

# The Shepherd's Staff

Community Presbyterian Church  
Cathedral City, California



May 2012



Seasons. There are many seasons in the various 'worlds' we live in. There are the seasons of one's life: birth, childhood, teen, adult, old age. There are seasons of spring, fall, winter and summer in nature, though living in the desert we don't really experience these seasons like those folks who live in other parts of the country. This fact was brought home to me when Linda and I were recently at a conference located in Northern California and found ourselves surrounded by beautifully blooming dogwood trees and lots of azaleas and rhododendrons that were all in bloom. It reminded us both of spring in the Midwest where we grew up.

Our church family also has a season. Since we are a resort community, we have many winter visitors. We are blessed with our winter members, those who stay all winter and participate in our worship and ministries. We truly value our winter visitors and members and their contributions to our church family. They provide extra hands to help us in our community outreach as we spread God's love to Cathedral City and the Valley.

As the weather warms up, many of our friends will be returning to their summer homes and our church will have fewer people worshipping during the summer months. With the summer heat and our friends' departures, things will naturally slowdown in the church and in the community. This is good. God designed times for us to rest and recover, to take a Sabbath, as the Fourth Commandment reminds us.

You have had a 'new' pastor now for almost two and one-half years. During that time, each of you have contributed in so many ways, helping the church to enter a new season – one where we are seen again as a viable part of the community. And you have continued to be a supportive community for each other. It's all really quite amazing to observe and I thank God for each of you and your unique contributions.

As we enter this slower summer season, it's time to do a bit of pondering. Our activities may slow down, but that doesn't mean that our thinking and planning need to slow down also. It's time for all of us to enter a season where we reassess, reconsider our direction, and dream about the next steps for the church. You've adjusted to the 'new' pastor and now it's time to move forward. I would like each of us to take this summer as a season of dreaming, considering, reassessing, pondering. This summer, I hope that each of you will personally take time to think about how you can serve the Lord, perhaps affirming what you presently do or consider serving in new ways.

But I would also like for you to take time to talk to God in your own way about the path our church needs to move along on. What are the ways you believe our church needs to be moving and changing to better serve the Lord, to be Jesus' hands and feet to the community and world? God has brought us Esther and that means we have new opportunities to consider in the area of children's ministry. There are so many possibilities to consider in so many areas!

After you talk to God, share your ideas and discoveries with each other and with me or with one of the Session members. I'm sure there will be many ideas presented. Out of all of those possibilities, what does God want us to do and how can we do them to bring God glory? We will gather all the ideas and plans for consideration as we begin a new adventure in serving Jesus this fall when our winter friends return. May God bless your efforts as you seek His will for our church.

Pastor Lee

# MAY 2012: SPECIAL DATES



Sunday, May 6  
Friday, May 4  
Wednesday, May 9  
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Thursday, May 10  
Saturday, May 19  
Sunday, May 27

First Sunday Potluck/Palm Sunday  
Ronald McDonald House Outreach  
9:00am Deacons Meeting  
10:00am Women's Circle  
9:00am Session Meeting  
11:10am Story Time  
Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall



May Birthdays	
Bob Barrett	May 2
Ervin Syfert	May 4
Patty Valdez	May 4
Mary Karr	May 10



## How will they know?



A well-known 1960's song by Peter Scholtes answers an implied question: How will others know we're Jesus' disciples? Not by how we understand family values. Not by our politics or theology. Not by how many Bible verses we've memorized, how often we attend church or how much offering we give.

Rather, the song's title and refrain say it all: "They'll know we are Christians by our love." Jesus put it this way: "Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35 NIV).

Sometimes love involves words – teaching, proclaiming, bearing witness to God's presence. But if words aren't backed by actions, they soon fall flat. We can, as the song says, "spread the news that God is in our land." But if we don't live like that, no one will believe it.

When we declare God's reality but withhold kindness from neighbors, observers rightly question whether we follow the God whose presence we announce. But "if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us" (1 John 4:12).

