

Along the Way:

Following the
path of Jesus
toward Easter.


Sunday Morning
8:30 am (Traditional)
10:00 am (Modern)


GET CONNECTED

Keep yourself in the know for church events: to subscribe to the weekly "Top Five" email contact sarab@pdpresby.org or call (760) 346-8195 x511. If you do not have email, do not worry, stop by the office for a copy.




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YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO CONNECTION AT PDCPC

MARCH 2020

WORSHIP

The month of March finds us in the season of Lent. This is the time of year where we focus on repentance and reflection as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter. We hope you will make Sunday worship a priority and consider inviting a friend or two as we move toward Easter Sunday!

// For more information on events related to Worship, visit page 3.

GROW

This month's mid-week activities will focus on knowing and telling our individual stories as a way of connecting with others and sharing the work that God is doing within us.

// For more information on opportunities to grow in your relationship with God and with others visit page 5-11.

SERVE

Mission Month might be over, but our opportunities to serve are endless! March holds more visits from mission partners, opportunities to get involved in the ministry of our partners, and several hands-on ways to serve around our church and the community.

// For more information on how you can serve others here and around the world, visit page 12-14.

Hello Church Family,

It's always exciting to move towards Lenten season. One of my favorite parts about the Lenten Season is the opportunity to preach through the Lectionary. The lectionary is a calendar of scripture passages that the Church (capital "C"... as in church universal) looks at every single week. And during Lent, the passages are specifically selected to include stories of Jesus leading up to the Passion week.



I hope you will join us during the Lenten season as we move toward the life of Jesus leading to the Passion Week!

Grace and Peace.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ludwig", written in a cursive style.

Pastor David Ludwig

STEWARDSHIP: VISION 2020 CAMPAIGN

"Stewardship is effectively managing our resources, personal and church, in accord with God's purpose in our lives. Our annual pledge campaign is an integral part of this process. Pledges provide essential input for our church leadership to plan programs for the coming year; faithful commitment to fulfilling our pledges allows us to complete programs as planned. For 2020 so far, we have received Pledges for \$625,000, exceeding pledges fulfilled for 2019 by 10% for which we are grateful; what a blessing. It is not too late to turn in a pledge card which you can find in the pews or the front office."

To explain a bit more, while our focus is on pledge commitments outstanding, now \$580,000, several have "prepaid" their pledges (i.e. instead of pledging, they simply pre pay it) bringing the total pledged (paid and committed - which is how it is reported and accounted for) amounts for 2020 to \$625,392, rounded to \$625,000.

2020 pledges (paid and committed) at \$625,000 is 10% greater than ACTUAL pledges received for 2019 at \$565,424 (Prepaid at \$43,230 and commitments fulfilled at \$527,104).

So, the "10% better" comparison is pledges made (and prepaid) for 2020 compared to pledges fulfilled for 2019.

Comparing apples to apples; Budgeted Pledges for 2019 at \$655,000 (\$630,000 committed, \$25,000 prepaid) compared to Budgeted Pledges for 2020 is down for 2020 at \$625,392 (\$580,000 committed plus \$45,392 prepaid), a 5% drop.

As of January 20 we are 80% towards our pledge goal of \$603,196. We have commitments for a total of \$479,540 + \$45,200 in prepaid pledges which brings us to the total of \$524,740. Thank you!

Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church counts on your faithful and generous giving to keep our church doing what it does best...sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and His great love for all of us. Pledge cards continue to be available in the pews as well as the front office and can be returned to the church office or mailed in.



// GriefShare

Mondays 1:00 - 3:00 pm in Eisenhower Library

The next 13 week session begins March 9. We welcome and encourage everyone who has lost a loved one to participate in this Bible-based, compassionate program. GriefShare offers a safe environment to share feelings, talk about your loss and begin the process of moving forward. Call or text Jan Garrard at 760-219-4050 or email: jangarrard@me.com for more information.

// Read With Me

One of the biggest factors in the success of a child is their ability to read. You are invited to make a huge impact in the lives of children in our own valley who are learning to read by traveling to their school each week to read them stories. Register for the program with tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have questions, or to register, contact Kim at (760) 220-2959 or jksheehy@earthlink.net.

