



MAY NEWSLETTER

1 Peter 2: 9-10

"I am the Vine you are the branches, remain in me and I in you;

apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Spring is here and the flowers are beautiful. Everything in our garden is growing and budding. The fragrance of Jasmine and Rose fills the air. Don't you just love this time of year? My wife Joni and I love to make our yards look beautiful. We (mostly Joni) work hard to plant, weed, prune and trim everything so that we might enjoy a pleasant

environment to relax and rest. We also have a few fruit trees; some citrus, an avocado, and a grapevine that we are enjoying. All of which take lots of work and attention.

Jesus said, "I am the Vine you are the branches..." I like this image because just like our garden and it's fruitfulness, we in the church can't produce anything in our ministries without staying connected to Jesus as intimately as a branch to a vine, or trunk. That connection is where we are fed and nourished so that we have the "spiritual energy" to grow, bloom, and produce for the kingdom of God.

This spring, as we nurture our landscapes, let us remember to nurture our souls as we connect with Jesus. Let's take in His Word, the Bible, and spend time listening for His voice and guidance in life and ministry. The closer we are to Jesus the better our ministry and mission will be that gives glory to God.

Peace,

Pastor Mike



The questions this month have become “what of our many programs can be sustained? What responsibilities do we have and how high are they ranked within our reach? And what would our Lord have us do at this point?”

Luke 4:18-19 quotes Jesus, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

With a goal of being the hands and feet of Jesus on earth, we have engaged in many programs to reach out to our neighborhood with food, education, Hispanic worship, and many avenues of Mission support.

It now appears we may have taken a few steps too far and must come up with some truly fearless giving to support some programs and possibly revise others. The Teller Committee reports that we have received some genuine efforts on the part of some members. In the first 3 months (shown below) we did in fact exceed the offerings of last year and yet more must be done.

Your Session will hold a special meeting in mid-May to determine our next steps. You can help. Please pray. Please further examine your giving ability. As I have asked before, Do your gifts represent you?



Year to Date		March	
Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts
\$ 105,000	\$ 99,456	\$ 35,000	\$ 37,998
Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses
<u>143,000</u>	<u>133,224</u>	<u>47,500</u>	<u>43,059</u>
-\$ 38,000	-\$ 33,768	-\$ 12,500	-\$ 5,061

Michael Cooley, chair
Finance Committee

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME BUNCO?

Come join us in Fellowship Hall
Saturday, May 19 at 7:00
Prizes, Refreshments, Fellowship, Fun!!!
\$10/person

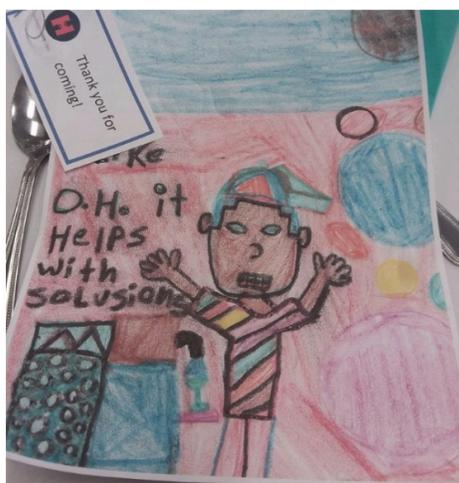


Save the Date!
Sunday, June 10

Frances & Friends
Organ Concert

Also:
Flute, Oboe, Bells,
English Horn, Singing

Operation Hope-Vista Update



Many thanks to everyone who attended and supported the 15th Annual Dinner and Auction on March 24. Feedback from attendees has been very positive so everyone seemed to have a good time while benefiting the shelter. We were able to raise over \$34,000 for shelter programs and services!

We currently have 19 children in shelter and 15 adults. Kids hour programming is taking off with our new Kids hour liaison. The children are really enjoying all the structured activities while their parents are in their skill building classes each evening. The best part is, the kids are learning so many skills while having fun! For volunteers and staff, it is fun to see their confidence grow by leaps and bounds. We could always use more volunteers in the evenings to help

assist the liaison. Mother's Day is approaching for which the kids will be making gifts for a special woman in their life. If you have questions or would like to participate, please contact us at 760-536-3880 ext. 303.

Glenna Spindelman for Nicole Ketcher, Resource Development Director, Operation HOPE-Vista



Generation G: Leaving a Spiritual Legacy

(or Hot Topics on Grandparenting)

-by Gramma Pat Whisler



Join our
Grandparents@Prayer
meeting on May 29 in room
10 a half hour before the
traditional service begins.

