



The Holy Post

April 2021

They nailed His arms wide open. After three days in a cold grave the power of sin was broken. Now, with outstretched arms He welcomes in everyone who trusts in Him. His nail scarred hands hold Heaven's Gates Wide open.



Happy
Birthday

The Smith's
19th

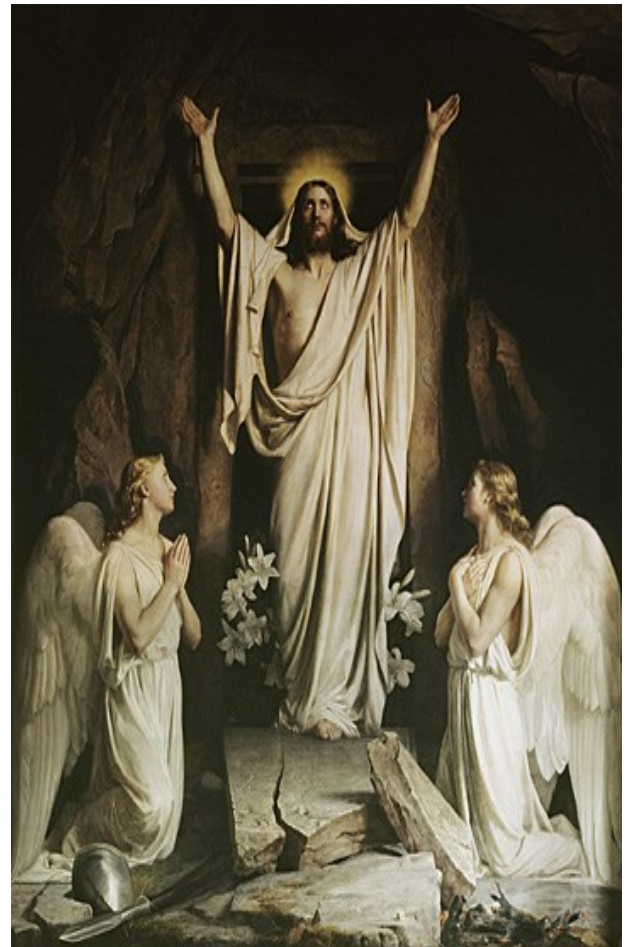


Eric Brosha	9th
John Blyalock	10th
Rick Hinckley	11th
Brian Smith	18th

Anniversaries

*Being kind is more
important than being
right!*

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After the cross, the disciples were frightened, withdrawn, and unsure. Then came the news. The tomb was empty. Wonder and doubt was gradually replaced with amazement as Jesus revealed himself. First to Mary, then the other women, then to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, and to Peter, then to the rest of the disciples, except for Thomas, but he ends up seeing Jesus as well.

They followed Jesus' directions, meeting Him on top of a mountain, where He ascended into heaven before their eyes. Then, these newly commissioned disciples had to wait until the feast of Pentecost to arrive. And on that day, the resurrected Lord poured out from heaven the Holy Spirit. They were transformed by the Spirit into His winsome witnesses. Boldly going and proclaiming the good news to the ends of the earth.

But that was over 25 years ago. And for some, the excitement was gone. It was worn down by the friction of living in a fallen world. In addition to persecution from the outside, there were squabbles for power, philosophical arguments, and a growing desire to embrace the hope of heaven while still satisfying one's earthly appetites on the inside. Some in the church were even questioning whether Paul had massaged the message he proclaimed. In particular, they wondered if the resurrection of Jesus Paul spoke of was more of a spiritual event, than a physical one.

Perhaps you are feeling the same way. After all these years, could the facts have been changed? Added to, or spiritualized in some way? Could the real Jesus be less than what we have been led to believe? Resurrection is, after all, the stuff of fairytales and religions, not science. We might learn some insight about ourselves from the story, but we don't have to actually believe that it happened to learn the lesson, do we?

Paul addressed these sorts of concerns in the 15th chapter of his first letter to the believers in Corinth. He asked the question, "What would life be like, if there was no resurrection?" This is the central issue of our faith, is it not? He concludes, "If there is no resurrection, then not even Jesus was raised from the dead." Which means that there is no reason to proclaim the gospel, for there isn't any good news. It is just foolishness. If there was no resurrection than there is no forgiveness, no being set free from our slavery to sin, and those who died while hoping to be raised up have perished. And if we've held back from the pleasures of this life, and that is all there is to experience, then we are to be pitied. And to make things worse, in our sharing of "good news" we've actually been spreading lies about God.

But that is not the case. Paul faithfully passed along the truth. The women and disciples saw and handled the resurrected Jesus. And so did a lot of others. Some who saw Him were still alive when Paul wrote his letters. The Holy Spirit was then, and still is today, at work in the world. It is what helps us through trials and tribulations. It is what prompts us, gifts us, and bears its fruit in our lives. We lead new lives because we have been united with Jesus' death, burial and resurrection.