// Coachella Valley Rescue Mission

PDCPC volunteers have, throughout the last 20 years, been serving meals, mentoring and donating goods and generous financial support to the Mission. And with a 40% increase in services being provided, they need our support now more than ever.

**//SONGSHINE**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Come to *Brigadoon* on Saturday, April 4 at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Concert is free. Beautiful music and inspiring cast.

BASICS: Mondays in Miller Hall 12:30 - 1:30 pm

SINGERS AND PLAYERS: Mondays in Miller Hall 2:00 - 3:30 pm

//BASICS: For those with Parkinson's, stroke, other neurological challenges or simply an aging voice. Learn solid breathing techniques, enjoy group singing (but you do not have to be a singer), role play, creative imagination, and more. Taught by Peter Harris and Ruthanna Metzger.

//SINGERS AND PLAYERS: Weekly reversals. This year's musical is "Brigadoon" by Lerner and Loewe.

For more information contact Ruthanna Metzger by email at ruthanna@songshineforparkinsons.org.

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. The Lenten season is a time when we as Christians observe a period of reflection, prayer, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ – His suffering and his sacrifice, His life, death, burial and resurrection.

The significance of the 40-day period (not including Sundays) is based on two episodes of spiritual testing in the Bible: the 40 years in the wilderness wanderings by the Israelites after the exodus from Egypt (Numbers 33:38 and Deuteronomy 1:3) and the Temptation of Jesus after He spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13)

So what does Lent mean to you and how do you intend to use this deep spiritual period as a time of examination and growth in discipleship? What better way than to participate in the many worship and study offerings that we have here at PDCPC during this time.

God clearly calls us to repent and reflect:

- “If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14
- “Repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord. Acts 3:19
- “For the Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn his face from you if you return to him.” 2 Chronicles 30:9b
- “Peter said, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’ Acts 2:38

SERMON SERIES

Along the Way: Following the Path of Jesus toward Easter |
March 1—April 12

- MARCH 1 | Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Ron Brow,
Executive Director of Teen Challenge

Moment for Ministry: Micah Project
(PDCPC Mission Partner) Graduate, Pedro Martinez
and Founder and Executive Director, Michael Miller
- MARCH 8 | Communion Sunday
Daylight Savings - "Spring Ahead!"
Move your clocks forward 1 hour.
- MARCH 29 | Fifth Sunday of the Month: "Family Sunday"
Meet the Pastor (see page 5)

EASTER LILIES

Each year at Easter, we have the opportunity to purchase Lilies in honor of a loved one, or to commemorate a special occasion. Every lily purchased will be on display in the church Sanctuary, and then available for the purchaser to take home following the Easter services. Beginning March 8, look for the Easter Lily insert in your bulletin. Use this form to pre-order a lily for someone you love!

CHURCH OFFICERS

Please help us select the next group of Elders, Deacons, and Trustees by filling out the enclosed nomination form. Completed forms can be returned to the church office or placed in the offering plate by March 31st. Interviews will take place in April with Congregational voting to receive nominated officers at the Annual Meeting in May.

CHOIR

Do you share our value of reverent worship, and love to sing? You're invited to join the PDCPC choir! Rehearsals take place weekly on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the choir sings weekly at the 8:30 am service. Contact Julie Anderson with any questions at juliea@pdpresby.org.

DEACONS' CLOSET

Every Tuesday, 8:30 – 11:30 am | Family Life Center Lower Level Lobby
Care Day is open to any member of the community to assist with bill payment, food and household supplies, and prayer. The Deacons are so thankful to all those who help stock the Deacon's Closet and donate funds specifically to support this amazing community outreach program. Without the donations, time, and care of PDCPC members this ministry would not be possible.

Let's continue this important ministry by helping stock the closet!
This month needs: Pancake Syrup, pancake mix, instant coffee, canned vegetables, beans, sugar, flour, jelly, canned chicken, cereal, shaving cream, bath towels, toilet paper, and baby/adult diapers.
Items may be dropped off at any time in the church office, or brought to the next curbside collection on Sunday, March 8.

PASTORAL CARE

Please let us know if you are admitted to the hospital so we can come visit with you. Hospitals may contact us if you let them know you are a Covenant Partner (member) at PDCPC, or have someone call the church office and we will be there for you.

