

The PASADENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CLARION



Volume 70 Issue 8

April Issue 2011

PASADENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

FAURÉ
REQUIEM

AND POULENC'S
"QUATRE MOTETS
POUR UN TEMPS DE
REPENTENCE"

Good Friday Devotional Concert

April 22, 2011 • 7:30 p.m.

Preconcert lecture at 7:00 p.m.

The Kirk Choir and Community Singers
The Pasadena Singers
Judith Siirila, soprano • Michal Connor, bass
The Friends of Music Orchestra
Timothy Howard, conductor

The Kirk Choir, soloists and orchestra perform one of the most beloved settings of the Requiem Mass. The Pasadena Singers offer Poulenc's sublime a cappella "Four Lenten Motets."

FREE ADMISSION (Voluntary offering)

Pasadena Presbyterian Church

585 E. Colorado Boulevard
info: (626) 793-2191

www.ppc.net

Music that
Feeds the Soul

PPC's 14th annual Good Friday concert on April 22 will have a distinctly French flair, highlighted by one of the most beautiful settings of the Requiem Mass by Gabriel Fauré and Francis Poulenc's haunting "Quatre motets pour un temps de penitence (Four Lenten Motets)." The works will be sung in Latin with translations in multiple languages projected on the wall above the choir.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary with a preconcert lecture at 7 p.m. by Pasadena Star-News classical music critic and Kirk Choir member Bob Thomas. As with all Friends of Music concerts at PPC, admission is free (a freewill offering will be taken).

Dr. Timothy Howard will conduct the Kirk Choir, Pasadena Singers, soprano Judith Siirila, bass Michal Dawson Connor and the Friends of Music Orchestra. As has been the tradition for several years, the Kirk Choir will be aug-

mented by two dozen guest singers from the community who have rehearsed with the choir for the two months prior to the concert. The Pasadena Singers are a group of 26 singers drawn mostly from the Kirk Choir.

Fauré's Requiem is one of the most lyrical and beautiful settings of the Roman Catholic Mass for the Dead ever written. "It has been said that my Requiem does not express the fear of death," wrote the composer, "and someone has called it a lullaby of death. But it is thus that I see death: as a happy deliverance, an aspiration towards happiness above, rather than a painful experience dominated from beginning to end by a very human feeling of faith in eternal rest."

Poulenc's "Quatre motets pour un temps de penitence (Four Lenten Motets)" are sung without accompaniment. They were written in 1938 and 1939, shortly after the com-

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Pasadena Presbyterian Church

585 E. Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, CA 91101

Phone: 626-793-2191 Fax: 626-584-6544

General E-Mail:

general.mailbox@ppc.net

Web Site: www.ppc.net

Office Hours :

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Closed for Lunch Hour Noon - 1 pm

Staff:

Mark K. Smutny, *Pastor/Head of Staff*

Luis Madrigal

Parish Associate for Latino/a Ministries

Hyun Sung

Associate Pastor for Korean Ministries

Art French, *Visitation Minister, Affiliate*

Tai Woan Kim, *Korean Ministries Assistant*

Jonathan Jong Lee, *Korean Ministries*

Assistant

Timothy Howard, *Director of Music &*

Organist

Carol Kaufman, *Operations Manager &*

Assistant to Rev. Smutny

Renée Roederer, *Director of Young Adult*

Ministries

Christine Cox, *Director of English/Latino*

Children & Youth Ministries/Admn Assistant

Diane Hubka, *Finance Administrator*

Carol Peterson, *Bookkeeper*

Adrian Estabrook, *Handbell Choir Director &*

Director of Rainbow Choir

Vena Luthey, *Carol Choir Director*

Margie Madrigal

Children's Outreach Coordinator

Personal Interest Missionaries:

Japan: Ann & Bill Moore

Thailand: Rob Collins & Esther Wakeman

The **Clarion**, PPC's newsletter, is published monthly and can be accessed from PPC's website at www.ppc.net. For members who do not have internet access please call the church office and ask for your Clarion to be mailed to you. A yearly donation of \$15 is asked of non-members.

Submit all newsletter articles no later than the 15th of the prior month to:

E-mail: Anita.Protich@PPC.net

Mail: Clarion Editor

585 E. Colorado Blvd.

A message from Dr. Mark Smutny

Dear Friends,

Balloting is well underway in presbyteries on an amendment to The Book of Order to permit openly gay and lesbian ministers, elders and deacons to be ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Based on current trends, the amendment will likely succeed after three previous attempts over the past fourteen years have failed. Last summer's General Assembly approved dropping the ban but a simple majority of the denomination's one hundred and seventy-three presbyteries must ratify the amendment before the change can be implemented. As of March 28, seventy-four presbyteries have voted yes, fifty-three no, and one tie (which counts as a no). Fourteen presbyteries that had been opposed to gay ordination voted in favor this time, while only one presbytery switched from yes to no. A total of eighty-seven yes votes will be needed for approval, that is, another thirteen.

