

Mission Statement: Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

# April Happenings

Sunday, APRIL 15—Unity Service at 10 am

Something for  
**EVERYONE!**

The service will be followed by a gathering to discuss our Growth Group Study When Helping Hurts.

We will talk about how this study might impact Magnolia's mission moving forward.

Please come be a part of the discussion even if you were not in a group.

Potluck assignments: A-G salad; H-M dessert, N-Z main dish.



Sunday, April 22 is  
Earth Day

What does our faith have  
to say about creation?

Worship at 9 am  
and 11 am.



MagPres  
Session Retreat  
Saturday, April 21  
9 am—3 pm  
At Calvary  
Presbyterian

An opportunity for  
our Elders and  
Pastors to reflect  
and renew.



*Encounter God Sundays — 9 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
and 11 a.m. (Sanctuary)*

## A MINISTER'S MUSINGS

*Examine me, God! Look to my heart! Put me to the test!  
Know my anxious thoughts! Look to see if there is any  
idolatrous way in me, then lead me on the eternal path!"*  
Psalm 139 23-24

Spring is here! I love spring! As I write this it is the Monday of Holy Week and the road to Golgotha looms ahead juxtaposed against the warm air, blue skies, flowers blooming that I see outside my window. It is hard to not jump ahead to Easter with weather like this. And so I'm wrestling with the irony of thinking about the crucifixion when everything seems so alive! That being said I am also struck by the fact that sometimes in order for something to bloom; often something has to die or at least be pruned. As I want this week to be one of reflection I have to ask myself, "What in me needs to be pruned or die altogether before I can bloom into what God intends for me?"

This last weekend Pastor Paul and I spent time at camp with our youth and the theme of the weekend was "Refresh." Part of the discussion was about how we can refresh our faith through spiritual disciplines like praying the psalms, or tapping into our emotions through music or journaling. As I sat there at camp journaling, following the instruction to just let our minds go and write, things came up that I realized I needed to let go of. Even more than that, I realized I wanted to let it go. Sometimes refreshing our faith or our minds is as simple as saying, "oh well..." or can be as deep as confession. I have discovered that letting an attitude or grudge go and choosing to replace it with praise, thanks, and forgiveness is very freeing and sure way to joy and peace. So here is a question for us all, "This Easter season, what is keeping you from the joy that God intends for you and what are you willing to surrender?"

Joy and Peace,

*Pastor Claire*

**PS. Pastor Claire will be on vacation April 2—7.**

## A PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

**Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!**

The most significant of the Christian Holy-days occurs on April 1st of this year, but it is not April Fools Day. It is Easter. Easter is the celebration of central event of the story of our salvation. Easter is when the church proclaims the good news that is at the heart of the gospel: that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Jesus' resurrection was and is a decisive, ultimate victory over sin and death. That is a lot to celebrate while also playing practical jokes, pranks, and spreading hoaxes too. If only we could give Easter more attention. In the church, we do.

Did you know that in the liturgical/Church calendar, Easter is not just a day, it is a season?

According to our denominational website, "One day out of 365 is hardly sufficient to celebrate the great mystery of our faith—that Christ is risen from the dead. Accordingly, the season of Easter lasts seven weeks, spanning the fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday." While Lent is a 40 day period of prayer, fasting, reflection, and self examination, Easter is a 50 day season of celebration and rejoicing.

"Of course, Easter really isn't just a *season* either. In the fullest sense, Easter is a new way of life — in which we are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:11), called to "walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4). Every year, for fifty days, the church celebrates and rehearses this new way of life in the Season of Easter — as we await its completion in the fullness of Christ's reign."

May we live as Easter people, celebrating and rejoicing, not just in word, but also in our actions.

Your celebrating *Co-Pastor, Paul*  
**PS. Pastor Paul will be on vacation from April 2-10.**

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/resurrection-lord-easter/>  
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/faq/faq-christianyear/>  
<https://worship/christianyear/resurrection-lord-easter>

## Deacon's Corner

I was thinking what can I write on for my Deacons Corner article? The first thing that came to my mind was to write about love and kindness. That is what we need more of in this world.

**Corinthians 13:4: Love is patient, love is kind...it always protects, always trusts always hopes always perseveres. Love never fails.** There is no greater love than the example JESUS gave us. HE laid down HIS life for us to live eternally. Loving our neighbor no matter what they believe, no matter what they look liked or how different they may be from us, we are to love just like we love ourselves.

