

Peralta Methodist Church

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Going Beyond Our Walls to Build God's Kingdom

Pastor's Message

We're now in the fourth week of our Lenten journey with Jesus as he makes his determined march toward the decidedly uncomfortable reality of a Roman crucifixion that will nonetheless serve as God's own chosen weapon of mass reconciliation. Any salvation there is to be gained and experienced by the likes of people like us cannot be reduced to the type of minor alterations that will protect our comfort and convenience at all times. But lately it seems that we have grown confused on this point, preferring as we often do spiritual pathways that will make little or no demand upon us once we have come to acknowledge some sort of vague sense of remorse or contrition over the fact that we might actually find ourselves in sin and error from time to time. While it is true that God loves you just the way you are, this gracious God also loves you deeply and righteously enough to expect that some further changes to your character can and should occur.

If you or someone you love have been stuck for a time, endlessly regretting and repenting but never really getting, you know, healed and transformed by grace, then the season of Lent may be just what the doctor prescribed. Last Sunday we talked about how sometimes the pace of spiritual growth under the influence of the Holy Spirit proves to be agricultural, at least according to the Lord who told a perhaps unintentionally hilarious story about a gardener pleading for just one more year to apply a healthy dose of manure so he could grow fruit from what had been a rather reluctant and unproductive fig tree.

If the story fits, maybe God intends to bury you this Lent under a fresh batch of fertilizer made the old-fashioned way. Who knows? That might be just the kind of thing you need to help you decide to get un-stuck and ready to move on. Or maybe this Lent will turn out to be the kind of moment described by Barbara Brown Taylor about a student erupting into a "theological temper tantrum" one day during his first semester as a seminary student at Yale. "All you Americans seem to care about is justification!" complained the student from Lebanon to his startled classmates. "You love sinning and being forgiven, sinning and being forgiven," he cried, "but no one seems to want off that hamster wheel. Have you ever heard of sanctification? Is anyone interested in learning to sin a little less?"

Now that is a Lenten question, don't you think?

Manish Shirley

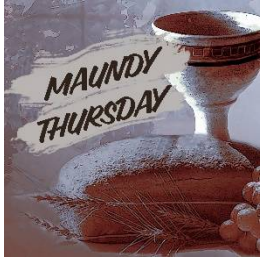
HOLY WEEK



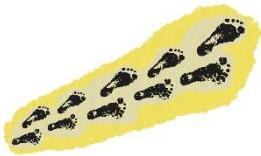
WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday, April 13th – Worship 10 am



**Maundy Thursday, April 17th - Worship 6:30pm
Celebration of the Last Supper**



**GOOD FRIDAY – April 18th - Join the Youth on the
walk to Tome Hill. Depart from church at 6:00 am**



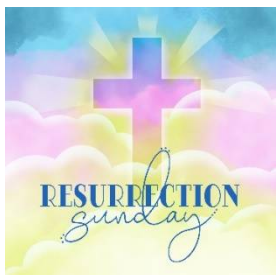
GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 6:30 pm



**Resurrection Day – April 20th -- 6:30 am Worship
Outdoors (weather permitting)**



**Following Sunrise Service about 8 am – a continental
breakfast will be available in Fellowship Hall**



**Proclaiming the message "He is Risen"
Worship at 10:00 am**

Easter Cantata, by the Peralta Choir

AfterShock Youth Group

Turning the hearts of youth and families to God and each other. *Haggai 2:6-7*

The Aftershock youth have been learning some very valuable lessons in Wisdom, Peer Pressure, Cliques, Anger, Humility as well as going through some short video clips from the Story to give everyone a clear understanding of what the stories of the Bible are.

When we start to see others through God's eyes, we develop a deeper appreciation for every individual's worth. Each person has been created in God's image and looking down on one another is the opposite of what He wants from us. Let's become intentional about recognizing the intrinsic value in everyone. As we see things from this perspective, we'll find that we are all part of a greater story, contributing to the beautiful tapestry of God's creation.

