

Grapevine

Worship God. Equip Disciples. Love and Serve the World.

***"When they saw Jesus, they worshiped him."
Matthew 28:17***

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We've done a lot of worshipping together these last few days. On Maundy Thursday, we gathered around the table and remembered Jesus' command that we love one another. On Good Friday, we were there at the cross, experiencing both grief and gratitude at what he endured for our sakes. On Easter Sunday, we sang "Alleluia" amid the bells and lilies and trumpet, exuberant in the good news that Jesus Christ is risen. The first element in our mission statement is the directive that we worship God. Let's think a bit more about what that really means.

A friend of mine defines worship this way: "What God does to us when we think we're praying and listening on a Sunday morning." Two things about this definition are right on the mark. *We are active* in worship; we sing, we pray, we listen, and we enjoy the fellowship of the Holy Spirit that is present when we gather in Christ's name. *God is active* in our worship, as well. God works in, among, and through us when we gather for worship. At its best, worship is an experience that deepens and stretches our faith and equips us to serve Christ in the world.

If we believe that God is present and active in our worship, we will approach worship – on Sunday mornings, on special days, and in moments throughout the week when we're drawn into an awareness of God's presence – with a sense of expectation. We expect that Christ will be present, so we can welcome that presence and allow it to bless us. We expect to find comfort as God's love and forgiveness nurture us, and as the family of faith cares for the places where we are tender. We can expect to be challenged, as we engage God's word and apply it to our daily living. Finally, we can expect to be sent out into the world to continue God's mission of love, justice, and peace.

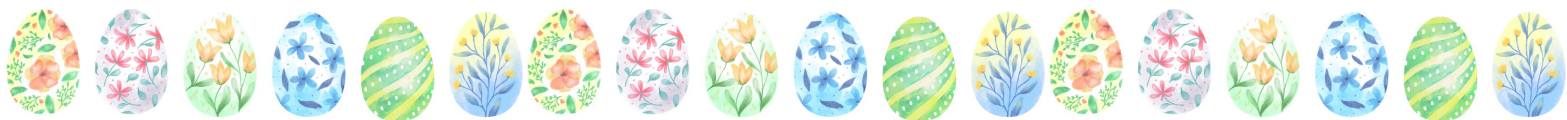
I know, that's a lot! But what a difference it makes to come to worship with a sense of expectation for what the risen Christ is doing. The Holy Spirit is at work in this place, and we are witnesses to what God is doing here. That's exciting! It makes all the difference in the world to approach our worship with a sense of expectation. It's an important part of what makes YLPC a vibrant, engaging community of faith. I'm so grateful to be with you in work and worship!

With you in ministry,
Lynn.

This Month at YLPC

Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.
 Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.
 Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m.
 Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, April 3 @ 9:00 a.m.
 Wednesday, April 3 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, April 3 @ 7:15 p.m.
 Friday, April 5 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday, April 6 & 20 @ 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday, April 7 @ 11:30 a.m.
 Monday, April 8 @ 4:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, April 9 @ 9:30 a.m.
 Tuesday, April 9 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, April 10 @ 2:00 p.m.
 Wednesday, April 10 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, April 16 @ 9:00 a.m.
 Tuesday, April 16 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Thursday, April 18 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Friday, April 19
 Tuesday, April 23 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday, April 27 @ 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday, April 28 @ 6:00 p.m.

Worship Service
 Youth Group
 TLC Bible Study
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 Blessed Connections via Zoom
 Deacons' Meeting
 Worship Committee Meeting
 "Dream of Summer" Piano Recital
 Men's Fellowship
 Christian Education Meeting
 Caregiver's Support Group
 Priscilla Circle
 Esther Circle
 Missions Committee Meeting
 Stewardship Committee Meeting
 Lights of Los Ranchos via Zoom
 Session Meeting
 Gloria Ringers Rehearsals Resume
 YLPC Office Closed
 Improv Drum Circle
 "Love Yorba Linda" Community Event
 Fellowship Concert



Love Yorba Linda Love Yorba Linda Service Day, April 27



Join us as we work with our neighbors for a day of service on Saturday, April 27 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. There are projects all over our wonderful city just waiting for folks with caring hearts and loving hands to come together to continue to beautify our city. Join us by going to the website www.loveyorbalinda.org and registering today.

