

# The Shepherd's Staff

Community Presbyterian Church  
Cathedral City, California



March 2013



Last month I talked about how adults can help their younger family members develop a stronger faith that will carry them through the storms of young adulthood. You may want to go back and review that column before you read this one. If you've lost your paper copy, the February newsletter is posted on the church's website: [www.churchinthecove.org](http://www.churchinthecove.org).

This month, let's take a moment to look at some ways our church can help kids to keep their faith - kids in your neighborhood or kids of friends – any kid you meet needs a Christian friend. Raising children takes time and energy. Families are overloaded today with all the demands on their time – school activities, sport activities, job responsibilities, volunteer activities, etc. Our society has evolved to where parents are led to believe that they should need no help raising their kids. That's not the way our society used to work and it's not necessarily a good thing. Parenting goes better when a variety of adults interact with the children. The research shared at the workshop on Sticky Faith revealed that it takes five adults outside the family to successfully support one child.

What can our church do to support kids and their busy families today? To start, we can be there for them – listen, support, interact. Several ways of involvement at church revolve around intergenerational activities. Intergenerational classes allow kids and adults to interact as faith questions are discussed. These classes allow kids to explore what faith means to them and to hear what it means to the adults attending. Intergenerational service projects bring kids and adults together to focus on a specific mission project, for example. Casual conversation while stuffing stockings for Christmas allows the types of interchanges that builds community, allowing kids to feel a part of something larger than themselves and opening up opportunities for faith sharing. Intergenerational mentoring: some churches match up kids and adults with like interests. Just spending time together makes the child feel supported and loved. During that time together, stories can be exchanged and informal mentoring can take place. These intergenerational activities allow a church to become a group of committed people who love God and share that love with people of all ages.

The three critical tasks that the church can help kids with are determining who they are, what their purpose is in life, and to whom they belong. Kids need time to understand who they are. They need to understand their strengths and weaknesses. What are they good at? What are they not so good at? Adults can create non-threatening environments to allow children to try out different skills, especially when parents aren't particularly interested in a skill that may interest the child. Parents may not be mechanical or artsy. Another adult may be able to help the child explore in these areas. Kids who know what they want to be when they grow up tend to keep their faith better than those who don't. Interested adults can help a child explore career choices or lead the child to someone who shares similar interests as the kid. Kids need grounding, an understanding of where they belong. They need this feeling of being a part of a community – a community that supports them no matter what they've done, a community that is there for them to answer their questions and help them understand who they are – a loved child of God.

I urge you to look for opportunities to reach out to kids in your social circle and provide support for them as they explore their faith. May God be with you as you do.

Pastor Lee

## March 2013: SPECIAL DATES



Wednesday, March 13  
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Thursday, March 14  
Saturday, March 16  
Friday, March 22  
Sunday, March 31

9:00am Deacons Meeting  
10:00am Women's Circle  
9:00am Session  
11:10 am Story Time  
4-6:00pm Fish Dinner  
Bake Sale

### Dealing with a Living Body

*White Jacket one of the sailors takes sick with severe stomach pains. Dr. Cuticle, the ship's surgeon, is delighted to have a patient with something more challenging to his art than blisters. He diagnoses appendicitis. Several shipmates are impressed into nursing service. The deckhand is laid out on the operating table and prepared for surgery. Dr. Cuticle goes at his work with verve and skill. He makes his cuts with precision, and, on the way to excising the diseased organ, points out interesting anatomical details to the attendants around the table, who had never before seen the interior of an abdomen. He is absorbed in his work, and obviously good at it. All in all it is an impressive performance, but the sailor attendants are, to a man, not impressed but appalled. The poor patient, by the time he has been sewn up, had been a long time dead on the table. Dr. Cuticle, enthusiastic in his surgery, hadn't noticed. The sailors, shy in their subservience, didn't tell him.*

Eugene Peterson known for a pastoral writer retells Herman Melville's novel *White Jacket* in his book *Working from Angles* (p.107). In the story, Dr. Cuticle is dealing with a dead body using his skills, techniques, and information as a passionate doctor. But, he does not know that his techniques or skills are not healing, and his information is not true knowledge.

This story makes us think about what we do as a Christian, as a minister, as a teacher, or as God's co-worker. It suggests to us that we stop what we are doing for a moment in order to see whether we are dealing with something alive or not. The patient could be our current situation, our neighbors, a church activity, a bible passage that I read this morning, our family, or even ourselves.

When we say that God's ministry is a way of bringing God's life to the world just as God *formed [hu]man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the [hu]man became a living being (Genesis 2:7),* we, participant observers of God's ministry, might need to ask ourselves these questions: Are we bringing the breath of life in our ministry? Are we a living body before God? Do we have the breath of life? Do or can we bring God's breath of life to a situation, to a person, to a community, to a relationship, and to a program when we breathe?

