



ADVENTURE

NEWS

Faithful Shepherd Presbyterian Church

2530 S. 165th Ave., Omaha, NE 68130

Rev. Darin Seaman, Pastor Phone 330-2683 On the web at 'www.fspresby.org'

Vol.25 No.5

April 2011

John & Marian Lord, Editors

April Highlights



Tuesdays

- Men's Prayer Group 6:45 a.m.
- Financial Peace University 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays

- Lenten Study & Supper 6:30 p.m. (Through April 13)
- Adult Choir 7:30 p.m. (After April 13: 7:00 p.m.)

Thursdays

- (1st & 3rd) Parents and Kids @ Home 10:00 a.m.
- Faithful Quilters Group 7:00 p.m.

Sundays

- Worship 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 5

- Skating Party 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 12

- Retirees' Luncheon, Olive Garden 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 16

- Blood Drive 7:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 17 PALM SUNDAY

- Ham Dinner 12:15 p.m.

Thursday, April 21 MAUNDY THURSDAY

- Book Club 10:00 a.m.
- Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 22 GOOD FRIDAY

- Prayers Around the Cross 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Serve at Siena/Francis House 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 23

- Community Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 24 EASTER SUNDAY

- Sunrise Worship 6:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 28

- Potpourri 10:30 a.m.

See enclosed calendar for more.

Annual Ham & Pot Luck

Dinner



Palm Sunday, April 17th

After the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

The Fellowship committee will provide the ham and scalloped potatoes and the rest of the side dishes will be potluck. Please bring a dish that will serve 12.

Holy Week Schedule



HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, April 17

9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Worship
(Receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering)

Maundy Thursday, April 21

7:00 p.m. Worship

Good Friday, April 22

9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Prayers Around the Cross in the Sanctuary

Holy Saturday, April 23

10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (children up to 10 years)

Easter Sunday, April 24

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Worship (outdoors)

7:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Worship



Session Highlights

The Session took the following actions at their March meeting:

- Discussed covenant theology. The focus of the Bible study was the topic of covenant.
- Discussed the ongoing controversy of the PC(USA).
- Discussed an understanding of baptism within the life of the church.
- Approved the finance report.
- Approved the November 2010 & January 2011 Session Minutes.
- Discussed the online version of the newsletter.
- Approved new members: Charlie & Suzy Kuszynski, and Jake & Ginny Curtiss.
- Approved a youth mission trip to Kansas City (July 17-22).
- Approved an adult baptism: Lillian Conn.
- Received written reports from the following committees: Building & Grounds, Member Care (Fellowship).

Women's Prayer Group

Are you interested in participating in a women's prayer group? The day of the week and the time of the meetings will be scheduled after we see what day and time will work best for different people. Please contact Susan Drager (402-330-4409) or Marian Lord (402-330-6729) if you might be interested in being a part of a women's prayer group.

ATTENDANCE

The average Sunday morning worship attendance in March was 115.

Bible Quiz Answer: C

Japan Relief

Want to make a separate check specifically for the recovery/relief efforts in Japan? You can make a donation payable to Faithful Shepherd and put *Japan relief* in the memo section. We'll forward it to our denomination for their response to this disaster.

The denomination is working with partner churches here and in Japan to put these donations to the best use.

"Quote of the Month"

The joyful news that [Christ] is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice.

—Henry Knox Sherrill



Saints:

In his book *Practice Resurrection* Eugene Peterson invites the reader to consider the church and its ability to practice resurrection in today's world. He writes:

Church is the textured context in which we grow up in Christ to maturity. But church is difficult. Sooner or later, though, if we are serious about growing up in Christ, we have to deal with church. . . Many Christians find church to be the most difficult aspect of being a Christian. And many drop out - there may be more Christians who don't go to church or go only occasionally than who embrace it, warts and all.

So, why church? The short answer is the Holy Spirit formed it to be a colony of heaven in the country of death. . . Church is the core element in the strategy of the Holy Spirit for providing human witness and physical presence to the Jesus-inaugurated kingdom of God in this world. It is not that kingdom complete, but it is a witness to that kingdom.¹

The book invites us to practice resurrection. That is, we are called to practice resurrection in a culture of death. We live in a culture of failed nations, dying civilizations, dying marriages, and dying careers to name only a few. To practice resurrection is an intentional effort to look for life in the world amidst the death that surrounds us. It is a practice that looks forward to a day when life has the last word.

It is difficult to practice resurrection, at times, in our world. We read about a disaster in Japan, conflicts in Libya, Afghanistan and Iraq, genocide in Sudan, violence in Omaha and we begin to wonder about this resurrection hope to which we are called.

Every year, though, the church states it boldly: He Is Risen! We proclaim it because we believe that life has the last word and that God has overcome the death of this world. So, we joyfully gather as the body of Christ to proclaim Christ's victory over death and then throughout the season of Easter, to practice resurrection.

