer surgery
Vera Syfert – in rehab with broken hip
Bertha Rawling's cousin, Donna – diagnosed with cancer
Guy Patton – in the hospital suffering from cancer

Continuing Health Concerns

O.B. Bakke – pray that he chooses life – he is staying strong
Noel White's cousin, Kathy Findley - battling leukemia
Kay Graham's daughter, Donna
Gail Prosser
Patty Valdez
Carol's mother & brother; Fern & John – both have chrones disease
Julee Collins

Support

Noel White's neighbor, Hans Berg

Community and World Concerns

Marti's nephew Brandon, a Navy Seal, is in Afghanistan
Noel's travels home from New Mexico
Julee Collins' grandson, Doug Way – deployed to Afghanistan
All touched by the Joplin tornados

Prayer concerns in addition to those expressed during Sunday's worship service may be submitted on the prayer request cards in the pews or by contacting the church office. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

June 2011 Prayer Calendar

Please pray for each individual on the date listed

1) Deut 31:1-3
Moses promises God's presence

**Lee Ireland &
Linda Hamilton**

2) Luke 24:44-53
Ascension of the Lord

Hazel Jacobsen

3) Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
Sing to God

Reed & Mary Karr

4) 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
God Sustains those who suffer

Betty Leehan

5) John 17:1-11

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
Eli & Patricia & kids Loera**

6) 1 Peter 4:1-6
Live by the will of God

Matt & Ann Mattheson

7) Numbers 16:41-50
The high priest Aaron makes atonement

Betty Meade

8) John 3:31-36
The Son and the Father

Gerald & Joy Moss

9) Acts 2:1-21
Filled with the Spirit

Annette & Pat Patterson

10) Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Renewing the face of the earth

Wayne & Mary Price

11) 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
Varieties of gifts, the same Spirit

Nancy Joy Pryor

12) John 20:19-23

**Pentecost
Bertha Rawlings**

13) Joel 2:18-29
The promised spirit of God

Rena Rodman

14) Romans 8:26-27
Praying in the Spirit

Bill & Kay Sachs

15) Numbers 11:24-30
The Spirit rests on Israel's elders

Larry & Cecile Shoot

16) Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Creation of the heavens and earth

Bob & Marge Stahl

17) Psalm 8
How exulted is your name

Casey Stelziede

18) 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Paul's farewell

Dorothy Susdorf

19) Matthew 28:16-20

**Trinity Sunday
Ervin & Vera Syfert**

20) Job 38:39-39:12
Creation story from Job

Patty Valdez

21) 1 Corinthians 12:4-13
The Spirit in the community

Ray & Greta Venter

22) John 14:25-26
Father, Son, Spirit

LaVida Warren

23) Genesis 22:1-14
The testing of Abraham

Noel White

24) Psalm 13
Will you forget me forever?

Eric & Lauren Williams

25) Romans 6:12-23
No longer under law but under grace

Evelyn Woods

26) Matthew 10:40-42
Proper 8 (13th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

John Abdelnour

27) Genesis 22:15-18
God's blessing promised again

Chad & Billie Ackerson

28) 1 John 4:1-6
Testing the spirits

Beth Alfred

29) Isaiah 51:1-3
Look to Abraham and Sarah

Neal & Jean Angus

30) Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Marriage of Isaac and Rebekah

O.B. & Peggy Bakke

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS: May Meeting 2011

- ❖ Heard a second presentation of proposal to construct a new street-side sign at entrance of church. Will get additional information regarding city regulations and will hold a special session meeting to explore other ideas and feasibility.
- ❖ Will change all exterior and several interior door locks to gain control of many keys issued.
- ❖ Renewal of phone contract with Verizon and now have voice mail available.
- ❖ Approved Women's Circle request to hold last spring bake sale in May and resume in September
- ❖ Child care during worship has started and further planning with Korean congregation is needed.
- ❖ 30 copies of the Presbyterian Hymnal have been donated by Spirit of the Desert and delivered by Anne Smith. Along with prior copies received through Presbytery, these should give us enough copies for congregational use during the summer worship months.



--Submitted by Helen Hyde, Clerk of Session

FROM THE TREASURER

As the Treasurer of Session Member I would like to "Thank You" from all the Session members of this church.

In the first quarter of the Year we had an Income of \$28,982.92 and expenses of \$28,726.41. Last year we had an income of \$28,286.20 and \$5,000.00 of that amount we had to transfer from our reserve fund. For a church of our size we are doing very well. It takes all of us working together to fulfill the ministry God has set before us.

As you should know we have committed to support a part time pastor for our church for two years. We as a session hope to continue that relationship and progress to being able to support a full time pastor. I hope that you all realize that there is no such thing as a part time pastor and Pastor Lee is a perfect example of that statement.

Your financial contributions play a vital role in making this ministry happen. We want you to know that we really appreciate your confidence and support. As a session we pledge to you that we will do our best to be good stewards of the funds you have entrusted. We also pledge to make the best decisions possible to further our church's continued growth and Mission to this community.

--Submitted by Bob Barrett, Session Treasurer

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Cathedral City CA, 92234

We're on the Web:
www.churchinthecove.org

Who We Are



We are a church family who care for each other and all of God's people. We celebrate worship each Sunday, thanking and praising God for the wonderful gifts generously given to us. We then go out into the world to share God's love with all we meet. We are strengthened for service and outreach through small group outreach activities and weekly Bible study. All are welcome to join us as we seek to glorify and serve our risen Lord.