There will be all sorts of projects to sign up for– both indoor and outdoor: landscaping, making cards for seniors, spring cleaning and grocery bagging at Yorba Linda Food for Families, volunteer photographers, campus beautification at our local schools, volunteer videographers, making paracord bracelets for first responders, brush clearing, tree and shrub planting, weed pulling, and more.

All the fun begins at 8:00 a.m. when we gather at Hurless Barton Park with a kick-off rally, food, music, and entertainment. Then, at 8:45 a.m. we will be dismissed to our chosen service project area. We will participate in our chosen projects from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Once registered, you will receive a free event shirt. YLPC will be celebrated as a Silver-level sponsor of this event.

Easter — A Day and a Season

By Jessica Nicholson

If you were asked what comes to mind when you think of Easter, you might mention things like going to church with family, having a delicious traditional meal, Easter lilies and Easter bonnets, or even chocolate bunnies and jellybeans. But you'd probably be thinking about that one marvelous day of the church year. Would it surprise you to know that Easter is more than a day? Easter is a liturgical season, and it's a festal season—one we get to celebrate for seven weeks!

The season of Eastertide lasts for 50 days, from the day we proclaim the risen Lord and sing alleluias until the day that we move on from our rejoicing and celebrating and begin to focus in earnest on the work of the church--the day of Pentecost. Until then, Easter hymns will continue to be sung and Easter flowers may continue to decorate places of worship. As we read the Gospels, Christians will marvel over the miraculous encounters between the transformed Jesus and his friends.



The liturgical color of Easter is white, and you'll see white paraments in our sanctuary. The color white reminds us of the ancient tradition of Easter baptisms of new believers, who would wear their white baptismal garments for the whole of Easter week as they received intensive teaching about their new faith. In the Easter symbols of eggs and lilies, the color white represents newness: the transformation of Jesus himself into something entirely new, and the new life in Christ that his resurrection brings.

So as you prepare to travel through the triumphant highs and deep lows of Holy Week, prepare also for Eastertide, a season for celebrating!



Planned Giving Workshop

Sunday, April 28 after worship

**Rev. Joseph Moore, our Ministry Relations Officer
from the Presbyterian Foundation.**

Joseph says, "I am excited to walk with congregations as they explore innovative and effective ways to tell their stories and use the expertise and resources of the Presbyterian Foundation to help support their mission and ministry."

Come hear stories of how gifts to YLPC have been put to good use and how your generosity can most effectively become a part of YLPC's story.



Mission of the Month

Free Wheelchair Mission

By Ruth Lemond

Would you like to give a life transforming gift to someone this Easter Season? Meet Fernando, age 25, from Honduras who lost both his legs in a train accident while looking for work to support his family. For many years he could not work because he did not have mobility.

Meet Emerson, age 80, from Peru and his wife Gridia. All Emerson's life he worked hard as a plumber until a stroke left him paralyzed in both legs and one arm. Gridia is blind. Emerson had not been outside his home in 19 years because he did not have mobility.

Free Wheelchair Mission (FWM) has distributed 1.4 million free wheelchairs to individuals like Fernando and Emerson, in 95 different countries worldwide since 2001. A gift of only \$96.00 provides someone with the life-transforming gift of mobility.



Fernando says, "Now I can work to help support my family and not be a burden on anyone." Emerson says, "God makes all things new! Thank you for giving us a beautiful new wheelchair. God answered our prayers!"

YLPC's Mission Committee will be sending a contribution to FWM this month. If you would like to add your gift, you may write a check to YLPC. Please clearly designate your contribution as FWM. We will combine all donations into one check to FWM.

