

The *SP*ter's PRESS

Monthly Newsletter of San Mateo Presbyterian Church, San Mateo, FL

February 2016



A Letter from Pastor Larry



Greetings:

To All of My Dear Brothers & Sisters In Christ:

Well, just when we had some time to breathe a breath of relief after Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas, we are getting ready to prepare to say the words, HE IS RISEN!! HE IS RISEN INDEED!!! That's right – Easter will be upon us before we know it- March 27th.

Before we get there, there is a special time that we use to prepare for His resurrection. We call this season Lent. What is Lent you ask?

The season of Lent is a time of **prayer**, fasting and **self-examination** in **preparation** for the **celebration of the resurrection** of the Lord at Easter. It is a period of **40 days** — like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Mount Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call to Ninevah to repent and **Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness**. (The Sundays in Lent are not counted in this reckoning of the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, as **every Lord's Day is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ**.)

There are several days that we as Christians set aside to prepare for Easter. The first is Ash Wednesday – February 10th. Ash Wednesday is the first day of the Lenten season. Churches gather for a time of worship culminating with the imposition of ashes- the sign of the cross is put on the forehead of all gathered. This is to mark us as a child of God and to help us identify with the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness. As each is marked by the Pastor, the words "From dust you came, to dust you shall return" are said.

During the final week, **Holy Week**, we hear the fullness of Christ's passion, his death, and resurrection. **From Jesus' triumphal** entry into Jerusalem and on to the Triduum – Three Days (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday), all of Holy Week focuses on the passion. As his followers, **we travel Christ's path of servanthood** through the Lord's Supper and the suffering of the cross toward the glory of Easter, all of which underscores the inseparable link between the death and resurrection of Jesus.

We will give all of you a daily set of scriptures to read during this special time. I suggest you put it in your Bible so you don't lose it. The scriptures will also be on the website www.sanmateopres.com and this newsletter. If you would like them emailed to you, please email me directly – SMPCPastorLarry@gmail.com and I will sent them to you. Yes, it is that important to me that **ALL of you** have this and make it a daily spiritual practice.

My prayer for you is that we will **ALL** join as His children and **walk with Him** to the cross during this time of preparation for His resurrection.

Peace

Pastor Larry

February Happenings

Kids' Care leaders for each Sunday are listed by that Sunday's Worship Service in parenthesis.

Tuesday 2

Presbyterian Women meet in the Potter's House conference room at 10:30 a.m.
Contact Sandi Carle 386-972-5177

Wednesday 3

6:00 p.m. Choir practice. Contact Lulu Gail 386-972-3250

Saturday 6

10 – 4 pm Quilt of Valor National Sew day – in the Potter's House. For more information contact Leslie Mullins @ 803-422-0532.

Sunday 7

9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School
NEW CLASS starting and will meet in the Potter's House. They will be studying the book It. Contact Andi Wells 386-937-1184 or Amy Poupore 386-937-2956.

Ongoing adult class is studying the book: Autopsy of a Dying Church. Contact Anna Hadrava 386-559-7244

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
(Leah and Amy)

Wednesday 10 – Ash Wednesday

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday 14

9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

(Casey and Sabrina)

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON bring a side dish and join your church family for a great meal in the Potter's House immediately following service.

Small Group Bible Study starts this week –

Tuesday 16 at Anna Hadrava's house

Wednesday February 17 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Potter's House

Wednesday 17

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday February 21

9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

(Weezie and Janie)

Thursday 18

4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Community Fellowship Dinner – Fish this month!!! Cooking and prep starts earlier. Help is needed for prep, serving and clean up. Contact Weezie 386-972-3081.

