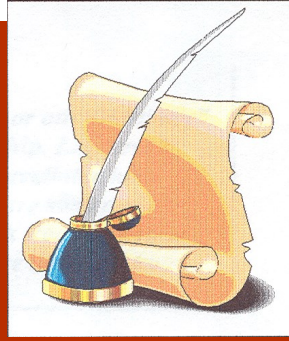


The Holy Post



APRIL 2022

Regret is an empty bank account. All of us can look back in life and see many things we would change if it were only possible. Unfortunately it is NOT! Hopefully, those kinds of things change us and make us better people, afterwards. But they are done, like yesterday's headlines and we can't go back and change them.

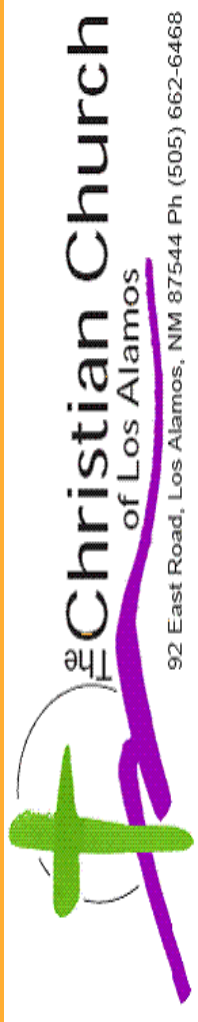
Depending on the window you're looking through (the receiver or the sender of bad behavior) you can be overwhelmed with resentment or regret. For the receiver it can alter or destroy the relationship you have with someone. For the sender it can do the same and on top of that, fill you with a long term sense of regret. Usually emotion or the loss of it is at the heart of these kinds of situations. As time goes by we come to realize that we could have handled the situation much better than we did. In some cases it can be repaired with a revisit of the issues... More often than not, the damage is done!

As time goes by, these things accumulate in our heart and gnaw away at us. The things that were dishonest... the things that were careless... the things that were hurtful... The things that were not Christian at all! In extreme cases they can cause psychosis, but most commonly they just cause a deep sense of regret. We look back again and again and again, wishing we could change it.

Find a quiet spot. Read your Bible. Pray for forgiveness (for yourself) Often that is the hardest forgiveness for us to find! Pretend that you are talking to someone else who has come to you with these problems. What would you say to them? Wouldn't you give them comfort and acknowledge that something, maybe could have been done differently, but alas was not? If a revisit might do some good, that could be suggested, but wouldn't you say "What is done... is done." Unless something CAN BE DONE, regret is like rereading a book you never liked the first time you read it. Pray sincerely for forgiveness and move on, not to repeat the same mistake again

We are human, prone to make mistakes, common to err in emotion and certainly short on self-forgiveness. Let it go... Love yourself as you would others... God knows we are not perfect and sheds forgiving grace upon us, always. Maybe we need to as well!

Phil



Happy
Birthday

Brian & Sherisse
Smith
19th



Anniversaries

Eric Brosha	9th
John Blaylock	10th
Erica Rock	11th
Rick Hinckley	11st
Brian Smith	22nd

From Wednesday Night
on St Patty's Day



Happy St. Patty's Day
to Ya

Commentary

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Our Daily Bread

The Christian Church



The Cross: A sign of Torture or Mercy?

We will continue our study of Jesus' resurrection through Easter Sunday, April 17th; but Jesus could not have been raised unless He died for our sins upon the cross.

Centuries before Jesus was crucified, the cross had already become a well-known symbol of torture throughout the ancient world. The Egyptians called it a 'canob,' after a T-shaped instrument used to measure the rise of the Nile. The Greeks called it a 'staurus,' from their word 'to stand.' They also used this word to describe a fence post.

A cross consisted of a perpendicular post that could be planted into the ground with a crossbeam either at the top or shortly below the top. The height of a cross was usually little more than the height of a man. The condemned would be fastened to a cross before it was raised up.

This form of death was intended to send a message: "If you act like this person, you will suffer the same horror." They were usually raised along the road leading into a city, so this message would be delivered to everyone. The crucified did not die immediately, but often survived for 2 or 3 days; and their bodies were left in place for weeks. It was gruesome, but effective, which is why, as Rome extended its domain, they adopted the practice of nailing those who opposed their expansion to crosses.

Jesus' death was meant to send the same message, but God used it to send His own message, one of His love for the whole world. It was God's plan that Jesus' sacrifice for sin on the cross be just as memorable. On the day Jesus died, the world's symbol of torture became God's symbol of mercy.

We now display this symbol on our buildings, in our worship, and even adorn ourselves with it as jewelry, because we want to proclaim God's message. It is a message that many have never heard, but one everyone needs.

