

The Newhall Press

First Presbyterian Church
24317 N. Newhall Avenue
Newhall, California 91321-2721

Return Service Requested

April 2014



Sunday Worship Services

Traditional Worship 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 10:45 a.m.



Deadline
for the
May
Newsletter is
April 20, 2014

Thank you for your articles and
input to the newsletter.

Special thanks to Ellie and Steve Fuller

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First Presbyterian Church of Newhall
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E-mail: presby2@pacbell.net
Web Site: <http://www.presby-newhall.org>

Pastor: Bill Barnes (x102)
Pastoral Support: Phil Aijian (x106)
Dir. Christian Educ.: Sarah Bolin (x104)
Assoc. Children's Dir: Lelia Meadows
Youth Worship Leader: Chris Clewett
Office Administrator: Sandy McIntosh (x101)
Music Conductor: Connie Woodson
2nd Service Worship Leader: Sam Besse
Treasurer: Dorothy Ng (x107)
Custodian: Nelson Orellana
Groundskeeper: Steve Fuller
Nursery Care Provider: Linda Weingarten
Little Shepherd's Nursery School
Director: Dyana Vos
(661) 254-2312

THE NEWHALL PRESS



April 2014

PASTOR'S COLUMN

As I am writing this column it is the middle of Lent, that 40 day period of focusing in on God's amazing sacrifice on our behalf. Some of us give up something dear to us as a way of interrupting our normal lives and reminding us of Jesus and His sacrifice on our behalves. Others of us add some special practice that might bring God more into focus in our lives. We began with a wonderful Ash Wednesday service led by our youth. Our Deacons have collected our stories and created a terrific devotional to guide us in these 40 days. Our Adult Education Committee has provided a number of different Bible studies to guide us deeper into our study of the Sermon on the Mount. Our high school students are preparing for their mission trip, to a Native American Reservation, leaving the week before Holy Week. We will wind up our Lenten activities with a Maundy Thursday Service of Worship on April 17th at 7PM. Eventually it will be time to give up Lent as it makes way for the joy of Easter morning.

I am so proud of all the extra activity around our church. We even have people making our Church directory a fun reflection of all the individual costumes and things that give us our unique identities. Then, before we know it Easter will be here in all it's glory. It is a time to break all our fasting with the deep celebration, not simply that Jesus came alive, but because of His mission to the cross, and His sacrifice, He assures us of our resurrection with Him. We will host two identical worship services at 8 and 10 AM. You'll want to be here with the church family. Otherwise, you might miss Jesus, like the little boy, in the following story:

It was Palm Sunday, and a little five-year-old boy had to stay home from church, because he was sick. When his sisters returned home carrying palm branches, he asked what they were for. His mother explained, "People waved them over Jesus' head as he walked by." "Wouldn't you know it," the boy said, "The one Sunday I don't go, Jesus shows up!"

Jesus shows up every Sunday to bring us hope and joy as we bring our worship to Him. **I hope you are inviting friends and family to worship with you during Holy Week.**

May the joy of our Risen Lord fill your hearts and minds with His love!

In His Grip,
Pastor Bill Barnes

Easter Sunday services:
8am & 10am





The Church Life Committee promotes fellowship and fun activities for the church family by providing a variety of church, community, cultural and special events throughout the year.

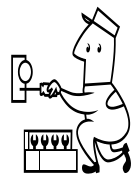


MEN AT WORK

Next meeting: April 19th.

Join the men of the church on the third Saturday of each month at 8:00 am for breakfast and a time of fellowship.

Each month there will either be a guest speaker or a project at the church or in the community.



SCV DODGER NIGHT

Join us Saturday April 26th. 6:00 pm. to enjoy *the Dodgers vs. the Colorado Rockies*. Reserved seat tickets are \$20 each. Carpools will leave church at 4:30pm. Purchases your tickets on the patio before April 13th.



BOOK BUDDIES

Book Buddies will meet Thursday, April 10th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss *The Last Runaway* by Tracy Chevalier. Honor Bright, an English Quaker, travels to America in 1850 and finds herself drawn into the activities of the Underground Railroad.