APRIL 17 LOCK-IN AFTER MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

APRIL 18 PILGRIMAGE TO TOME Hill - leaving the church at 6am EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US

Instead of looking down on others, let's focus on uplifting those around us. We are meant to encourage and support one another in our journeys of faith. When we celebrate the successes and joys of others, we contribute to a healthier community and our own well-being. The Bible encourages us to use our words to build each other up, not tear each other down. Together, we can strengthen each other as we walk out our faith side by side.

Ephesians 4:29 "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen



Meeting days for GriefShare will be April 10th and 24th beginning at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room. We welcome and invite anyone who is going through a time of loss to join us in this ministry fellowship. If you know of someone who might be helped through a group such as this one, please encourage them to attend.



PRAYER WARRIORS

If you would like to be a part of Prayer Warriors, you may call Ruth or the Church Office, to be added to the email list.

Please be in prayer for each of these listed on our continuing prayer list below. And, if you know of anyone else who needs to be added, please call Ruth or the church office, 865-9334.

Our Freedom

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Abundant Grace Free Store | Rev. Manish Shirley | Nadia M | | | |
| Ruth Romero | Lynn Schultz | Erma Ward | Mike Heppler | Cheryl Huber | Dan McCarty |
| Bill Lynch | Don Gleichman | Lois Meadors | Daniel Gurule | Conrad Joseph Hughes | Cure for Cancer |
| Donna Duke | J'Amy Creel | Diego | Joleen Baughman | Karen Fastnacht | Nate Meyer |
| USA Leaders | Larry & Melodie Huff | Michael Garrison | Richard & Linda Darnell | Lori Buvinghausen | |
| All Caregivers | Anne Cassidy-Vigil | Beth Barnett | All military & their families | Marilyn Smith | |
| Don Taylor | Ted George | Bruce Walters | John Dutil | Veronica Garcia | Krista Storch |
| Arlene Kochis | Jeremy Gray | David Martinez | Cliff Steuben | Jim Kubisak | |



Peralta Methodist Women, Mary Circle

*Mary Circle will meet in April
on Tuesday, April 8, at 9:30 am
in the Fellowship Hall.*

*Join us for Prayer, Devotion, and Fellowship
Pam Eppers will be presenting our program.*

All women at are cordially invited!





BIRTHDAYS

in April

April 1 – Bill Lansdell
April 4 – Renee Garcia
April 4 – Bernice Hughes
April 4 – Emmitt Bland
April 6 – Jan Mitchell
April 8 – Linda Smith
April 10 – Marsha Taylor
April 16 – Valerie
Hernandez
April 17 – Rylan Green
April 18 – Barbara
Springer
April 21 – Karen Bonanno
April 21 – Autumn Valigura
April 22 – Marietta Wright
April 26 – Pastor Manish
April 30 – Patti Elliott
April 30 – Bruce Walters

April 22 – Steve & Angie Davis
April 23 – Bruce & April Peasley
April 27 – Gilbert & Carole Row





SACRAMENTO CAMP OPPORTUNITIES 2025

Adventures in beautiful mountains to grow in faith and friendship. Discover biblical truths with engaging lessons; fun outdoor

activities, group experiences & worship. Each camp is planned according to ages of campers.

- **Young Elementary – entering grades 2-4; June 6-8; Cost \$180**
- **Elementary Horse Camp-entering grades 4-6; June 9-13; Cost \$450.00**
- **SYC – Grades 7 – recent grads; June 16-20; Cost \$400**
- **Youth Horse Camp – Grades 7-recent grads; June 23-27; Cost \$450**
- **Older Elementary – entering grades 4-6; July 7-11; Cost \$360**
- **Whoz We R – entering grades 4-6; July 14-18; cost \$360**
- **Family Camp – June 29-July 4 price varies based on age & lodging**
- **Camp Sunshine – June 23-27; price \$375**



Review of Church Finances – Jan-Feb 2025

Financial Report

The 2024 year-end expenditures of the church exceeded the revenue received, leaving a shortfall of \$4,000.

Finance Committee, SPRC, and Administrative Council streamlined the budget projected for 2025 by reducing the budget \$25,000 from 2024's figures. An adjustment to all staff salaries in 2025 is part of the reduction reflected in this year's budget.

