



CROSS CURRENTS

April, 2025

Alpine Community Church (UCC), Alpine CA

Vol. 36 No. 04



Women's Guild News

The Guild enjoyed hearing from Karen Begin who informed us about Habitat for Humanity. We are all familiar with the name thanks to President Jimmie Carter. We were amazed by the work they do. Their emphasis is on families with middle to lower middle income. They provide 0 interest loans and carry the mortgage themselves. Applicants must have a steady income and do not pay more than 1/3 of their income. Residents actually own the home and build equity. They provide sweat equity while the home is being by contributing to the construction.

Our April 12 meeting program will be from Sharp Senior Resources Center informing us about drugs and prescriptions for seniors.

We funded 2 more of our missions which were Promise 2 Kids and Ride Above Disabilities.

Want something special for a very special event in our Christian calendar? We will have a bake sale on Palm Sunday April 13. Members are encouraged to bring their baked goods to the meeting so Donna and Marcella can get a head start pricing. Thanks for supporting the Guild while you taste wonderful baked goods.

I hope you will join us soon.

Your Guild Board



BAKE SALE

Message from the Interim Designated Term Pastor



I am reminded of an old saying: April showers bring May flowers. It is a reminder of how the often-unwanted rainstorms are vital to the growth and blossoming of springtime flowers. It is helpful to remember that even the rain plays its role alongside the sunshine. Growth and change are a function of multiple elements doing their necessary work.

Growth and change do not happen as quickly or as easily as we may want. Meaningful transformation requires not only time and effort, but also patience. Much like the season of advent, the season of lent invites us into a practice of waiting – anticipating the work and sacrifice of Jesus the Christ. In our own way, we also use this time to offer our own sacrifices through fasting, prayer, and focus. Though we have done this many times before, each time challenges us to renew our faith and energy for the present day.

Sometimes, it can feel as though life is bringing us far more rain than sunshine. That may not be literally true in this part of the country, but when it comes to the ups and downs of our daily living, it can feel like we're underneath a perpetual cloud of difficulty. What do we do in those moments when it seems like the hard times have no end in sight?

I'll be the first to say that I don't have any shortcuts or miracle solutions. I think of times when I've had to pull over to the side of the road when a storm was just too intense. I think the same can be necessary for us. None of us can bear pain or struggle without end. Sometimes, a moment to pause is necessary. As we approach Easter Sunday this month, I think of Jesus taking time to pause in the Garden of Gethsemane. He does not go alone but asks his trusted disciples to join him. We, too, would do well to surround ourselves with good community in difficult moments. Jesus faces the weight of depression and despair, knowing he cannot sidestep his impending punishment. What helps us is to know how the story goes: death gives way to resurrection. The storm of crucifixion gives way to the light of God's life giving power.

May we find hope in the realization that Jesus, too, faced his storms, with determination and courage. And may we keep the faith that in our own lives, a change will eventually come.

Message from the Moderator....



Is it spring yet??? Doesn't really feel like it. While we certainly need the rain, I look forward to more blue skies and planting a small garden. It must be right around the corner. The Cabinet did not have a meeting in March because we had several people on vacation. Pat and I spent time in Florida with our grandkids and took them on a Disney Cruise. The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for April 20, but due to Easter, we will meet the fourth Sunday of that month. (I am unabashedly including a photo of us at the bottom of this article.)

Spring is a time for renewal and I hope you all take some time to renew relationships in your life, to contact others who you may not have talked to in some time. We have members in our own church that may not be able to attend church, but a phone call or note to them can brighten their life. Springtime is when I like to plant a garden (at least tomatoes!) and plant some spring flowers in the yard. Planting these seeds provides rewards of colorful blooms in the weeks ahead. And reaching out to old friends and acquaintances is a renewal of sorts, also.

And Easter is certainly a time of renewal! We hope to see all our members in church on Easter Sunday. The choir is planning special music, flowers will be placed on a cross to be placed in the front of the church. Surely blue skies will be here then!



He Keeps Bleeding Love



British popstar, Leona Lewis, has a song called “Bleeding Love.” It is a love song about a girl who is completely in love with someone who others say is wrong for her. Yet, she continues to “bleed love” for him, because despite what others say, their love is too powerful. I once joked that it was a song about Jesus. Although it had nothing to do with Him, allow me to explain how a case for this idea could be made.

