

The Shepherd's Staff

Community Presbyterian Church
Cathedral City, California



May 2013



“What can I say? I just don’t have time. I know I should, but I just can’t seem to get around to it. There are so many things demanding my time.”

Sound familiar to you? These words could serve to excuse any number of situations in your life from visiting your sick aunt to going to the dentist. But in this case, let’s apply the words, the excuse, to reading the Bible.

Now, some of you may say that you have other excuses to add to this list! Yes, you probably do. But before you start listing them, read on.

Summer is coming and the heat will be here soon and you’ll not be as busy – and you’ll be staying inside out of the heat. Maybe now is a good time to start reading the Bible daily – if you’re not already doing so.

Many people wonder where to start. The Bible is a big book! Perhaps you could start by reading a Psalm a day and add on chapter from Proverbs to that. That’s not much more than 8 – 10 minutes of reading time. After you get in the habit of reading for such a short time, you may want to add a chapter a day from Matthew, Mark, Luke or John.

Some people say they don’t understand the Bible. There are many good translations published today that are written in plain language. There are study Bibles that provide background on what is written. Stop in at a book store and look at the various Bibles there and pick one that you are comfortable with.

Some of you don’t like to read or can’t read the print in the Bible, even the giant print Bibles. Just like about every book published today, the Bible comes on CD. Put in a CD and listen to the Bible while you do the dishes or dust the house or putter in the garage.

Maybe you are motivated to read your Bible and maybe not. Reading the Bible is not just for your pastor, for those in seminary or for “smart” people. Study is for everyone. The apostle Paul said in Romans 12:2 we are transformed through the renewal of our minds. Jesus said that the knowledge of truth will set us free (John 8:32).

Ok, you’ve decided to read that Bible each day. Pick out a time and a place to read. I read in in the morning in my office in a comfortable chair – between 6am and 6:30am. The Bible I read from is next to my chair, often open to the verses I read yesterday. Having a comfortable, familiar location where you read at the same time each day helps prepare you to read.

The purpose of reading the Bible is to better understand what you believe. Reading the Bible helps you understand what you believe and helps you grow in faith. Reading the Bible helps you to transformation of every aspect of your life by better understand the God we serve.

Pastor Lee

May 2013: SPECIAL DATES



Thursday, May 2
Friday, May 3
Sunday, May 5
Wednesday, May 8
Wednesday, May 8
Thursday, May 9
Friday, May 17
Saturday, May 18
Sunday, May 19
Sunday, May 26
Sunday, May 26

9:00 Story Time Meeting
Recycle Tabs @ Ronald McDonald House
One Great Hour of Sharing
9:00am Deacons Meeting
10:30am Women's Circle
9:00am Session
Story Time Meeting
11:10 am Story Time
Guest Minister Kristi VanNostran
Bake Sale
Pastor Esther Speaking

BEST DAY EVER

On Saturday, April 20th, 500 eggs were collected and hidden on the grass and in the gardens and trees. 13 children came to enjoy this wonderful event. A smaller crowd than normal but a nice time for the children to be loved on by all that were there. One of the children, a little boy, was heard saying "This is the best day ever!" The children enjoy coming every month to this event and are sad when they miss it. Children will come to the church and ask when the next one is.

Before learning about some of God's miracles and how we can help each other the children played some cooperative games together to help set the theme of helping each other. And they ended our time together by transplanting some pumpkin plants and checking on their garden together. This garden is growing! Please take a minute to walk through the Children's Community Garden and see what wonderful things are growing and at the same time think about the amazing seeds that are being planted in the hearts of the children and parents who attend this event at your church.



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

Comfort and peace for the families of:

Dale Fisher
Donald Prosser

Recovery

Priscilla Martinez (LaVida's daughter) – liver and other concerns
Patty's niece Jessica – complications from birth
Ruthie – surgery April 23
Scott – cancer, surgery
Ray
Darrel
Billy – knee replacement
Lisa – difficult pregnancy
Julee – recovery from surgery
Brenda recovering from dental procedure
Art Grice – recovering from a successful surgery
Trish – multiple health problems
Reed's brother Dale – surgery
Marti's sisters Candice & Denise
Marti's mom
Marci – angioplasty
Anita – healing and help
Grace – recovering from surgery
LaVida & Debbie – patience & healing

Continuing Health Concerns

Rena Rodman
Dr George Logaly - depression
Francis and Paula – terminal cancer
Patty Valdez, Matt & Ann Matheson, Charleton, Alexis, Mary
Patty's friend Shemko – Trying to save his feet.
- Friends and Family suffering with cancer:
Phyllis, Father Isaac, Maryann, Aaron, Tom, Ben, Ray, Jon, Lynn, Stacy, Reggie, Barnie, Kathy,
Dale, Sammy, Neal, Cathy, Paula, Scott, Ruthie

Community and World Concerns

Noel's cousin Linda – Family problems
Cathedral City police and fire departments

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.

