



First Presbyterian Church of Hemet

FIRST WORD

February 1, 2010

Sundays, come join us for...

- 9:00 am
The Heritage Service in the Chapel — Old time hymns and verse by verse Bible Study
- 10:00—10:30 am
Fellowship on the Patio
- 10:30 am
The Sanctuary Service

Pastor's Column

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support toward our youth going to winter camp. What a great eternal impact your generosity has on those young lives. They still have Sees candy for sale for Valentines (if you don't mind the Christmas packaging). They'll have it available in the courtyard on Sundays.

Another great eternal impact event for all ages is upon us this month. Lent is a church season that runs from Ash Wednesday (the day after Mardi Gras) to Maundy Thursday, the day we commemorate Jesus' last supper with his disciples before his death and resurrection. This is a period of repentance, prayer, reflection and fasting in preparation for Easter and the celebration of the resurrection of the Christ. Bring a friend and join us for the following activities...

Ash Wednesday Services – February 17 – Two identical services 10:30 am and 7:00 pm in the chapel to kick off a 40 day season of repentance.

Sermon Series: *The Jesus Creed* starting Sunday February 21. We'll be looking at how Jesus' life creed of "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind and love your neighbor as yourself" can impact every area of our lives.

Small Groups for Lent: *The Jesus Creed*

- every Sunday night for six weeks from 5:00-7:00 w/snacks starting Feb. 21
- every Wednesday morning for six weeks from 10:30-11:30 w/optional lunch starting Feb 24.

The youth clubs on Wednesday nights will also be studying *The Jesus Creed*

I look forward to seeing you this season and seeing how our Lord is going to impact us!



Pastor Larry Thorson

Inside this Issue

Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Bible Study/ Library News	2
Pastor's Column	1
Presbyterian Women	5
Per Capita	4

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Larry Thorson

BIBLE STUDY



The Wednesday morning Bible Studies class has resumed its meetings at 10:30 am in the chapel. This group is under the leadership of James Nuoffer, and everyone is welcome. Please join us.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY



Imagine a cold winter day! It's too stormy to venture out to the library to get something to read, so you head to the bookshelf for an old favorite you might want to re-read, or perhaps one you have always intended to read.

Why don't you try one of the following:

Sholem Asch	<i>"The Apostle"; "The Nazarene"; "Mary"</i>
Jim Bishop	<i>"The Day Christ Died"</i>
John Bunyan	<i>"Pilgrims' Progress"</i>
Taylor Caldwell	<i>"Dear and Glorious Physician"; "Great Lion of God"</i>
Thomas Costain	<i>"The Silver Chalice"</i>
A.J. Cronin	<i>"The Keys of the Kingdom"</i>
Lloyd Douglas	<i>"The Robe"; "The Big Fisherman"</i>
Thomas Mann	<i>"Joseph the Provider"; "Joseph in Egypt"</i>
Fulton Oursler	<i>"The Greatest Story Ever Told"; "The Greatest Book Ever Written"; "The Greatest Faith Ever Known"</i>
Charles Sheldon	<i>"In His Steps"; "Jesus is Here"</i>
Frank G. Slaughter	<i>"The Sins of Herod"</i>
Morton Thompson	<i>"Not as a Stranger"</i>
Irving Wallace	<i>"The Word"</i>

These are all wonderful Christian books that have stood the test of time. Find them on the book cart or more like them in the fiction section of the library.

Bernice Cole, Church Librarian

P.S. As of this printing, the book *"Have a Little Faith"* by Mitch Albom is still a best-seller!

Please be in prayer for Barbara Arr, Dick Babbitt, Mary Brannon, Del Brunson, Edith Clark Monta Davis, Homer Erickson, Elaine Greco, Renate Heberling, Ruby Johnson, Bill Kauffmann, Vera Murphy, and Jerry Stewart who are recovering from illness or surgery. Also pray for the families of the late Charles Burritt, Inez Bushnell, Ed Edwards, and Dorothy Wiley, who have gone home to the Lord.

Birthdays

February 2	Jim Brown	February 27	Beth Hanson
	Lee Drohn	February 28	Bernice Irwin
	Mary Jane Sibbrel		
February 5	Mary Adams		
February 6	John Lautenbach		
	Helen McMorran		
	Elaine Nielsen		
February 7	Ruby Johnson		
February 8	Sue Brockett		
	Jim Cheney		
	John Works		
February 10	Hazel Brewsaugh		
February 13	Jan Mason		
February 14	Miriam Miller		
February 15	Richard McAlister		
	Carol Menck		
February 20	Susan Baker		
February 23	Robin Monroe		
February 24	Dale Brockett		
	Dorothy Ellis		
	Patty Werley		
February 25	Elaine Greco		
February 26	Mary Ellen Miller		



Anniversaries

February 14

Don & Doris Silva — 57 years

What is per capita and for what is it used ?