Chi Kanagi is hosting the meeting at her daughter Courtney's house, 24720 Apple St. Newhall. RSVP to Chi 259-2507. Come for discussion and bring something for salad supper to follow.

SPRING YARD SALE

It's time to clean out your cupboards, closets and cubby-holes for your un-wanted treasures. Church Life wants them for the Spring Yard Sale. It will be on Friday April 4th from 3pm to 7pm and on Sat. April 5th from 7am to noon. Large item pick-up will be March 31- April 4. Questions call Rod or Candy Belcher at 661-297-2445 or 661-645-2449.



REAGAN LIBRARY TRIP REMEMBERED



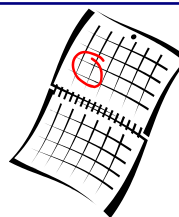
Seventeen adults and two children went to the Reagan Library on Saturday March 8th. We learned about president Ronald Reagan, toured Air Force One (the presidential plane) and saw the Spy Exhibit..... *Secrets of Espionage*. Our tour guide was none other than docent extraordinaire, Rod Belcher. Thanks Church Life for organizing this event.



Rod Belcher

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Apr. 4 & 5	Spring Yard Sale
Apr. 5 to 11	Youth Mission Trip
Apr. 8 & 22	Hand Crafters
Apr. 10	Book Buddies
Apr. 13	Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt
Apr. 17	Maundy Thursday Service
Apr. 19	Men at Work
Apr. 26	Dodger Night
Apr. 27	Spotlight on Deacons
Apr. 27	Life Academy Starts



APRIL BIRTHDAYS - OVER-80S

Helen Ravenstine	April 5
Lois Beydler	April 21
John Barrett	April 24

REPERTORY EAST PLAYHOUSE

Save the date! On Saturday, May 17th Church Life is going to the Repertory Theater East to see Tennessee William's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Dinner at El Tracaderos at 6pm and the play at 8pm. Tickets are \$20.

HOW WE CHRISTIANS HAVE TAKEN OURSELVES OUT OF EASTER by Roland Wrinkle

For Advent, I wrote about "How We Christians Have Taken The Christ Out Of Christmas" by de-emphasizing the biblical notion, as hammered home by the original witnesses and early Church Fathers, that "Christ" refers to the risen Messiah of Israel as promised to the world in Gen. 12:3 and throughout the continuing narrative of scripture. I wanted to address what I believe to be a wrongheaded way of approaching our understanding of the Bible by continuing to frame things in an "either-or" manner (either Messiah or Savior) instead of a "This and That as well" method (Messiah and Savior and much, much more). One biblical truth should never be allowed to crowd out another biblical truth. The Gospel is much too expansive and revolutionary a worldview to be confined to a bumper sticker or slogan. Remember how Jack came up with "Joyous Messiah Mass" instead of "Merry Christmas"? Now, I would like to do the same for Easter.

I believe that we have limited Easter to be only about the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. Let's get one thing straight at the start—for I am frequently misunderstood when I say such things. The resurrection of the Messiah of Israel and the King of the World is the single most important event in human history since God launched His promised plan to rescue and restore all of fallen creation. It was a moment when the past and the future came flooding into the present—when the Kingdom of God first came down to earth (as we pray every day in the Lord's Prayer), where we started living out the anticipation of the culmination of that Kingdom here and now, not waiting for some "glad morning" when we will be rescued from this earth and this life ("I'll fly away") and when we can truly lead "resurrection lives" having shared, as Paul said, in both His death and in His resurrection ("All of us who have been baptized into the Messiah Jesus were baptized into his death...[and], if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." -Rom. 6). If Jesus had not been resurrected from the dead, then God's plan would be in shambles and we'd be in pretty tough shape.

But it is not *only* the resurrection of Jesus that we should anticipate during Lent and celebrate on Easter (and, for that matter, celebrate every Sunday and, for even that matter, celebrate every day we live and breathe under grace). Here's what we have a tendency to omit, (or forget about): Jesus was raised as the first fruits of OUR OWN RESURRECTION. This is commonly referred to as the "general resurrection" and comes directly from the entire sweep and scope of the Bible as well as passage after passage after passage.