The current PCUSA Constitution reads:

Those who are called to ordained ministry in the church are to lead a life in obedience to Scripture and in conformity to the historic confessional standards of the church. Among these standards is the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman or chastity in singleness. Persons refusing to repent of any self-acknowledged practice which the confessions call sin shall not be ordained and/or installed as deacons, ruling elders, or teaching elders.

The proposed alternative language reads:

Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life. The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation. Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates.

Barbara and I attended the 1996 Albuquerque General Assembly when the current language was adopted and later ratified by a large majority of the presbyteries. What I most remember about that Assembly was the image of a huge, peaceful demonstration that followed the vote and over a thousand Presbyterians weeping and singing: "We are marching in the light of God. We are marching in the light of God" as we expressed our pain at the church's action.

By the time San Gabriel Presbytery is scheduled to vote on the matter on May 10, enough presbyteries will likely have voted to cross the

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Congregational Life

Upcoming Events

Hang on tight for the next **Movie Night** sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee! The date is **Saturday, May 21 at 7 p.m.** and the movie is a blockbuster for the entire family. **UP** is a touching and action-packed story of the friendship of an elderly man and a young boy. It features the voices of Ed Asner, Christopher Plummer, and John Ratzenberger. It's sure to please children, adults, and dog-lovers alike.

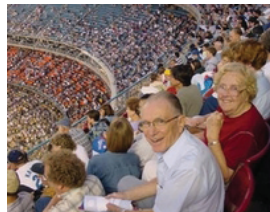
And as long as you're checking your calendar, keep these dates in mind:

July 2 – Hollywood Bowl Fireworks Spectacular with Daryl Hall and John Oates. Patriotic music, pyrotechnics, and picnics. What could be a better way to celebrate Independence Day? Ticket price includes the Bowl Bus.



July 20 and August 17 – Barbecues on the Patio at 6:30 p.m. Burgers, hot dogs, and all the fixin's. Relax in the shade on PPC's patio and let someone else do the cooking.

And keep watching for the date of a hike through the Arroyo Seco in June and the Dodger game in August. See you there!



(Message from Dr. Mark Smutny cont.)

eighty-seven presbytery threshold, making late voting moot. Ironically, San Gabriel Presbytery was the originating presbytery for the overture recommending the ban in the first place.

“The arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice.” - Theodore Parker

Faithfully yours,
Dr. Mark Smutny

Save the Date! Vacation Bible School

This summer a children's Vacation Bible School will be held at PPC from June 27-July 1. Kids will explore a bamboo forest filled with crazy pandas, as they discover that God loves us. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into yummy treats, experience electrifying Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's wild love, and create Bible Point crafts they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Rowdy Wrap-Up—a celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.



If you have a soft spot in your heart for Pandas, enjoy being with young people as they explore and learn about their faith, why not consider volunteering for PandaMania this summer. Look for information tables on the patio in late April and early May. Pray about your consideration and remember God is Wild About You Too!! Any questions contact Christine Cox, Tineke Switzer, or Paul Yim.



(Good Friday Devotional Concert continued from page 1)

poser had undergone a profound religious experience. During the previous two decades, he had been shaken by the death of three friends, including in 1930 that of Raymonde Linossier, a young woman he had hoped to marry, and of the composer, Pierre-Octave Ferroud, in 1936. From that point on, Poulenc produced some of his most important works, including “Litanies à la vierge noire” in 1936 and the “Four Lenten Motets” two years later.

During the concert, the Kirk Choir will also sing Dr. Howard's arrangement of “Crux Fidelis,” a motet by 16th-century composer Jacobus Clemens non Papa, and the orchestra will play Sir Edward Elgar's “Sospiri.”

As this concert is always well attended, you should plan on coming early to get the best seats and parking and hear the preconcert lecture. This will be a meaningful highlight of the Holy Week season at PPC.

Maundy Thursday Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help prepare a simple meal and set up for PPC's Maundy Thursday meal and worship. If you can help in the kitchen, please plan to arrive on Thursday, April 21 at 4:30 p.m. To help set tables, please at 5:00 p.m. Contact Carol Kaufman in the church office if you would like to volunteer or want more information.

Thank You to PPC's Bad Weather Shelter Volunteers



Thank you to all who assisted with the Bad Weather Shelter during this season. We served more than 700 homeless people, including up to 14 families a night.

Our high number was 180 people one night. Your generosity and hard work, and the work of our tremendous staff made this year a success.

PPC Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 21, 2011

PPC's annual Rummage Sale will take place on May 21. Now is the time to begin cleaning out your closets and garages. For information and large-item pickup, call Luis Madrigal or the church office.