*Don't forget  
Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
is National Day of  
Prayer*

# 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:  
Lily, Reed's mom

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## *Recovery*

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Ed Harbur's father Ed – needs a correct diagnosis  
Dotty – surgery  
Muriel – lung care  
Roz – radiation - cancer  
Kay – recovering from vertigo  
Perry – cancer  
Aaron - cancer  
Jean Angus – relief from pain  
Tammy – new liver  
Debbie's friend Jon stage 3 colon cancer – Surgery in May  
Peggy Bakke healing for a respiratory problem  
Betty's infant great granddaughter, Teegan  
Andy Anderson – improving  
Louise – healing

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## *Continuing Health Concerns*

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Home care for Mary Ann  
Peggy's daughter Kim  
Matt – continued healing  
Noel's friend Carol – upcoming hip replacement  
Maryann McGilverly – suffering with bone cancer  
Betty Meade  
Tom – cancer  
Rena  
Sherry – cancer  
Jerry – neuropathy  
Larry's friend Vickey Powel – doctors wisdom  
Noel's friend Ben – cancer – and his wife Angie  
Patty Valdez  
LaVida Warren

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## *Community and World Concerns*

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Employment for; Paula, Andrew, Tanya, David  
Our Marine's safety as he returns to active duty

**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	Desert Summer Kids Feeding Program
Twenty-nine 29 Palms Marine Base Wounded Warrior	Life Line subsidies
Well in the Desert	Coachella Valley Rescue Mission
Scholarship for graduates of Cathedral City HS	Migrant Farm Workers – bedrolls and food
VA & Stroke Centers	Shelter from the Storm
Clothes That Work	Ronald McDonald House
One Great Hour of Sharing	Veterans hospital Loma Linda
Alternative Christmas	Baby kits for Haiti
School supplies for Sky Ridge Mobile Home Park Kids	2 Cents-a-Meal

# MAY 2012 Prayer Calendar

Please pray for each individual on the date listed

1) Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
I will call upon God  
**Kay Graham**

2) Judges 6:36-40  
Gideon and the fleece  
**Art & Karin Grice**

3) Jonah 1:1-17  
Jonah saved from the sea  
**Clint & Marti Haas**

4) Matthew 12:38-42  
Jesus speaks of Jonah  
**Butch & Eloise Haltman**

5) Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Receiving God's promise  
through baptism  
**Winnie Hockenbery**

6) John 20:19-31  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Kirk & Nancy Horton**

7) 1 Peter 1:17-23  
Born anew  
**Carol Hoskins**

8) Psalm 23  
God our shepherd  
**Helen Hyde**

9) 1 Peter 1:23-25  
The word of God endures  
**Lee Ireland & Linda Hamilton**

10) Proverbs 8:32-9:6  
Wisdom serves a meal  
**Hazel Jacobsen**

11) John 21:1-14  
The risen Christ eats with the  
disciples  
**Reed & Mary Karr**

12) Acts 2:42-47  
The believer's common life  
**Betty Leehan**

13) Luke 24:13-35  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Matt & Ann Matheson**

14) 1 Peter 2:19-25  
Follow the shepherd, even in  
suffering  
**Florence Maybee**

15) Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
I commend my spirit  
**Betty Meade**

16) Ezekial 34:17-23  
God the true shepherd  
**Fern Miller**

17) Hebrews 13:20-21  
God's blessing  
**Gerald & Joy Moss**

18) Jeremiah 23:1-8  
God will gather the flock  
**Walt & Sharon Nelson**

19) Acts 7:55-60  
Martyrdom of Stephen  
**Pat & Annette Patterson**

20) John 10:1-10  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**Jay & Maryls Peck**

21) 1 Peter 2:2-10  
God's chosen people  
**Wayne & Mary Price**

22) Psalm 66:8-20  
Be joyful in God, all you  
lands  
**Gail Prosser**

23) Exodus 13:17-22  
God leads the way  
**Nancy Pryor**

24) Proverbs 3:5-12  
God, the truth and life  
**Bertha Rawlings**

25) John 8:31-38  
Jesus, the truth of God  
**Rena Rodman**

26) Acts 17:22-31  
Paul's message to the Athe-  
nians  
**Bill & Kay Sachs**

27) John 14:1-14  
**Day of Pentecost**  
**Esther Shin**

28) 1 Peter 3:13-22  
The days of Noah  
**Larry & Cecile Shoot**

29) John 14:15-21  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**Bob & Marge Stahl**

30) Genesis 9:8-17  
Sign of the covenant  
**Casey Stelziede**

**31) 1 Peter 3:8-12**  
Seek peace and pursue it  
**Dorothy Susdorf**

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:4



Our church is blessed with wonderful teachers and a talented congregation that is supporting our children's ministry week by week. Each month together they plan an exciting time for our children and the children in our neighborhoods.

Some key members to this ministry:  
Queen story teller: Mary Jane Bradley  
Wonderful Music Teacher: Mary Karr  
Magic Gardener: Peggy Bakke  
Great Helper: Bertha Rawlings



This past month we had over 300 eggs filled by our supportive congregation full of candy, toys, and money.



**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.