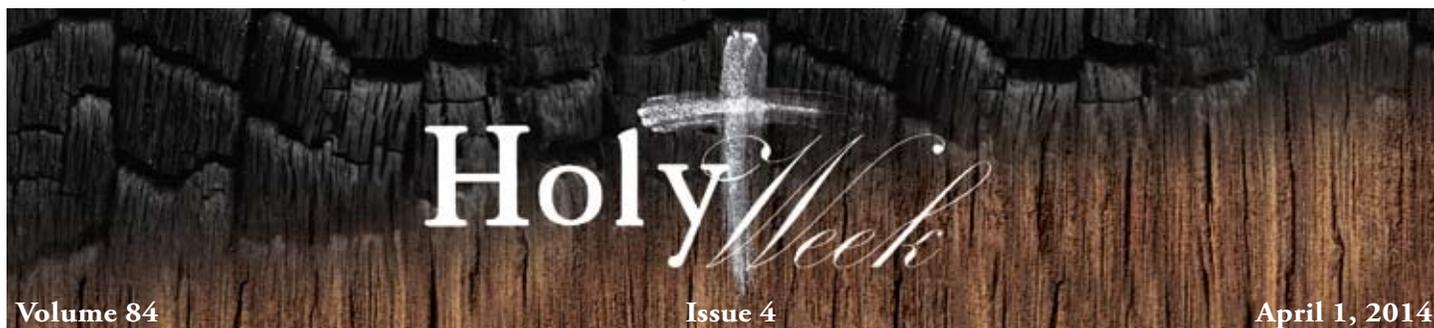


THE MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER



Maundy Thursday Service Holy Communion & Requiem

April 17, 7:30pm
Sanctuary

Join us for a very special Maundy Thursday service. The evening will include Holy Communion in remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples before his crucifixion. The Chancel Choir, led by Music Director Dr. Sébastien Vallée, will perform Dubois' *Seven Last words of Christ*. This sacred Cantata, composed in 1867, dramatizes Christ's last dying moments on cross.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

April 18, 7:30pm
Gather on the Colorado Blvd Patio

On Good Friday, let us walk together on the Way of the Cross. We will gather on the Colorado Boulevard Patio for centering and instruction then will take our own journey using the Scriptural Stations of Cross in our emergent stations around the church. The final station will lead you into a meditative walk to our Prayer Labyrinth.

Pasadena Mission Area Easter Sunrise Service

April 20, 6:00am
Holliston UMC
1305 E. Colorado Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91106

As the stone is rolled away, let us celebrate the Resurrection of Christ together with our brothers and sisters of the Pasadena Mission Area at Holliston UMC. Bishop Minerva Carcaño will be preaching. Breakfast will be served following the service.

Easter Festival Celebration

April 20, 10:00am
Sanctuary

CHRIST IS RISEN! Celebrate with First UMC Pasadena as we have come through Holy Week and have journeyed to Christ's Resurrection from the Cross. Join us for a festival of brass and joint sermon with Rev. Adiel DePano and Rev. Allison Mark.



We are a Christian community seeking intentionally to welcome all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, and education, socio-economic or marital status.

We practice God's ministry of reconciliation through worship, devotion, compassion, and justice for all who have known the pain of exclusion and discrimination.

Our greatest challenge and only hope is to receive and share God's all-encompassing love.



500 E. COLORADO BOULEVARD, PASADENA, CA 91101 (626) 796-0157 FAX: (626) 568-1615

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About The Messenger

The Messenger is a publication of the First United Methodist Church of Pasadena, California.

Material for The Messenger should be submitted to StevenV@fumcpasadena.org no less than two weeks before publication.

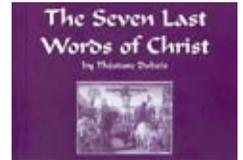


Palm Sunday Worship & Egg Hunt

Before we enter into Holy Week, celebrate Palm Sunday with our children shouting loud, "Hosannas!" during our 10:00am worship service Sunday, April 13. Following worship, children will gather in the Cloister to prepare for an Egg Hunt at noon. The church family is invited to bring a picnic lunch to eat together in the Cloister. This event is sponsored by FUMC Pasadena YOUth Ministries.

The Seven Last Words of Christ

The Chancel choir will present *The Seven Last Words of Christ* by Théodore Dubois as part of our Maundy Thursday service on April 17 at 7:30pm.



