



PINNACLE VISTAS

The Newsletter for Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale, Ariz. • April 2009

CELEBRATE EASTER AT SUNRISE SERVICE

HOLY WEEK EVENTS



Palm Sunday, April 5

■ **8 and 10 a.m.** services, in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday, April 9

■ **7 p.m.** service and communion, in the Chapel

Good Friday, April 10

■ **Noon** service, in the Chapel

Easter Sunday, April 12

■ **6:30 a.m.** Sunrise Service on the Green. The Deacons will serve coffee prior to the service and breakfast after worship.

■ **8 a.m.** service, in the Sanctuary with church school, Chancel Choir and the Southwest Brass. Nursery available. Regular attendees are encouraged to come to this service.

■ **10 a.m.** service, in the Sanctuary with church school, Chancel Choir and the Southwest Brass. Nursery available.

■ **11:30 a.m.** service, in the Sanctuary with the Southwest Brass. Nursery available. Regular attendees are encouraged to come to this service.

The sun rises on Easter Sunday, April 12, about 6:30 a.m. We invite members and friends of the church to join us on the Green for a sunrise service.

Wear warm and comfortable clothes, bring the children and after the service enjoy hot chocolate, coffee and breakfast provided by the Deacons.

Celebrate Christ's Resurrection as the sun comes up.

INSIDE...

HAITI MISSION

Pinnacle sends a team to Haiti for mission work with Harmony Ministries. **PAGE 3**

EGG-STRAVAGANZA

Kids! Get ready to hunt Easter eggs. **PAGE 7**

A PLACE WHERE GOD SPILLS OVER...

If I am having a bad day all I need to do is take a walk to the west end of the church campus to the Pinnacle Presbyterian Preschool to feel rejuvenated and full of life.

Our beautiful preschool is a Godly place of discovery, creativity, listening and community. The preschool has 26 teachers and over 170 children from ages 2 to 5. It has been a mission of the church for 13 years, created because of a need for early childhood education in our North Scottsdale neighborhood.

The educational approach of the preschool is one of the reasons I see God so vividly when I am there. It is called Reggio Emilia.

The educational approach was born after World War II in the town of Reggio Emilia and was created by parents trying to provide for their children in a town decimated by war. It is an emergent approach to education: This means that it is based in listening to the imagination, curiosities and questions of the children and building a curriculum around those interests.

It assumes that our children are born with a wealth of abilities and uniqueness, and it is the teachers' job (along with parents and the environment) to help draw them out in creative exploration and learning.

One of the places I see God most clearly is the way the teachers listen and write down what the children say. This is call documentation and is an essential part of the approach because the teachers build their days around what the children are interested in and the projects they imagine doing.

It is a spiritual discipline for our teachers to listen so well to the children, and it is a gift to the parents who get to read the imaginative things their children say in a daily e-mail from teachers.

Please see **LETTER** on page 4



Rev. Mac Schafer,
interim pastor

MISSION AT PINNACLE

From March 10-15, a team from PPC flew to Haiti to work with Pastor Luc and Harmony Ministries on a medical mission. The team set up temporary clinics in Thoman and Leogone, where they also built school cabinets. In Port-au-Prince, the team stocked Harmony Ministries' pharmacy.



The team at Harmony Ministries in Port-au-Prince, Haiti: from left, Richard Ebert, Anne Murlin, Linda Jenkins, Dr. Jim Callison, Jan Loichle, Holly Fechtmeyer, Dr. Jacque Sidoti, Rev. Mac Schafer, Roy Gust and Mark Lienweber.



Mac saws a board in Leogone for a school cabinet.



Pastor Luc, in diamond shirt, translates for Jacque in the Thoman clinic.



Holly and Jacque work with patients at the clinic in Leogone.

See more photos at pinnaclepres.org.

FINANCE OFFICE HOURS

The Finance Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Financial Assistant Ann Bauer can be reached at 480.585.9448 ext. 207 or abauer@pinnaclepres.org.

PPC FOUNDATION CELEBRATES APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April is a month of rebirth, renewal and possibilities as Spring begins her truly glorious reminder with the flowering of our beautiful desert and we celebrate the meaning of Easter.

The Pinnacle Presbyterian Church Foundation was established to help support the future health and well-being of our church and assist with its renewal and the potential for opportunities not yet envisioned.

There are many ways that congregation members can be a part of this stake in our future and one very fun one is to become a member of the Happy Birthday Celebration!

Hopefully, you have noticed the table with birthday balloons on the West Terrace after 10 a.m. service and have enjoyed a piece of cake.

If you stop by, take the opportunity to celebrate the great gift of life and time in a very simple way. Contributing \$1 a year of life celebrated on your next birthday will add to Pinnacle Presbyterian's financial foundation designed to assist with future needs, renewal and the possibilities for our community.

So please come out and see us on Sunday, April 19, enjoy a piece of cake and celebrate our future!

LETTER From page 2

The preschool hits a milestone on April 24 and 25 when Dr. Lella Gandini comes to our campus. Dr. Gandini is one of the foremost advocates of the Reggio Emilia approach in early childhood education and will present a workshop for our teachers and other educators from around the southwest.