Saturday 20

10:30 a.m. Bread of Life wor day. Contact Candy Tilton 386325-3553

Tuesday 23 Small Group at Anna Hadrava's house

Wednesday 24 Small Group at the Potter's House

Wednesday 24

5:30 p.m. Adopt-a-Soldier will pack boxes – contact Leslie Mullins 803-359-7362

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Sunday 28

9:15 a.m. Bible Study / Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

(Lulu Gail and Jane)

Newsletter Information

Please send in any announcements, information or photos, etc., to Leslie Mullins (notfrom17here@yahoo.com) or Amy Poupore (poupores513@gmail.com) so we can include it in the next newsletter.

Check us out on the web at

SanMateoPres.com

Do you know the weekly sermons and bible verses are online? If you are out of town or want to share a particular message with a friend, visit our website @ SanMateoPres.com. To find the sermon archives, click on "About Us" then select "Sermon Archives".

Committee News

Session

- Session meeting is scheduled for after worship service February TBA

Presbyterian Women

- meeting is February 2 @ 10:30 a.m. Sandi Carle is the contact.

Mission, Evangelism & Fellowship

- Adopt-A-Soldier packed 4 boxes January 20. Next packing will be 24th at 5:30 p.m. Leslie Mullins is the contact.
- Bread of Life was January 16th with 5 folks helping. Next day to help will be February 20th. Calendar available in Potter's house to sign up. Candy Tilton is the contact.

Christian Ed

The Adult Bible Study class is studying "The Anatomy of a Dying Church"

New adult Bible Study starts February 7th.

New Leaders for Sunday School are needed (see more information later in newsletter)

Yard Sale dates are March 31 and April 1st (no Fooling)

Next meeting will be March 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Potter's House. Contact Amy Poupore 386-937-2956.

Worship Committee

- Worship Committee meetings will be the 3rd Sunday of the month after the service. February 21 is the next meeting. Lynwood Timberlake (386-546-2186) is the contact if you would like to become involved.

The Bread of Life,

was founded by Barbara Dix, whom I believe was a member of San Mateo Presbyterian Church. When it opened its doors, they served a meal two times a week. It has since grown to serving a meal everyday with special meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas. San Mateo is on the calendar as the volunteer group that helps on the third Saturday of every month. January there were five members there to assist Ms. Blanche in the duties.

The work is light duty, wrapping plastic ware in napkins, washing dishes, keeping the serving line stocked and general after lunch clean up; usually done by 12:30. A great way to pass a Saturday mid-morning.

They are located at #320 5th Avenue at the corner of Madison. Turn right between the Methodist church and Enterprise Rent a Car and go three blocks north of Reid Street (hwy 17) just pass the gas company white wrought iron fence, you will see a yellowish block building. Be sure to park on Madison (or the side area of the gas company).

If you would like to help please contact Candy Tilton at 386-325-3553 to sign up or to add your name to a last minute list.

Sunday School

What is YOUR talent? Help us help YOU to find a place to grow and flourish. Currently, there is a need for a Sunday School teacher for the 4th and 5th graders (two to three students). Curriculum is provided.

Starting in June there will be a need for an instructor for the 1st through 3rd graders.

At the end of summer – about August 14th – there will be a kick off for the new church year of Sunday School classes with new teachers.

Flowers

Did you know that you could provide the flowers for services one Sunday? Families often choose to give flowers in honor of a special event, such as an anniversary or birthday, or in memory of a loved one. Questions about flowers should be directed to Helen Prescott (386-983-0550).

Devotional

A Hint of Heaven

(from our Daily Bread January 17th)

The world-class botanical garden across the street from our church was the setting for an all – church community gathering. As I walked around the gardens greeting people I have known for years, catching up with those I hadn't seen recently, and enjoying the beautiful surroundings cared for by people who know and love plants, I realized that the evening was rich with symbols of how the church is supposed to function – a little hint of heaven on earth.