Theodore Dubois (1837-1924) was a distinguished French teacher and organist. In 1861 he was awarded the prestigious Prix de Rome for composition. His own output is distinguished by quantity rather than quality – he was overshadowed in composition by his contemporaries such as Gounod, Fauré and Saint-Saëns. Only a few organ works and the oratorio *The Seven Last Words of Christ* survive in use today.

The Seven Last Words of Christ has eight movements: an introduction followed by a movement for each word of Christ from the cross. Dubois used other phrases from the gospels and elsewhere in the bible, together with traditional texts from the Roman Catholic Holy Week liturgies as meditations on the scriptural account.

This special musical presentation will feature the Chancel choir directed by Dr. Sébastien Vallée and accompanied by organist Ae-Kyong Kim. In addition, soloists Christina Bristow, soprano, Robert MacNeil, tenor, and Eric Carampatan, baritone, will be joining the choral ensemble.



Easter Luncheon

Following our Easter Festival Celebration on Sunday, April 20 we hope you will join us for fun, food, & fellowship with our church family at a traditional Easter meal hosted by Roger & Marilynne (Kennedy) Wilander. There will be glazed ham, potatoes, fresh veggies, rolls, salad, and dessert. A suggested donation of \$8.00 per person or \$24 per family is requested, though any amount will be graciously accepted. Please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, April 16 at office@fumcpasadena.org or 626.796.0157.

Update Your Contact Info

Have you moved? Did you get a new cell phone number? Update your information with the Church Office today! This will ensure that you are kept up to date on all that is going on in the church. New information can be sent to office@fumcpasadena.org or call 626.796.0157.





Putting God First in Living and Giving

By Susan Rogers, Stewardship Committee Chairperson

Do we worship idols? The answer may surprise you.

Beginning in April and during the month of May, our church will hear about God's generosity and our response as we experience our stewardship program based on, *First: putting GOD first in living and giving*, developed by author and pastor Mike Slaughter of Ginghamburg Church. There will be opportunities in worship, in small groups, in youth and children's classes, and in devotions that can be used at church or at home.

We are made in God's image and are meant to be creators of life and hope, not the consumers of our culture's shiny gods. We have the ability to change the world and create a legacy that will live forever in the lives of generations to follow. That legacy starts when each of us takes on the steps of financial discipline and fulfilling the call to generosity that God has placed in all of us.

The goal of this stewardship program is not to make you feel guilty, nor is it to say that you have to be exactly like this or that person. The goal is for all of us to ask questions of ourselves and be open to the possibility that God will lead us in new directions in our lives.

During the four-week program, we'll be challenged in a number of different ways. We'll be asked to look for the idols in our own lives (Hint: Most of them aren't animals made of gold) and name the ways these idols control us, holding us back from living in the true freedom that God desires for us.

We'll be challenged to consider the place that money, work, and debt have in our own lives. What are our common understandings of these, and might the witness of Scripture lead us to some different understandings?

We'll be challenged to ask ourselves what it means for us to be faithful, to save, and to give. How do we balance all the competing interests in our lives? What priorities does God want us to have?

Finally, we'll be challenged to give with our hearts, not out of obligation or a sense of duty and not just when we think the recipient deserves our gift. Instead, we'll be challenged to give the way God gives—freely, fully, with no favorites or expectations of repayment.

It is our prayer that, at the end of these four weeks, we will have begun to grow into the individuals and the church that God knows we can be. Please join us in first putting GOD first in living and giving.

Time, Treasure and Talent – all in!

Camp Sky Meadows Work Day

This Spring's semi-annual Work Camp at Sky Meadows will be on Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27. Come for one day or two and enjoy the beautiful mountains in exchange for a little work. There are jobs for every level and the weekend is free for those attending. Bring the family. Young children can always rake leaves. Please sign up in the church office.



Church Staff

Rev. N. Adiel A. DePano
lead pastor

Rev. Allison Mark
associate pastor

Rev. George Mann
pastor emeritus

Dr. Sébastien Vallée
music director

Ae-Kyong Kim
organist

Timothy Sun
business manager

Maggie Audley
office manager

Steven Vredenburgh
*Communication
Coordinator*

Ruth MacPherson
librarian

Livingstone Zan
*minister of welcome &
sexton*

Marcus Chone
maintenance staff

Ely Ramirez
camp manager





Compassionate Giving

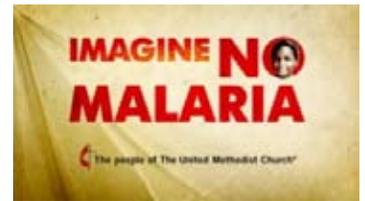
by Nancy Elrod

When I attended church on February 2, 2014, I felt very inspired to help the Imagine No Malaria campaign. So I put my faith into action. I decided to bring the campaign to my classroom. I have been a teacher in Baldwin Park for 26 years at Pleasant View School. I am teaching a wonderful group of third graders this year. I work in a low income neighborhood where many of my students must deal with various hardships themselves such as divorce, unemployment, compromised living conditions, or a parent in jail, amongst other challenges. But I wanted to educate my students about hardships other people and children must endure around the world, especially in Africa. My students were saddened and moved to learn of the tragedies associated with malaria.