The fact that Jesus came back from the dead is a great thing—for Jesus. But what about us? That's very nice for Jesus of Nazareth, but what about the children of God—those whom He came to save and for whom He died? Well, here it is: "[The resurrection of the Messiah was] the *first fruits of those who have died*. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so *all will be made alive in Christ*. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, *then at his coming those who belong to Christ*." (1 Cor. 15) Paul not only says this to us but also says that this doctrine is the cornerstone of our faith, without which the whole thing collapses and we become a mere social club which does good things: "If Christ (the Messiah) has not been raised, then what we have been preaching has been in vain and our faith has been in vain and we were misrepresenting God.... If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied." But (thank God) He goes on straight away to declare. "But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead..." and, therefore, so shall we! In Peter's second sermon in Acts (3:17) the head apostle is explaining to the newborn church what the death and resurrection of Jesus really meant: "Repent ... so...that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets." This is the message that Paul had for the Thessalonians in one of his earliest writings: "For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first". The prophetic book of Daniel (so heavily relied upon by the New Testament writers and authored a half millennia before any of these events) ends on this note of prominence: "But you, go your way, and rest; you shall rise for your reward at the end of the days."

Friends, this is what God promised from the very beginning and which He held in His mind throughout all of the unfolding of His grand plan. Easter is itself the beginning of that resurrection, where the promised new creation comes bursting in on a decaying and surprised world—a new creation which is not filled with disembodied spiritual beings wafting about in ethereal bliss but, rather with real live "fully human" people (i.e. us) who eat, love and glorify God and are filled with the physical life of a restored merger of heaven and earth.

Traditionally, on Easter, we call and respond with, "He has risen!" and "He has risen indeed!" I intend this Easter to simply add to the response "—and, therefore, so shall we."



The Adult Education Committee at First Presbyterian Church of Newhall encourages the congregation to mature in their knowledge and practice of their Christian faith as disciples of Jesus Christ both personally and in community with other believers.

Spring 2014 Life Academy Classes

We do not believe that Christian education is only for children. Adult Christian education and Bible literacy are integral to who we are as Christians and what it means to be a Christian. Therefore the Adult Education Committee is offering the following classes starting on Sunday, April 27th through Sunday May 18th: A brochure will be available the first of April and sign-ups will begin in the patio between services on Sunday, April 6th and Sunday, April 13th.

FAITH TALK ON THE PATIO—8:30 a.m. - Gather each Sunday with friends on the patio benches. Explore any questions you have about Christianity, the world, our church and your faith. It is a simple gathering at the benches for a half hour with Roland Wrinkle. Bring your questions and explore the conundrums, questions and curiosities of faith.

A TRAVELOGUE OF ISRAEL—10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall - Come spend four Sundays travelling through the land where Jesus walked. Learn about the land, the people, the history, the religion, and the birthplace of Judaism and Christianity. We will follow the itinerary of the Tour to Israel "Following the Footsteps of Christ" which Adult Education is sponsoring this coming Nov. 9-17, 2014. Those going on the tour will benefit from learning ahead what we will be seeing and experiencing. Those who have been before - come and share your experiences in the Land of Jesus. Those who are not going on the tour - please come, too, and enjoy learning about the Land that God promised to Abraham. Teacher is Jack Irwin, M. Div.

HEALTHY AGING/ LONGEVITY AND NATURAL HEATH CARE - 4:00 p.m. on April 27th in Fellowship Hall - Today from childhood to adulthood, we are suffering from obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, thyroid disease, autoimmune disorders (such as Lupus, fibromyalgia) and cancers! It's no wonder considering today's diet, high stress life, lack of sleep, and all the free radicals that we are in contact with daily!!! Come find out how Natural Holistic Medicine can benefit you and your family, what your risk factors are, and what you can do to take charge for a healthy life. It is never too late to start taking care of your health, your body and your well being. Presented by Matty Ng, RNP, Diabetic Educator, Anti-aging Medicine Specialist in Bio-identical Hormone Replacement Therapy

MOVIE MATINEE: THE SHORTEST WAY HOME - CS LEWIS AND "MERE CHRISTIANITY" - 4:00 p.m. on May 4th in the Sanctuary - This is a brand-new movie about Lewis and his most famous work - *Mere Christianity*. We will find honest discussion and helpful insights for the tough questions asked by believers and skeptics alike. Those who journey to the heart of Lewis's most famous apologetic work will find that the longest way around - the hard way of discipleship, of learning to truly love God and man - is the shortest and only way home.