It's a dated phrase: "it's a figment of your imagination", meaning something seen only in your mind. Do you remember Figment with a capital F. Figment, a small purple dragon, is the mascot of the "Imagination!" pavilion at the Epcot theme park at Walt Disney World Resort.

Isn't it fun to play with our young grandkids?

They have such imagination. One example of imagination I used with my daughters and have passed on to the next generation is: Let's say we are traveling along in a car and I hear "I'm thirsty". I take one hand, make a fist, then open it a bit for the cup, take the other hand and pour 'imaginary' water into the cup and hand it to them. Yes. It's a bit corny but brings laughter and of course an eye-roll and maybe "O, Mom." It can put the 'thirsty' request off for awhile. Email me your experience with imagination and grandkids.

It's important that we as grandparents leave a *legacy of imagination*. It brings smiles and joy.

Let God come into our fun. He is our forgiver, protector and counselor but He is also our friend. Have fun together.

God's Word: "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or **imagine**, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory..."

Ephesians 3:20-1a



Figment

This month's GP Hot Topic: I M A G I N A T I O N

Find
In
God
More

As a grandparent it is important to have fun with our grandchildren. Do you ever make-up a game. Have the kids help with the rules. Do you ever *imagine* something written in a book where the picture is not supplied? Kids love to delve into the *imaginary*. Shape a newly baked cake into something unusual. Make up a story then draw a scene from it.

Entertainment,
Not
Trials

Imagination is key but what do you do when your grandchild asks if God is imaginary, since you can't see him? Point out things they know exist but cannot see: love, wind, gravity, the air we breathe. Our Bible tells us God is love and we all feel love. It's there and so is He.

Prayer: Dear Lord, may the time with my grandchildren be filled with the joy you so generously create. Allow our imagination to be part of that joy as we have fun together and praise your name.

Action: Use your imagination.

A thought: Children are messengers we send to a time we will not see.

Pentecost Offering

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit as a bringer of new life. With the spirit's coming, we no longer need to settle for business as usual but can know the transforming, redeeming love of God that makes the impossible possible.

The Pentecost Offering is one of the four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and is about guiding the Christian formation of our young people – building a solid foundation of faith formed in the first third of life, from childhood through young adulthood. Gifts to the Pentecost Offering unite young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas and unique gifts with the church and the world.

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK – Here at Grace and nationwide:

By giving to the Pentecost Offering, we are nurturing the faith of those who are the church to come – children, youth, and young adults.

25% Guiding youth, ages 12-18, in a variety of ministries nationwide

25% Serving Communities through Young Adult Volunteers

10% Child Advocacy through “Educate a Child, Transform the World”

40% of the offering remains with our congregation to support ministries with children and youth here at Grace.

Last year, our hope was to have a youth program to serve those middle and high schoolers beginning to attend Grace. To God be the Glory! We now have an active group that meets every other Friday. (See Picture to Right)



Wednesday “Growing in Grace” is the midweek program for elementary age kids. (See picture to Left)

For more information look for the inserts in the Sunday bulletins throughout the month of May or <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/pentecost.html>

This special offering will be collected on Pentecost Sunday, May 20th.



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

God, from my youth
you have taught me.

— PSALM 71:17



*Building a Life
of Faith*

12144-18-032 PHOTO: KRISTEN YOUNG



Text **YOUNG** to **56512** to learn more or give to Pentecost
or visit www.pcusa.org/pentecost.



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

PHILLIPS

Healthcare Chaplains Ministry Association



“Have I not commanded you, be strong and courageous, be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

“The Lord is my rock and my salvation, my refuge, my stronghold and in Him I will not be shaken.”

Joshua 1:9; Ps. 62:5-8

We give praise, honor and glory to God for all that He has done in and through us. He has been our Guide, our Provider, our Protector and has been the Power for effective ministry.

Donate To Ministry

HCMA (acct# 479)
101 S. Kraemer Blvd
Suite 123A
Placentia, CA 92870
www.hcmachaplains.org

We are very grateful for the many encouraging e-mails, notes, calls and visits as we have been trusting in the Lord's presence and guidance during this transitional period in our lives. Since being laid off at the hospital in late February, I have sought out counsel and encouragement from several current or retired missionary executives, chaplains, and pastors who have known me for years. It's also been a time for increased prayer, scripture reading, and just being still in the Lord seeking his presence and guidance for the future.

A number of ministry partners have asked if they should continue to send contributions to HCMA and the answer is YES! Even if I should decide to retire, HCMA policy allows for ministry partners to continue to contribute to the chaplain if they so desire.