A garden is a place where each plant is placed in an environment in which it will thrive. Gardeners prepare the soil, protect the plants from pests, and make sure each one receives the food, water, and sunlight it needs. The result is a beautiful, colorful, and fragrant place for people to enjoy. Like a garden, church is meant to be a place where everyone works together for the glory of God and the good of all; a place where everyone flourishes because we are living in a safe environment; a place where people are cared for according to their needs; where each of us does work we love – work that benefits others (1 Cor 14:26)

Like well-cared-for plants, people growing in a healthy environment have a sweet fragrance that draws people to God by displaying the beauty of His love. The church is not perfect, but it really is a hint of heaven.

How can you promote the health of your church? Ask God to help you serve others as Christ serves us. Serve in a role that matches your skills (gifts) and interests.

Daily Readings for Lent

Ash Wednesday February 13

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Jonah 3:1–4:11

Hebrews 12:1–14

Luke 18:9–14

Thursday February 14

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Deuteronomy 7:6–11

Titus 1:1–16

John 1:29–34

Friday February 15

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130

Deuteronomy 7:12–16

Titus 2:1–15

John 1:35–42

Saturday February 16

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Deuteronomy 7:17–26

Titus 3:1–15

John 1:43–51

Sunday February 17—First Sunday in Lent

Morning: Psalm 84; 150

Evening: Psalm 42; 32

Jeremiah 9:23–24

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

Mark 2:18–22

Monday February 18

Morning: Psalm 119:73–80; 145

Evening: Psalm 121; 6

Deuteronomy 8:1–20

Hebrews 2:11–18

John 2:1–12

Tuesday February 19

Morning: Psalm 34; 146

Evening: Psalm 25; 91

Deuteronomy 9:(1–3) 4–12

Hebrews 3:1–11

John 2:13–22

Wednesday February 20

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Deuteronomy 9:13–21

Hebrews 3:12–19

John 2:23–3:15

Thursday February 21

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Deuteronomy 9:23–10:5 2

Hebrews 4:1–10

John 3:16–21

Friday February 22

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130

Deuteronomy 10:12–22

Hebrews 4:11–16

John 3:22–36

Saturday February 23

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Deuteronomy 11:18–28

Hebrews 5:1–10

John 4:1–26

Sunday February 24—Second Sunday in Lent

Morning: Psalm 84; 150

Evening: Psalm 42; 32

Jeremiah 1:1–10

1 Corinthians 3:11–23

Mark 3:31–4:9

Monday February 25

Morning: Psalm 119:73–80; 145

Evening: Psalm 121; 6

Jeremiah 1:11–19

Romans 1:1–15

John 4:27–42

Tuesday February 26

Morning: Psalm 34; 146

Evening: Psalm 25; 91

Jeremiah 2:1–13, 29–32

Romans 1:16–25

John 4:43–54

Wednesday February 27

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Jeremiah 3:6–18

Romans 1:(26–27) 28–2:11

John 5:1–18

Thursday February 28

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Jeremiah 4:9–10, 19–28

Romans 2:12–24

John 5:19–29

Friday March 1

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130

Jeremiah 5:1–9

Romans 2:25–3:18

John 5:30–47

Saturday March 2

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Jeremiah 5:20–31

Romans 3:19–31

John 7:1–13

Sunday March 3—Third Sunday in Lent

Morning: Psalm 84; 150

Evening: Psalm 42; 32

Jeremiah 6:9–15

1 Corinthians 6:12–20

Mark 5:1–20

Monday March 4

Morning: Psalm 119:73–80; 145

Evening: Psalm 121; 6

Jeremiah 7:1–15

Romans 4:1–12