I hope you can join us during Lent and Easter this year. The grace and peace of Christ be with you all.

Pastor Darin

¹ Peterson, Eugene H. *Practice Resurrection: A Conversation On Growing Up in Christ*. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, MI, 2010, pp. 11-12.

Finance Report



Finance Update

February operating expenses were \$5,633 higher than operating gifts, but it should be noted that February's expenses included \$5,750 for the annual "per capita" payment to PC(USA).

	February '11	2011 Totals
Operating Gifts	\$17,212	\$37,221
Operating Expenses	\$22,845	\$43,998

As of July 1st 2009, any gifts given to the church that are designated for "building fund" will be considered restricted gifts and deposited into a sub account to be applied toward principal on our bank mortgage. Previously, these were considered operating gifts since the mortgages are paid from the operating account. This change in policy gives members an opportunity to directly reduce the principal on our mortgage.

For those who are interested in setting up Electronic Fund Transfers for their regular pledges, please contact the church office (330-2683) or Bill Neuman (991-2894).

On behalf of Faithful Shepherd, Thank you for your continued prayers and generosity.

Bill Neuman
Finance Director

Who's Who

Session members for 2010 /2011: Sue Anderson, Sunny Andrews, Steve Drager, Skip Dvorak, Debbie Hart, John Lord, Bill Neuman, Kathy Papadopoulos, Frank Possinger, and Jeff Sinley.

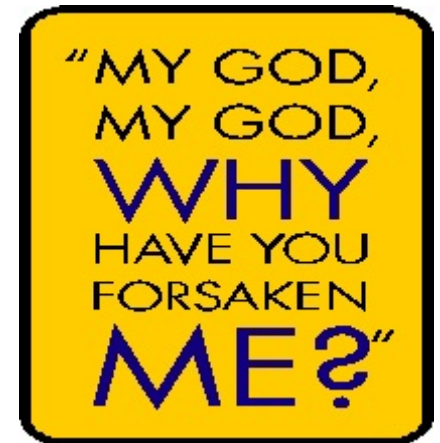
Board of Deacons members for 2010/2011: Sara Andrews, Jim Carruthers, Angie Champion, Erin Drager, Jon Hart, Dan Kusmierski, Marilyn Thorpe, Dawn Walkenhorst, and Betty Wittington.

Bible Quiz

Two places in the Bible, one in the Old Testament and one in the New, feature the following words: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

The New Testament account is found in Matthew 27:46, when Jesus is hanging on the cross. Where are the words found in the Old Testament?

- A. 1 Kings 19:4
- B. Jeremiah 38:9
- C. Psalm 22:1
- D. Lamentations 1:20



Easter's Meaning



In a 2010 Barna Group survey, two-thirds of Americans knew that Easter is a religious holiday. But only 42 percent connected its meaning to Jesus' resurrection. And only two percent of adults said they would describe Easter as the most important holiday of their faith.

Not everyone who connects Easter to religion has the facts straight. Two percent of Americans said Easter is about Jesus' birth. Another two percent said it's about Jesus' "rebirth." And one percent said it's a celebration of his second coming. Another three percent described Easter as a celebration of spring or a pagan holiday.

In the same survey, 31 percent of active churchgoers said they'd definitely invite an unchurched friend to worship with them on Easter weekend.

This Easter, share the truth and joy of the holiday with someone who doesn't know Jesus. News of the resurrection is too good to keep to ourselves!

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)



Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the *Self-Development of People* and *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance* each receive 32 percent. We will receive our offering on Palm Sunday, April 17th, at both services.

Community Easter Egg Hunt



Join us once again for another great Easter egg hunt. We'll gather at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23rd for a community Easter egg hunt. Kids, ages infant to 10 years old, are invited to attend. Invite your family and friends to join you.

Spring Cleanup



Join us for our spring cleanup on Saturday, April 30 at 9:00 a.m. We'll gather outside to spruce up the grounds. We usually meet for about two hours. For more information, contact the church office (402) 330-2683.

Easter Lily Orders



Easter lilies will again be available for purchase. The cost (\$8) is payable to the church. Watch for the order forms in the bulletins on Sunday mornings in April.

Spring Fling Skating Party



Join us for a skating party for the kids during spring break. The roller skating party will be held Tuesday, April 5 at Skatedaze. Invite your family and friends. Please contact Buffie Denning (402) 330-2683 for more information.

