



The Holy Post

March 2021

The Gales of March are a sign that winter is dying and Spring is on the way! Much like the labor pains of birth, the earth is being stretched and pulled in violent spasms bringing forth new life. In the oceans, the raging storms will give way to the tranquil slapping of waves on beautiful beaches around the world.

Often, our lives are like the changing of the seasons. Bantering through the changes that must come with age, we break through to quiet times that make it all worthwhile. The wise ones ride the tides and let God's will bring them home. Those not so wise struggle and fight the unwinnable battle against God and nature. They feel they are greater than their world and seek to conquer everything. Many waste their lives entirely... Many become embittered and cynical about everything!

Waking up in the morning brings the first of choices for the day. It can be a grueling event, thinking ahead to all that you feel you must accomplish... all the unpleasant people you must deal with... The traffic... all the demands that you put upon yourself!

Or... It can be the beginning of letting go and letting God fill your heart. He puts nothing in front of us that we cannot solve, deal with or achieve if we keep Him at the center. A happy heart is a very contagious thing too! Facing everything as an attacking warrior is a lonely business. Letting go and letting God lead is a comforting daily routine and brings friends to you from places you never thought possible.

Against popular belief, we are not islands unto ourselves. If you really look at the most successful people, they become that way with the help of others and that help comes because they are working toward the good of all, not just the selfish aims of themselves. Even in this day of cynical attacks on Christianity, those with God are not threatened. This is not the first time our faith has been challenged and it won't be the last! But the choice remains with you.

We can ride out the most bitter of storms, man-made or otherwise, if only we will put God in control... fill our heart with His joy... live in His light... and trust and believe!

Phil

Happy Birthday

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Lori Pettit | 1st |
| Janice Gross | 4th |
| Tammy Hinckley | 7th |
| Joe Nasise | 21th |
| Jill Gross | 22nd |
| Greg Hart | 22nd |
| Cindy Rooney | 23rd |
| Karen Edwards | 28th |



Phil & Doris Logan 17th
Steve & Sherri Bublitz 18th

Look here each month for the special days of our church family. If you're not here, send me your family member's dates and I'll add them to our list. Everyone loves to share special days together.

The 14th

**it's DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS Time!**

PALM SUNDAY
 HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST

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March 2021 is Here!



It has been a year since our last fellowship gatherings. We enjoyed a Murder Mystery Night and a St. Patrick's Day celebration last year. Restrictions were being put in place, and we had no idea what lay ahead. Most of us thought that things would be back to normal in a few weeks. But it has been much longer.

While the restrictions are being eased in regard to occupancy, the 6ft between families or individuals when they sit on a pew has not changed. This limits the available seating in our sanctuary to just over 50. We have set up the library/meeting room and fellowship hall as overflow areas. But if everyone who has been coming to our onsite services showed up on the same Sunday (And I am hoping this will happen on Easter Sunday), we wouldn't have enough room. This is a good problem.

Rather than encouraging many of you to stay at home and join us online, **we are adding a second service on Easter Morning. We will have a worship service at 9 AM and 11 AM.** That gives us enough time between services to sanitize. A coffee booth will be set up outside under a "pop-up" tent for those wanting to enjoy some fellowship during that time (The foyer and fellowship hall will be open as well). If you would like to help, please contact the church office (thechristianchurch@msn.com). And depending upon the number of those gathering each week thereafter, we might have to adopt this format until social distance restrictions are eased.

Jesus
Changes Everything
For the Better!

The Christian Church
OF LOS ALAMOS

Celebrate Easter!

April 2, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Onsite: 92 East Rd.

Online: www.lachristian.org

Easter (or as some call it—Resurrection Sunday) is a natural time to invite others to join you in celebrating how Jesus changes everything. He really does. And He changes it for the better. Your story of how things have become better since following Jesus will inspire others to give it a try. And there are a lot of people who are looking for something better.

We are ordering some yard signs that you can use to invite others to celebrate how Jesus Changes everything. And we will also provide some graphics of that sign that you can post on social media with the same message. It is our desire that together, we will proclaim the message of hope to those who need it.

Easter Sunday is April 4. We have a month to remind people that their life could be much better.

May we see and respond to the world with God's unfailing love - Pastor Doug

Who's Who in the Pews



Joe and Marty met in 1957 at Menaul High School, in Albuquerque. Joe grew up in Dixon, NM and Marty in Las Vegas, NM. After high school they married and Joe joined the U.S. Air Force. During his 5 year enlistment they lived in Texas, Kansas and North Dakota. They have three children, Karen, Lee and Paul.

Upon Joe's discharge in 1966, he accepted a job at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. He retired in 2001 after 35 years. Marty worked in Retail for 12 years, at LA schools and at the Lab.

Joe enjoyed many years of Handball, racquetball, mountain biking, Skiing and hiking (Grand Canyon 24 times)

We have been members of the Christian Church since 1971. We value the bible teaching and dedicated servants. Joe served as treasurer, deacon, facility Mac. Marty served as a teacher, Mission MAC, Benevolence and nursery.

They will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary in 2021.

The Frame Game Who Is This?