SENIOR MINISTRY

Directed by Harry Wilson

// Senior Ministry is focused on helping seniors who need transportation to and from church and have other specific needs. Please contact Harry Wilson at (951) 805-4901 for assistance or to volunteer.
for assistance.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Directed by Molly and Jeff Heusinkveld (760) 567-0536, or
houseinthefield5@outlook.com

//MISSIONS WEEK 2020!
Words cannot express how thankful we are to our missionaries, Morgan Boardman of MedSend and Carmen Sameniego of Hands of Luke, for a week full of stories, fellowship and memories. Both Morgan and Carmen gave such moving testimonies of how God is working through their lives, ministries, and around the world. We are grateful for their sacrifice of time to come and share their stories with us. PDCPC, please know that Morgan and Carmen expressed sincere gratitude for the warmth and kindness you showed them during their visit. Until next time, keep them in your prayers!

PDCPC Mission Partners
Carmen Sameniego and
Morgan Boardman



CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

Directed by Sarah Seils (760) 409-2385, sjfmla111@gmail.com

There are several groups included in Congregational Ministries. All groups are open to new members and, if you are feeling a call to serve in any of these meaningful missions, please consider attending their upcoming meetings:

// **Carpentry Guild** Commissioned for special projects as needed.

// **The Sanctuary Guild**

The Sanctuary Guild prepares the elements and sets up Communion each month as well as decorates the Sanctuary for Maundy Thursday, Christmas, and Easter. Easter Lilies in memory and in honor of loved ones are available for sale beginning March 8.

//**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The scholarship committee is so grateful for your support!

We are a faith based ministry and can only distribute what we receive, solely relying on your generous giving. We are not supported through the church budget. Scholarships are available from \$500 - \$3600 depending on funds available and the course of study.

Our prayer is that we can continue to support our church family who continue on to higher education, and with your help we can do it! Checks can be made to PDCPC with "college scholarship" in the memo line.

Please contact Stephanie Landes 760 567 6517 or Diana Schlabach (760) 345-7112 for more information.

STEPHEN'S MINISTRY: GIFTED TO CARE

"Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God." - Quotemaster.org



Spiritual gifts are gifts to give away. God gives them to us, and we use them to serve others. Do you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening? If you have these gifts and would like to use them more effectively, prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministry training will teach you skills that you can use to help care for family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, strangers. To find out more about becoming a Stephen Minister talk with Stephen Ministry Leader Deb Smith (303) 249-5553 or dsmith@happybuffalos.com.

SAVE THE DATE

- // March 1 Kenya Child Sponsorship Opportunity
- // March 1 "Meet Your Deacon" Event
- // March 8 Daylight Savings- Clocks move forward 1 hour!
- // March 29 Student Tri-Tip Fundraiser
- // March 31 Last Day to Submit Nominations for church officers

HELP WANTED!

Saturday mornings | March 21 & 28, April 4 | PDCPC Parking Lot
Join with other PDCPC members as they head out to our neighbors to invite them to our Holy Week services. For questions, or to RSVP, email randyrobin3@gmail.com.

"MEET YOUR DEACON" EVENT

Sunday, March 1 | Following each service | The Lawn

Did you know that you have a deacon? Someone who is praying regularly for you, and here to support and encourage you however you may need it? Stick around for a few minutes after church to meet your Deacon and get to know him/her a little bit better!

MEET THE PASTOR

March 29 | 11:30 am | Home of Pastor Dave and Jessica

MEET

THE

PASTOR

If you are new to PDCPC and would like to know more about our vision and direction, you're invited to come and "Meet the Pastor" at the home of Pastor Dave and Jessica Ludwig for lunch on Sunday, March 29 at 11:30 am. Please stop by the Welcome Table after the service to reserve a spot or RSVP to Kathy

Aposhian, Director of Connections, at kathya@pdpresby.org or (760) 346.8195 x 530.

church *on* wednesday

THIS IS YOUR LIFE!

Wednesday Nights (March 4 - April 1) | Dinner at 5:30 pm |
Program at 6:00 pm

Children's Programming Available.

Join us for Church on Wednesday nights as we think deeper about the story of our lives, and how to share it with others. Each week we will be hearing powerful stories of how God met different individuals in our church community, as well as contemplating the uniqueness of our own story and how we can use it to impact the world around us for the Kingdom of God.