John 7:14–36

Tuesday March 5

Morning: Psalm 34; 146

Evening: Psalm 25; 91

Jeremiah 7:21–34

Romans 4:13–25

John 7:37–52

Wednesday March 6

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Jeremiah 8:4–7, 18–9:6

Romans 5:1–11

John 8:12–20

Thursday March 7

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Jeremiah 10:11–24

Romans 5:12–21

John 8:21–32 3

Friday March 8

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130

Jeremiah 11:1–8, 14–17

Romans 6:1–11

John 8:33–47

Saturday March 9

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Jeremiah 13:1–11

Romans 6:12–23

John 8:47–59

Sunday March 10—Fourth Sunday in Lent

Morning: Psalm 84; 150

Evening: Psalm 42; 32

Jeremiah 14:1–9 (10–16) 17–22

Galatians 4:21–5:1

Mark 8:11–21

Monday March 11

Morning: Psalm 119:73–80; 145

Evening: Psalm 121; 6

Jeremiah 16:(1–9) 10–21

Romans 7:1–12

John 6:1–15

Tuesday March 12

Morning: Psalm 34; 146

Evening: Psalm 25; 91

Jeremiah 17:19–27

Romans 7:13–25

John 6:16–27

Wednesday March 13

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Jeremiah 18:1–11

Romans 8:1–11

John 6:27–40

Thursday March 14

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Jeremiah 22:13–23

Romans 8:12–27

John 6:41–51

Friday March 15

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130

Jeremiah 23:1–8

Romans 8:28–39

John 6:52–59

Saturday March 16

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Jeremiah 23:9–15

Romans 9:1–18

John 6:60–71

Sunday March 17—Fifth Sunday in Lent

Morning: Psalm 84; 150

Evening: Psalm 42; 32

Jeremiah 23:16–32

1 Corinthians 9:19–27

Mark 8:31–9:1

Monday March 18

Morning: Psalm 119:73–80; 145

Evening: Psalm 121; 6

Jeremiah 24:1–10

Romans 9:19–33

John 9:1–17

Tuesday March 19

Morning: Psalm 34; 146

Evening: Psalm 25; 91

Jeremiah 25:8–17

Romans 10:1–13

John 9:18–41

Wednesday March 20

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Jeremiah 25:30–38

Romans 10:14–21

John 10:1–18

Thursday March 21

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Jeremiah 26:1–16 (17–24)

Romans 11:1–12

John 10:19–42

Friday March 22

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130 4

Jeremiah 29:1 (2–3) 4–14

Romans 11:13–24

John 11:1–27 or John 12:1–10

Saturday March 23

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Jeremiah 31:27–34

Romans 11:25–36

John 11:28–44 or John 12:37–50

Sunday March 24—Beginning of Holy Week

Passion/Palm Sunday

Morning: Psalm 84; 150

Evening: Psalm 42; 32

Zechariah 9:9–12

1 Timothy 6:12–16 or Zechariah 12:9–11, 13:1, 7–9

Matthew 21:12–17

Monday March 25

Morning: Psalm 119:73–80, 145

Evening: Psalm 121; 6

Jeremiah 11:18–20, 12:1–16 (17)

Phillipians 3:1–14

John 12:9–19

Tuesday March 26

Morning: Psalm 34; 146

Evening: Psalm 25; 91

Jeremiah 15:10–21

Phillipians 3:15–21

John 12:20–26

Wednesday March 27

Morning: Psalm 5; 147:1–11

Evening: Psalm 27; 51

Jeremiah 17:5–10, 14–17 (18)

Phillipians 4:1–13

John 12:27–36

Thursday March 28—Maundy Thursday

Morning: Psalm 27; 147:12–20

Evening: Psalm 126; 102

Jeremiah 20:7–11 (12–13) 14–18

1 Corinthians 10:14–17, 11:27–32

John 17:1–11 (12–26)

Friday March 29—Good Friday

Morning: Psalm 22; 148

Evening: Psalm 105; 130

Genesis 22:1–14

1 Peter 1:10–20

John 13:36–38 or John 19:38–42

Saturday March 30

Morning: Psalm 43; 149

Evening: Psalm 31; 143

Job 19:21–27a

Hebrews 4:1–16

Romans 8:1–11

Sunday March 31—Resurrection of the Lord/Easter

Morning: Psalm 93; 150

Evening: Psalm 136; 117

Exodus 12:1–14

John 1:1–18 or Isaiah 51:9–11

Luke 24:13–35 or John 20:19–