After sending a letter to parents about my plan, the money started to come in; a bag of change here and a dollar there. After the first week I had collected \$12.94. During the next week, money continued to trickle in until one day my beautiful student named Mariah donated over \$20.00 in birthday and allowance money. Well, as you can imagine I was astounded at her generosity as tears welled up in my eyes. I thanked her immensely and gave her a hug, as was my usual practice every time one of my students donated money to the “No Malaria Jar.” I have been collecting since then and counted the money today.

I thought perhaps it was about \$50.00. I was pleased to learn that my students and I have collected a total of \$72 dollars and thirteen cents! I am happy that my students have been so charitable in their giving. Everyone has the ability to give, especially sweet compassionate young children. I will continue to collect money for the remainder of the year. Malaria is a horrible disease but if we all continue working perhaps we can put an end to the death and suffering from malaria. At least my students and I think so.

Imagine No Malaria Fundraiser Friday, April 25



The California Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, in collaboration with FUMC Pasadena will be hosting a pancake dinner fundraising event in Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 7:30pm on Friday, April 25. Bishop Carcaño and her cabinet will be serving pancakes to all in attendance. This event is part of the Bishop’s ongoing efforts to generate \$3 million from within the Cal Pac Conference in support of the international Imagine No Malaria campaign.

This event is open to the public and all the faith communities in the Pasadena area are being invited and encouraged to attend. Additionally, all members of the Cal Pac Conference are encouraged to bring a friend and meet the Bishop and her cabinet as they demonstrate true servant ministry.



Hiking Fellowship

First United Methodist Church of Pasadena, has recently formed a small group of people who enjoy hiking and socializing with others out-of-doors. This group was conceived to be inter-generational and is open to all, regardless of church affiliation, or none, and therefore we welcome all in the greater Pasadena community who would like to join us. In future, all hikes will be posted on the church website, with a description of the hike, such as mileage, elevation gain/loss, trailhead, and approximate time to complete the hike, day of the week, etc., so that you can peruse what’s coming up for the month and make an informed decision about whether it fits your schedule. We try to plan them so that they appeal to all ability levels. If one doesn’t fit, perhaps another one will.

This is not a club and no one takes attendance. Simply find the hike that sounds good to you and be at the trailhead at the appointed time. First United Methodist Church of Pasadena, is not responsible for your physical condition or your safety. Therefore, we do ask that you assess your physical condition when choosing a hike, and provide yourself with water, snacks, & suitable shoes, as well as be informed concerning trail safety and courtesy. Watch the website for future hikes and if you have any questions, call the church office at (626) 796-0157.



Thinking About Legacy

What does “legacy” mean? According to the dictionary: legacy n. 1. A gift of property, esp. personal property, as money, by will; a bequest. 2. Anything handed down from the past, as from an ancestor or predecessor.

At FUMC, members who have gone before us decided to leave a legacy to the church; some established The Pasadena Methodist Foundation. Although a separate entity, the Foundation clearly focuses on the long-term success of this church. Current members of the Foundation contribute to its ongoing growth. Over the years the Foundation has generously supported the church budget with this legacy.

The FUMC Trustees also enjoy a somewhat smaller investment account which is primarily dedicated to the use and maintenance of the church-owned buildings and grounds. Some of the Trustee portfolio came from the sale of the parsonage upon Rev. George Mann’s retirement. Church members continue to give gifts to the Board of Trustees to meet needs in the building as they arise. The Board gives part of their legacy from the past to the church budget for the benefit of our facilities.

Our survival has depended greatly on these legacies. In recent years we had major fund-raising programs to retrofit our facility for earthquake safety. However there remains a sizeable mortgage on both the Sanctuary and Chapel from that work. Although we pay the interest each month on the Chapel mortgage, we cannot afford to pay down the principle from the church budget. It is important for us all to think about the legacy we might leave to future generations of worshippers. Any gift given to the Memorial Fund or the Chapel Fund will directly reduce the debt on the Chapel. Let’s work together to leave a legacy of which we can be proud.