SAVE THE DATE

COVENANT PARTNER (NEW MEMBER) ORIENTATION

April 26 | 11:15 am – 2:00 pm

Take your relationship with PDCPC to the next level: Become a COVENANT PARTNER! The orientation is designed to familiarize participants with the mission, vision, and values of our church, as well as to equip members to discover how they can connect to that mission.

Our next Covenant Partner Orientation is on Sunday, April 26th from 11:15 pm – 2:00 pm. Lunch will be provided, and childcare is available by request. Please RSVP to the church office to Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections, at kathya@pdpresby.org or 760.346.8195 x 530 or stop by the Welcome Table at the rear of the Sanctuary.

New to PDCPC?

We're glad you're here! Please visit our Welcome Table at the main entrance to the Sanctuary or contact Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections at kathya@pdpresby.org or (760) 346-8195 x530 for information on how you can get connected!

BIBLE STUDY

// SUNDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY
Every Sunday at 10:00 am, Eisenhower Library

Fortify yourself with coffee, a donut, and the Word of God each week as we study the book of Kings. For more details, or if you would like to share in the teaching, please contact Andrew Sanderson at (760) 702-7646 or aandd@mac.com.

// MEN'S LA QUINTA BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 7:30 am
Mountain/Dunes Clubhouse in Santa Rosa Cove
Please contact Stu Parry at (330) 472-1704 for more info.

// MEN'S BERMUDA DUNES BIBLE STUDY

A men's year-round Bible study meets Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 am, Bermuda Dunes Country Club. Contact Roger Low at (760) 345-8986.

// WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 10:00 -11:30 am, PDCPC Youth Room (FLC downstairs)
Taught by retired Presbyterian Pastor Joann Brechbill. All ladies are welcome to join us for a study of the book of Matthew. Bring your Bible and come when you can!
Questions? Call the church office (760) 346-8195.

// WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY (CBS)

Wednesdays, 10:00 am -12:00 pm beginning in the Sanctuary
A women's in-depth Bible study that provides a practical application of Biblical teaching. To pre-register or for more information, please contact Corky Olander at (760) 574-1181 mc.olander2@verizon.net.
Adults \$35; Children \$10; Scholarships are available.

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, March 31 | 11:00 am | Eisenhower Library
We will be discussing "Centurion" by Jo Mack High. Bookclub is open to everyone; introduce a friend to a stimulating experience! If you have any questions please call Marilyn Smythe at (760) 424-6132.



ROOTS SUNDAY NIGHTS

High School 4:00 - 5:30 pm | Middle School 6:00 - 7:15 pm

Sunday night is a time when our students get to gather together to talk about the important things of life and faith!, encourage one another, and have a lot of fun. We call it Roots, because it helps them stay grounded and connected to what is really important during a season of life where so much is changing around them (and in them).

If you know of a student who needs help with transportation on Sunday nights, email RyanS@pdpresby.org. We hope your student can be a part of the great things we'll be doing together during this new season!

// SUNDAY MORNING OPPORTUNITIES

If you are in 6th-12th grade and want to plug in deeper on Sunday mornings, we would love to connect with you! From helping in Children's Ministry to learning how the sound booth works and operates, to helping lead us in our Call to Worship, there's something for everyone! We believe students are a vital part of our church community and would love to help you discover how you can serve on Sunday mornings. Contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org for more opportunities.

/// WEDNESDAY NIGHT MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

6:00 - 7:00 pm | Student Ministry Room
Returning: March 4 with a new book study "Just Us Girls"

A space for middle school girls who want to go deeper into their relationship with Christ and with each other. Each week the girls read a chapter from the book they are studying, and come together to discuss how it applies in their lives. For more info, contact Taylor at taylorghooper@gmail.com or Denyse at aandd@mac.com.

ATTENTION GRADUATING SENIORS

If you are an active member of PDCPC or have been active in the youth group for a minimum of 2 years you may be eligible for a scholarship award.

Scholarship applications for the 2020/2021 school year are now available and can be picked up in the church office or call to have it sent or emailed.

Applications are due no later than April 20.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHECK-IN

Please note that in order to ensure that we are providing the most safe and secure environment for our children, we are now asking parents to stop at the Check-In Table near the nursery outside of Miller Hall before heading into the Sanctuary for worship. The initial setup takes only a couple of minutes, and after that it takes just seconds! Thank you for your help.