TEACH ME TO PRAY AND MEDITATE - 4:00 p.m. on May 11th and May 18th by church member Rev. Rosie Kwak in the Fellowship Hall - Often we hear the term "just pray about it" or "I will pray for you about that." Prayer is what we know we should be doing as followers of Jesus. We also know it is a privilege to pray to the Creator of everything and our Grace-filled God, yet where do we begin and how do we do it? In these classes we will look at different ways of praying and especially talk about where to start. We will also look at how to use Bible verses in prayer and meditation. Rosie is a favorite speaker and teacher here at First Presbyterian Church (recently speaking at the PW retreat). She has served as pastor at the Presbyterian churches in Sherman Oaks, Bel Air and Quartz Hill

THE ALPHA COURSE - We are offering six new course sessions in the very popular Alpha program. Every Alpha course session begins with dinner together, followed by a short talk looking at different aspects of the Christian faith, and followed by a time for open discussion in a friendly group. Last fall 28 people participated in a wildly successful six-session Alpha course.

- **Who is Alpha for?** Alpha is for everyone, especially those who have given up on church, those investigating Christianity, those new to the Christian faith, and those wanting to grow in understanding and faith. It is a great opportunity to learn, grow in your faith, and share the fellowship of other Christians. Meet new friends while enjoying great food.
- **Where do we meet and what is the cost?** There is no cost for attending Alpha, though you may make a contribution toward food or bring a potluck dish - The meal is provided for the first session. We will be meeting at the home of John and Jung Favalessa, 25811 Webster Place, Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381 (661) 255-3263 (favalessa@yahoo.com)
- **When?** 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights beginning April 30th through June 4th (six weeks)

INTERPRETING PAUL FOR THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD May 1-3, 2014 at Fuller Theological Seminary - A conference with N. Ted Wright, Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity - If you are wondering what the leading Christian scholars are now rediscovering in the Word of God, Adult Ed. has a group going to Fuller Seminary to hear this world-famous Christian scholar talk about *the real Jesus, the real Kingdom of God, and the real Plan of God for the Future of Creation*. We have been discovering the wonderful insights of Ted Wright by reading his books, and we taught Wright's "How God Became King" in a previous Life Academy. Wright is one of today's leading scholars on the New Testament and is now Chair of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. Art Moore, Carol Cogley, Jack Irwin and John Favalessa are going and will be happy to talk to you about this conference and details of how to register. Adult Ed is offering scholarship assistance for the registration fee.



The Youth Committee nurtures the Junior High and Senior High-aged youth as well as the college-aged young adults of First Presbyterian Church of Newhall, and the community; by providing a Christ-centered program of worship, education, fellowship, and service in order to equip them with a framework in which they can realize their spiritual gifts and live a Christian life.

Thank you so much!

Wow! We had an amazing Mission Dinner Auction last month. We were so blessed by the generosity of our congregation as well as our volunteers who helped put it all together! Because of your generous donations of items and the donations of your auction bids we were able to raise enough money for all of our kids to go on their Arizona mission trip without the worries of finances. Thank you so much for making our kids feel so blessed.

Now for the fun part, we will be leaving April 5th to go and live on a Native American reservation in Sells, Arizona and we are getting crazy excited. But we still need one more thing from you, we need your prayers. Please be praying for our mission trip participants daily as our trip approaches. Thank you again for your commitment to our youth group ministry!



\$500 YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FOR SUMMER AVAILABLE!!!