Your Memorial Committee

The Women - A Theatrical and Service Success

The Drama Committee’s production of Clare Boothe Luce’s *The Women* was a great success, playing to full houses both nights, March 6-7. Our thanks go to Maggie Audley for her directorial expertise, working with a cast of nearly 20 actors from both FUMC and the community. We are grateful for the audience support of the production.

On Thursday evening, Rev. Donna Byrns spoke to a pre-theater audience at dinner about the work of Friends In Deed’s The Women’s Room. She spoke about the needs of at risk women in Pasadena and how The Women’s Room serves those women. Generous donations totalling \$500 were received and forwarded to Friends In Deed.





Meet our Fuller Field Education Intern...Deb Shepherd

A native of Ohio, Deb Shepherd grew up in Cincinnati. Although originally from a family of artists and musicians, Deb fell in love with science in Junior High School and decided to be an astrophysicist. She worked as a research engineer and then trained astronauts for the NASA shuttle program at Marshall Space Flight Center. After 10 years, she went back to school to become an astronomer. She first became a post-doctoral scholar at Caltech and then a tenured astronomer at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO). Her research focus is in the field of massive star formation. Her specialty with the observatory was to help manage and commission large radio telescopes in New Mexico, Chile & South Africa. Deb became a candidate for ordination as an elder in the United Methodist Church in August 2013 and moved to Pasadena to attend Fuller Seminary in the Masters of Divinity degree program. Dr. Shepherd holds degrees in physics from the University of Cincinnati (BS) and University of Tennessee (MS) and in astronomy from the University of Wisconsin (MS & PhD). As an intern at FUMC Pasadena Deb will be supervised by Rev. Allison Mark and will serve ten hours per week for three quarters. She also has an FUMC Teaching committee that will support her and give her feedback during her internship.

A Message from Deb:

To all the wonderful people at FUMC of Pasadena – Thank you!

I joined FUMC in December and I have been blessed to experience the heart of gold that lies within the people of God here. You have welcomed me and encouraged me as we have begun to work together to answer the call to Christ’s mission. I’ll be honest though – it was a shock for me when I first entered this grand FUMC because I came from the very small St. Paul’s UMC in Socorro, New Mexico. But when I came to the Mission Sunday in October 2013, the service was outside, people played guitars as we sang the contemporary hymns I loved and we went on mission into the community! I knew then that I could find a place within FUMC. And indeed I have. It is with great pleasure that I will start my 9-month Fuller internship at FUMC on March 30th and I am incredibly thankful to have your support and guidance as I learn to trust God and allow Him to weave us together into a shared story of future hope in Christ.

May the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you,
Deb Shepherd

FUMC Cable Broadcast Changes



Every Sunday evening at 6:00pm our worship service is broadcast in Pasadena on Charter Cable. Sometime during the month of April it will move from channel 31 to channel 181. You can also view our worship services anytime by going to our website at www.fumcpasadena.org. Click on any of the links under “Sermons & Services” to view current and past services. If you have any questions about our broadcast or video services please contact Mike Underwood or John Atkinson on Sunday mornings in the video room or email avteam@fumcpasadena.org



Pasadena Methodist Foundation Scholarships

A reminder to all new applicants and renewal recipients of academic scholarships from the Pasadena Methodist Foundation, you must apply for your scholarship request *annually*. The deadline this year is June 1, 2014 and we will *not* be able to accept any applications for scholarships for the fall 2014 school year after that date. Please find both new and renewal applications on the Foundation’s website at www.pasadenamethodistfoundation.org or you may pick up your renewal application in the church office and return it to the church office **no later than June 1, 2014**.

Should you have any questions please contact Sue Clairday at sclairday@charter.net or (626) 796-0157.



Pastor's Musings

by Rev. Allison Mark

Growing up as a Pastor's Kid (or PK's as we were called), I vaguely remember the Season of Lent—I remember ashes resembling a thumb-printed cross on my forehead, Catholic friends not eating meat or having “Fish Fridays,” then fast-forwarding a few weeks later, my dad would invite a Jewish friend to church to celebrate a Passover “Last Supper” with the sharing of odd and strange food rituals (to me), and then came the one time in the year where I had to wake up before 5am to help set-up for our Easter Sunrise Service...and BAM! Easter was already here! Stone was rolled away, Alleluia!

