

# Community Presbyterian Church

1100 College Avenue  
Janet Potter, Pastor



*He is risen!*

**April 2020**

*He is risen!*

## *Pastor's Corner*



Dear All,

Our lives have been disrupted the last few weeks, haven't they? The Covid 19 virus is on the rampage, creating havoc for all of us.

Meetings cancelled, postponed worship, no hugging, handshakes or high fives, and for some, no work or an overload of work. The "stay at home" order either brings great joy (to the introverted) or great misery (to the extroverts). We are concerned about family members who live far away, older friends and those who have little to no resources to rely on. This list could go on and on, leading us down a deep rabbit hole of hopelessness.

But! As Paul wrote in Romans 5:1-5 "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

Peace through Jesus, grace, boasting in our suffering, perseverance, character, hope, the Holy Spirit and love are God's gifts to us. Gifts we always need but especially in difficult days. We can boast about Jesus Christ, we can boast about God's glory and we can boast about how Jesus is walking with us every day.

I challenge you this month to look for God's greatness. Celebrate all those times and places. Keep a list, every day or text a friend asking "where did you see God's greatness today?" Praise God for the Lord's never ending presence, comfort and love. In this way, we can live out these words of Jesus who said "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe<sup>[a]</sup> in God, believe also in me. (John 14:1)

FAQ's:

Q. When will we worship again in the sanctuary?

A. Session will "meet" to discuss this on April 1.

Q. What is Zoom?

A. Zoom is a video and phone conference program. It is accessible by telephone, computer or app.

You can hear or see Sunday services at 10am every week using the same phone number and meeting ID. Need help? ask Pastor Janet. (815-226-8783)

Q. Who do I tell about a prayer concern?

A. Call Kay Cowin (cell 582-0524), Kathy Martin (582-1638) or Pastor Janet (815-226-8783)

Q. What if I need help?

A. We have several people willing to run errands, pick up groceries or go to the pharmacy, get stamps or pick up pet food. We are here for each other and for our community! Please call Pastor Janet (815-226-8783). Stay Home, stay safe!

Q. How do I make a gift to the church?

A. On the church website ([smpresbyterian.org](http://smpresbyterian.org)) we now have a donation button. This will take you to another

page where you can set up a profile and make a contribution. Or set up bill pay through your bank. Or mail it in. Your gift is so appreciated at this time!

Q. What about the mail, watering the plants, paying the bills and handling finances, filling the Little Free Pantry?

A. Sally will water the plants, the bills are being paid, finances handled and the mail is picked up on a daily basis. Marge Gannon fills the pantry every single day.

Q. How long with this last?

A. No one knows, but together let us "Leave all your cares and anxieties at the feet of the Lord, and measureless grace will strengthen you." Ps 55:22 [The Passion Translation]

*I can do ALL THINGS  
through Christ  
who STRENGTHENS me.*  
-Phillippians 4:13