Please Pray for the Mission Activities of the church as well

Neonatal unit blankets and baby items
Twenty-nine 29 Palms Marine Base Wounded Warrior
Well in the Desert
Scholarship for graduates of Cathedral City HS
VA & Stroke Centers
Clothes That Work
One Great Hour of Sharing
Alternative Christmas
School supplies for Sky Ridge Mobile Home Park Kids

Desert Summer Kids Feeding Program
Life Line subsidies
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission
Migrant Farm Workers – bedrolls and food
Shelter from the Storm
Ronald McDonald House
Veterans hospital Loma Linda
Baby kits for Haiti
2 Cents-a-Meal

May 2013 Prayer Calendar

Please pray for each individual on the date listed

1) 1 Peter 1:23-25
The word of God endures
Peggy Bakke

2) Proverbs 8:32-9:6
Wisdom serves a meal
Bob & Barbara Barrett

3) John 21:1-14
The risen Christ eats with the disciples
Alma Boney

4) Acts 2:42-47
The believer's common life
MJ Bradley

5) Luke 24:13-35
6th Sunday of Easter
Doug Bridges

6) 1 Peter 2:19-25
Follow the shepherd, even in suffering
JW & LaDell Brown

7) Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
I commend my spirit
Brown Family

8) Ezekial 34:17-23
God the true shepherd
Julee Collins

9) Hebrews 13:20-21
God's blessing
David & Opal Eason

10) Jeremiah 23:1-8
God will gather the flock
Carol Frances

11) Acts 7:55-60
Martyrdom of Stephen
Rebeca Franz

12) John 10:1-10
7th Sunday of Easter
Dick Gampert

13) 1 Peter 2:2-10
God's chosen people
Kay Graham

14) Psalm 66:8-20
Be joyful in God, all you lands
Art & Karin Grice

15) Exodus 13:17-22
God leads the way
Marti Haas

16) Proverbs 3:5-12
God, the truth and life
Butch & Eloise Haltman

17) John 8:31-38
Jesus, the truth of God
Ed Harbur

18) Acts 17:22-31
Paul's message to the Athenians
Kelly Heldenbrand

19) John 14:1-14
Day of Pentecost
Winnie Hockenbery

20) 1 Peter 3:13-22
The days of Noah
Kirk & Nancy Horton

21) John 14:15-21
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Carol Hoskins

22) Genesis 9:8-17
Sign of the covenant
Helen Hyde

23) 1 Peter 3:8-12
Seek peace and pursue it
Lee Ireland & Linda Hamilton

24) Psalm 8
How exulted is your name
Hazel Jacobsen

25) 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Paul's farewell
Reed & Mary Karr

26) Matthew 28:16-20
Trinity Sunday
Betty Leehan

27) Job 38:39-39:12
Creation story from Job
Mel & Arno Liechti

28) 1 Corinthians 12:4-13
The Spirit in the community
Matt & Ann Matheson

29) John 14:25-26
Father, Son, Spirit
Florence Maybee

30) Genesis 22:1-14
The testing of Abraham
Fern Miller

31) Psalm 13
Will you forget me forever?
Gerald & Joy Moss

Children, the Fragile Treasure

*Your children are not your children.
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.
They come through you but not from you,
And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.*

*You may give them your love but not your thoughts,
For they have their own thoughts.
You may house their bodies but not their souls,
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,
Which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
You may strive to be like them,
But seek not to make them like you.
For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.*

*You are the bows from which your children
As living arrows are sent forth.
The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,
And He bends you with His might
That His arrows may go swift and far.
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;
For even as He loves the arrow that flies,
So He loves also the bow that is stable.
- From Karil Gibran, *The Prophet**

Our church, Community Presbyterian Church is blessed by children. Children come to church for Story Times and for Children's Community Garden. They also come to church to worship God with us, learn the Bible from our teachers, and share the Holy Meal together.

Who do we think they are? When we see them at church what do we see in them? When we worship together what feelings do we have? When we teach them what do we teach? When we share the Holy Meal with them what do we envision for our church?

Children, they are our guests who came from God to bring God's gifts to us. Children, they are weak so that they can hold God's strength. Children, they are innocent so that they can reveal God's wisdom. Children, they ask questions so that they can get God's answers. Children, they are empty so that they can be filled with God's love. Children, they are fragile so that they need special protection, love and care. Children, they bring God's mystery to us, revealing who we are and who we need to be in the future for the kingdom of God.

When we see Children at church, let's try to remember that **God trusts enough in us to take care of God's Fragile Treasure.**

Pastor Esther KyoungHee Shin

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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.