**John 15:13: "Greater love has no one than this than to lay down one's life for his friends."** That's what JESUS' love for us was so great that he did just that!!! We are to love one another to the degree that we are willing to place them before ourselves, give our coat when they may be coatless, give them the food we have prepared for ourselves, invite them to stay in your home as a place of refuge. It's easy to say we need to love our neighbor as ourselves but are we willing to place them before us or even equally? Love knows no bounds.

**Romans 12:9-10: "Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil, cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly and sisterly love. Honor one another above yourselves."**

JESUS was genuine in the way HE loved and HIS desire is for us to love the same way. HE loved the unlovable and could always see some good in them. Our goal is to reach out to the ones others avoid.

Hate is a strong word but Paul used it in this passage because he wanted us to realize just how far from evil we need to be.

The true test is honoring others above ourselves. Is it possible for us to give a bag of groceries, we just bought for our family, and give it to a homeless family. That's a test of love for our brother or sister.

In closing it's an old saying but, oh so true, "Love one another, treat people the way you want to be treated."

—Deacon Bev Williams

## STATER BROS OPPORTUNITY

As you know.....

Stater Bros. script cards are available for you to purchase every Sunday in Café Magnolia from 10:00 to 11:00.

**What an "OPPORTUNITY"!!!!**

You purchase cards in increments of \$25, \$50, & \$100. When you shop for your groceries – at any Stater Bros. store - you get full value for the card you purchase. Your church gets **6%** of every card purchased.

**What an "opportunity" to donate to your church!!!"**

January sales: \$1,025.00

**MPC profit: \$61.50**

February sales: \$3,150.00

**MPC profit: \$189.00**

March sales: \$1,275.00

**MPC profit \$76.50**

Now the question is.....can we raise even more money in APRIL ?



**What an opportunity! GO MAGPRES !**

## Youth Group meets every\* Sunday evening.

Middle School (grades 5 to 8) meets from 5 to 6:30 pm.

High School (grades 9 to 12) meets from 7 to 8:30 pm.

First Sunday of each month there is a meal for the combined groups.

**COME TO YOUTH GROUP—BRING A FRIEND**

\*Schedule may change due to holidays, church events or offsite activities.

No Youth Group  
Easter Sunday

From Your Christian Education Committee:

### Request for Additional Teachers

**The Christian Education Committee has some great news to share! Magnolia's Sunday school program is growing!**

Currently, we are a "one-room-schoolhouse" when it comes to Sunday School. While our older children are gracious and help the younger ones, the CE Committee believes our children would be better served by having two teachers each Sunday, and thereby releasing middle-school-aged children to have their own Sunday school class in the near future.



Having two teachers for Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be a great advantage to both our children and to the teachers. Having a teaching partner makes the task lighter and more fun, not to mention a great way to start if you've never taught before.

When you think about it, if you've been involved in churches for any length of time, someone was there for you to mentor you along the spiritual path. It might be time to do the same for the next generation, paying it forward, if you will.

If you would like to serve God and His church as a co-teacher, let a CE member or a pastor know. We will find a partner for you, or you can ask someone to be your teaching partner.

Have you noticed the plywood in the windows of Fellowship hall? Five of our beautiful windows have removed and sent to Minnesota for refurbishment. They will be returned in the summer and then the rest of the windows will be refurbished at our church. Look for more updates on the project as the months slip by.



### TWO-CAN SUNDAY REPORT 78 Cans Collected in March

Bring your two cans of food on Sunday, **April 8** for distribution to Lutheran Social Services. What we give is **MATCHED** by a grant! So give generously.

**KIDS' PRODUCE MARKET** at Madison Elementary is in need of a few good volunteers! In partnership with Feeding America, Madison Elementary distributes fresh produce to families every month. HELP is needed from 12:30 pm when the truck arrives, until 2:30, when distribution is over. COME FOR ALL or PART of the time and contribute to our local community.

**Friday, April 13**

Madison Elementary, just around the corner at 3635 Madison. Check in at the front office and bring your ID.

Women's Bible Study  
9:30—11 am, every Monday  
in the Christian Education  
Building, Room 3.

Men's Group meets Monday,  
April 9, 7 pm at Tim Lewis's.

They meet regularly on the  
second Monday of each month.