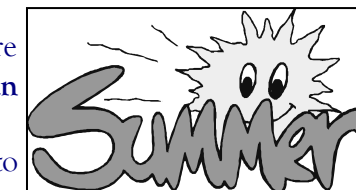
Did you know that 1st Pres Newhall has a generous fund waiting to provide scholarships for our church youth and young adults to experience and participate in Christian service? The "Youth/Young Adult Scholarship Fund" information can be found on our church website www.presby-newhall.org. Click on "Next Generation" then "Youth Forms" then "Youth Resource Links" to explore the variety of websites and information on summer camps and mission trips.

Here's a sampling of some of the summer opportunities: www.studentventure.com The Rocky Mountain Getaway, sponsored by Cru High School, gathers students from the Western half of the country for a six-day summer conference held in breathtaking Estes Park, Colorado. June 14-19th, register by May 15th. www.gosummerproject.com Summer Projects 2014.

"Imagine a summer that could change cities, countries and continents around the globe while also forever transforming your life—a summer that propels you into a deeper walk with God and gives you greater confidence in making Him known, a summer that develops your leadership skills and begins friendships you'll take with you throughout your life..." Summer mission projects are available for 1-2 weeks, 3-5 weeks, and 7-12 weeks. Over 200 stateside and international mission project opportunities are here to explore! Volunteer positions are also still available at the summer camps listed on the church website.

These are just a few of the possibilities for applying for the funds available. Scholarships are available and will be granted to participate in any voluntary or employed activity with an organization with a Christian purpose.

Please fill out an online application and email to jyannini@yahoo.com. Now is the time to think "how will I spend my summer..."?!!!!





Presbyterian Women, as forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, commit ourselves: To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the Church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

Annual Presbyterian Women's Tea

Ladies! Save Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.

Enjoy a "New to You" Fashion Show and Sale presented by Santa Clarita Assistance League.

Tickets are \$20.00 and will be on Sale April 13 and 27 between services on the patio.



PW CIRCLES—ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!

Elizabeth: Stephanie Linn (259-3915) – Meets first and third Tuesdays of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the Evans Room. Babysitting is provided.

Lois: Florence Craig (255-1389) – Meets second Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Evans Room.

Lydia: Cathy Johnson (263-7193) & Wanda Lewis (296-2354) – Meets first Monday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the Evans Room.

Mary Martha: Karen Sandoval (298-7977) – Meets second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in various homes.

Rachel: Tiffany Aune (478-2056) – Meets second Tuesday of the month at 6:15 p.m. in various homes and shares a salad dinner.



The Ladies of Lois Circle

LOIS CIRCLE—by Florence Craig

I have been asked to write a few lines regarding the history of Lois Circle. My response is, "What is there to say? Should I have been taking notes?"

The best that I can do on the history part: I started saving the Lois pages from the PW directory in 1996, though I know the group pre-dates that. When I look back I see that:

- Five of the ladies who were part of Lois Circle at that time are still active in our circle.
- Of the list of thirty-plus Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Members, ten have been members of Lois Circle.
- Over the years our annual roster has fluctuated and has contained as many as thirty names.
- This year our roster lists eighteen members. Our average attendance is a little over twelve.
- Many of our former member are no longer with us because they are perhaps in a circle in Heaven (?).
- Others have moved to be nearer family or to assisted type living.

I notice that over the years in Lois Circle I have rubbed shoulders with many outstanding women. Some names you may recognize: Harriet Duval, Janet Macey, Jackie Skelley and Janet Parker, to name a few.

We meet the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 o'clock in the Evans Room. Typically we snack and have a Bible Study based on the *Horizon Magazine* put out by Presbyterian Women. This year our topic is "Abiding Hope," with studies from Exodus and Deuteronomy. Consider yourself invited to join us!

KIDS, KIDS, KIDS

The Children's Ministry Committee at First Presbyterian Church will invite children to EMBRACE the Word of God through worship, games, songs, and other activities; ENCOURAGE their spiritual growth to become closer to our Lord, Jesus Christ; and EQUIP them to go out into the world and share God's love.

Our volunteer luncheon was a delight to host for all of those wonderful volunteers of our children's ministry. Thank you so much for all your hard work and for all of your dedication to our children's programs. Our ministry is full of children who know about the Lord, and it is because of our amazing volunteers. Thank you so much for being a blessing to our little ones!