Joys

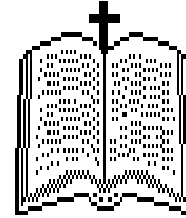
April Worship Schedule



Birthdays

We wish a happy April birthday to Bill Neuman (4/2), Sara Andrews (4/3), Steve Aschoff (4/3), Katrina Cherney (4/4), Tom Lammers (4/4), Lucille Griffith (4/5), Tom Miya (4/6), Kelly Schultz (4/7), Dawn Walkenhorst (4/8), Angie Champion (4/10), Alex Bruening (4/11), Bailey Seaman (4/12), Wanda Neuman (4/14), Rosie Swanson (4/14), Kathleen Cherney (4/16), Dan Kusmierski (4/18), Steve McCown (4/24), Susan Drager (4/27), and Tim Hart (4/29).

Ed. Note: If we have missed anyone, please let us know.



Sunday, April 3: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sermon Title: *Everything Exposed*

Please read Ephesians 5:8-14.

Sunday, April 10: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sermon Title: *Emotions in the Context of Faith*

Please read John 11:1-45.



Anniversaries

Happy April wedding anniversary wishes to Greg & Sue Bruening (4/15), Roger & Marla Kniewel (4/15), David & Jean Evans (4/16), and Jim & Sue Anderson (4/28).

Sunday, April 17: Palm Sunday

Sermon Title: *What About Jesus Inspired Others?*

Please read Matthew 21:1-11 and Philipians 2:5-11.

Sunday, April 24: Easter

Sermon Title: *Un-masked Crusaders*

Please read John 20:1-18.

Guests



Recent guests in worship include Michelle Oiness; Shirley Greene; Patricia Greene; Mardella Cates; Elizabeth Csipkes; Josephine Bright; Grace & Ava Fagan; and Cheryl &

Chaz Ebel.



Faithful Shepherd

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2530 S 165th Avenue Omaha, NE 68130 (402) 330-2683 www.fspresby.com						
3 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am SS 11:00 am Worship	4 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	5 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group 10:00 am Dance Class 6:00 pm Skating Party @ SkateDaze 7:00 pm FPU	6 6:30 pm Lenten Study/ Supper 7:30 pm Choir	7 10:00 pm PAK 7:00 pm Faithful Quilters	8 Youth Spirituality Retreat in Council Bluffs (7:00 pm) 7:00 pm Dance Workshop 7:00 pm Bridge Group	9 8:00 am Dance Workshop continues
10 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am SS 11:00 am Worship 6:30 pm Small group @ Beatty's	11 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	12 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group 10:00 am Dance Class 11:30 am Retiree's Group 7:00 pm FPU	13 6:30 pm Lenten Study/ Supper 7:30 pm Choir	14 10:00 pm Agape Latte 7:00 pm Faithful Quilters	15	16 7:00 am Blood Drive 1:00 pm Set-up for Ham Dinner
17 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am SS 11:00 am Worship 12:15 am Ham Dinner 6:30 pm Marriage Small Group	18 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Session	19 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group 10:00 am Dance Class 7:00 pm FPU	20 7:00 pm Choir	21—Maundy Thursday 10:00 pm PAK & Book Club @ Vidlak's 7:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Quilters	22—Good Friday 9:00 am—9:00 pm Prayers Around the Cross 4:15 pm Carpool to Siena Francis House	23 10:00 am Community Easter Egg Hunt
24—Easter 6:30 am Sunrise worship 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am SS 11:00 am Worship	25 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:30 pm Worship Team	26 6:45 am Men's Prayer Group 10:00 am Dance Class 7:00 pm FPU 7:00 pm B&G 7:30 pm Hospitality	27 7:00 pm Choir	28 10:30 am Potpourri & Lunch 7:00 pm Quilters	29	30 9:00 am Spring cleanup

HOT CROSS BUNS

Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

What you do:

1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.

1. Jesus	5. cross
2. weary	6. endured
3. endured	7. scorning
4. opposition	8. shame

1. Jesus	5. perfecter
2. lose	6. him
3. pioneer	7. faith
4. sinners	8. hand

1. eyes	5. right
2. us	6. grow
3. joy	7. God
4. heart	8. throne

“... fixing our _____ on _____, the _____ and
 _____ of _____. For the _____ set before _____
 he _____ the _____, its _____, and
 sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____.
 Consider _____ who _____ such _____
 from _____, so that you will not _____
 and _____.” HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

Answer: “...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV

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Without Jesus ...

Without the risen Savior in our hearts, life is like:

- A chocolate Easter Bunny --- empty on the inside;
- An Easter bonnet --- easily blown off kilter;
- Last year's Easter outfit --- it doesn't quite fit right;
- An Easter lily --- it soon withers and dries up;
- A bag of jellybeans --- sugary and sweet but lacking substance;
- An unfound Easter basket --- full of gifts that spoil and go to waste;
- A colored Easter egg --- looks great but cracks under pressure;
- The Easter bunny --- always hopping here and there;
- Marshmallow Peeps --- becomes hard when opened up;
- Easter parade --- a long journey with no destination;
- An unopened Easter card --- a message of love unclaimed.

-- David Patterson

See You in Church