**APRIL 13**  
**Family Game Night**  
**6:30 pm in the Fellowship**  
**Hall**



Come one and all to join us for family game night! Bring your favorite board

game to share and a sense of rivalry. There will be kid-oriented games, group games, one-on-one games and more. Dress comfortably in case you decide to play one of the more active games!!! Pizza and ice cream will be provided!

**Sponsored by your  
Social Ministry Team**




**New Members**  
**Aaron Gettis, Erin Gettis, Jerry Fisher**  
**Cole Gettis, Stella Gettis**

**Be sure to say "hello" to them!**

## Time and Talent Recognitions

- ♥ For Jeff and Laurie Ludwig for providing YOUTH SUPPER.
- ♥ For Robin Smith leading the Egg Hunt activities; for those who contributed eggs and stuffed them!
- ♥ For Ann Laudermilk chaperoning for Winter Camp.
- ♥ For Kris Shea, Brenda Flowers, Gio Perez, and Aaron Cohen for help with sound and media.
- ♥ For the Deacons and their help with Dick Haynes Memorial reception.
- ♥ For Wayne and Tyson Andrew delivering the palm branches.
- ♥ For all those who participated and donated to the CROP walk.
- ♥ For all the Growth Group leaders and hosts for our study “Helping without Hurting.”
- ♥ For all who helped during the work party. *Brian Nelson, Maddy Gipson, John Wright, Ken Anderson, Cherylyn Thornton, Heather Dickenson, Adam Martinez, Flora Livingstone, David King, Tom Safford, Tim Lewis, Gary and Linda Welman, John Reinhardt, Paul Knopf, Ann Laudermilk.*
- ♥ For Dave and Margy Crowley and Tim Lewis for pruning the fruit trees.
- ♥ For MEW committee setting up for Maundy Thursday, Easter lilies, and Palm Sunday.
- ♥ For the Manleys’ car; and for Aaron Cohen, Claudia Roman, and Krysten Stiffler for driving youth to March Madness!

### April Birthdays

- 
- Samuel Lee, April 1
  - John Jackson, April 2
  - Joycelyn Walton, April 3
  - David Josselyn, April 4
  - Kylee Stiffler, April 6
  - Timothy Lewis, April 8
  - Alene Ward, April 8
  - Earl Nelson, April 9
  - Joy Bower, April 11
  - Bill Megenney, April 13
  - Ramsey Sindaha, April 13
  - Aaron Cohen, April 16
  - Robert Lewis, April 19
  - Dee Lacy, April 21
  - Addison Nicholson, April 22
  - Julianne Schlegel, April 23
  - Sydney Smith, April 26
  - Gwenyth Manley, April 27
  - Susan Simmons, April 27
  - Chanda Vega, April 29



### April Anniversaries

- Doshier, Mike and Janet — April 4
- Smith, Shawn and Robin — April 7
- Nicholson, Jay and Katie — April 8
- Lacy, Lowell and Dee — April 8—30 years!
- Grant, Gary and Edith — April 26—61 years!

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

In February and March, Session received and welcomed 9 new members to our Magnolia family. With their willingness to make this commitment to membership, I wanted to share what it says in our Book of Order on membership.

### *G-1.0304 The Ministry of Members*

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes:



- ✚ proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- ✚ taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- ✚ lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- ✚ studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- ✚ supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time and talents,
- ✚ demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- ✚ responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- ✚ living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,
- ✚ working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,
- ✚ participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- ✚ reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

*"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." John 1:12*

**Melanie Nelson, Clerk of Session**

#### Session Meetings and Minutes

As a reminder, session meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the church library. These meetings are open, so if you would like to attend to listen to the conversation, you are most welcome. Copies of all session minutes are also available in the office, or by email request.



For more information, stop by the church office or go to [RiversideCA.gov/Walk](http://RiversideCA.gov/Walk).