Paul reminds us that there is always a first to do something. Jesus was the first to be resurrected, just as Adam was the first to die. And while we follow Adam in death, we will also follow Jesus in rising from the dead. It is so, and that is why we celebrate "Easter" each year. Some news sites have wrongly reported that this year, Easter is being cancelled. I can understand why they would say such things. To them Easter is just a cultural event. Churches hold services where people gather, and those same people spend money on their celebrations. And that isn't going to happen, at least not like it has in the past. But how can you cancel a celebration Jesus' resurrection? It simply can't be done. We may have restrictions placed on us, our beliefs may be questioned, but our changed lives proclaim that Jesus is risen from the dead; and one day, we will be among those who followed in Jesus footsteps, walking out of the grave and into life everlasting.



Who's Who in the Pews



Andrew Green: came to Los Alamos in the mid '80s from New Jersey. Left early 90s, returned early 2000s. Both times were for work.

Hobbies come and go: running, art, woodworking, model trains, reading, gardening. (Probably others)

Hopes for the future include continued well-being for his family and friends.

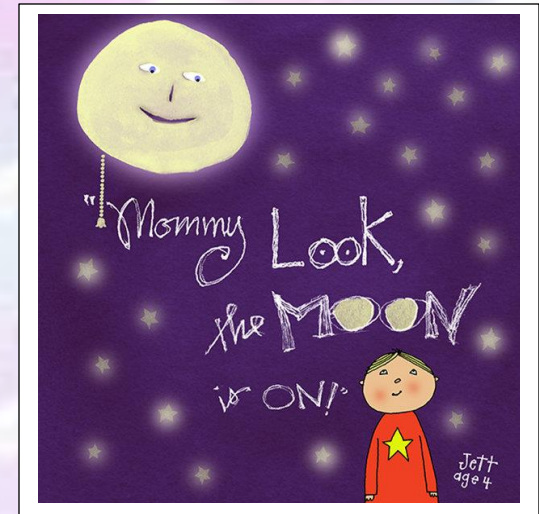
Something I really value at church is the wide admission of imperfections in ourselves, and the tolerance of the same in others.

Eileen and my children, Harry and Andre, are in their 20s.

The Frame Game Who Is This?



Last Month was Cathy Hadley





Good News! El Porvenir Christian Camp is working with NM governing bodies so that they can plan to be open and to host regularly scheduled camps, *and to do so safely!* They are taking it seriously to provide a safe environment for all campers, sponsors, and staff in light of Covid-19.

-High School Camp, June 7-12

-Middle School Camp, June 15-19

-2nd & 3rd Grade Camp, July 23-25

-4th & 5th Grade Camp, July 27-30



Take a virtual tour of the camp! <https://elporvenircamp.com/>

Parents!



We as a church want to partner **with you** as the primary caregiver and spiritual leader in your house, as well as engage you **to be invested** in the kingdom of God here at The Christian Church.

1. Get to know one another!

Parents of Children: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Parents of Youth: 3rd Wednesdays of the month, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

2. Focus Groups: to brainstorm, pray, and help facilitate plans for spring, summer & fall.



What does ministry with Children, Youth, Parents, and Families look like? Watch for upcoming details 😊



EASTER CELEBRATIONS

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Two Services - Two NEW times for Easter

9:00 and 11:00 AM – Easter Worship Celebration

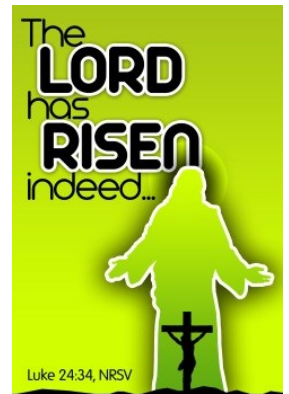
10:00 - Coffee and Refreshment booth outside

We will continue to provide space needed to stay “socially distant” and we will wear masks as ordered by our governor, but we will also gather to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection which gives us all hope for an eternal future.

He has risen!

Bring your whole family to our celebration of Christ’s resurrection. Invite your friends, your neighbors, even your enemies! The resurrection of Christ stands at the center of our faith; and our worship of the Risen Lord at this special gathering will encourage you and all who come with you.

He has risen indeed! Let the celebration begin...



The Trustees shall be the representatives of the church in all ‘LEGAL Transactions’ and shall be composed of the

Chairman, Assistant Chairman, Secretary (of the Church Board) and an Elder. The Chairman of the Church Board will

also act as the Chairman of the Trustees. Trustee Meetings shall take place as needed. An accurate record of the procedures

will be kept by the Secretary of the Board and shall be presented at the next meeting of the Church Board.

Today I give prayers of praise for God's provision in the form of recent, much needed upgrades to the education wing, including installation of lighting, carpet, paint, and closet shelving. I have been blessed to serve in children's ministry for both LACC and community Bible study, and I am the grandmother of two of our youngest members, two-year-old, Wynter and five month old, Goldyn. Therefore, I am especially thankful for the steadfast prayers and support of Pastor Steve and our church leaders to bring this project to fruition. Improvements to the education wing will provide for the safest and healthiest learning environment in which to minister to young children and their teachers and families.