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Another great email from  
our sister Church in  
Yakutat, Alaska. Enjoy!  
Penny

~~~~~  
*April Birthdays*



|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Bonnie Arrhenius   | 4/01 |
| Andrea Coffee      | 4/01 |
| Frank Bogardus     | 4/04 |
| Gary Foster        | 4/04 |
| Jenifer Fitzgerald | 4/11 |
| Kristin Miller     | 4/16 |
| Evvie Pannell      | 4/24 |
| Gwen Edwards       | 4/25 |
| Lola Chamblee      | 4/26 |

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*Our Clean Church*

Our members are really good about helping keep our church clean. However, there is one person who makes sure the toilets are cleaned, the kitchen sinks shine, and the carpets are vacuumed among other jobs. That person is Pamela Anderson. Thank you, Pam for keeping our building clean. We appreciate all you do.



Happy st patty day! We are also hunkered down and because I work for the health center we're doing extra precautions.

State of AK closed schools down but already we have 2 cases in Anchorage 2 in Fairbanks and 1 in Ketchikan. The two cities might be more but last I checked a few days ago that was the count.

The sad part is we're getting ready for spring and the cannery is bringing in people for the fishery. I would hope that the director could try to minimize bringing in people. But oh well. I decided to just live one day at a time. Keeps me from over thinking.

Yes we got a lot of snow. We literally drove in tunnels.

Well you got a stash. I was telling a friend that I haven't even done my bi-weekly after payroll shopping. ThBk goodness though that my daughter has auto shipment of coffee and my hubby grabbed a bag of rice so that two things I can take off my list.

You two take care and stay well. My hubby's AFib has been acting up and he felt like he had a heart attack so we went to the ER(4days after) to see the rhythm. And it isn't a major concern but he's eased that they know and are aware.

Take care,  
Cathy Wassillie  
Ruling Elder/Treasurer

*Christ*  
The Way, the Truth,  
and the Life.

JOHN 14:6

Marge Gannon

reports:

I have had some contact with our "Christmas Family" since the holiday. There have been bumps in the road. State Industrial has balked on some of the medications but that is slowly working out. Dad has had the hardware taken out of his leg which is good news, but they found infection in the bone so he had been in KMC. He had a central line put in again for antibiotics and got to go home. Mom has been looking for part time work as he may not require as much help, but then Covid-19 happened. Their son is Autistic and with school out, he is home full time. She is so delighted with the Special Education staff and realizes her son needs them as it is difficult on this group of kiddos to be out of routine. I assured her she can still call the district for ideas and guidance. I did get the birthdays and misplaced them. I will post them in church e-mail when I get them. She will check in with me this weekend. Thanks to you all who continue to pray for and ask about this family. Continued prayers are needed.



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Earlier this year the Deacons decided to expand on our potlucks. These are special events at our church and always have been. When we break bread together it adds another dimension to our worship. We are doing themed potlucks and they appear to be popular. The March Irish one was well attended and the food amazing. I am hoping when we are able to be together again we will again enjoy these fun meals. If anyone has ideas

International  
Potluck



on our international themes please let myself or another deacon know. Get out those cookbooks and "lets eat!" God Bless

Marge Gannon

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Did you know that Jesus had 6, yes 6, trials?

A note from Sandy:

While doing some research about Holy Week, I found several articles about Jesus having 6 trials. I couldn't believe it. I hope you find this as incredible as I did. My thanks to Chuck Swindoll and Steve Rudd from whose articles I gleaned the following.

According to the Gregorian calendar, the arrest and trials of Jesus took place on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 32 AD during a **9-hour** period.

Here is the cast of characters:

|               |                                                           |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Judas         | The disciple who betrayed Jesus                           |
| Jesus         | The Son of God and the sacrificial Lamb                   |
| Annas         | The lifetime appointed Jewish high priest (and "retired") |
| Caiaphas      | Annas' son-in-law and Roman appointed Jewish high priest  |
| The Sanhedrin | The Jewish "Supreme Court"                                |