There is always room for more! There are so many programs that going on through out the year and we always need more help. If you feel led to be a helper in any way be sure to se Mrs. Leila or Ms. Sarah and find out how you can help empower God's kingdom!

PALM SUNDAY is just around the corner, and do you know what that means? It means that we are having our church wide EGG HUNT and PALM DANCING. Be sure to mark your calendars for April 13 because during both services the kids will be singing a song and dancing with Palms to celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry. Not only will we be doing something special in church, we will also have a family style picnic on the lawn on the play yard and then a giant egg hunt! Bring your family, friends and neighbors and food for your friends and get ready to party. The picnic will begin after 2nd service, around 12:15. After our picnic we will have our egg hunt. There will be a prize if you find the golden egg so be sure to come and enjoy our festivities.



Everyone is invited to participate in our picnic, but our egg hunt will be geared for kids 12 and under. We will also take pictures with the EASTER BUNNY for the whole family. It is going to be a blast. If you would like to donate plastic eggs for our egg hunt we would greatly appreciate it. We are also asking for candy donations to fill our eggs. Please avoid candy with nuts and hard candy so we can keep our little



The Outreach Committee is called by our Heavenly Father to extend the hospitality that we find in our fellowship to the community, to visitors, and to new members, in order to draw them into the family of Christian faith at First Presbyterian Church.

Cheating Death by Terry Neven, Outreach Committee

They say two things are inevitable: taxes and death. I don't know about taxes, but II Timothy 1:10 says, "...through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who has abolished death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." While physical death is inevitable (at least until Christ returns), eternal life with Christ (in a new body!) is available to all who believe!

During this upcoming Easter Season, our Outreach Committee encourages each of us to share with others and invite them to a church service or to a related church activity (Lenten study, Adult Life, etc.).

Jesus said (after His resurrection), "Go into all the world and preach the gospel (the Good News!)." Others can come to know Christ and enjoy a relationship with Him through our words and conversations with them. Many around us need encouragement, hope and healing. We are Christ's ambassadors to share His love with others, to bring the message of hope and encouragement, and to lead them to the One who can bring them the answers they need to life's questions.

Let's help others "Cheat Death" through sharing the message of Christ during this Lenten season.

The Outreach Committee works toward reaching out to our community and those around us. We invite you to share your ideas with us and/or participate in this committee to help FPCN reach out to others.





2014 Board of Deacons

Simple Prayer

By Patrick Stokes



Praying is a prominent part of being a Deacon. When I was a young man in catechism at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Northridge, I cannot ever remember praying out loud. When we did pray, it was always with our heads bowed, our hands together, and listening to a priest or our teachers pray. We never prayed out loud in public. At home the only praying we did out loud as kids (my 4 brothers and I) was at the dinner table and it was always the same prayer. "Bless Us Oh Lord for the food for which we are about to receive from the bountiful hands of Christ our Lord, Amen." Short, sweet and to the point.

Fast forward us to 1996 and newly connected to First Presbyterian Church of Newhall. The congregation prayed aloud every week reading from our programs, still well within our "comfort zone." Three years later I found myself being called to the Deacon Board under a wonderful man and Deacon Jay Headley. He always offered us a chance to pray aloud at the opening and closing of the Deacon Board meeting. A couple of times during my three years of being a Deacon, I stepped up and said our prayer stumbling and getting tongue tied, but I got through it and I was heard. Through that experience I learned one big thing about praying. The most important thing is that every prayer is valid, from your heart to God's ear. It has nothing to do with how it gets there. Just get it there.

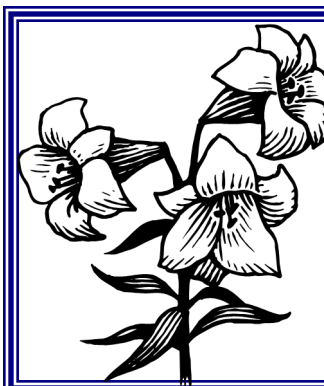
We all pray in church together and on our own. Most of us pray in our private lives, whether it's before a meal or before we go to bed. There is never a bad or inappropriate time to pray. Prayers can't be answered if they're not asked.