In the song, Leona talks about her lover metaphorically cutting her open. Jesus suffered cuts and bruises as well during his crucifixion. He bled for us, and we can say that He most certainly “bled love.”

Over the years, Christians have been persecuted for their love of Jesus. For the most part, it isn’t as bad as it used to be. Still, we know that there are some places in the world where Christians suffer terrible persecution and death.

The lyrics say that as everyone tries to pull the girl away from the man she loves, she remains committed to their relationship. Forces of evil try to pull Christians away from the love of Jesus. However, despite what others do, we remain firm in our commitment to Him. We are proud of how He keeps bleeding love for us. We know that He will never stop. He is the one great love of our lives, and no matter how others may try to separate us from Him, He has never stopped loving us. We will also never stop loving Him. He’ll keep bleeding love forever.

Happy Easter!



Holy Week, the last week of Lent, **commemorates the final days of Jesus' life, including his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his Last Supper, his crucifixion, and his resurrection**, marking a period of reflection and remembrance for Christians.

Here's a more detailed breakdown of Holy Week:

- Palm Sunday: Marks the beginning of Holy Week, commemorating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, where he was greeted by crowds waving palm branches.
 - Holy Monday - Wednesday: These days recount events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion, including his cleansing of the temple and his teachings.
 - Maundy Thursday: Commemorates the Last Supper, where Jesus shared a final meal with his disciples and instituted the sacrament of the Eucharist.
 - Good Friday: Marks the crucifixion of Jesus, a day of solemn reflection and remembrance of his sacrifice for humanity.
 - Holy Saturday: A day of quiet reflection and waiting for the resurrection, often marked by a vigil service in anticipation of Easter Sunday.
- Easter Sunday: Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus, marking the triumph over death and the promise of eternal life for believers.

Generative AI is experimental.



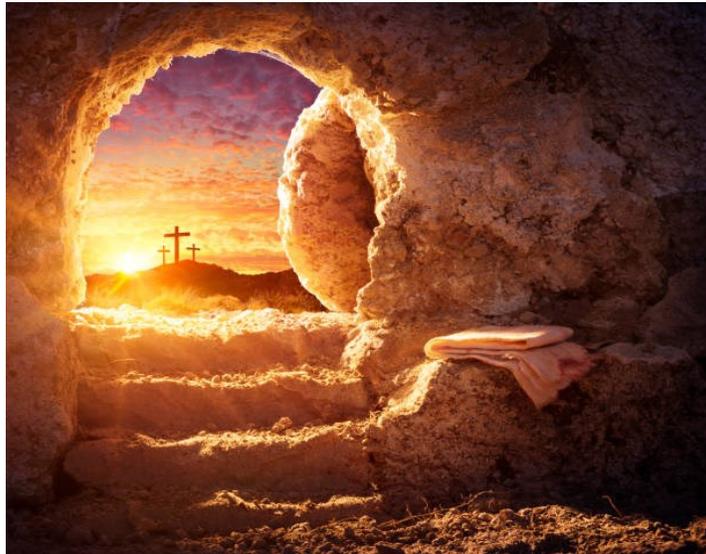
In Christianity, Easter **celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead**, a pivotal event that symbolizes victory over sin and death, and is considered the foundation of the Christian faith.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- **The Core Belief:** The central tenet of Easter is the belief in Jesus's resurrection, which is described in the New Testament.
- **Historical Context:** According to Christian belief, Jesus was crucified on Good Friday, and three days later, on Easter Sunday, he rose from the dead.
- **Symbolic Meaning:** The resurrection of Jesus is seen as a powerful symbol of hope, new life, and redemption for humanity.
- **Lent and Holy Week:** Easter is the culmination of a period of preparation called Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and reflection, and Holy Week, which includes Holy Thursday (commemorating the Last Supper), Good Friday (Jesus' crucifixion), and Easter Sunday (the resurrection).
- **Easter Sunday:** Easter Sunday is the day that Christians celebrate Jesus's resurrection, and it is the holiest of holidays on the church calendar.
- **Theological Significance:** The resurrection is seen as evidence of God's power and love, and it is believed to offer believers the promise of eternal life and spiritual renewal.