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is more than a way to share our wealth. It's one of the times of the year that brings us together as a church, as Presbyterian congregations have received the OGHS offering for over 50 years.

If you would like a fish-shaped offering box, ask for one at the Information Table. One Great Hour of Sharing supports: Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Self-Development of People.

At PPC, we will receive and dedicate this offering on **Palm Sunday, April 17**.



FREE CONCERTS WEDNESDAYS AT 12:10 PM

April 6

Pasadena City College
Faculty Brass Quintet

April 13

Jeff Greif, tenor
Twyla Meyer, piano

April 20

Bill Owens, trumpet

April 27

Timothy Hagen, flute

Lunch is available following the concert for a \$6 donation.

MUSIC AT NOON



Time to Order your Easter Flowers

It's time again to gear up for the events of Easter week. Part of that is the decorating of our chapel and sanctuary for the glorious day that celebrates our Risen Lord. If you wish make a donation for the purchase of flowers please fill out this form and mail it to the church office. **Deadline for submission is Monday, April 18.** Donations will be acknowledged in the church bulletin on April 24.

I am donating \$ _____ for worship flowers for Easter Sunday (April 24).

Given by: _____

Choose one of the following designations:

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Celebrating: _____

Check one:

- I will take my flowers home Easter Tuesday (April 26).
- Please deliver my flowers as the church sees fit.

Adult Education

Sundays at 11:20 a.m.

The Church's Response in the Middle East

Led by Yvette Bearce, professor of Islamic Studies, UCLA, this continuing series focuses on the ways the US/Americans can utilize their current efforts to advance US interests domestically and globally in the next decades. **In South Hall.**

April 3: The Power of the Supreme Leader of Iran

This session will focus on understanding the Concept of *Vilayat-e Faqih* (the Mandate or Guardianship of the Jurist), which is at the core of the authority of the Supreme Leader. The speaker will also present three existing interpretations of the concept of *Vilayat-e Faqih* and the sources of authority of the Supreme Leader. The speaker will present the views of several traditionalist, reformist and moderate Iranian jurists.

April 10: Islam and Democracy

This session will focus on the views of several Iranian jurists about their interpretations of democracy. How does the Iranian government view the notion of democracy and believe that the Islamic regime is in fact a democratic regime.

April 17: Islam and Human Rights

This session will focus on the views of several Iranian jurists about their interpretations of human rights and how the Iranian regime believes that it in fact upholds the values of human rights under the umbrella of an Islamic government.

FOR THE RECORD

Births

Andrea Azuma and **Jim Radford** welcomed a baby daughter on March 25.

Deaths

The Reverend A. Myron Nichols died March 6, in Albany, New York. Rev. Nichols was Associate Pastor/Church Administrator at PPC from 1943 to 1957, serving under both Eugene Carson Blake and Ganse Little. He was responsible for supervising the construction of Freeman Chapel and the designing of the stained glass windows. Rev. Nichols graduated from UCLA and San Francisco Theological Seminary and was an ordained Presbyterian minister for more than 70 years.

APRIL CALENDAR

April 2

Green & Greener

April 5

Session

April 7

Bibles & Bagels

Task Force on Short-Term Planning

April 8

Second Friday Fellowship

April 10

Second Sunday Sermon Sandwiches

April 11

Women's Bible Study

April 12

Postmodern Book Club

April 20

Joint Finance Committee

April 21

Maundy Thursday

Bibles & Bagels

Presbyterian Women Circle

April 22

GOOD FRIDAY

Friends of Music Concert

April 24

EASTER

April 25

Easter Monday – Office closed

Women's Bible Study

April 26

Postmodern Book Club

April 27

Trustees

Sacred Space for the City



Forwarding Service Requested

Pasadena Presbyterian Church
585 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91101

HOLY WEEK EVENTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 21 MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:00 p.m. dinner

7:00 p.m. worship

A simple supper followed by a Taizé service commemorating the night of Jesus' last supper with his disciples. In Fellowship Hall

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 22

• **ECUMENICAL SERVICE — 12 noon**

First United Methodist Church, Pasadena

This service, sponsored by the ecumenical Council of Pasadena, features music and preaching from area pastors and churches.

• **EIGHT STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

6:00 p.m. in Freeman Chapel

Join members of Latino Ministries for a bi-lingual presentation of portions of this ancient procession- al symbolizing Jesus' path to Golgotha.

• **GOOD FRIDAY DEVOTIONAL CONCERT**

7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Preconcert lecture at 7:00 p.m.

PPC's 14th annual Good Friday Devotional Concert will feature The Kirk Choir, singers from the community, soloists and orchestra performing.

FREE ADMISSION (freewill offering)

Invite your friends.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

EASTER SUNDAY

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Celebrate the holiest day in the church year with a festival worship service with glorious music by choirs, brass and organ and the celebration of Holy Communion.

Dr. Mark Smutny will preach.