I now pray every morning. I pray before I even get out of bed. I sit on the side my bed and pray, I thank God for waking me up and allowing me to live here and now. I thank God for getting me through yesterday, and all the good things that have happened. Then, I pray he will protect me and my family. I ask for his protection. I ask him to guide my kids to good decisions. And to bring good things to them. And finally I pray for all the people and things (large and small) that make my life the joy that it is.

I pray every morning when I leave for work for him to give me patience and a safe journey to Pasadena. And I say a similar prayer when I leave work as well (because the 210 freeway is where all the procrastinators and slowpokes tend to gather around 6:00pm) so I pray for patience.

I also pray, if only for one quick moment before every meal. Even though it is not audible to those around me, God hears my thanks. I especially need to pray before dinner when we have guests in our home. It lets me show all those who dine with us that we appreciated them and their presence in our home and lives.

So when something is important to you, let God know. The only way he will know is if you pray. So simple!



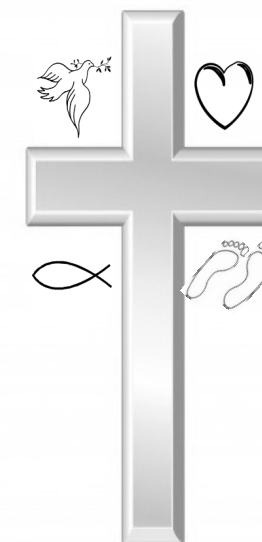
Don't miss out! You can participate in decorating our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday through the purchase of Easter lilies. Orders will be accepted from March 30 through April 13. To order an Easter lily in memory or in honor of someone, you can fill out the order form which can be found in the bulletin on March 30 & April 6, or use an order form on the Narthex table, or you can call the Church Office 661-259-0555 x. 0.

The cost of each lily is \$10. Lilies will be available to take home after the last service on Easter Sunday.

Spotlight on 2014 Board of Deacons Sunday, April 27th, 2014

The Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church of Newhall,
following the example of Jesus Christ,
are committed to provide supportive services
and care to the community of faith.

Pastoral Support
Phil Aijian, CLP



Deacon Moderator
Patrick G. Stokes

Identify your Deacon by finding your zip code on the right

- | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|--------------|
| 1. <u>Saugus & Agua Dulce</u> | | 4. <u>Stevenson Ranch</u> | |
| Brian Michael | 91350 (A-R) | Judy Jones | 91380 (A-Z) |
| Rod Belcher | 91350 (S-Z) | Judy Jones | 91381 (A-Z) |
| Rod Belcher | 91390 (A-Z) | 5. <u>Castiac, Acton,
& Out of Area Zip Codes</u> | |
| 2. <u>Canyon County</u> | | Ginger Balkcom | 91384 (A-Z) |
| Coleen Knox | 91351 (A-Z) | Ginger Balkcom | 93510 (A-Z) |
| Marilyn Pettek | 91387 (A-K) | Ginger Balkcom | Out of Area |
| Patrick Stokes | 91387 (L-Z) | 6. <u>Newhall, Senior Residences</u> | |
| Patrick Stokes | 91386 (A-Z) | Lynn Viggianelli | Senior (A-Z) |
| 3. <u>Valencia</u> | | Mic Montalvo | 91321 (A-G) |
| Jeanne Iler | 91354 (A-Z) | Gloria Boss | 91321 (H-MA) |
| Sharon Dziubala | 91355 (A-H) | Gloria Boss | 91322 (A-Z) |
| Susie Creighton | 91355 (I-P) | | |
| Carol Hauenstein | 91355 (Q-Y) | | |



2014 Board of Deacons



Your 2014 Board of Deacons is made up of 15 ordinary church members who have decided to do something extraordinary. Kingdom Work! Each Year, typically, 5 Deacons rotate off the board and 5 new members are sought via the Nominating Committee, always keeping fresh and energetic souls on the board.

The Deacon Board comes together at least once a month and is committed to serving the parishioners of First Presbyterian Church of Newhall. It's not always an easy task, but it is always needed and appreciated. We are here, sharing the love of God and serving his people whatever need. The first job of each Deacon is to send out **letters of introduction** to everyone in his or her parish. If you have received one, let us know so we can correct it.