Per capita contributions to the Riverside Presbytery support the regional and national operations of the national Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA). The per capita fee for 2010 is the same as last year, \$33 per member. These monies are divided as follows: \$24.25 to the Riverside Presbytery, \$6.15 for the General Assembly, and \$2.60 to the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii. These funds are used for the general operations of the local and national organizations.

Per capita costs are calculated based on the reported membership of the church for the prior year. As an example, on December 31, 2008, our reported membership was 378. Our per capita cost for 2010 is based on that number. Over the past year we have completed an extensive review of our membership rolls to verify our true current membership. As a result, we will report 357 members as of December 31, 2009. In 2011 we will pay per capita based on that number.

As part of the year-end process for 2009 and planning for the coming year, we have reviewed expenditures in 2009 and prepared a new budget for 2010. As part of that review we noted that our per capita contributions were only about 40% of the \$12,639 we were obligated to pay. Whether or not a congregation member pays his or her per capita, our church is still responsible to pay the monies to the presbytery. It is certainly possible that the per capita contributions for some may not have gotten into the proper envelope and were therefore not included as per capita contributions. To ensure proper accounting, please use the envelope provided in the front of your contributions envelope box. If you have not picked up your box yet, they are available in the narthex of the church. If you cannot find yours, please contact the church office, and we will be happy to provide you with your own envelopes for the entire year. If you wish, you may use a pew envelope, but be sure to mark OTHER and write in "per capita"; we will take care of the rest.

Thank you for your faithfulness!

*Steve Bertling,
Elder, Finance & Missions*

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women have more of our beautiful cookbooks to sell. You may purchase them in the church office for \$12.00. The Sunday greeters will also have them available. If you want a wonderful way of remembering our church, this will fill the order.

Speaking of cookbooks! Did you see the article in the *Valley Chronicle* about them? We are very proud of the 3/4 page written about the cookbook and our church. Also in the same newspaper, an article featuring the Homeless Lunch program was written. Shirley Jouglard has a lot to be proud of her accomplishments with this program she began. Bravo!! Shirley!!

In just a few days, on Saturday, February 6, we will be hosting the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Riverside Winter Gathering. It includes workshops by our own Bob and Darlene Clark and Shirley Jouglard. Hope to see you there! PLEASE start bringing in your "gently used" clothing and jewelry on Monday and Thursday mornings to the Family Center. The sale is set for Friday and Saturday, March 5th and 6th. Volunteers are also appreciated as well. This is a very well organized team led by Bob and Darlene Clark.

Our circles are still looking for more members. Every woman is invited to visit any of the circles. As hard as we may try, it is sometimes difficult to extend personal invitations to everyone. But we do our best. If you haven't been "personally" invited, we extend our most heartfelt invitation to you to come to the following (and bring a friend; they do not need to be a church member). You will be made to feel very welcome at any of the circle meetings:

- Esther Circle: Third Monday, at 7:00pm Contact Jacquie Lyman or Kitty Vollmer***
- Lydia Circle: Fourth Friday, at 9:30am Contact Joan Nehez or Shirley Jouglard***
- Martha Circle: Fourth Friday, at 1:00pm Contact Kam Mundhenk***
- Rebekah Circle: Third Friday, at 9:30am Contact Darlene Clark***
- Sarah Circle: Third Thursday, at 7:00pm Contact Patty Werley or Judy Strahan***

We hope to encourage **all** women from this church to get involved in whatever way you possibly can. It takes teamwork for helping to make our church grow and flourish!

Patty Werley & Joyce Emery Co-Moderators

Music Notes

From Mary Ellen



Happy New Year.

I hope that the following story will encourage you for 2010:

THE PIANO (Author Unknown)

" . . . a mother took her boy to a Paderewski concert. After they were seated, the mother spotted a friend in the audience and walked down the aisle to greet her. Seizing the opportunity to explore the wonders of the concert hall, the little boy rose and eventually explored his way through a door marked "NO ADMITTANCE."

When the . . . concert was about to begin, the mother returned to her seat and discovered that the child was missing. . . the curtains parted . . . In horror, the mother saw her little boy sitting at the keyboard, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star." At that moment, the great piano master made his entrance, quickly moved to the piano, and whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't quit. Keep playing." Then leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in the bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child and he added the obbligato. Together, the old master and the young novice transformed a frightening situation into a wonderfully creative experience. . . That's the way it is with God. What we can accomplish on our own is hardly noteworthy. We try our best, but the results aren't exactly gracefully flowing music. But with the hand of the Master, our life's work truly can be beautiful.

Next time you set out to accomplish great feats, listen carefully. You can hear the voice of the Master, whispering in your ear, "Don't quit.. Keep playing. . ." **Remember, God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called . . . "**

We are thankful for the return of our pianist, Joe Smayda, and again want to thank Terry Yard for stepping in at the last minute and playing, not only for the worship services, but also all of the music in the Christmas concert.