Dorii and I
would like to
thank you all for
the food, cards,
encouragement
and love over
the loss of her
brother. Love to
all of you.

Phil & Dorii

Last Month Was Barb Hanson



Don't make
smoothies
anymore! The
blender is scary
on my ears!

-Elly, age 3

Pioneer Bible Translators bridges the gap

between the church and the Bible-less peoples around the world. We are serving 22 million people in 58 language projects on our current fields. God is calling us to expand and begin 26 additional projects and 4 new fields! Our team is composed of Bible translators, literacy evangelists, church planters and a variety of support personnel transforming lives through God's Word in every language.



Pioneer Bible Translators currently sends missionaries from Canada and the United States. Our International Service Center, located in Dallas, TX, is crucial in attaining our global ministry goals. From here, missionaries train and prepare for cross-cultural ministry. Of the 60 staff members serving in Dallas, 75 percent are direct-support missionaries, relying on God to meet their financial needs as they work to bring God's Word to life for the Bible-less peoples. A team of dedicated missionaries and board members are mobilizing churches and recruiting missionaries from Canada to serve on our fields.

Another mission of Los Alamos



During the month of March, you will have interactions with friends, co-workers, and neighbors. With knowledge and discretion, what are some ways you can share the good news of Jesus's resurrection ?

Post on your social media "Jesus is Risen!": Instagram, Snapchat, Tic Tok, Facebook, etc.



AESTHETICS IMPROVEMENTS

@ THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Aesthetic Committee is continuing to make our building as beautiful as possible. Sandy Rayburn is the point woman and as in the past has been spot on for doing just what we need, right where we need it! Current pending projects for Aesthetics include; finishing up the accent walls in the E-wing, painting some kid-appeal art in the nursery areas, creating logical and uniform visitor-friendly signage throughout the building, and purchasing new matching window shades for all rooms churchwide

(for uniformity, beauty and privacy). The children's department will be reconsidering their current shelving and cabinetry.

We can always use volun-



teers for various projects. Take a look at the newly painted and organized education supply closet upstairs, done by Steve B, Joe A. and the Manns. Joe is also working on a new welcoming entryway to the nursery area. Professional contributions with time or talent are always appreciated. Certain donated things can enhance our efforts: scarves and other

fabric for draping purposes, artificial floral and especially trees can be beneficial seasonally. We can always use candles, surplus Christmas decor, and decorative icons that fit certain services like Good Friday. Donations we can't use will be passed on to charity.

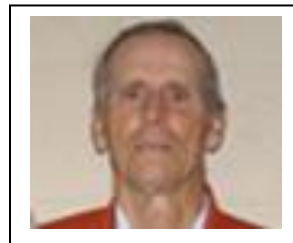


REJOICE

In our efforts to coordinate the entire facility, careful consideration is given to furniture—room to room—that has a plan and a purpose design-wise. As time goes on we wish to replace the random donated pieces like the “pinkish” chairs in the library, and the mis-matched tables in the lobby. We also have some “thinking outside the box” ideas for possible future projects.

All of this, of course, takes vision, budgets, and people to make the projects happen. Anyone with artistic talent in any of these disciplines is welcome to join our art committee efforts in planning projects, or simply volunteering on a work party.

Our current E-wing art committee is; **Amy Justice, Carolyn Tuzel, Joe and Marty Arellano, Sandy Rayburn and Steve Bublitz, with Karen Edwards and Barb Hanson** as consultants with regard to the needs of the children’s rooms. **Roy Kierstead** as the new Facility MAC will be helping with our current signage and window coverings, as well as future projects. It is safe to say that almost everyone in the church has contributed time and talent over the years on projects—big and small—too many names to mention. With all projects, **Joel Dahlby** is always there to haul away the unwanted stuff.



Thank you all!

Amy Justice & Karen
Edwards
not pictured

Hi Everyone,

My name is Tammy Hinckley. Many of you have known me for years as I grew up in Los Alamos and have been attending this church regularly since I was a junior in High School. I have fond memories of this church as I met my husband at church and married him in the “old church” building.

I am currently serving my third term as the Stewardship MAC. This has been a slow gradual transition as I have taken over more and more from Deb Goodwin. Her shoes are some very large shoes to fill, but I am trying. I have been learning lots and Doug is helping me to get better acquainted with QuickBooks. You have to remember that I am old school and sometimes technology scares me. I have sat with Gretchen and worked on some bank reconciliations. It is fun for me to reach back to my accounting roots and realize that I still remember lots. I like figuring out how to make the accounts balance; my own personal number puzzle.



One of my goals as your Stewardship MAC is to learn QuickBooks better so that the board and I have confidence in the reliability of the financial reports. During the last budget process, I discovered a few areas of concern. One big concern was how the missions offerings have been being reported and tracked. Huge thanks to Doug who spent one Saturday morning working with me and helping me understand. We are now working with Gretchen and Kathy to make sure that your missions offerings are being properly reported and sent to the various missions in a timely manner.

As the Stewardship MAC, I have been thinking a lot about what tithing means. For many years I believed that tithing means giving 10% to the church. This then raised more questions for me:

Does the Bible require me to give 10% of my income to my church?
Should I tithe based on gross or net income?
What does the Bible say about church offerings?



