

**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

515 E. Kimball Ave.
Hemet, CA 92543
951-658-7153

“A Place Where
Life And Faith
Become One”

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First Word

March 1st, 2009

Dear Friends,

What a great 100th anniversary celebration we had last month. Thank you to everyone who helped put together all its different aspects. What we did was very honoring to our God and to those who went before us to give us what we have today. Now it's our turn to build on what we've been given and to pass it on to the next generation.

Website Changes— our website is being completely overhauled by our Webmaster Ray Ensing with my consultation. All the current events will be linked 100% to our newsletter. That means no more outdated information on our website! When you want to find out what's currently going on in our church ,or will be going on, you'll click a tab on our website and this newsletter will come up. The main part of the website will be for visitors checking us out and will look like a brochure with pictures and words describing our worship services, staff and history.

Small Group-Starting March 8th, and meeting at various times and locations through each week, will be our next series of small groups. Lynn Browning is helping to organize these groups which will run for 6 weeks, take a break, run for another 6 weeks, etc. We have great material for discussions and learning. Call the church office for more info.

Lent/Holy Week/Easter— Lent began with Ash Wednesday on Feb. 25th and continues for six weeks leading up to Easter. Holy Week is the week leading up to Easter starting on Palm Sunday, April 5th to Easter April 12th. We will have a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 pm on April 9th and a Good Friday Tennebrae service on April 10th at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars and use these special weeks to consider why you personally need a savior.


May we experience the presence of God anew during this great season of Lent.

Pastor Larry

STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff
Director of Music
Accompanist
Activities Director
Office Manager
Bookkeeper
Custodian

Dr. Larry Thorson
M. E. VanOstenbridge
Joe Smayda
"Coach" Mel Carter
Kitty Vollmer
Sharon Desgro
Javier Gamon



**Remember
in
Prayer**

Please be in prayer for **Alec Boatman, Del Brunson, Bill & Joan Bush, Jonathan Carter, Edith Clark, Homer Erickson, Verna Hahn, Ruby Johnson, Bob Latta, Joann Marshall, Dorothy Weaver, Dorothy Wiley and Bill Wilson** who are recovering from surgery, illness, or accident.

PARTNERS IN MISSION

Dr. John & Dianne Fowler
Rev. John & Gwen Haspels
Habitat for Humanity
Valley Restart

Turkey
Ethiopia
San Jacinto Valley
San Jacinto Valley

PASTORAL COUNSELING & SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Dr. Martha Thorson 951-259-8573
Wed. - Fri. 9 am - 4 pm

ASSOCIATE PASTOR EMERITUS

Dr. Gerald Lyman

PARISH ASSOCIATE

Rev. Jim Karcher

OFFICE HOURS


9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Monday - Friday

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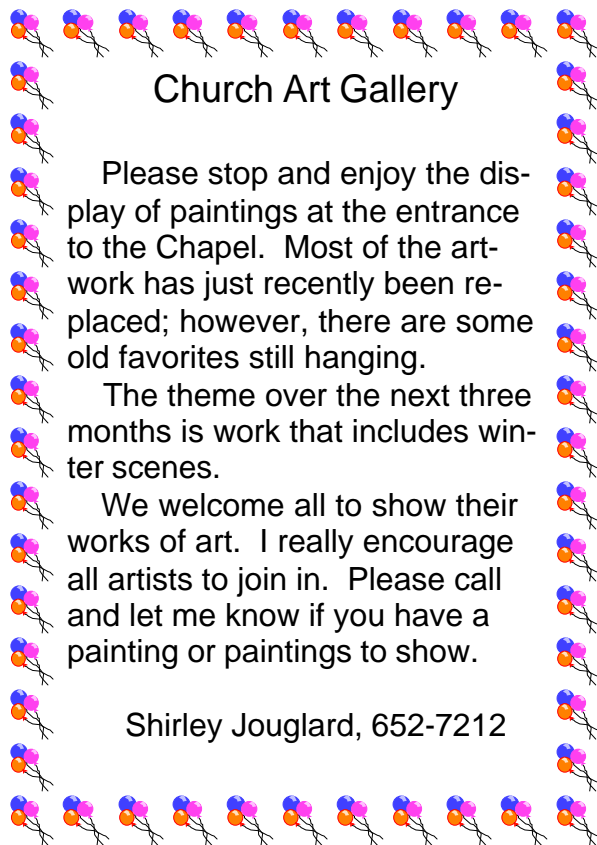
March 1, 2009
FIRST WORD

Published monthly
First Presbyterian Church
515 E. Kimball Ave.
Hemet, CA 92543



Thank You for Helping

Thank you to all those who help each month getting this newsletter to you: **Jack & Bonnie Hansen, Dorothy Hull, Bernice Irwin, Leo & Barbara Reed and Buzz Sprague.**



Church Art Gallery

Please stop and enjoy the display of paintings at the entrance to the Chapel. Most of the artwork has just recently been replaced; however, there are some old favorites still hanging.

The theme over the next three months is work that includes winter scenes.