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." - Matthew 25:40

YLPC Named WISEPlace "Volunteer of the Year"

By Susan Cash

YLPC was celebrated as a *Volunteer of the Year* by WISEPlace at their Volunteer Appreciation Party on March 21, 2024. Representatives of YLPC were in attendance to celebrate the vital work of WISEPlace and to cheer on the construction of their new facility in Santa Ana.



Volunteers are vital to the work of WISEPlace; providing meals, offering instruction in life skills, and providing support in many ways to the women in the program. YLPC was involved this year in wrapping parties for their summer and holiday events, providing meals, donating from the church mission funds, and bringing yummy Christmas cookies from our annual cookie exchange.

WISEPlace gave a progress report of the new construction of 48 permanent supportive housing units to assist unaccompanied women who are older, with physical and/or mental disabilities. There was also the exciting announcement of acquiring a second facility in south Orange County that will provide affordable housing. Both locations are intended for completion in December of 2024.

Congratulations, YLPC and WISEPlace. Let's keep up the good work!

March Session Notes



Activities during the March Session included the following:

- Rev. Sandra Kim, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Los Ranchos, was our guest moderator. She shared her call to be Stated Clerk with our Elders.
- The Deacons reported that they are working to update and correct our membership databases, including items such as emergency contacts, personal info and parish assignments.
- Stewardship presented February financials, which were approved by the Session. Income continues to be higher-than-expected revenue with lower than budgeted expenses. Prepayment of pledges and non-member offerings are higher than last year at this time. Expenses are being managed well and our cash position is healthy.
- Worship Committee shared Holy Week planning is going well. Easter Sunday will be the last Sunday for our music interns and some have expressed a desire to continue. Music Ministry Sunday will be June 2.
- Christian Ed reported youth participated in a roller-skating event and also a geocaching adventure. Church Chatter will feature a new Elder each month with Dave Nicholson starting in April. Session approved the next youth event which will be participating in Love Yorba Linda on April 27.
- Facilities reported the modular will be removed in the next few weeks. Current projects include fixing a drain on the patio and a leak in the communion prep room. Motion detectors have been installed in the bathrooms. Lighting on the new sign will be installed after the electricity to the modular is disconnected.
- The Mission Committee reported that the focus of each Mission of the Month has been scheduled. The committee has purchased a table to the HIS-OC fundraiser on 5/16.
- Nominating Committee reported they are getting close to a full slate of nominees.
- Personnel Committee reported they are working a variety of issues. Session approved Vanessa Bates to provide an evaluation of YLPC business practices at no charge to the church. Session also approved contracting with Paychex to administer payroll services, including direct deposit.

April Birthdays

Janet Triplett	4/4
Connie O'Neil	4/6
Timothy Matthews	4/7
Jessica Nicholson	4/18
Doug O'Neil	4/19
Brenda Long	4/20
Alex Park	4/24
Anne Denney	4/26

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hills
Clerk of Session

February 2024 Financial Report

OPERATING FUND Summary Results: Through February, we expected to receive \$81,125 and actually received \$119,059. Also through February, we expected to spend \$94,450 and actually spent \$83,304.

YLPC Operating Financials

	YTD Actual		YTD Budget	
Operating Income				
Fellowship Income	\$	109,088	\$	71,861
Miscellaneous Income	\$	4,626	\$	4,264
Interest Income	\$	5,344	\$	5,000
Total Operating Income	\$	119,058	\$	81,125
Total Operating Expenses	\$	83,304	\$	94,450
Operating Income minus Expense	\$	35,754	\$	(13,325)

And reserved \$11,618 for funds budgeted but not spent.

MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND

Through February, we have received contributions of \$400 and paid \$3,036 in principal. The current mortgage balance is \$65,111.

YLPC Cash Position

	Operating	Mtg. Reduction	Total
Cash Position	\$ 777,962	\$ (16,935)	\$ 761,027
Less: Restricted Funds*	\$ 313,896	\$ -	\$ 313,896
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 464,065	\$ (16,935)	\$ 447,131

* Restricted funds are restricted to use for a specific purpose. These include designated gifts, program reserves, payables, reserves for building maintenance, and reserves for unspent program budget.