John Bunyan expressed it well in his enduring work 'Pilgrim's Progress.' He wrote, "I saw in my dream that just as Christian came up to the cross, his burden loosed from his shoulders and fell from his back and began to tumble till it came to the mouth of the sepulcher, where it fell in and I saw it no more. Then was Christian glad and lightsome and said with a merry heart, 'He has given me rest by his sorrow, and life by his death.'"

Of course, it was the apostle Peter who expressed it best when he said, "and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." (1 Peter 2:24).

Jesus asked His Father, in prayer, "Is there any other way?" He was told that His death on the cross was the only way. Jesus responded by saying, "Not my will, but Yours be done." Then, Jesus did what He came to do. There has never been a greater expression of love.

The next time you see a cross, remember that it is now a sign of God's mercy. And He wants you to receive the right message: He loves you very much.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Doug



Who's Who in the Pews?



REJOICE

Dave & Kim Hollowell: *Kim and Dave were born in Iowa and Illinois, respectively. Dave moved here in the 1980s to work at the Lab, and Kim in the 1990s from Phoenix. They met at a church singles group in the late 1990s.*

Until three years ago, Kim kept busy homeschooling all six children, through high school. She enjoys reading, crafts and sharing with family. Dave, not yet retired, enjoys working around their house and yard.

They have six grown children, including three who live in Los Alamos. They have eight grandchildren also in Los Alamos.

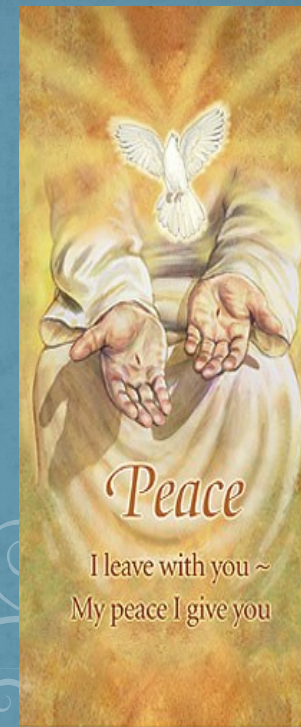
They like the service we provide to community – over the years they've taken part in homeschool programs and Community Bible Study held at LACC. They appreciate the music, prayer and preaching that LACC provides every Sunday.

“We hope for happy and healthy times with each other and with our family, and how we might serve God as we transition from work and raising children, into the next season of our life.”

The Frame Game Who is this?



Last Month was
John Hughes



Making a Joyful Noise



A big thank you to all who helped in the moving of the Hasselstrom family.



We are cleaning house (the church) and are going to have items to go "somewhere?" We are getting things ready. Talk to Bob Houlton, Sandy Rayburn, Phil Logan or Mark Rayburn if you want to know what is going? Too many items to list.

All went well and there was a big turnout from our congregation. Many hands make work small.



We have tons of Choir music (sheet music) if someone knows another church who might use it





EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Good Friday - 6 PM - April 15

We hold a “service of nails” on Good Friday. Each person receives a nail and a slip of paper when they arrive. On the paper they are encouraged to note their sins. As we recall Jesus’ sacrifice upon the cross through Scriptures read and hymns sung, the lights are turned off one by one, until only the cross is illuminated. It is a large, wooden cross. It lays on the floor at the front of the sanctuary. With nail in hand we make our way to the cross where we drive a nail through the paper and into the cross. And we remember that Jesus took our sins to the cross, and extends to us His forgiveness. We leave better prepared to celebrate His resurrection on Easter morning.



6:15 AM

Easter Morning Sunrise Service

Every year we gather with other Christians

from around town at Ashley Pond to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

Dress warm, bring a chair, and join us as we sing, pray, and celebrate the resurrection. He is risen!

10:30 AM – Easter Morning Worship

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...



TRUSTEES OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

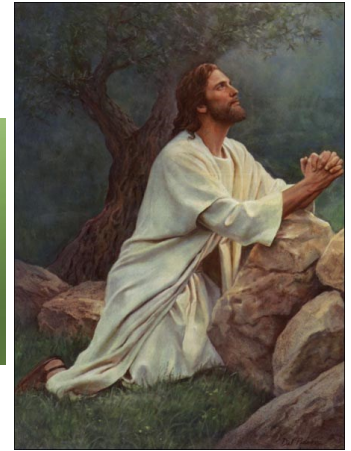
will be kept by the Secretary of the Board and shall be presented at the next meeting of the Church Board.



L'Innocence by William Adolphe Bouguereau

The Christian Church

is a great place to raise a family. Let us help you make a new generation of Christian believers. There is education here on all levels. There is love here from wall to wall. If a Christian home is what you're looking for, let us help you find the guidance and faith and love it takes to make it a good one!