| Pilate        | The Roman Governor                                        |
| Herod         | The ruler of the Galilee region                           |

It had been an eventful week for Jesus. There was the triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the back of a colt. The cursing of the fig tree. He wept over Jerusalem and cleared the temple.

Now, supper was over - the Last Supper. Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane, praying. God's plan was enfolding as Judas came into the garden with a group of soldiers. He walked to Jesus and kissed him on the cheek. Although the soldiers expected a fight or for Jesus to run, he did not. The arrest took place between **1 and 2 a.m.**

The soldiers bound Jesus and took Him to Annas. It is not known why He was taken there, for at this time, Annas had no power as High Priest. Annas had been replaced by Caiaphas, his son-in-law by the Roman government. However, Annas was ecstatic that, finally, Jesus was going to get what was coming to Him for humiliating him, the overseer of the temple

bazaar, when He cleared the temple. Jesus, hands tied behind his back, was struck repeatedly by his guards and then was hauled off to Caiaphas. This was his first trial and Annas judged him guilty.

Caiaphas had gotten together a group of chief priests, elders and scribes. It was about **3:30 a.m.** when Jesus was brought before them. Caiaphas knew this was illegal because it was dark, this was a preliminary hearing, they are in the wrong place - his house, not the council chamber. But he went ahead with the farce.

The witnesses that Caiaphas had gathered contradicted one another. So, Caiaphas did the illegal act of questioning Jesus. He asked Jesus if He was the Christ, the Son of the Blessed. Jesus responded, "I am."

With that, Caiaphas rent his clothes and said, "What need we of any more witnesses?" And now, instead of taking a vote as prescribed by Jewish law, he asked, "What think ye?" They all condemned Jesus. With that, Jesus was spit upon, His face was covered, He was beat with their fists and He was mocked. By the time this "trial" was over, Jesus was bleeding and bruised and still, no official verdict had been handed down. It was during this trial that Peter denied knowing Jesus.

The third and final Jewish trial was before the Sanhedrin at around **6 a.m.** Roman law would recognize only their verdict. It was the shortest trial and Jesus was found guilty of blasphemy. Since that would not stand up in a Roman court, the charge was changed to treason. They claimed that Jesus was attempting to overthrow the government. He was sent to Pilate in the hall of judgment between **6:30 - 7:00 a.m.**

Jewish law prohibited Jews from entering a Gentile court during Passover so Pilate came out to them. He asked what the charge was and was answered that if Jesus wasn't guilty they wouldn't have brought Him to him. Pilate said that Jesus should be judged then by Jewish law. But, Pilate! It is not lawful for us to put a man to death and besides Jesus was in the process of overthrowing the government.

Pilate asked Jesus if He was indeed the King of the Jews. Jesus wanted to know if it was Pilate asking for himself or was that what he was told. Pilate looked at Him, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the High Priests brought you to me. What did you do? Are you trying to

overthrow the government?"

After much back and forth, Pilate took Jesus back to the crowd and told them that he could not find any fault with Jesus. Can't you just see the crowd throwing up their hands and shaking their heads? What was it going to take to kill this man? They became more fierce, shouting that Jesus was stirring up the people by preaching nonsense from Galilee to Jerusalem.

Pilate heard "Galilee" and knew he'd found the answer to his problem. He would send him to the ruler of that area, Herod who just happened to be in Jerusalem. Thus, ended the 4<sup>th</sup> trial around **7:00 a.m.** - not guilty.

Herod was delighted to see his lifelong enemy before him. Remember Herod was the one who had John the Baptist beheaded and dealt with vicious cruelty over his subjects. He looked at Jesus as a magician. He wanted to see Jesus do a trick.

You do not see, in any of the gospels, where Jesus responded to Herod in any way. There were no proceedings. Herod wanted a court jester. Because Jesus would not cooperate, Herod and company mocked Him, dressed Him in a beautiful robe and sent Him back to Pilate. Fifth trial done.

Around **7:30 a.m.**, Pilate looks out his window and saw Jesus coming back, bound and robed as a king. It was obvious that Herod was not in cooperative mood. Pilate's heart probably sank. He thought he'd rid himself of the problem. This whole event, however, brought Pilate and Herod together as friends.