Exciting days are ahead as the Chancel Choir begins preparation of music for Holy Week. The choir loft is one of the warmest spots in the church, not only because the temperature is always warm, but because of the warmth of these men and women and their service to the Lord radiates the warmth and love of Jesus Christ. We invite you to join us on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Mary Ellen Van Ostenbridge

Director of Music



Sack Lunch Program for the Homeless and Needy

“For I was hungered, and Ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and Ye gave me drink”Matthew 25:35

The sack lunch program has been in operation for one year now. In January 2009 we served 227 lunches and by December 2009 that number had risen to 860. The total count for last year came to 6,466 lunches. This has been possible because so many of you have supported the project with your donations of time and money. The Lord has richly blessed this program and I have been blessed as well to be able to have a part in it.

I want to thank each one of the faithful volunteers and substitutes that keep everything running smoothly. Two people serve from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm Monday through Friday. The Berean Baptist has been very involved since the inception, taking Tuesdays and furnishing every needed for that day. I also want to thank Coach Carter for all his help. He is always there when needed. And, of course, my sincere thank you goes to all those who either provide food or donate money to ensure that there are enough provisions. No one has ever been turned away. The Old Mission Thrift Shop has been faithful in providing a way for those who ask to get a free outfit of clothing when needed. There is also a donor who provides Bibles, both in English and Spanish. And last but not least, I thank God with all my heart, for it is His program and without His mighty hand, guidance and protection, the program would not have even gotten off the ground.

We have been able to furnish coats and some blankets for those desperately in need of warmth this winter. Blankets are desperately needed now. At times we get toiletries such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes, which are much appreciated.

Since the kitchen at the gym has been properly licensed, we have started serving an occasional hot meal, as well as making sandwiches as a substitute for the sack lunches. The program continues to expand, with volunteer help and donations coming in from outside our church as well as from our Church family. PRAISE THE LORD!!!

Shirley Jougard

Program Coordinator



SPRING SALE!

It's That Time Again! The annual spring sale will be held on March 5th and 6th. Donations of clothing, shoes, purses and jewelry are being accepted on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:30 am in the Family Center. If you wish to volunteer or have other questions, please call either Darlene Clark at 325-7173 or Susan Gray at 652-3838.

YOUTH CAMPS



Thanks to your support through the purchase of See's Candy, we were able to send 12 Middle School Students to camp in January. The Senior High Group is scheduled to go from February 19 - 21. If you have extra work or heavy lifting to be done, we have responsible young people who would like to help and earn their way to camp.

Please contact Dr. Thorson or the church office .

*Come join us for the Family Center's
Valentine's Day Luncheon*

When: Sunday, February 14th, 2010

Time: 12pm

*Where: 515 E. Kimball Ave. , Hemet, CA
(Fellowship Hall)*

*Cost: Tickets are \$7 for Adults / \$5 for children
(More at the Door)*



*It promises to be an afternoon of
music, dance and food for all to
enjoy.*

*Proceeds will benefit the Family
Center.*

Family Center News



A Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration was held at the Family Center on January 18th. Despite the heavy rain 50 parents and children came out to join us.

A concession stand was opened and we raised \$49 for the Family Center! (Every little bit helps!).

We had many activities set up for the children, an obstacle course, slam dunk and free throw stations. Our most exciting activity was our remote control car racing. The kids loved it. We also had a written word contest. The children had to talk about Dr. King through poems, speeches and song. The contest was won by Mason Smith, a student in our Home Away From Home program. I would like to thank all our Advisory Board members for helping make our party such a success. And I would like to say an extra special thank you to our parents' group.



Melvin "Coach" Carter
Activities Director

COMING UP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

February 6 - Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery



February 14 - Family Center's Valentine's Day Luncheon

February 17 - Ash Wednesday Services

February 18 - Lifeline Screening

February 21 - "Jesus Creed" - Small Groups

March 5 & 6 - Spring Sale



Staff		On the World Wide Web		Partners In Mission	
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Activities Director	“Coach” Mel Carter	(Jeannette Simmons)		Valley Restart — San Jacinto Valley	
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Custodian	Javier Gamon				
Associate Pastors		Pastoral Counseling/ Spiritual Direction		Office Hours/Contact Information	
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Dr. Martha Thorson	The office is open		First Word is	
Rev. Dr. Gerald Lyman	(951) 259-8573	Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.		published monthly	
Parish Associate	Wednesday — Friday	Phone: (951) 658-7153		First Presbyterian Church	
Rev. Jim Karcher	9:00 am — 4:00 pm	Fax: (951) 766-4574		515 E. Kimball Ave. Hemet, CA 92543	

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

515 E. Kimball Avenue
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