But as I continue to grow on my faith journey, Lent has become one of the most important liturgical seasons of the year for me. And as we have inserted a “teaching moment” into our Sunday Worship bulletins, we are to bury our “Alleluias!” during the forty days of Lent so that when it does reappear on Easter, we can truly celebrate Christ's resurrection. Each year, I have grown more appreciative of the intentional quiet time and reflection I put aside to reconnect spiritually and physically with God through being in this faith community, as I have found new ways to walk the cross alongside Jesus.

On my own 2014 journey through Lent and into Holy Week, we as a church congregation are preparing for new transitions which are to happen within the next few months. Using this time of intentional reflection, has been an opportunity for me to evaluate and work with others on how First UMC Pasadena is called to be in ministry to both one another, but to our broader community. In the program areas of ministry that I work with, not only are our lay leaders and congregation preparing for the months to come, but I have felt the gracious and prayerful embrace of each of you as Andy and I were able to make our hopeful announcement of expecting a baby this Fall. (One more addition to the FUMC Family). It has always been difficult for me to ask my own congregation for prayers, yet so many of you have walked with us together through dark valleys and it has been a joy to be able to share our pregnancy with all of you... but we are still asking for prayers, as we are not out of the wilderness yet!

During this Season of Lent, as we are reminded to use those 40 days in the wilderness as a time of reflection and refocusing our hearts on God, for some of us, we sometimes backslide and forget where God is present in our lives. But the beauty of God's love for us is in the constant reminder that we are work in progress (striving towards perfection!) and that we have been given countless opportunities to start over and over again. So let this time of Lent be one of practice and finding ways to be in prayer, to turn away from bad habits and selfishness, and be more selfless in giving and serving others... and soon enough we will find that we are the Easter People that we are called to be.

Blessings of Peace,

Allison

Heifer International

Every year, our entire church participates in fundraising for Heifer International, where families around the world are taught to raise sustainable agriculture to provide for themselves and to teach their communities how to be sustainable. Each week of Lent, participate with us in the following projects! Last Month, grades 1-6 shared their Heifer fundraising projects with the congregation.

April 6: PreK-Kindergarten - Children's Sermon & Bake Sale
April 13: Questers Fellowship Group - Plant Sale



In addition, throughout the month of April, the youth will have their annual LAWN COW fundraiser. Please contact Rev. Mark if you would like to special deliver a LAWN COW to a friend or loved one! Visit www.Heifer.org for more information on how you can support Heifer International.

On the Horizon

April 13

Palm Sunday and Easter Egg Hunt

April 17

Maundy Thursday Service

April 18

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

April 19

Holy Saturday Youth Vigil

April 20

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Festival Celebration

Easter Lunch

Weekly Events

SUNDAYS

8:40 AM Breakfast & Bible Stories:
Family Worship
Chapel

8:55 AM SpiritSeekers
Church Lounge

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

MONDAYS

7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
Great Hall

TUESDAYS

10:00 AM Social Services
Great Hall

7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 27
Scout Room

FUMC Prayer List

for healing:

Mary Allen, Margaret Bartlett, Virginia Beach, Teri Betts-Prince, Cathy Boon, Juliet Borys, Lisa Brown, Juanita Bryant, Jerry Bullard, Nancy Bumb, Terry Burke, Jim Clark, Ed Carlson, Michelle Collins, Albert DePano, Nathanael DePano Jr., Cathleen Diminio, Eric Dyson & Family, Pat Fisher, Joe Garrett, Daryl Gerwin, Joan Gibleone, Gabriela Godoy, Dora Gonzales, Kristen Guzman, Thomas Harding, Diane Harris, Mike Hayes, Virginia Holmes, Eric Dean Hunter, Jon & Rebecca Huntley and family, Bill Larson, Pamela Loar, Jun Chao Lu, Carolyn Martin, Gene Martin, Hajime Miyasaka, Suzee Moran, Robyn Morse, Margie Myrne, Dylan Newsom, Steve Nott, Sharon Oliver, Donna Olson, Catharine Phillips, Ann Penn, Joseph Peron, Sue Prior, Ken Pritt, Mary Lou Rasmussen, Benny Reyes Jr., Alexis Rivas, Margarita Rivas, Rafael Rivas, Margo Rocconi, Christine Rodriguez, Byron Salmon, Milner Sosa, Wendy Stiver, Elizabeth "Becca" Sun, Chet Tanaka, Germaine Wallenkamp, Jan Wentz, Frances Willard

For Safety:

Eric Danziger, Javier Godoy

for employment:

Mary Mallory, Alexis Rivas, Carla Rivas, Rick Schlee, Bruce White, Kris Youngstrom

for the community:

prayers for the poor, homeless, incarcerated, suffering from mental illness and addiction



**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

500 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91101