For some reason, I have this thought in the back of my mind that Doug once preached on biblical tithing. I seem to remember his sermon being based on the Old Testament and that the Old Testament requirements were actually more than 10%. Someone needs to fact check me because I think I remember Doug speaking about the requirement being 10% for this and 10% for that and a special additional 10% every three years. Anyone have any idea why I can't remember this sermon too well? Or perhaps, I don't want to remember it?

So instead, I decided to look to the New Testament for my own personal guidance. I found that the New Testament does not give any specific rules about tithing. Instead the New Testament gives some guidance on how I should give.

Giving should be done cheerfully instead of being viewed as an obligation. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7) *This answered my first question, I am required to give or tithe..*

Giving is the acknowledgment that everything I have is a gift from God, and is to be used in His service. (Luke 12:33, Acts 20:35 I Timothy 6:17-19, James 1:17, James 1:27, and 1 Peter 4:10) *So I have to ask myself honestly, do I believe that all I have comes from God and should be used for His service?*

From my quick bible search about tithing, I discovered some scripture verses to ponder and about which to pray. I feel that I need to seek God's guidance more in reference to my giving. I would encourage you to also check out these verses and ask God to clearly show you His desires. One thing that became clear to me is that I need to be generous to those in need, and I pray that God will show me how I can be generous and helpful.

This church has always been very generous in sharing whatever talents, abilities and wealth God has given to us. I am very thankful to you all and your willingness to share generously to further spread God's word. I thank you for entrusting me to work with the board to see that your gifts are used responsibly while we all engage in the Great Commission,

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," Matthew 28:19

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like to help with counting the weekly offerings. You can call or text me (505-690-0861) or email me



Loving our neighbors as ourselves!

Dennis Wilhoit shared a need a of a neighbor needing snow shoveled in front of their home, last month, With Dennis, High School students Jett Vincent and Stephen Harshman put some Muscle and some sweat into making the sidewalk and front Drive cleared. *Thanks guys!*



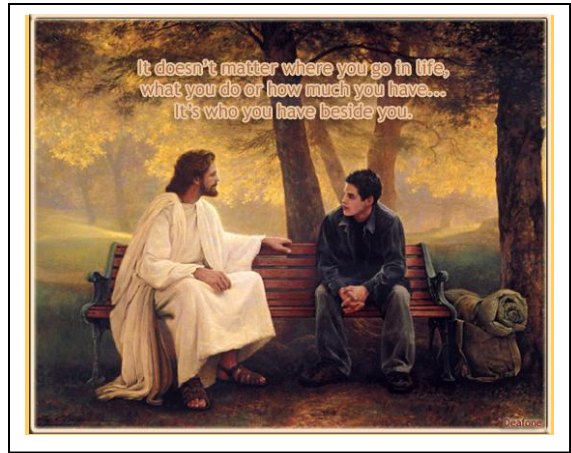
The Fourth Trumpet depicted in the 17th-century painting by Pieter Bruegel the Elder, from the series 'The Fight Between Carnival and Lent'.

Also for Youth

Youth Group Revelation Study

Tuesdays, 3:30 – 5 p.m. How does one read and understand this Bible book filled with symbols, imagery and views of the end of time and beyond? Come and find out!

We meet in person (or online),



A new look for our church van



SON-OF-GOD



Mayhem with the Mertzzes

The mood was somber, today as Ronnie "The Big Cheese" Ratono came to his end. After a lifetime of moving in on people and taking over things of his choosing, he finally came to the wrong place at the wrong time. He was a very unpopular guy. One person from his past referred to him as vermin! Another said he lived in the gutters. Yet, another said he was a flea bitten rodent who came and took whatever he wanted... lived off of others... and left a mess wherever he went.

Yes, he was known to wander in from, who knows where and strip everything in sight. He was connected to the Los Alamos Mob, which had its roots deep in the canyons of New Mexico. They have a history of lurking in the dark, just waiting for a juicy prize to steal away with into the night. They have gnawed away at the quality of life that Los Alamosins value so much.

It all came to an end when Ratono car-jacked a truck from local church member, Brian Smith. A trap was set several times, but Ratono kept escaping. Though Smith was injured in one of the set-ups, he bravely continued to work with authorities, until this dangerous pack leader was snared. Smith's wife, Sherisse, who had recently been released from doctor's care after a harrowing encounter with one of Ratono's thugs, Sizzle "The Snake" Side-winder stated:

"I don't want any more trouble with these kinds of creatures. They're the reason I don't wear dresses, anymore. Brian, you're making it go away, right honey... Its OK... right Honey?"

After a lengthy trial, Ratono was sentenced to the maximum penalty and the sentence was carried out this morning. Before execution, Ratono apologized to the Smith family and others, claiming he just couldn't stop himself. It was like an instinct in him, that drove him on.

Will the Smiths and others forgive him?
Will other Ratono gang members go down, too?
Will Sherisse ever know a life without medication?
Look for the answers next month ... in Mayhem with the Mertzzes