To our good friend, Inna Bohn, who went to Romania, to bring her mother home from the tragic situation in Ukraine. We love you. We share in your heart ache. We pray for the safety of your family and friends in Ukraine.

We also pray that you find a new and welcoming home here in New Mexico, USA. May God be praised for bringing you through this unimaginable journey to safety and freedom.



A big thank you to all of our Crisis Cooks for helping Sandra and John Hughes get through a tough surgery. What a great way to say we love you guys...

Finding Yourself...

Whether you're a new visitor, an uncommitted member or an "old timer" at the Christian Church, we have a place for you! Bible study, Worship, Leadership, Missions and much, more are available. If you're looking for a place to feel comfortable, chances are, someone here is looking for you. This is a great time to get started. Ask Pastor Doug or anyone else you feel comfortable with. You may be missing more than you know.



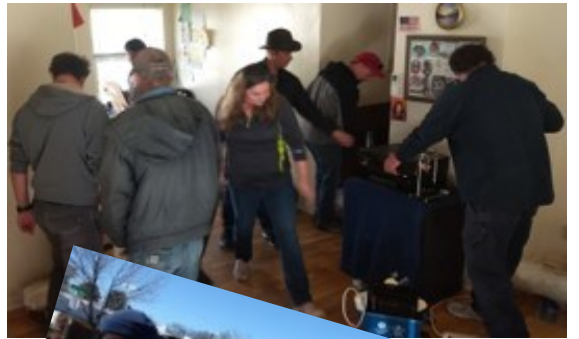
Alba Ministries

Sugar Land TX / Highlands of Scotland

Alba Ministries was created with the intent of helping the existing churches and planting new congregations in Scotland.

Alba has also partnered with several Bible college professors on sabbatical to go and spend time helping the churches in the North-east of Scotland. Furthermore, Alba has sponsored nine student interns for additional support work with the youth in the churches of Scotland.

Moving the Hasselstroms





**Making
Pretzels**



We celebrate Missions during the month of May

As a part of this celebration, Scott Middleton of ALBA Mission Scotland will be with us on Sunday, May 15th. He will share about this mission's work during Sunday School (9:15 AM), and will preach for us during the service. There will also be displays for our other missions in the foyer and updates presented through out the month of May.

Our missions' budget at the Christian Church is separate from the general church budget. The decision of how much of your offering supports our Church's work here in Los Alamos, and how much is sent to support missions is yours alone, and not the board's decision. 100% of what you direct to missions is sent to support missions.

To express your decision you must specify on the "for line" of your check how much you want to be used for missions (For example: \$90 to Church, \$10 to missions). Or you can write a separate check for your mission support. If giving cash, you can mark this on the envelopes in the pews. No funds are allocated from the general budget of our Church to support missions. We currently send \$2600 each month to support 11 missions. Please consider how much support you will direct to these very worthy missions.

The Missions Ministry seeks to help our Church 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
- El Porvenir Christian Camp
- Cowboy Up International (They have planted or are planning to start Cowboy Churches in Valencia County, Edgewood, and Las Cruces, NM)

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
- Dallas Christian College
- Good News Productions
- Central European Christian Education Foundation (CECEF)
- Cookson Hills Christian Ministries
- Emmanuel Christian Seminary
- Haitian Christian Ministries

For additional information about anything regarding our church's support of missions, please contact Kathy Anderson at kit5887@gmail.com



Mayhem with the Mertzes

Each Friday night after work, Lee Anderson's neighbor, Roary Blastencapper, would fire up his outdoor grill and cook a big venison steak. Since it was Lent, Roary's neighbors were not eating meat on Friday. The delicious aroma from the grilled venison steaks was causing such a problem for everyone that was faithful, that they finally talked to Pastor Doug. Doug came to visit Roary and suggested that he become a Christian. Now, Roary wasn't the sharpest knife in the drawer, but he could shoot the tail feathers off a pheasant at 350 yards! After several discussions with Lee and Doug, Roary was baptized at the church. Pastor Doug proclaimed:

"You were born a heathen, and raised a sinner, but now you are a Christian. Amen"

Roary's neighbors were greatly relieved, thinking they could now get through Lent, without so much temptation for meat. That was until Friday night arrived and the wonderful aroma of grilled venison filled the neighborhood, once again. Pastor Doug was called immediately and as he and Lee rushed into Roary's backyard, clutching a Bible and prepared to question him, they stopped and watched in amazement. There stood Roary, head down clutching a small bowl of holy water which he carefully dunked his grilling meat into and chanted:

"You wuz born a fawn. You wuz raised a deer, but now yur a catfish. Amen"



Will Roary see the error of his ways?
Will the neighborhood survive the temptation?
Will Lee and Doug stay over for catfish?
Look for the answers next month... in
Mayhem with the Mertzes