



The Covenanter

APRIL 2021



Winter Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

What does Easter mean to you? What an interesting question...

Easter for me means: Well, Easter means so many things. To be sure, I recall wonderful memories as a child, which for me included platform shoes and a baby blue leisure suit. Unfortunately, I also overindulged on Peeps during Easter one year, and to this day cannot be near one. Of course, our children have always found a great deal of pleasure in this each year. Our family enjoys teasing me, hiding those little gooey, nasty, unnaturally colored and flavored baby biddies, right where I will find them. Yuck!

However, and more significantly, Easter also means for me: Life is now and everlasting. Grace is sufficient. In the end, Hope and Love wins. Easter means, God knows me, God wants me and that a wedding is in the future. Easter means Jesus is alive.

Easter was reflected in a flower for the poet Claude McKay as he wrote the following from the streets of Harlem:

The Easter Flower

Far from this foreign Easter damp and chilly
My soul steals to a pear-shaped plot of ground,
Where gleamed the lilac-tinted Easter lily
Soft-scented in the air for yards around;
Alone, without a hint of guardian leaf!
Just like a fragile bell of silver rime,
It burst the tomb for freedom sweet and brief
In the young pregnant year at Eastertime;
And many thought it was a sacred sign,
And some called it the resurrection flower;
And I, a pagan, worshiped at its shrine,
Yielding my heart unto its perfumed power.

– Claude McKay (1889-1948)

What does Easter mean to you?

Grace, Mercy and Peace,

Pastor Darren



HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday

APRIL 1ST

7:00 PM

Easter Sunday

APRIL 4TH

7:00 AM—FRONT LAWN

10:30 AM—SANCTUARY



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Volunteers Needed

July 6-9 • 9am-Noon

This year in person VBS is making a triumphant re-entry! Mark your calendars now! WPPC will be sponsoring an in-person VBS from Tuesday, July 6 - Friday, July 9 from 9:00 AM - Noon and we need your help. As with VBS in past years, we will need volunteers to help. We have spots available for leading classes, hosting story time, playing games, and so much more. If you are available July 6th-July 9th (one day, every day, or only two or three days) and can help with VBS, please email Emily Wasser (emilyw@winppc.org) and she will be happy to find the perfect place for you!



DEACON'S DEN DENNIS SCHMALSTIG, WPPC DEACON

I can sympathize with the incredulous disciples who resisted acceptance of the resurrection, with Peter who disbelieved the women who found an empty tomb. He had to run to go see the abandoned linen strips for himself. Jesus understood their reluctance. He appeared amongst them and persistently explained the scriptures predicting his execution and final deliverance. He gave them a reminder of his former actions by breaking bread in their company. He showed the scars of crucifixion to prove his identity and then ate a piece of broiled fish to prove his physical presence. Ghosts don't eat.

It's easy to deride Doubting Thomas for his stubborn unwillingness to believe. But I think that his reaction was simply an attempt to defend himself from the pain of false hope. He, like the rest of the disciples, had just begun to come to terms with the brutality of Jesus' death. The remaining eleven also faced the threat of suffering the fate of their fallen leader. Jesus' sudden appearance came at a time when they had just commenced on the arduous task of rebuilding their lives from the rubble of an unimaginable disaster. Emotions have momentum: it was difficult for them to turn on a dime and rejoice.

This last year has been uncommonly difficult, but signs appear that better days are on the way. I expect that emergence from the pandemic will require a period of accommodation. It may take time to find footing again as social beings, to turn the direction of our emotions to a new heading.

But despite all that, I wish joy for everyone at Easter. As we celebrate Jesus' triumph over death, let's celebrate the lives that we've been given. Let's rejoice in hope even if doubts still linger.



*Christian Sympathy is extended
to the family and friends of
Betty McKinney who passed
March 15th.*



Stan & Barbara Halterman

We're glad you're here!



5 CENTS A MEAL SUNDAY, APRIL 25



On Sunday, April 25 we will take the second quarterly collection for 5 Cents A Meal this year. {It was formerly 2 Cents A Meal.} Please continue your support for P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer To Hunger). Your contributions support the Second Harvest Food Bank, which distributes meals to partner feeding programs across our six-county area; Society of St. Andrew (SOSA), which coordinates gleaning events with volunteers to provide fresh, nutritious produce to local food banks; Alliance for International Reforestation (AIR) in Guatemala, which plants fruit trees to provide fruit and prevent mudslides, as well as building and installing fuel-efficient brick stoves in remote poverty-stricken villages; and Madagascar Project (Dan and Elizabeth Turk, PC (USA) missionaries), which allows Dan to train seminar students

in the planting and cultivation of fruit trees, and helps Elizabeth implement a community health program, teach AIDS awareness and advise the family planning program.