We welcome all to show their works of art. I really encourage all artists to join in. Please call and let me know if you have a painting or paintings to show.

Shirley Jouglard, 652-7212

MUSIC NOTES

What a wonderful 100th celebration we enjoyed on February 8th. We are appreciative to so very many people who were involved, not only in the service, but also behind the scenes.

I was asked to put the words of the solo ("Find Us Faithful") that I sang, in this month's newsletter. For those familiar with the tenor, Steve Green, he made the song popular. The words were so fitting for the past 100 years and looking toward the next 100.

"We're pilgrims on the journey of the narrow road
And those who've gone before us line the way
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
Let us run the race not only for the prize
But as those who've gone before us
Let us leave to those behind us
The heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives

Chorus:

*Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful
May the fire of our devotion light their way
May the footprints that we leave
Lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey
Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful*

After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone
And our children sift through all we've left behind
May the clues that they discover
And the memories they uncover
Become the light that leads them to
The road we each must find (Repeat Chorus)

There's our challenge for the future!

The choir is busily preparing for Passion Week, which begins with the triumphal entry on April 5th. As always, lots going on musically in the church!!

Mary Ellen VanOsten-

bridge



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 1	Antonio Martin
March 8	Gene Russell
March 9	Timothy Johnson
March 10	Ross Dodson
March 11	Joan Bush
March 14	John Adams
March 19	Raymond Prickett
March 22	Eileen Karcher
March 23	Nicole Crull Joyce Jordan
March 25	Carl Rousell
March 27	James Warren
March 28	Georganna Cetinske
March 30	Virginia Babbitt David Weakley
March 31	John Ensing





HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Charles & Bernice Chapman
66 years—March 1, 1943

Art & Barbara Poole
58 years—March 12, 1951

John & Ione Lautenbach
67 years—March 20, 1942

Eloise & Joe Patton
58 years—March 28, 1951



JOIN US

For "sweet treats" and coffee on the patio. Sunday mornings between church services.

Inclement weather.... We will be in the Fellowship Hall.

Crafty Ladies of FPC

This year we would like to include a "Hand Crafted Table" at both the Spring and Fall Sale. A number of you have already promised to contribute hand made items for the Spring sale coming in March. We can use many more items! If you would like to participate please call Lynn Browning at 926-6382 for more information.

TIME IS SHORT—SO LET'S GET BUSY

SENIOR NEWS

The Senior Sunday afternoon games meet at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room the first Sunday of every month. If you enjoy playing board or card games come and join us for a good time. Light refreshments will be served. Call Joan Nehez at 929-5160 for further information.

Seniors meet for breakfast the fourth Tuesday of the month, 9:00 am, at J&M's (near Henry's) For information call Emma Lou at 766-0634

HERITAGE SERVICE

The Heritage service is looking for someone who could play either the violin, viola or cello during the Communion part of the service. If you can help, please call, Sequoyah Dawes at 658-0719 or the church office.

PW Project

P.W. Projects will continue collecting pull tabs along with used postage stamps, box tops for education labels, Campbell's labels, and eye glasses.

Please place these items in the small basket provided in the Narthex.

Attention

For all of you who may have left over craft items such as yarn, ribbons, materials or are interested in donating any of these items to be used by other crafters, please bring them to the church office to be given to a group of women in the church that will make up items to be sold at our spring or fall sales.