Please keep children's ministry in your prayers as volunteers continue working to furnish the five children's classrooms on the lower level of the education wing. We pray we are good stewards of the resources God has provided and that before long our education wing will resound with the joyful voices of children as they learn the good news.

*In His Service,
Karen Edwards*



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Codgers is back



We're back...

Codgers has "Officially" returned. We are meeting at the church for now. Come join us on Tuesday mornings at 9:30. Bring your own beverage and share a little time with



THE P.I.G. EVENT

Hi, I am Libby Nolen, the grand daughter of Bob and Sally Nolen. I have been coming to this church for the last three months and online since last June. Over the month of February, I participated in the Partners in Growth program. P.I.G. You were designated a person or family and then get them gifts and uplifting letters and such. Who you get is kept a secret, so no one knows the identity of the other until the end of the program/ the great reveal!

At first when I signed up, I was excited, but doubtful, because I didn't know if I would really enjoy it. It definitely seemed daunting to have to think of something each week. However I had a really great time. It was very fun!

My grandparents and I got the El-Darazi family as our P.I.G. and Pastor Doug, Marci and Lauren got us as the P.I.G. It was a great experience, because I got to share uplifting sermons and inspiring verses and gifts with the El-Darazis. It was a great way to get to know them, especially when we all can't be together in person.

It also felt great to receive a gift, knowing that someone wanted to take time out of their day to think and pray for me and my family. I would encourage everyone to sign up for this program the next time there is another event happening, like this.

I got a lot closer to the Partins and the El-Darazis than I would have, if I had not signed up. **I Strongly recommend it for everyone.**

In our current time during this pandemic, we have a harder time meeting new people and making new connection with others. With events like this it is amazing to experience new people becoming new friends.

Thanks to Pastor Steve and Mrs. Bublitz for setting this up.



The month of May will celebrate Missions. Our missions' budget at Los Alamos Christian Church is separate from the general church budget. If you choose to support missions through our church, you must specify or write a separate check for your mission support. No funds come from the general budget to support missions at LACC.

We currently have monthly commitments to 11 missions in the amount of \$2700. Please consider a monthly gift to support these very worthy missions.

The Missions Committee at Los Alamos Christian Church seeks to follow Jesus' command: "...You shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:8

- Our Jerusalem is Los Alamos. We live here and we share our faith here. But we are not alone. We support these local missions:

Hope Pregnancy Center

Young Life Los Alamos (office space in our church)

- Our Judea and Samaria are New Mexico, El Paso, and Juarez. We support:

Christian Church Starters of New Mexico

Cowboy Up International (They have planted or are planning to plant churches in Valencia County, Edgewood, Cibola and Pecos, NM)

El Porvenir Christian Camp

- Our Ends of the Earth include missions not only in various parts of the United States but also international missions. We support:

Alba Mission Scotland

Cookson Hills Christian Ministries

Dallas Christian College

Emmanuel Christian Seminary

Good News Productions

Haitian Christian Ministries

Institute of Strategic Languages and Cultures



For additional information on anything regarding missions, please contact Kathy Anderson at kit5887@gmail.com



You are invited!

The Nursery Nest



Two people are scheduled each Sunday during Worship to help in the nursery. "With conversations and observations between parents and teachers, infants, crawlers, toddlers, and early walkers are placed in appropriate learning environments that will support each child." The schedule for helpers is handled by Gretchen who sends out quarterly reminders for people when it's their turn. It is such a blessing to have babies at our church! The nursery is a safe and nurturing environment for all of our little ones.

The next regular Board meeting of the Christian Church of Los Alamos will be held on April 11th from 6 pm to 8 pm; the elders are encouraging the body

to attend. (Due to current space limitations, families are encouraged to have 1 adult attend) This will be a good opportunity to learn about

the activities our church body is engaged in: locally, state wide, nationally and internationally. Please join us.



Mayhem with the Mertzes

It was a beautiful summer evening. Just the right temperature and a faint breeze of cool air made everyone comfortable. Grampa Ulley and Grandma Uteesha were visiting the Mertzes. It was close to bed time for Squirt and Grampa Ulley read her a story as she sat on his lap. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book, reach up and stroke her Grampa's extremely wrinkled cheek. Then she would stroke her own and gain a strange look on her face. Finally she asked,

"Grampa did God make you?"

"Yes, Sweetheart" he replied. "God made me a long time ago."

He went on with the story and she continued to stroke his wrinkly cheek and then her own, each time with a strange look on her face.

Grandma Uteesha spoke to Squirt.

"Is there a problem, dear?"

"Did God make me too, Grandma?"

"Yes, dear, God made you too... just a little while ago."

She continued to stroke her Grampa's cheek and then her own. Finally she said:

"Grandma, I think God is getting much better at making people."



Does Grampa Ulley need a face lift?
Will Grandma Uteesha keep reading from now on?
Is God getting better at making people?
Look for the answers next month in
Mayhem with the Mertzes