Your contributions in the past have helped our partners to combat hunger in many ways and in many places. Please go to our website (www.winppc.org/give) if you would like to give online. Thank you for your continued support.



OFFERING UPDATE: 5 CENTS A MEAL

Our first quarterly offering was taken on January 31, 2021 and we received \$499.22. These monies have been sent to Presbytery to be distributed to Second Harvest Food Bank (25%), Society of St. Andrew/SOSA (21%), Alliance for International Reforestation/AIR - 21%, and Dan and Elizabeth Turk, PC (USA) mission workers in Madagascar - 21%. The remaining 12% covers administrative costs. On behalf of the above recipients, we thank you for your generous support of these projects. The beneficiaries of these gifts will learn that through Christ's love all things are possible.



The Compassion Committee thanks you!



NOTES FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Steve and Sonia Dettweiler were packed and ready to return to their work in Nigeria, when Sonia's routine mammogram revealed stage one breast cancer. Sonia will instead begin a series of treatments for her cancer with the goal of returning to Nigeria when her treatment is completed. Steve was going to teach several linguistic courses at the university. In a move similar to many teachers, he now has the challenge of finding ways to teach his classes via Zoom.

This Child Here is expanding its training for foster parents to help them provide effective care for children with greater needs with the goal that the children can receive care for several years. The program is also using games paired with reflection to help teens learn conflict management skills. Due to COVID the program has had to reduce the size of their group programs.

Santa Clara Presbyterian Church (Cuba) and other Cuban churches are struggling with the economic and health impact of the COVID 19 virus. Although Santa Clara was able for a time to have in church services, it is now struggling. The virus has created a major financial impact on Cubans generally with the absence of the tourist industry along with the increased restrictions of the embargo. The churches are doing all they can to continue to help people in their communities in terms of food, safe water and ministry by written materials. The Cuban Partnership Network (WPPC is a member) has identified a short term opportunity to provide some financial help. If you would like to send a donation, please make your check out to Shepard of the Valley Presbyterian Church (write either Santa Clara or Synod on the memo line) and send it to Bryan Beck, CPN Treasurer, 6400 Zapateco NW, Los Ranchos, NM 87107. Checks must be sent to this address by April 1st. Contributions are tax deductible.

Alliance for Reforestation Guatemala (AIR) continues to protect and improve the lives of people in several areas of Guatemala and Nicaragua through planting trees, working with communities to improve farming, building safer and more fuel efficient stoves, and working with schools to create environmental education. Although COVID prevented teams from the US last year, the AIR staff and community members worked hard as a team to continue planting essential trees to prevent deadly landslides. Don Miguel, one of the committed tech support staff, continued to volunteer even though he had officially retired. AIR now as the "good" problem of communities waiting to be included in the program. In 2021 AIR hopes to add two new tech staff and create another center in Sololá. If the virus situation improves, it also hopes to have volunteer teams from the US.



Don Camillo in Caliaj has planted trees with AIR for over 15 years!



Josue Ajcalon and farmers in Chutinimit



NEWS FROM TRANSITIONS ORPHAN ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

AUDREY (BALL) SANTIAGO, DIRECTOR • WWW.TRANSITIONSOAF.COM

During this unprecedented year of COVID, when folks the world over have been hunkering down waiting it out, exciting things have been happening for us in Odessa. Indeed, our mission has been evolving and expanding, and our special news is that we have taken on a third transition home. To help you to put a face with every name, here is a recent photo of our three sets of house parents.



Left to right: Larissa and Sergei, Igor and Ira, and Tanya and Misha

The couple in the middle is Igor and Ira, the house parents of our first transition home, our home for boys. We've been working with them since before we opened their home, when they were parenting a home for boys for a different supporting organization. They've grown with us by becoming the parents to our boys and through our building projects and subsequent transition homes. Their hospitality, their kindness, and their wisdom have

kept us grounded through every change, and I wonder sometimes if we would be where we are today without them.

Tanya and Misha, the parents in our transition home for girls, were feeling led to become foster parents. Fostering would allow them to take in younger orphans of both genders, and, with our blessing, they began to do the paperwork and take the required training. The lease on the house we were renting for them ended, and Misha and Tanya needed a new place to call home with their growing family.

We've known Sergei and Larissa for some years. We met them as house parents of a transition home for girls in the same vicinity as our other two transition homes. In the past year, we learned that their sponsoring organization would be pulling out of Ukraine at the end of 2020, which would leave them and their seven resident girls with no support. They needed to vacate the home they were living in, and they wanted to stay the course and keep their family of girls intact. But how? (Misha and Tanya, Sergei and Larissa, and all their kids are now safely ensconced in rental homes for now while we figure out a new plan for their housing needs.)