Praise to God that finally after hours of effort, both Jessy and I have secured Medicare Advantage for health insurance. I've been doing some writing on pastoral care, am attending a monthly writers support group and attended a writers panel presentation to learn more. I will be attending the National Chaplains Conference to keep my Board Certification current. The former chaplain staff and volunteers from the hospital I worked at had a heart warming fellowship in a home. It was a time of encouragement for one another, prayer and catching up on each other's personal lives. I have discovered that the sudden loss of regular ministry with these precious people has brought a grief reaction in my heart. God had allowed me to train, mentor, serve with and counsel these chaplains as well as having a pastor role to the hospital staff. A missionary counselor friend urged me to take some time to work through this grief before assessing my next steps in ministry role.

Your prayers for God's comfort, peace, guidance and provision are greatly valued. The non-diabetic neuropathy pain from nerve damage in my feet continues but not as bad if I'm off my feet. If any of you would like to talk with us use contact information below.

Chaplain Carolyn Westbrook

APRIL 2018



HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINS MINISTRY ASSOCIATION

Called to Serve the Needs of Others

My Soul Waits Patiently For God Alone

“Show me Your way O Lord; teach me Your paths, lead me in Your truth and teach me. For You are the God of my salvation, on You I will wait all day.” Psalm 25:4-5
 This past month has been a time of waiting on the Lord and searching His Word for direction. God continues His transformed work by the renewal of the mind, allowing me to see things He has prepared. Though my natural tendency is to want immediate answers from God, like David, it is best to ask for direction. God’s repeated words have been: Seek Me with all your heart, walk in humble obedience, then My guidance will be granted. Daily, we all have decisions to make in the workplace, with family and finances. It can become overwhelming until we remember, “God teaches the humble His ways.”

“Who is the man that fears the Lord? Him shall he teach in the way He chooses. He himself shall dwell in prosperity, and his descendants shall inherit the earth. The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He shall show them His covenant.”
Psa. 25:12-14
 The Word has magnified God’s holiness, righteousness, almighty power, and wisdom through insight of His character. It has illuminated my soul to the pride, weakness and needy condition. This produced a repentant heart. A cleansing process occurred in the throne room of grace where mercies are granted daily. An increased reverence and humble respect for Our Holy God occurs as His purified work intensifies in the soul. A daily adventure in prayer en-

sues a response of praise; God is held in highest honor. The revelation, God is the only One who can bring restoration to personal problems, setbacks, and disappointments. This has empowered me to let go of my expectations and demands and allow God to continue His perfect work. With gratitude, God has used you as messengers of hope sharing these words of encouragement, **“God can take your problems and turn them into glorious victories.”** God’s promise to each of us, when we humble ourselves He is able to turn the worst of condition into something wonderful. God bless you for the love and compassion received through cards, prayer, texts, gift card and financial gifts to the Chaplain Ministry. **“Let Integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you”.** Psalm 25:21

Family Updates

Carolyn-
 -3/28 Orientation at Scripps Hospital
 -4/2 Second interview with Volunteer Chairman. **Accepted** as Volunteer Chaplain two days a week.
 4/22-25-National Chaplain Conference

Mike-
 -Teaching the Book of John in Men’s Bible
 -Track Coach at ECHS
 -4/21 CBEST Test
 -Facilitates weekly Home Bible Study
 -Pray for strength, health and wisdom in Contracting Business

Makena-
 -College Semester enriched with Math Tutors
 -Waiting on acceptances from UC schools
 -Praises for Makena’s perseverance and excellent attitude
 -ASICS –Job review was God honoring

“Jesus Christ offers you every Grace you need to be what you were created to be and do what you have been called to do.”

Paul David Tripp

Ministry Contributions

HCMA # 587 (# must incl. in memo)
 101 S. Kraemer Blvd. Suite 123A
 Placentia, Ca. 92870-5094
 (714) 572- 3626

Personal Contact

Carolyn- (760)-586-7172
 149 Canyon Creek Way
 Oceanside, Ca. 92057

Glenna- Your gracious prayer for the HCMA Ministry and decision to support the hospital Ministry was greatly appreciated. I will begin in May @ Scripps Encinitas Hospital as Volunteering in Prayer for the Body of Christ @ Grace Presbyterian. Condemn w- Chaplain



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

9 & 10:30am: Worship Services
 9 & 10:30am: Adult Studies
 10:30am: Spanish Service
 10:30am: Children's Sunday School