One of our most visible tasks is **servicing coffee and refreshments** every Sunday morning in the kiosk after each service. Secondly, we setup and prepare for **Communion** every Sunday that it is served. We create, coordinate and distribute **Lenten Devotionals** each Lenten Season. We coordinate decorating the sanctuary each Easter with **lilies** for our beautiful, Easter Service. We provide for special **gift bags** each Holiday Season, for parishioners who have needed special care from their Deacon..



We are always excited to offer cake when special **landmark birthdays** come along. We provide **flowers in the Sanctuary** for special anniversaries and birthdays.



Our Main event of the Spring, is the Annual **Ice Cream Social**. This year we will be combining it with Church Life Committee's annual event, the **Church Anniversary Picnic**. It will be on the first weekend in June so mark your calendars. It is a "must attend" event.

This year we have begun giving to the **Tempered Steels Wounded Warriors** as well as our local **Salvation Army**. We are also always looking for new ways to serve not just our church community, but our local community as well.

Each Holiday season we raise money by selling our First Presbyterian Church of Newhall **Christmas ornaments** and **Christmas cards**. That money goes into the Deacon General fund. We also sponsor a **Deacon Fund offering** around the beginning of each season.



We provide little "Thank You's" to Moms on **Mothers Day** and Dads on **Fathers Day**. We acknowledge each of our youth moving on through High School and College **Graduations**.



We also offer some **financial help** to parishioners who are in need of temporary assistance—when they just can't seem make ends meet.

We have **Prayer Warriors** who pass on prayer requests via phone calls and emails. Also the Deacons are always there in times of need when a member must face all that is involved when a loved one departs to Heaven. We can provide for a **memorial reception** or celebration. We are blessed and honored to provide this for our members.



Two other ministries are under the umbrella of the Deacons, **Stephen Ministry** and **New Directions**. Learn more about them on the facing page.

I am honored and humbled to be on the Deacon Board for this, my second 3-year term, and even more so to serve as it's Moderator. I must also acknowledge, for stepping up, Marilyn Pettek as the Board's Secretary and Judy Jones as our Treasurer. Without their service this Board could not thrive.

- Patrick G Stokes, Deacon Moderator

2014 Board of Deacons

STEPHEN MINISTRY

A Stephen Minister comes alongside a hurting person and meets with that person, generally on a weekly basis, to listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support. Because of the confidentiality of this ministry, you probably will never hear about the good works being done throughout our church, but **since 2010, our church's program has had 34 people complete training, and our commissioned Stephen Ministers have served 35 individuals in our church and our community.**



In addition, our Stephen Ministers have formed a team which we call S.M.A.S.H. (Stephen Ministers Are Supporting Hospitalizations). The S.M.A.S.H. team provides loving support to people who need short-term care to reduce isolation while "under the weather."

Also if anyone needs prayer and/or support on a Sunday Morning, they can look for Stephen Ministers identified by their badges in the patio area after both services.

First Presbyterian Church of Newhall has a covenant with the Stephen Ministries organization which allows our congregation to send delegates to Stephen Ministry Leader Training and to conduct Stephen Ministry trainings.

Stephen Ministries is an independent, not-for-profit trans-denominational Christian educational organization, founded in 1975 and based in St. Louis, Missouri. The organization's name is from Acts 6, where Stephen was chosen to provide caring ministry to those in need.



Stephen Ministers are Christian men and women who are trained to provide one-to-one care to people experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, relocation, etc. The Stephen Ministries organization has more than 600,000 people who have completed training in over 11,000 congregations. **At First Pres, we are currently in our third training with 10 people attending.**

NEW DIRECTIONS

Carolyn Ritchie recognized the need to provide a support group for widows in our congregation, and she formed the group, New Directions, for that purpose. The following is Carolyn's summary of this ministry.

For eight years New Directions has been available for those who wish to join other women following the loss of their husband. A time for "Tea and Crumpet," a time of fellowship learning, sharing and always lots of fun. There is a bond of understanding and a safe place to be open. Unfortunately we have not met recently, but look forward to joining together again soon.