In order to meet projected expenses each month, \$21,000 is needed in revenue.

January Revenue was \$16,835 while actual expenses were \$18,989 leaving a shortfall of \$2,154 in January of 2025.

February Revenue is only \$17,126 while actual expenses were \$21,762 leaving a shortfall of \$4,636 in February 2025.

A total shortfall in just two months of 2025 is \$6,790 for the General Fund.

Please consider our CHURCH's general operating needs as you give to the monthly operational needs/general fund of Peralta Methodist Church.



April meeting days are:

**April 1st and 2nd beginning at 9:00 am
in Fellowship Hall. PLEASE JOIN US!!!**


We are seeking more helpers – so

come and see what we do – enjoy some fellowship and lunch!

Looking for horseshoes and also wood pieces measuring 1"x6".

You may bring donations to us on our meeting days. Thanks!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Crafty Ladies, 9-2 – Fellowship Hall	2 Crafty Ladies, 9-2 – Fellowship Hall 5 pm – Children's Choir 5:30–Bible study #101 6 pm - Choir	3	4 EMMAUS, Fell Hall 6:00 pm	5
6 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 – Worship 3 pm – Bell Choir 5:30 pm – AfterShock Youth	7 9:30 -12 noon Food Pantry 5:00– Cub Scouts Auditorium & Kitchen 5:30 – Emmaus Prayer, #101 7 – Scouts, Education Bldg.	8 Mary Circle, Fell Hall, 9:30 am Girl Scout Service Unit, Fell Hall 6:30 pm	9 No Children's Choir 5:30–Bible study #101 6 pm - Choir	10 Study group, 9:30 am F H. Kitchen 1:00 pm GriefShare, Conf Room	11	12 Threads of Love, Fell Hall 10:30 am Auditorium reserved, G.S. Svc Unit 12-4 pm
13-  Palm Sunday 7 am – Men's Breakfast Study, Fellowship Hall 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 – Worship 3 pm – Bell Choir 5:30 pm – AfterShock Youth	14 HOLY WEEK 9:30 am – Food Pantry 9:30 am – Soulkeepers, Conf Rm 5:30 – Emmaus Prayer, #101 5:30 – Cub Scouts Educ Bldg 7 pm Scouts, Educ.	15	16 No Children's Choir 5:30 – Bible study #101 6 pm – Choir	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship 6:30 pm Celebration of the Last Supper  Maundy Thursday	18 GOOD FRIDAY Walk to Tome Hill departing at 6 am Good Friday Worship 6:30 pm 	19 HOLY SATURDAY
20-RESURRECTION DAY  HE IS RISEN <i>Hallelujah</i> 6:30 am – Sunrise Service 8 am – continental breakfast in Fell Hall 10:00 am Easter Worship & Peralta Choir Cantata No Bell Choir No Youth Group	21 9:30 – Food Pantry 5:30 – Emmaus prayer #101 No Cub Scouts 7 pm – Scouts, Educ. Bldg.	22 Order of Arrow, Fell Hall, 7:00 pm	23 5:30 – Bible study #101 6 pm – Choir	24 Study group, Fell Hall 9:30 am 1:00 GriefShare, Conf Room	25 Auditorium reserved, Cub Scouts 6:30 pm until Saturday	26 Auditorium reserved Pinewood Derby – 9 am-4 pm Car Show south parking lot
27 7 am – Men's Breakfast Study, Fellowship Hall 8:45 –Sunday School 10 am – Worship 3 pm – Bell Choir 5:30 pm – AfterShock Youth	28 9:30 am – Food Pantry 9:30 am – Soulkeepers, Conf Rm 5:30 – Emmaus prayer, #101 5:30 – Cub Scouts Educ Bldg 7 pm Scouts, Educ Bldg.	29	30 5 pm- Kids Choir 5:30 – Bible study #101 6 pm – Choir	May 1 <i>National Day of Prayer</i>	May 2 EMMAUS, Fell Hall 6:00 pm	May 3