Line Dancing

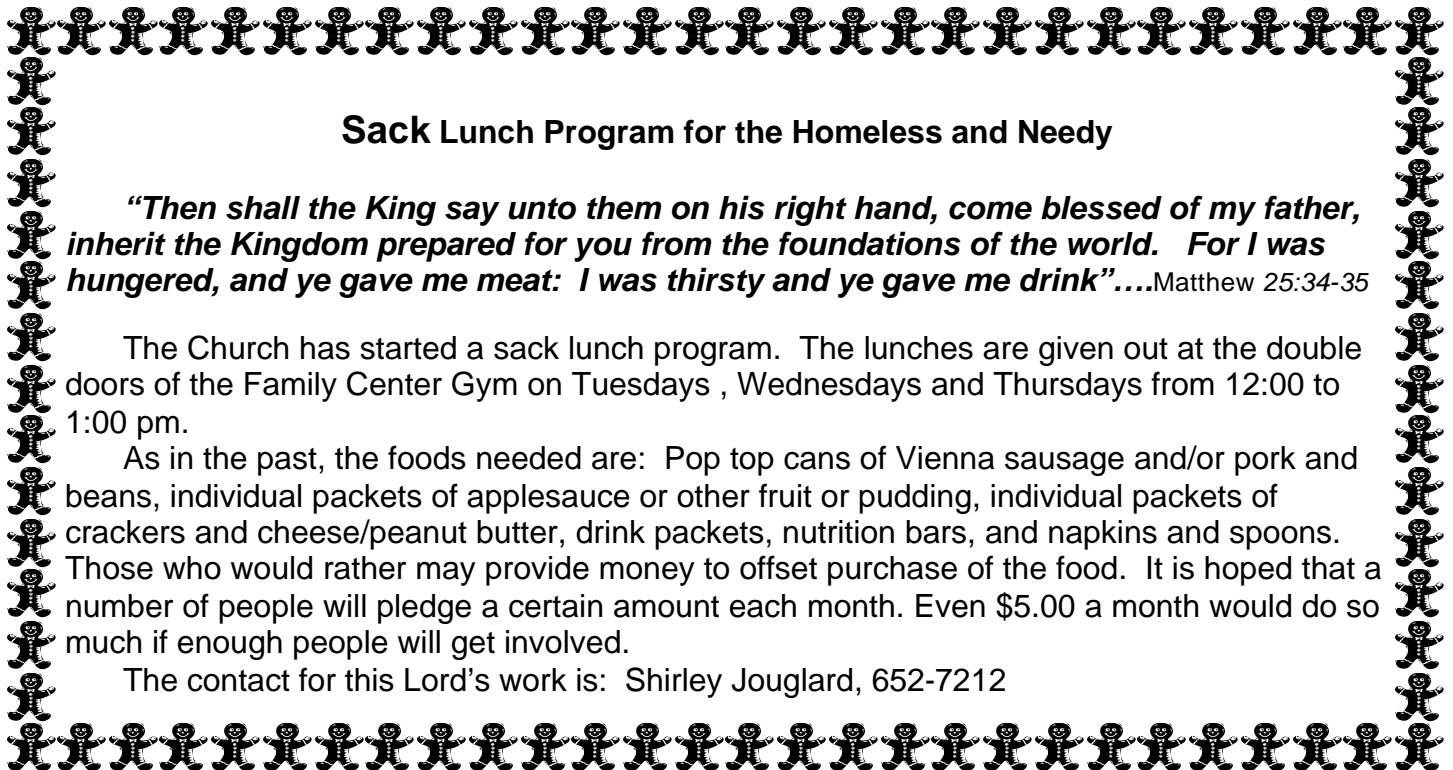
Line dancing continues on Wednesday afternoons at 1:45 pm in the Family Center.
 Instructor: Connie Frey
 Any questions please call Flora Johnson at 652-2024

Special Sunday Celebration

On March 8th, we will be celebrating two special events. First, is the Commemoration of the 500th birthday of John Calvin, Protestant reformer and fore-parent of the Presbyterian Church.

Also, that day is set aside as International Women’s Day, world wide.

THIS WILL BE AN EXCITING DAY!!!!



Sack Lunch Program for the Homeless and Needy

“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, come blessed of my father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundations of the world. For I was hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me drink”....Matthew 25:34-35

The Church has started a sack lunch program. The lunches are given out at the double doors of the Family Center Gym on Tuesdays , Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 to 1:00 pm.

As in the past, the foods needed are: Pop top cans of Vienna sausage and/or pork and beans, individual packets of applesauce or other fruit or pudding, individual packets of crackers and cheese/peanut butter, drink packets, nutrition bars, and napkins and spoons. Those who would rather may provide money to offset purchase of the food. It is hoped that a number of people will pledge a certain amount each month. Even \$5.00 a month would do so much if enough people will get involved.

The contact for this Lord’s work is: Shirley Jouglard, 652-7212

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Our good works continue to flourish and adorn our church building! The highlight in February was, of course, the Centennial Banquet. Those that were there the day before the lunch worked very hard, some from 10 am until evening. We did everything, including carting all the dishes, glassware, table service, punch bowls, coffee makers, pitchers, coffee carafes, salt and peppers, creamers and sugar from the Fellowship Hall kitchen to across the street in the Family Center. (In the rainy, cold weather.) We purchased additional dinner plates to use for the lunch. There was some cleaning, setting up the tables, decorating and preparing food and punch. Circle members brought in their homemade cakes, and a decorated sheet cake was purchased. The Silvas provided appetizers at our Hospitality Table. After the banquet we helped with cleaning off the tables and returning table linens and other rented items. The Presbyterian Women deserve a huge recognition for all they did to make this a "first class event". If you weren't there to see it, everything looked gorgeous! The royal blue and lemon yellow theme was carried throughout with the linen table cloths, linen napkins and decorations. Centerpieces were cascades with a "100" insignia. THANK YOU TO ALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN WHO HELPED MAKE THIS A VERY SPECIAL DAY. What a blessing our Presbyterian Women are to this church!

Now we look forward to a successful Spring Sale to continue to have more funds. Please support us by coming to the rummage sale on Friday, March 6th and Saturday March 7th. If you don't need any good used clothing or shoes, there will also be a craft table and a baked goods table, as well as a delicious lunch, including homemade soup and pie.

Our March Luncheon Gathering on Friday, March 13th will include our annual Fashion Show of Spring Sale (slightly used) Fashions. Please come. It will be a lot of fun! On Saturday, March 14th, we will attend the PW Presbytery Spring Gathering at the Presbyterian Church in Beaumont. Dr. Anita Hendrix, Executive Presbyter, will lead the worship. The program will be on Global Exchange and USA/Beyond borders.

Happy St. Pat's Day, Spring has sprung.

Patty Werley, PW Moderator

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY