

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIEST

“Living the Love of God”

Easter has come and gone...well, not really. Just as Lent is six weeks of preparation for the Great Feast, so Eastertide is seven weeks of celebration. Eastertide is longer than Lent. During the whole month of May we will be using white, we will use the Easter Acclamation at the beginning of the service, and we will use “Alleluia” almost to the point of exhaustion! The church does its best to remind us that Easter is THE BIG ONE, the celebration of the victory of God over evil, of love over selfishness.

There is another symbol embedded here that I hope you don’t lose, either. This is not merely a conquering of one force over another, or even of the proving of one force as superior to another. It sets good and evil in proper perspective. Good exists in God with no prior conditions. Goodness is a characteristic of Love, which is the heart of God. Evil in every form is a corruption of goodness. Evil cannot stand alone like goodness can, it is dependent on goodness. Goodness is not merely stronger than or superior to evil, it is categorically different.

And so just as Lent ends on Holy Saturday in silence, Eastertide ends on Pentecost with the Gospel preached in many tongues. Just as Lent excludes Alleluia, Eastertide more than makes up for it. Just as Lent teaches us to repent of our sins, Eastertide shows us what that repentance leads to. Where does it lead? It does not merely lead back to the innocence of Eden; it leads to the redemption of Heaven. Redemption is greater than innocence; Heaven is more glorious than Eden. The evil that took us from Eden took us ultimately to the foot of the Cross, which is the gateway to Heaven. In the longest of views evil will always serve the purposes of good in spite of itself, yet good will never enhance evil. Such is the power of Easter, such is the glory of love.

Next month: What else might it mean?

Paul+

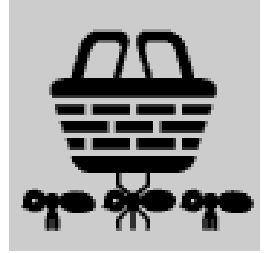
**LET’S HELP THE GRANDMOTHERS OF CASA DE AMOR
CELEBRATE MOTHER’S DAY**

Good Shepherd has ‘adopted’ six grandmothers in Palomas to help celebrate Mother’s Day. All of these grandmothers are members of churches that help out with Casa de Amor.. If you’d like to help, there are pictures in the Parish Hall which include sizes and the names of the recipients. Clothing or other appropriate items like soaps, lotions, etc. would be good. The gifts should be in bags that are not closed to facilitate border inspection. The gift bags need to be in the Parish Hall for Deacon Tom to carry them to Palomas before Mother’s Day. This is an authentic opportunity to express our best wishes to a group of Palomas women who are largely alone. It’s also an opportunity for the Church of the Good Shepherd to reach out to our fellow Christians in Mexico in a cooperative Mothers’ Day celebration. They’re supplying the cake and music; we’re supplying the presents.



HYMNS IN THE LIMBS

On Sunday, May 18th, there will be a combined service at the Little Walnut Picnic Grounds (same location as last year, in the main picnic area, NOT the large group pavilion) at 9:30am. The Eucharist will be followed by a Parish Potluck Picnic, so bring your favorite picnic dish to share.



FROM YOUR RECTOR'S WARDEN

The Touch of the Masters Hand

Tw'as battered and scarred, and the auctioneer thought it scarcely worth his while to waste much time on the old violin, but held it up with a smile; "What am I bidden, good folks," he cried, "Who'll start the bidding for me?" "A dollar, a dollar"; then two!" "Only two? Two dollars, and who'll make it three? Three dollars, once; three dollars twice; going for three.." But no, from the room, far back, a gray-haired man came forward and picked up the bow; Then, wiping the dust from the old violin, and tightening the loose strings, he played a melody pure and sweet as caroling angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer, with a voice that was quiet and low, said; "What am I bid for the old violin?" And he held it up with the bow. A thousand dollars, and who'll make it two? Two thousand! And who'll make it three? Three thousand, once, three thousand, twice, and going and gone," said he. The people cheered, but some of them cried, "We do not quite understand what changed its worth." Swift came the reply: "The touch of a master's hand."

And many a man with life out of tune, and battered and scarred with sin, Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd, much like the old violin, A "mess of pottage," a glass of wine; a game - and he travels on. "He is going" once, and "going twice, He's going and almost gone." But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd never can quite understand the worth of a soul and the change that's wrought by the touch of the Master's hand.

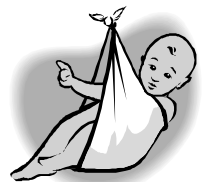
Myra 'Brooks' Welch

Man sees you for what you are and where you have been. God sees you for the beautiful person He knows you can become.

John Bell, Rector's Warden

BABY BLANKET PROJECT

Getting baby blankets into Africa has become very expensive due to customs charges and making sure that they get to the right people is getting harder and harder. For this reason, we have decided to send the blankets to Honduras with the Honduras Good Works group when they go down there this summer. So, please get to work on your baby blankets and make sure they are brought to the church by July 1st.



FR. PAUL'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Please be aware that this fund is a separate checking account so that Fr. Paul can write checks directly to those in need. Please write a separate check when giving to this fund and make it out to "Discretionary Fund". This is different from the "Designated Funds" account. "Designated" giving should ALSO be a separate check from your usual pledge, and you need to say which designated fund you are giving to on the comment line of your check.

Mother's Day is May 11th

On May 11th, Mother's Day, we will **honor all the women** of the Church at the coffee hours following the 8 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m. services. Come and say "Thank You" to all the women and what they do for our Church. "Thank you for the help, service, leadership, and nurturing you provide your Church family!"



HI LO SILVERS CONCERT

May 9, Friday 7 PM and May 11, Sunday 3 PM

Hi Lo Silvers presents their Spring Concert at the First Presbyterian Church, 1915 N. Swan Street, Silver City. Directed by Valdeen Wooton and accompanied by Virginia Robertson on piano and Nada Dates on piano and Bill Baldwin on string bass, the chorus will sing old favorites, spirituals, and songs from Broadway and film. Free.

DID YOU KNOW?

Microwave popcorn is one of the most popular snacks in America, but did you know there may be hidden dangers to the delicious treat? Here, Dr. Oz details what we should be concerned about when it comes to microwave popcorn:

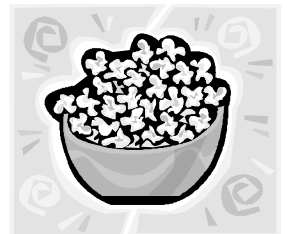
The smell that first hits you when you open a bag of popcorn is perhaps one of the most satisfying, but it may be harmful to your health.

Dr. Oz explained that the smell is actually a chemical called diacetyl, a synthetic butter flavoring added to the product.

People who work in the factories developed a problem called "popcorn lung" from inhaling the gases with the diacetyl in it. Dr. Oz said even people who make it frequently can develop lung problems.

Another problem is PFOA, a chemical that lines the bag. Dr. Oz said that 20 percent of this chemical in our bodies comes from microwave popcorn. It can cause thyroid issues, high cholesterol and bladder cancer.

There is good news for popcorn lovers. Instead, put organic kernels in a brown paper bag and lay it flat in the microwave. After a few minutes, you'll have the exact same product without all the dangerous chemicals.



COURTESY OFFICERS

In the interest of the safety and security of the church on Sunday mornings, the Vestry has started a program where we are asking for volunteer 'Courtesy Officers' to listen to the Sunday service from the Parish Hall. If someone comes into the Parish Hall during the service Courtesy Officers will be able to answer questions, deal with people needing help or food, etc. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall where you can pick a date and either the early or late service for which you would like to help. THANK YOU!

MAY LAY READER AND ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

DATE	LAY MINISTERS	GREETERS	ACOLYTES	SUNDAY SCHOOL/ NURSERY
MAY 4 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Karen Morant Carol Coon Lector: Kate Boyce Joe Pidutti	Adrian & Jennifer Melon	Adrian Melon Stephanie Ortiz Ana Ortiz Lexie Ortiz	9:15 AM Adult Kerygma Class 10:30 AM Youth Sunday School Nursery: Karisse Moore
MAY 11 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Karisse Moore Win Taylor Mary Harrell	Mitzi Roberts Marianne Bray	Tony Guck Toby Guck Gabriella Ortiz Danielle Ortiz	9:15 AM Adult Kerygma Class 10:30 AM Youth Sunday School Nursery:
MAY 18 9:30 AM	HYMNS IN THE LIMBS Pat Brown Jane Bates	Rosella & David DeBusk	Adrian Melon Stephanie Ortiz Ana Ortiz Lexie Ortiz	PARISH PICNIC AT LITTLE WALNUT PICNIC GROUNDS
MAY 25 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Linda Shay Linda Shay Lector: Sara Boyett Win Taylor	Suzanne Parham Adrian & Jennifer Melon	Toby Guck Tony Guck Gabriella Ortiz Danielle Ortiz	9:15 AM Adult Kerygma Class 10:30 AM Youth Sunday School Nursery: Holly Peterson
JUNE 1 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Karisse Moore Pat Brown Joe Pidutti		Carol Coon Linda Shay Mary Ihlefeld Win Taylor	9:15 AM Adult Kerygma Class 10:30 AM Youth Sunday School Nursery:

Lay Readers, please note: the reader listed first will read the first lesson

Eucharistic Visitor Schedule	
May 4—	The first Eucharistic Visitor listed is lead. If you cannot serve on the day scheduled, please contact Mary Harrell or Father Paul.
May 11—Rosella and David DeBusk	
May 18—Dora Somerville and Linda Shay	
May 25—Mary Harrell and Jennifer Melon	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY		
May	28	Nancy Pidutti
	30	Susie Trujillo
	31	Bob Fuller
1	Martha Blacklock	
2	Bob Baker	
11	Paul Sherrell	
13	Mary Harrell	
17	Dave Kuthe	
25	Evelyn Yates	



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY		
May		
7	Ned and Erin Hall	
8	Ron and Cheryl Oglesby	
21	Richard and Holly Peterson	



PRAYER FOR RAIN

O God, in Whom we live and move, and have our being, grant us moisture as rain, in due abundance, that, being sufficiently helped with our present needs, we may the more confidently seek to build your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Do you have a birthday or anniversary in May but don't see your name here? Please call Cherie at the office, 538-2015, and get her to update the database to reflect your info. Thanks!