Impact on Christian Faith: The resurrection is considered the cornerstone of the Christian faith, and without it, there would be no Christian preaching or hope.

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Here are some Christian Easter quotes to reflect on the resurrection of Jesus: **"He is risen, as he said," (Matthew 28:6) and "Christ has not only spoken to us by his life, but has also spoken for us by his death," (Søren Kierkegaard).**

Here are some more quotes to inspire and uplift you during this Easter season:

Biblical Quotes:

- "He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay" (Matthew 28:6)
- "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16)
- "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:25-26)
- "For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him" (1 Thessalonians 4:14)
- "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4)
- "In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind" (John 1:4)
"For nothing will be impossible for God" (Luke 1:37)

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Care and Prayer List

Alpine Community Church Care & Prayer List

Please call or send a greeting card to someone on the list, your thoughtfulness will be appreciated. Names will be removed when it is unknown if the need for prayer still exists. If you have family or friends in need of prayer,

George & Judy Doble
Marcie Berry
Cheryl Traverse
Tatty Fenton
Helen Harvey & Roy Jr.
Jessica (Chris Noble niece)
Brandi Moreland
Andrew Patrick
Robert Placencia
Rick Sitter
Alice Spence (Hospice)
Lorena Strong
Saron Stone/Mike & Sandy Smidt
Sue Truscott
Wayne Christopher
OUR Nation & new Leaders
Military
Police Officers
Firefighters

Birthdays and Anniversaries

APRIL BIRTHDAY WISHES:

SILVIA, Randy	04/02
NELSON, Barbara	04/03
MOFFETT, Bonnie	04/05
PRICE, Pat	04/15
MAUZY, Caitlyn	04/18
HAMES, Dan	04/26
BARNUM, Richard	04/27
LUSINK, Sandy	04/30

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

SONKSEN, Vern & Sandra Nelson	04/16
O'NEAL, Galen & Misty	04/29

Church Office Hours

We can be reached by telephone at (619) 445-2110, or by e-mail at acc1894@acc.sdcoxmail.com. Office hours are Monday – Friday from 9am until noon. Even if we are not here in the office after noon, you can slip envelopes, messages & requests through the mail slot in the office's front door. *Thank You, Denise*

Please send articles and pictures for the Cross Currents to:

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Pamela Ennis
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April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Ben & PPC 11am & 6pm ser- vices	B.S. TROOP 105	1 CHOIR 7-8:30p	2 5:30p – AA, FH	3 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	4	5 7:00 PM AA
6 9:00a ACC Worship PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall)	7 B.S. TROOP 105	8 CHOIR 7-8:30p	9 ACC Bible Study ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH	10 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	11	12 GUILD MTG 9:30am
13 9:00aACC Worship GUILD Bake Sale PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (Fuller Hall) DEACON'S Mtg	14 Lunch Bunch ? B.S. TROOP 105	15 CHOIR 7-8:30p	16 ACC Bible Study ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH	17 PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	18	19 7:00 PM AA
20 9:00a ACC PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (FH) 	21 B.S. TROOP 105	22 CHOIR 7-8:30p	23 ACC Bible Study ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH 5:30p – AA Fuller	24 Life Line Screen- ing 8-5 (FH) PPC Bible Study 6-8pm	25	26 Kathy Foster 9- 1 (FH) 7:00 PM AA
27 9:00 AM ACC Worship PPC 10:45am ACSL 11-1 (FH) PPC 6:00pm CABINET Mtg	28 B.S. TROOP 105	29 CHOIR 7-8:30p	30 ACC Bible Study ACSL Book Study 10:30-11:30 FH 5:30p – AA FH	PPC Bible Study 6-8pm		7:00 PM AA

Mission Statement

Our Mission as the Alpine Community Church is to serve God by creating an environment of fellowship following the teachings of Jesus Christ. We minister to the needs of our congregation and community, motivating ourselves with love, faith and hope.

Join us for Worship

In person in our sanctuary at 9:00 AM Sunday Mornings

Also on **Facebook** and **Youtube** (*links found on alpineucc.org*)

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