MONDAYS

7pm: AA meeting

TUESDAYS

5:15pm: Soup Kitchen
 7pm: Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS

10am: Staff Meeting
 1pm: Knitting Ladies
 6:30pm: Spanish Bible Study
 7:30pm: Worship Band Rehearsal

THURSDAYS

10am: Bible Study
 6pm: Hand Bell Choir
 7:30pm: Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAYS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 10am E & L 6:30pm Worship Committee	2 10am ESL 2pm: Tutoring 5:30pm: G In G Dinner 6:30pm: Kids Bible Club	3  10am-2pm in the Sanctuary 2pm: Tutoring	4 6pm Youth Group	5 8am Men's Breakfast (English) 9am Landscaping Work Day 5pm Men's Group (Spanish)
6	7	8 10am E & L 6:30pm Spanish Leader mtg.	9 8:30am PEO 10am ESL 3pm: CJ Party 5:30pm: G In G Dinner 6:30pm: Kids Bible Club	10 2:45pm: CJ Field Trip 6:30pm Missions Committee	11	12
13 	14	15 10am E & L 6:15pm Fellow. Committee 7pm Deacons	16 1pm Finance Comm. 3pm CJ Volunteer Appreciation Tea	17 9:30am PEO Book Club	18 6pm Youth Group	19 11:30am Compton Memorial 7pm Bunco
20	21	22 10:30am PWC Luncheon 10am E & L Circle 6:30pm Session	23	24	25	26
27 8:30am Grand. @Prayer	28 Office Closed 	29 10am E & L	30	31		



1	Gil Gordon	21	Shirley Stahl
6	Susan Hittbrand	25	Angel Pinedo
11	Cara Duff	26	Lisa Duff
	Jo Gordon		Marge Broderick
12	Chloe Enger	27	Dave Duff
13	Andrea Stamm	28	Michele Earnest
18	John Earnest	29	Carol Matheson
19	Cathy Medlyn	30	Terry-Jeane Sawyer



7	Mike & Paulina Cooley (24 years)
25	Jerry & Tuyet Salzman (10 years)
27	Tom & Mary Bryan (35 years)
28	Felipe & Nancy Huguet (1 year)
30	Eric & Merisue Repik (25 years)

If you have a birthday or anniversary in May and your name does not appear above, please contact the church office at 760-724-0077 to update our records. Thank you!

Punch/Coffee Service and Flowers for May

	<u>Punch/Coffee</u>	<u>Flowers</u>
May 6	Fellowship	Available
May 13	Fellowship	Woolsey's
May 20	Fellowship	Available
May 27	Fellowship	Available



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Alice Nolf

Elizabeth Bostian (Son)

Anna Weintre

Elizabeth Johnson

Audrey Baker

Erin Eldridge

Bev Bush

Fanny Aliaga

Bill Greenway

Grigorii Kirillov

Bob Wilson

Judy Woolsey

Carole Wolf

Kevin Dickson

Cathy Medlyn

Maxine Fox

Charlotte & Phil Damon

Paulina Cooley

Chris Nolf Family

Richard Tauber

Compton Family

Rita Sinatra

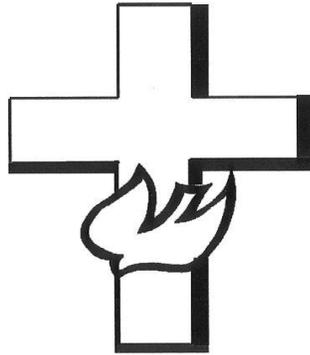
Denise Stockman

Terry-Jeanne Sawyer

Dick Woolsey

Trisha Roest-Sinatra

Edna Murray





GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.gpcvista.org

Address Service Requested

WHERE GOD'S FAMILY
GROWS



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Church Staff

Interim Pastor/Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. Michael Wallman
Associate Pastor of Hispanic Ministries	Rev. Eliecer Barrantes
Director of Church Operations	Christie Elliott
Bookkeeper	Albina Lumetta
Secretary	Veronica Campos
Bridge Ministries Director	Felipe Huguet
After School Program Director	Maria Haigh
Sunday School Coordinator	Hannah Foster
Chancel Choir Director	Jayne Parker
Organist	Frances Hummel
Hand Bell Choir Director	Pat Sexton
Facilities	Jim Aliaga



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS A CONFESSING CHURCH,
and we believe:

That Jesus Christ alone is Lord of all and the way of salvation.

That Holy Scripture is the triune God's revealed Word,
the Church's only infallible rule of faith and life.

That God's people are called to holiness in all aspects of life.