Pilate did not want to declare Jesus guilty. He tried several ways to get out of that guilty verdict. He first offered to chastise and beat Jesus and then release Him. The answer was a resounding "No!"

The second effort to release Jesus was through a custom where a prisoner was released on the Passover. Pilate believed that if he presented Barabbas beside Jesus, Jesus would be released.

Barabbas was in prison waiting for his sentence to be carried out - death by crucifixion. He was a very bad man. A murderer. A insurrectionist. Guilty of sedition. He had committed capital crimes.

Caiaphas' plan backfired. He offered to release one of the prisoners. The crowd demanded that Barabbas be released and Jesus





crucified. A band of soldiers stripped Jesus, put a scarlet robe on Him, a crown of thorns was placed on his head and a reed put in His right hand. The soldiers mocked Him by bowing down, saying "Hail the King of the Jews!" He was struck on the head, spit upon, and led away to be crucified.

Jesus was on the cross between the 2 thieves by **9:00 a.m.**

Scripture references are available upon request. Send an email to Sandy at [treloar99@gmail.com](mailto:treloar99@gmail.com) Or a text with your email address to (208) 626-3088.

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Throughout February Christian Education continued with our regular activities:



**Christian Education**

- A. Sunday School has been finishing the curriculum focusing on Parables.
- B. Team Up For God after school celebration was held in February, but March and April's Celebrations have been cancelled. We will begin again in the fall.
- C. Bible Studies from Men's Forum to groups meeting in homes and at church met weekly.
- D. Mountain Movers moved their meeting times from Sunday afternoons to bi-monthly meeting on Wednesdays after school.
- E. Jane has been working hard on planning VBS with the curriculum decided, volunteers being lined up, crafts, dates, and so much more organized. Thank you Jane for your dedication and expertise.

All that being said, with the national spread of the Covid-19 virus, CE has cancelled

meetings for Sunday School, Mountain Movers, Bible Studies, and other activities.

CE will not meet in April, but members will stay in contact via phones, texting and emails as needed.

When the national situation changes and improves, CE will begin meeting again and our youth activities and Bible Studies will resume.



## A Mountain Movers Update

There will be a meeting on April 22nd if things look up.

Our coffee hour will be rescheduled since it had to be canceled.

We have decided on some furniture to purchase for seating and an area rug for "our room."

Looking forward, we are hoping to do some community projects to better our town.



There was a hound dog laying in the yard. An old man in overalls was sitting on the porch. "Excuse me, sir, but does your dog bite?" the tourist asked.

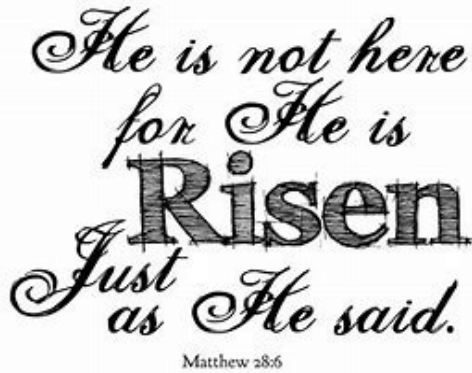
The old man replied, "Nope."



So the tourist stepped out of his car. The dog ran over snarling and growling and bit him on his arms and legs. As the dog was

dragging him away the tourist was flailing around in the dust and yelled, "I thought you said your dog didn't bite!"

The old man replied, "Ain't my dog."



## Easter Anagram

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our Easter anagram.

Word list:

alive, crucify, donkey, forgiven, Gethsemane, hosanna, risen, rooster, sacrifice, thorns

- aeeeghmnst \_\_\_\_\_
- deknoy \_\_\_\_\_
- einrs \_\_\_\_\_
- aeilv \_\_\_\_\_
- accefiirs \_\_\_\_\_
- eoorst \_\_\_\_\_
- ccfiruy \_\_\_\_\_
- efginorv \_\_\_\_\_
- hnorst \_\_\_\_\_
- aahnos \_\_\_\_\_



## Death and Resurrection of Jesus Quiz

- At Christ's crucifixion what did the soldiers place on His head?  
Crown of Nettles    Crown of Jewels  
Crown of Thorns    Crown of Thistles
- For what of Christ's did the soldiers cast lots?  
Clothes    Jewels  
Donkey    Cross
- For how many pieces of silver did Judas betray Christ?  
10    20  
30    40
- How did Judas betray Christ?  
By pointing    Described Him  
With a kiss    Shook His hand
- Christ was led away to what high priest first?  
Annas    Vitellius  
Caiaphas    Josephus
- What was inscribed above the cross?  
Prince of the Jews    King of the Jews  
Saviour of the Jews    Captain of the Jews
- When Jesus died, how long was there darkness over the land?  
3 days    3 minutes  
3 hours    3 weeks
- What was the name of the man who requested Jesus' body for burial?  
Joseph    Nicodemus  
Philip    Jonathan
- Who was the first on the scene after the resurrection of Jesus?  
Simon Peter    Cleophas  
Judas Iscariot    Mary Magdalene
- Pilate offered to release one prisoner. Which prisoner did the Jews request to be released?  
Jesus    Paul  
Barabbas    Barnabas

Answers:

1. Crown of Thorns 2. Clothes 3. 30 4. With a kiss 5. Annas 6. King of the Jews 7. 3 hours 8. Nicodemus 9. Mary Magdalene 10. Barabbas