*Pastor Esther*

### FEBRUARY CHILDREN'S CHURCH PLAN

March 3 Bible Lesson about Jesus by MJ Bradley  
Children will participate in communion with parents/grandparents  
March 10 Bible Lesson by Mary & Reed Karr  
March 17 Bible Lesson about Paul by Doug Bridges  
Children will participate in communion with parents/grandparents  
March 24 Bible Lesson by Ed Harbur  
March 31 Worship with Children

# 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*

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*Death of a Loved One*

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Comfort and peace for the families of:  
Clint Haas

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*Recovery*

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Bonnie – wisdom for doctors  
Julee – strength  
Gary – surgery  
Carol – knee replacement  
Kim – Peggy’s daughter & family  
Stella – Spinal procedure  
Matt & Ann  
Dorothy – healing  
Donna – heart surgery - Bob’s daughter  
Ed’s friend Dave  
David’s cousin Joy Bennett – Serious back problems  
Margaret – hip replacement  
Kelly – pain  
Betty’s great granddaughter, Teegan and her parents  
Rolando – shoulder surgery  
John Sidow - stroke  
LaVida & Debbie – patience & healing  
Ed’s friend Jay – kidney transplant  
Ed’s friend Les – spinal cord problems

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*Continuing Health Concerns*

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Lona - hospice  
Patty Valdez, Matt & Ann Matheson, Charleton, Alexis, Mary Larson Haste  
Patty’s friend Shemko – Trying to save his feet.  
- Friends and Family suffering with cancer:  
Phyllis, Father Isaac, Maryann, Dr Carney, Perry, Aaron, Tom, Ben, Ray, Jon, Lynn, Stacy, Reggie,  
Barnie, Nancy, Kathy, Dale, Maggie, Sammy, Neal, Paula, Cathy

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*Community and World Concerns*

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Marge’s granddaughter Courtney in Iraq  
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

# March 2013 Prayer Calendar

## Please pray for each individual on the date listed

1) Psalms 63:1-8  
Better than life  
**Martha Anderson**

2) 1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Watch out!  
**Neal & Jean Angus**

3) Luke 13:1-9  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**Peggy Bakke**

4) Exodus 16:1-15  
The Lord provides  
**Bob & Barbara Barrett**

5) Ezekiel 18:20-28  
God's judgments are just  
**Alma Boney**

6) Psalms 103:8-18  
Everlasting to everlasting  
**MJ Bradley**

7) Joshua 5:9-12  
No more manna  
**Doug Bridges**

8) Psalm 32  
Let the faithful pray  
**JW & LaDell Brown**

9) 2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Reconciling the world  
**Brown Family**

10) Luke 15:1-3, 11-32  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**Julee Collins**

11) Ephesians 4:1-7  
Called to one hope

**David & Opal Eason**

12) Luke 19:1-10  
Joyful response to love  
**Carol Frances**

13) 1 Chronicles 16:31-36  
Let earth rejoice  
**Rebeka Franz**

14) Isaiah 43:16-21  
Rivers in the desert  
**Dick Gampert**

15) Psalm 126  
Joyful dreams  
**Kay Graham**

16) Philippians 3:4-14  
To know Christ  
**Art & Karin Grice**

17) John 12:1-8  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**Marti Haas**

18) Luke 19:28-40  
The stones would shout  
**Butch & Eloise Haltman**

19) Psalms 118:1-6  
What can mortals do?  
**Ed Harbur**

20) Luke 23:1-25  
A travesty of justice  
**Kelly Heldenbrand**

21) Isaiah 50:4-9  
Faithful to God's call  
**Winnie Hockenbery**

22) Psalms 31:9-16  
"You are my God"  
**Kirk & Nancy Horton**

23) Philippians 2:5-11  
Be like him  
**Carol Hoskins**

24) Luke 22:14-23:56  
**Palm Sunday**  
**Helen Hyde**

25) Song of Solomon 8:6-7  
Enduring love  
**Lee Ireland & Linda Hamilton**

26) Isaiah 66:1-2  
What will you give?  
**Hazel Jacobsen**

27) Luke 24:1-12  
A puzzling experience  
**Reed & Mary Karr**

28) Acts 10:34-43  
**Maundy Thursday**  
**Betty Leehan**

29) Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24  
**Good Friday**  
**Mel & Arno Liechti**

30) 1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
**Holy Saturday**  
**Matt & Ann Matheson**

31) John 20:1-18  
**Easter Sunday**  
**Florence Maybee**



# Presbytery of Riverside

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Clerk of Session: Helen Hyde  
Community Presbyterian Church  
38088 Chuperosa Lane  
Cathedral City, CA 92234

February 17, 2013

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your service at the Community Presbyterian Church of Cathedral City during this challenging time in the life of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. In addition I am writing to thank the Cathedral City congregation for your support of the Presbytery of Riverside. Your congregation's consistent commitment to our connectional church is evident in the payment of your entire per capita apportionment in 2012. In addition, Cathedral City contributed \$ 512.81 in mission support and special offerings. The Presbytery is grateful for your generosity. Your congregation supports the Presbytery through the sharing of time and expertise by pastors and members of the Cathedral City Church in service to the mission and ministry of the Presbytery and our churches, for which we are also thankful.

The following are a few of the Presbytery mission and ministry projects your contributions help to support:

- a new worshipping community in the high desert, Transformation Multicultural Fellowship, led by the Rev. James Munyi and his wife Joyce.
- the outreach of New Beginnings Presbyterian Church to the changing and rapidly growing Fontana community.
- the development of a Presbytery Mission Project through the PCUSA Joining Hands Against Hunger Program
- training and encouragement for pastors who face new challenges in our changing cultural context
- 30+ Presbytery of Riverside youth and adult advisors attending the 2013 PCUSA Youth Triennium

The Presbytery of Riverside rejoices in our partnership with the Community Presbyterian Church of Cathedral City, and we pray that together we bear witness to the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely Yours,

The Rev. Dr. Anita E. Hendrix  
Executive Presbyter

**COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**38088 Chuperosa Lane**  
**Cathedral City CA, 92234**

We're on the Web:  
[www.churchinthecove.org](http://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.