Our little preschool has come a long way in 13 years, and Dr. Gandini's visit marks a stage in Pinnacle Presbyterian Preschool becoming a national leader in the execution and promotion of this important educational approach.

At its core, the Reggio Emilia approach helps our children grow into beautiful people, and I cannot think of a more sacred and spiritual task than looking out for the next generations. Jesus says "Let the little children come to me..."

Explore! Create! Listen!

— Mac



CHOIR SUNDAY COMING UP One of Pinnacle's children's choir performs at last year's Choir Sunday. This year's Choir Sunday will be April 26 and will feature all of our choirs. Choir Sunday is a celebration of our musical ensembles — both singing and ringing. It is a time when the Pinnacle congregation can rejoice in the great talents God has provided all of us with.

PINNACLE CHOIRS TUNE UP FOR EASTER SEASON SERVICES

The children's bell and chime choirs are rehearsing for one of the biggest seasons of the year.

Palm Sunday will feature our kids' handbell choirs at both the 8 and 10 a.m. worship services. Our 55-voice Chancel Choir will also be performing for both services and will present music from Handel's *Messiah*, as well as other traditional compositions.

On Easter Sunday, we will "pull out all of the stops" when the Southwest Brass will join the Chancel Choir and the Pinnacle Pealers in traditional Easter music including the favorite *Hallelujah Chorus*. The Chancel Choir, Pinnacle Pealers and Southwest Brass will be heard at the 8 and 10 a.m. services, while the Southwest Brass also will be heard at the 11:30 a.m. service.

MEET YOUR NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS

These Elders and Deacons were elected in January and installed in February.

Not pictured:
Aaron Slegers,
Youth Deacon



Beth Cabrera,
Elder



Paul Rooker,
Elder



Mel Steele,
Elder



Dorothy Stingley, Elder



Gary Zimmerman, Elder



Jim Davis,
Deacon



Wallace Davis,
Deacon



Lora Lee Duncan, Deacon



Emma Frey,
Youth Deacon



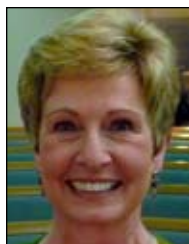
Susan Glava,
Deacon



Nancy Holloran,
Deacon



Linda Jenkins,
Deacon



Ginny Lonn,
Deacon



Sharon Riley,
Deacon



Kim Schaller,
Deacon

MEET YOUR NEW ELDERS AND DEACONS (CONTINUED)



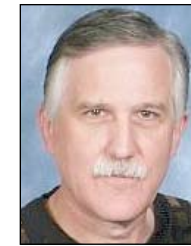
Wayne Stingley,
Deacon



Lynn Veale,
Deacon



Mary Westoby,
Deacon



John Woodside,
Deacon

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA ROLLING AROUND ON APRIL 11

Our annual Easter Egg-Stravaganza is Saturday, April 11. This is a favorite among kids young and old!

Kids are invited to grab their Easter baskets, come to the Green and celebrate the new life of Easter with an egg hunt, fun crafts and tasty treats.

If you'd like to help with this, whether donating a dozen or two plastic, filled eggs, filling empty Easter Eggs or setting up the morning of the event, please contact Debbie Lisk at dlisk@pinnaclepres.org.

If you'd like to donate one- to two-dozen filled plastic Easter Eggs, please bring them to the front office by April 1. Thanks!

DON'T FORGET ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing is in full swing and continues throughout the Lenten Season.

Pinnacle Presbyterian's Church School and Preschool children are working together to collect donations for this ecumenical mission. Please support our children's efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.

The money raised by our children will support the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Self-Development of People.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

VBS REGISTRATION STARTS IN APRIL

Please mark your calendars for June 1-5, when we will have our week-long Vacation Bible School. Registration will begin on Easter Sunday.

This year's theme is Camp E.D.G.E – Experience and Discover God Everywhere.

VBS will run from 9 a.m. to noon each day. The cost is \$40 per child, and if you volunteer the week of VBS, the cost drops to \$10 per child. That price includes the VBS experience, a T-shirt, a hat and a CD for each family.

You're invited to participate, volunteer, create, learn, and just have loads of fun! Our VBS is open to everyone, so if your child would like to bring a friend or two, please pass this information along!

Please contact Debbie Lisk at 480.585.9448 ext. 203 with questions.

PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

NOTED EDUCATOR SPEAKS AT WORKSHOP

Dr. Lella Gandini, a noted advocate of the Reggio Emilia approach to early childhood education, will be the keynote speaker at Pinnacle Presbyterian Preschool's Educator Workshop.

The workshop runs from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, in the Fellowship Hall. Dr. Gandini's topic will be "Learning Experiences from the Programs for Young Children in Reggio, Emilia, Italy."