NURSERY

Drop-off nursery care is available during both of our worship services for children two years of age and under. The Nursery is located next to Miller Hall and parents can sign their children in/out before and after the service in that location. We also live stream the service in the Nursery for parents who prefer to remain with their infants.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Ages 2 – 5th Grade)

Join us every Sunday morning, during both the 8:30 am and the 10:00 am worship services, for a special time with Ry-Ry the Bible Guy as he conducts an experiment that helps kids think about what it looks like to follow Jesus with their lives!



Parents should check children in at the children's ministry Check-In Table outside of Miller Hall before church. Children then begin worship in the Sanctuary with their families and are dismissed to continue their worship in Sunday School. Following the worship service, parents pick up their children in Room 205/206 in the Family Life Center.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Children (Birth-5th Grade) | Room 205/206 | Family Life Center

Sprouts Children's Ministry meets on Wednesday nights for a fun and engaging mid-week program where children can explore their faith through Bible stories, music, games, and conversation. Dinner is included, free of charge!

FAMILY MINISTRY

For questions about any of our current or upcoming activities, feel free to contact our Director of Family Ministries, Ryan Schmall, at RyanS@pdpresby.org or call (760) 346-8195 x521.

EMAIL UPDATES

Want to receive email updates for all of Sprouts Children's Ministry programming? Make sure to let us know at ryans@pdpresby.org.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

March 13 | 6:00 - 8:00 pm | Free!

All ages are welcome to come be a part of our monthly Family Movie Night! This month we'll be watching "Trolls." We'll be serving up popcorn, hot dogs, drinks, and even have the cotton candy machine running for a night of fun and connecting together. For some added fun this month, we'll be hosting this event downstairs in our gym so we can turn on our bounce houses for the kids. We hope you can join in the fun!

**SUMMER CAMP SIGNUPS!**

Neighborhood Day Camp at PDCPC
June 8-12 | \$200 | Potty Trained - 5th Grade

Sprouts is hosting a week-long day camp on our campus this June called Neighborhood Day Camp! We've teamed up with Forest Home to bring this awesome experience to our neighborhood the very first week of Summer to kick things off! Children will spend the week singing songs, playing games, and growing deeper in their faith. For more info or to register, please contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org.

Elementary Overnight Camp at Forest Home
3rd-5th Grades | July 26-31 | \$350

This Summer, Sprouts is heading to Forest Home for Summer Camp! We'll be spending a week having a blast by connecting deeper with one another and with God.

To register, please contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org. Spots are very limited and will go very quickly so don't delay!

STUDENT MINISTRY**MIDDLE SCHOOL DODGEBOWL TOURNAMENT**

March 27 | 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm | \$30 per team | 5th-8th Grades

5th-8th Grade Students are invited to play in the second annual DodgeBowl tournament. Students will formulate their own teams of 6 prior to the event and should be prepared to play multiple rounds of dodgeball that night. Teams are encouraged to create their own



uniforms and come ready for a night of pure fun! After the tournament, we'll be playing a number of variations of dodgeball, as well. For more info or to register, contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org. Students won't want to miss out!

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOREST HOME CAMP

July 26-31 | \$450 | 6th-8th Grades

HIGH SCHOOL FOREST HOME CAMP

July 26-31 | \$450 | 9th-12th Grades

This Summer, Roots is heading to Forest Home for Summer Camp! We'll be spending a week having a blast by connecting deeper with one another and with God. Middle School and High School will be going during the same dates this year, but will be at separate camps with their own sleeping, eating, programming. To register, please contact Ryan at ryans@pdpresby.org. Spots are very limited and will go very quickly so don't delay!

FUNDRAISE FOR CAMP

Tri Tip Sandwich Fundraiser | March 29 | After each Service

Roots is hosting a trip tip sandwich fundraiser to help earn funds toward Summer Camp at Forest Home. Meals will include a smoked trip tip sandwich, a bag of chips, and a drink. The recommended donation is \$10, but everything we earn will help our students get to camp. We hope you'll grab a meal on your way out of church and support our students in the most delicious way possible. We'll also have to-go boxes for those who can't stick around. Students helping participate must be at church by 7:30 am that morning.