Now, sometimes the puzzle pieces just fit together, and it seemed that the only logical thing to do was to invite Larissa and Sergei to join our little village, and after prayerful deliberation, that's exactly what we did. **Our little village has expanded once again. We now have a foster home for younger and older children, a transition home for teen-aged boys, a transition home for teen-aged girls, and six cottages for our young adults who are ready for independent living.** What a neat, little package!

But even neat little packages come with challenges. Our challenge now is a financial one. Our budget, which is supported entirely by donations, has been adequate to support two transition homes. For those of you who are figure minded, it takes \$1300-\$1500 per month to fully fund each home. This third home is going to be a real stretch to our budget, and we take this next step in faith, believing that if God brings us to it, He will bring us through it.

Please pray for wisdom, guidance, and means for us as we move forward in this ministry. Please freely share our story with anyone who may be looking for a worthy cause to support. I am happy to speak or correspond with anyone who would like to know more or who may be interested in helping to support our homes. I can be reached by email at ajkball@gmail.com or by phone at 407-929-4907. Thank you for continuing this journey with us, year after year. *Your hearts and hands help us to do this work. You make a difference in the lives of orphans every single day.*

With gratitude and love, *Audrey*



LIBRARY NEWS

DORIS ANGUISH, LIBRARIAN

The history of the Bible is interesting and listed below are some of the highlights.

1400 BC:

Moses received the first “written” word, which was the Ten Commandments.

500 BC:

Completion of original manuscripts which are the 39 books of the old testament.

200 BC:

Completion of all original Greek manuscripts which contain the 39 books of the old testament and 14 apocrypha books.

1st Century AD:

Completion of all original Greek manuscripts which made up 37 books for the new testament.

315 AD:

The Bishop of Alexandria, Athanasius, identified 27 books of the new testament which today are the holy scripture.

382 AD:

Jerome’s Latin manuscript produced containing 80 books (39 old testament plus 14 apocrypha plus 27 new testament.)

1611 AD:

King James Bible printed. Originally with all 80 books. Then the 14 apocrypha were officially removed. Uses beautiful language.

1901 AD:

The American standard printed—the first American version of the King James version.

1973 AD:

The New International Version “Modern & accurate word for word English translation” of the Bible.

2002 AD:

The English Standard Version is published.

Today, Presbyterian Churches use the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. This revision of the tried-and-true Revised Standard Version, translated by a team of scholars from the mainline churches, is probably the best literal translation available today. It reads easily.



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Bible Quiz


We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

A. John

B. Paul of Tarsus

C. Joseph of Arimathea

D. Cleopas




Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)



Easter Blessings

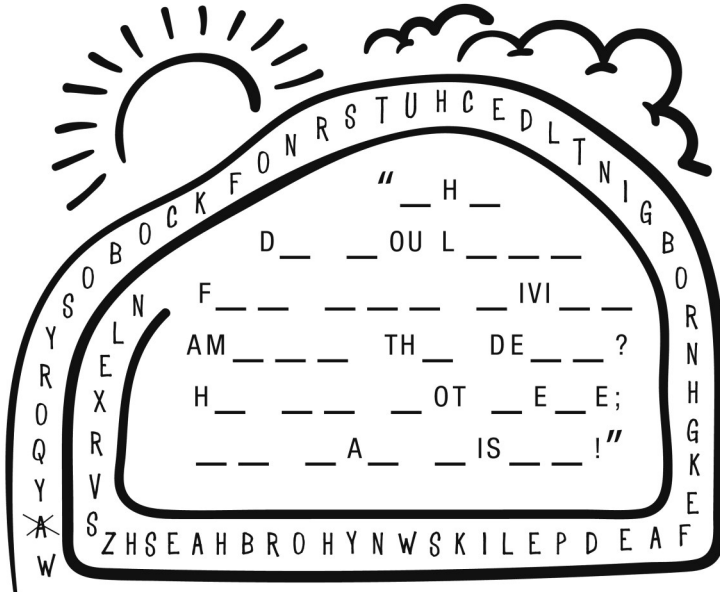
PUZZLE



EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Puzzle!

Use the code to uncover the angel's message in Matthew 28:7 (NIV).