Dr. Gandini has lectured extensively over the past decade providing insight and encouragement to early childhood educators. She is the U.S. liaison for the Dissemination of the Reggio Emilia Approach and an adjunct professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

At this conference, Lella Gandini and the teaching staff from Pinnacle Presbyterian Preschool will share how the Reggio Emilia approach creates a rich environment that invites children to observe, investigate through projects, and grow in confidence.

We invite all church members to attend the workshop at 50-percent discount. Register with the Preschool office at 480.585.9448 ext. 2 or online at pinnaclepres.org.



PINNACLE READERS The Pinnacle Book Group meets Monday mornings in the Chapel Conference Room. If you'd like more information on the group, contact Sue Larson at 480.585.9141.

PINNACLE YOUTH

JOIN THE YOUTH FOR DINNER

Pinnacle's Youth will be hosting a Navajo-inspired dinner from 6-8 p.m. Friday, April 24, in the Fellowship Hall. The Youth are raising money for their summer mission trip to the Navajo Reservation in northern Arizona.

The dinner will provide the congregation with a sampler of Navajo traditions.

Tickets will be on sale Sundays, April 5 and 19, after the services. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children/youth 3-16. Kids under 3 are free.

Come support the Youth and their mission efforts!

PINNACLE'S YOUTH WANT YOUR RUMMAGE

The Youth Rummage Sale is quickly approaching. The sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2.

Don't forget to drop off your used items to help the Youth raise money for the Youth Building and their summer mission trip. We will be collecting from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, April 20, through Friday, April 29.

Also don't forget to stop by and check out what is for sale!

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

April 2

William Ball
Eric Blomquist
Austin Fairbanks

April 3

Gregory Frey
Carl Gates
Heather Mains

April 4

Steve Moore
Sandy Redd

April 5

Florence Solomon
Linda Wade

April 6

Nick Roe

April 7

John Casas
Campbell Honing
Laurie Jones
Warren Lasater

April 8

Janet Lincoln Bale
Erica Bender
William Kirk
Fran Lindsey
Ralph Mullen
Marilyn Strohan

April 9

Randall Downing

April 10

Mark Casada
Brandon Lake
Mary LaValley
Michael Misner
Myrna Richard
Hannah Schafer

April 11

Kathryn Normann

April 12

Theodore Brenalvarez

Cheryl Clarkin
Brooklyn Dean
Marilyn Hylton
Tom Lyon

Winslow Schmelling

April 13

Bill G. Bale

April 14

Nancy Houston
Alex Kowal
Christina Pribish

April 15

Jonathan Harris
Paige Satterfield

April 16

Dona Campbell
James Frein
Eric Honing
Eugene Wade

April 17

Walter Joachim
Leilani Southworth
Jennelle Yarwood

April 18

Lauren Casada
Marilyn Harrer
Lily Helfert
Ella Mancini

April 19

Sharon Riley
Linda Rooker

April 20

Connor McKnight
Jerry Pryor

April 21

Elizabeth Bronke
Stacey Lampkin
Alexander Potter

April 22

Alexa Augustine
Dylan Bender

Megan Davis
Dale Gerald

April 23

Ben Wells

April 24

Emily Beghin
Lori Biondo

Cinnie Montague

Jerry Smith

Sharon Yeakley

April 25

Nancy Conover
Mitchell Hildebrandt

Ruth Norton

Nicole Pribish

April 26

Ramsey Dean
Anjali Hayes
H. R. Dick Swanson

April 27

Michele Hammer
Campbell Helt
Helen Hutchison
Amanda Swanson

April 28

Isolde Davidson
Mark Ralston

Grimes Redd

Megan Shell

April 29

Christopher Armstrong
Olivia Pascucci
Austin Schmelling

April 30

Todd Balvin
James Heidbreder
Grace Murray
Giselle Roenfeldt

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

SYMPATHY

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to: **Eleanor and Dave Frederiksen**, on the death of Eleanor's sister, **Marion Frederiksen**.

Hazel Ricketts, on the death of her husband, **Colin "Jack" Ricketts**.

Mary Lou and Dale Mercer, on the death of their daughter, **Holly Rae Mercer**.

BIRTH

The congregation celebrates the birth of:

Aubrey Noel Gress, daughter of **Melissa and Craig Gress**.

Micah Ashton Willett, son of **Rev. Kristin and Brandon Willett**.



SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY IS APRIL 19

Join us beginning at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 19, for our Spring Clean-Up Day.

It's a hands-on opportunity to care for our church facilities and enjoy fellowship with other church members.

Look for additional information in the April Sunday bulletins.

PPC ON THE WEB



Don't forget to visit us online for the latest information about Pinnacle Presbyterian Church. You'll find calendars, activity listings and photos of events. Also listen to sermons online.

iTUNES PODCAST

Now you can log onto the iTunes Music Store and subscribe to the free PPC Sermon Podcast to have them automatically downloaded to your computer or iPod. Search for "Pinnacle Presbyterian."

VISTAS ONLINE Also, you can download PDF versions of this and previous issues of *Pinnacle Vistas*. Print them or e-mail them to share with your friends and family.

Find out more about all of this by going to pinnaclepres.org.