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Magnolia strives to share God's love with all and grow spiritually in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

7200 Magnolia Avenue  
Riverside, CA 92504-3829

Phone: 951-684-7200

Email: church@magpres.com

Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30 am —3 pm

Closed Friday

www.magpres.com



April 2018

**Staff**

Rev. Claire Schlegel  
Co-Pastor

Rev. Paul Knopf  
Co-Pastor

James Walters  
Music Director/Organist

John Wright, Choral Director

Cynthia Wright, Pianist

Tavo Vega  
Contemporary Service Music  
Leader

Allison Robinson  
Nursery Attendant

Interim Media/Audio Coordinator  
AJ Belangeri



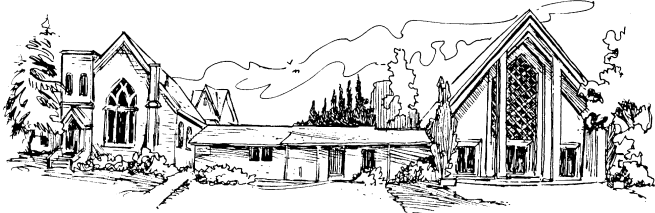
Diana Lewis  
Administrative Assistant

***A merry heart does good ...***



"I want you to scan these and put them  
in the next newsletter."



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 <b>EASTER</b> 9am - Worship w/ Communion @ 11am - Worship w/ Communion + 	2 Pastor Paul Vacation Pastor Claire Vacation 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	3 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 5:45pm - CE Committee 6pm - MEW Committee 7pm - BaG Committee 7pm - MIT Committee	4 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	5 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 11am - Memorial Service, Greg 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Choir Rehearsal - C	6 Office Closed 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 5pm - EEEAC Worship-S	7 8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various	
8 Pastor Paul Vacation <b>TWO-CAN Sunday</b> 9am - Worship + SS 11am - Worship + SS 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30	9 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 7pm - Men's Group	10 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Stewardship Committee	11 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building,	12 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Choir Rehearsal - C	13 Office Closed 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 12:30pm - Kids' Produce Market 5pm - EEEAC Worship-S 6:30pm - Family Game Night @ 	14 7am - Walk to End Homelessness 8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various 10am - Sack Lunch Prep @ 12pm - Sack Lunch Serve @ 4pm - Path of Life Meal Prep and	
15 10am - Unity Service 11am - Potluck/Town Hall on 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30	16 <b>UpLook Articles Due</b> 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	17 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Deacon Meeting	18 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	19 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Choir Rehearsal - C	20 Office Closed 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 5pm - EEEAC Worship-S	21 8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various 9am - Session Retreat @ Calvary	
22 <b>Earth Day</b> 9am - Worship + SS 11am - Worship + SS 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30	23 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	24 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 7pm - Session Meeting-L	25 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	26 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 6pm - Handbell Choir 7pm - Choir Rehearsal - C	27 Office Closed 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 5pm - EEEAC Worship-S	28 8am - EEEAC-S and FH, various	
29 9am - Worship + SS 11am - Worship + SS 5pm - MS Youth 5-6:30 7pm - HS Youth 7-8:30	30 7:30am - MPBSP @ CE Building, 9:30am - Women's Monday 1pm - Tai Chi @ Fellowship Hall	<p>All dates, times, and locations are subject to change. See <a href="http://www.magpres.com/calendar">www.magpres.com/calendar</a> for the most recent calendar.</p>					

# MagPres Prayer Calendar

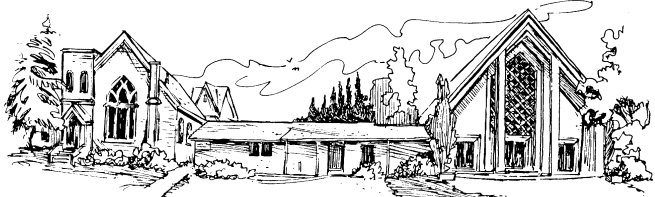
## April 2018

April 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2018

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 1 Co-Pastors and Families	2 Nita Fages	3 Peggy Farmer	4 Bruce Ferrel	5 Janet Field	6 Brenda Flowers	7 Leah French
8 Personnel Committee	9 Erin and Aaron Gettis	10 Zach and Maddie Gipson	11 Josie Gonzalez	12 Danielle Good	13 Holly Goulet-Perez	14 Ilene Gradney
15 Nominating Committee	16 Gary and Edith Grant	17 Karn and Suzanne Griffen	18 Sandra Griffith	19 Beverley Guidereo	20 June Hall	21 Everal Hathaway
22 Office Volunteers	23 Tom and Marti Hendrix	24 Betty Hillebrand	25 Melissa Holden	26 Krista Hollenhorst	27 Richard and Jeanne Hood	28 Dave and Cyndee Hurlbaas
29 Church Cleaning, Mark Huff; Church Lawn Care, Nicolas Santiago	30 Tom and Julie Hutchinson					

**Pray for the groups and individuals listed each day.**