K	G	S	P	H	F	R	I	C	E	Y	L
W	N	M	D	O	U	Z	A	Q	T	B	J

“ ‘ H

3 5 3 4 2

4 4 2 6 1 3 4 3 2

0 3 5 2 5 4 2

4 1 2 4 2

1 3 4 1 1 4 3 6 4 2

3 3 0 3 3 0 1 6 3

1 4 6 4 6 5 5

5 3 5 4 5 6 3 3

1 4 6 6 2 5 5 3 4 2

“ ”

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<u>1</u> Sara Spivey	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> Doug Reece Porter Spangler Ryan Wilson
<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> Thomas Skelton	<u>6</u> Ryleigh Ranson	<u>7</u> Shay Ranson	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> Matt Groeteke Betty Johnston Tatiana Lampe	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> Harry Oldford	<u>16</u> Ayden Blood	<u>17</u> Lisa Dreasher
<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> Brad Erb Tom Thompson	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> Maurice Pulliam Nelson Roe	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> Jackie Groeteke Cameron White	<u>24</u> Allie Evans Lynn Youtz
<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> Anne Murray	<u>28</u> Ardyth Austin Phyllis Woods	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> Caroline James Touckay McCurdy	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<u>1</u> Nancy Appich Shaheed Mohammed Marna Williams
<u>2</u> Marianna LaRue Lori Pantoliano	<u>3</u> Connie Joy Tallungan	<u>4</u> Lurene Braswell Lee Corbett Ben Reece	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u> Jason Mahoney	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> Lily Boyle
<u>9</u> Dan Kittinger	<u>10</u> Susan Davis Lindsay Seel Woody Storey	<u>11</u> Nancy Tassos	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Almeda Dean	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> John Connor Will McCurdy Fred Murray	<u>20</u> Phil Ettinger Scott Frazier	<u>21</u> Jessica Davidson Annette Weidner	<u>22</u> Joann Robertson
<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> Flossie Hellinger Griffin Seel	<u>25</u> Beverly Carpenter	<u>26</u> Ryan Yadav	<u>27</u> David Dodd	<u>28</u> Crystal Fern	<u>29</u> Alan Davis
<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> Stephen Boyle Margie Meliza					



Sharing and taking turns are valued social skills at the preschool.

Social skills give young children a wide range of benefits that last a lifetime. They are linked to greater success in school and the workplace, and better relationships with peers. The good news is that social skills can be taught very early in the preschool setting and at home.

We work with our youngest students on age appropriate sharing, cooperating, listening, following directions, showing empathy and using good manners. Team building happens in the block area. Children master listening skills and taking turns speaking (holding a conversation) during circle time. When young children are encouraged to check on the friend that has hurt feelings and comfort them they acquire empathy skills. Older children walking in a line learn to respect others' physical space and cooperate. Saying please and thank you, and using good table manners during lunch time can go a long way toward helping a child get what they need and earn respect. Kids who struggle to follow directions are likely to

experience consequences in school and later in life. We start with simple one-step directions for class projects and class jobs and build as the child is able to handle more complex directions.

Acquisition of social and emotional skills is part of one's life journey. Young children in our preschool are able to practice and build on these important skills in a real world setting during each school day.

Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool has limited availability for summer camp and the 2021-2022 school year. Please call the preschool office at 407-629-0727 to check if we have a spot for your child. Registration information can be found on our website winppc.org/preschool, and you will find many photographs of preschool activities on our Facebook page [Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool Florida](https://www.facebook.com/WinterParkPresbyterianPreschoolFlorida).



Very young children at the preschool are taught empathy and to take care of each other.



Building with blocks is a team building experience.



The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor
 The Rev. Emily Wasser, Associate Pastor
 Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant
 Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
 Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
 Justin Chase, Director of Music
 Penny Walsh, Organist
 Susan Davis, Director of Handbells & Children's Music
 Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs
 Kenny Lovelace, Sexton

SESSION

2021

Phillip Anderson
 Lisa Dreasher
 Jayne Leach
 Shaheed Mohammed
 Nelson Roe

2022

Theresa Coker
 Bonnie Gaughan
 Fran Morrissey
 Michelle Trahan
 Jay Van Hook

2023

Syd Davis
 Fred Kittinger
 Malcolm MacDiarmid
 Jim McKinney
 Dawn Sumrall

DIACONATE

2021

Mike Galyean
 Reta Jackson
 Julie Kent
 Curtis Koon
 Sara Van Arsdell
 Jeanne Vinci

2022

Susan Davis
 Jane Munns
 Rachel Myers
 Christine Rich
 Dennis Schmalstig
 Meg Ball Thomas

2023

Ron Ellman
 Betty Johnston
 Sevilla Morse
 Cynthia Nants
 Jyme Smith

MISSIONARIES

Rev. Gordon and Dorothy Gartrell - Brazil
 Mark Hare & Jenny Bent - Costa Rica
 Dr. Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar

For Covenanter or Sunday bulletin submissions, please fill out a publicity request online at <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/> or contact Cindy Mitchum at cindym@winppc.org or 407-647-1467.