

The PASADENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CLARION



Sacred Space for the City

Volume 69 Issue 7

March Issue 2010

KARL JENKINS
STABAT MATER

Good Friday Devotional Concert
Friday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Pre-concert lecture at 7:00 p.m.

*The Kirk Choir and Guests, Pasadena Singers, soloists and orchestra
Dr. Timothy Howard, conductor*

FREE ADMISSION (freewill offering)

WWW.PPC.NET

When many people hear that a concert contains a piece of new music, they head for the exit doors — if they ever even got inside in the first place. However, PPC's 13th annual Good Friday Devotional Concert on April 2 features a new work that — rather than causing you to flee — should be embraced with wide-open arms: a lush, evocative, dramatic setting of "Stabat Mater" by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins.

The hour-long work will be the centerpiece of the concert. After the performance, the church's carillon will toll 33 times (to symbolize the 33 years of Jesus' life) and the evening will conclude with the final chorus from Bach's "St. Matthew Passion." The concert is free of admission charges, although an offering will be taken to help defray expenses.

In addition to the Kirk Choir and about 20 guest singers and the Pasadena Singers, "Stabat Mater" uses two soloists and a 40-piece orchestra with a large percussion contingent that includes a number of instruments native to the Middle East. Dr. Timothy Howard will conduct.

Born in Wales in 1947 and trained classically at London's Royal College of Music, Jenkins initially made his mark in jazz and, indeed, jazz influences are evident in many portions of "Stabat Mater." Jenkins was also a member of the 1970s rock band "Soft Machine" and played at venues as diverse as Carnegie Hall, the classical 'Proms' at the Royal Albert Hall and the Reading 'Rock' Festival. Later, Jenkins won major awards in the field of advertising music for Levi's, British Airways, Tag Heuer, Pepsi, Delta Airlines and others.

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Closed for Lunch Hour Noon - 1 pm

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Luis Madrigal

Parish Associate for Latino/a Ministries

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Margie Madrigal

Children's Outreach Coordinator

Tai Woan Kim, *Korean Ministries Assistant*

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Japan: Ann & Bill Moore

Thailand: Rob Collins & Esther Wakeman

Spain/Portugal: Bryce & Phyllis Little

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.

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A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DR. MARK K. SMUTNY

Dear Friends,

The stone rolls back. The tomb is empty. Locked doors fly open. Hearts warm with the knowledge of God. Walls of fear crumble. Death, evil and suffering are defeated. Easter's power is let loose and a new day dawns. For twenty-one centuries, the central proclamation of the Christian faith has been rooted in the audacious claim that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Without this claim, Christianity would not exist. With this claim we hold fast not only to the miraculous happening of Christ's resurrection "back then," but the irrepressible hope that God in Christ is at work in and among us now.

We open the newspapers or turn on the T.V. and are inundated with terrible news: wars and rumors of wars, earthquakes, terrorism, poverty, a severe recession and polarization in government and the body politic. It's easy to feel overwhelmed and paralyzed.

However, as Easter people, we are given the power to live with irrepressible hope. Therefore, every prayer we offer for healing, every song of praise we sing, every deed of compassion we extend to the hurting or the lonely or the excluded is an act of Easter hope. Each time we tutor a young person in math or science or English, or listen to the heartache of a person who is afraid of dying, or we write a letter to Congress on behalf of the poor, we affirm Easter hope.

During Holy Week, the last week of March, culminating on Easter Sunday on April 4, all of our attention at PPC focuses on the irrepressible Good News of Jesus Christ. We proclaim that in the grimmest of circumstances, Christ was raised! May we bear witness through the character of our lives and our deeds the irrepressible hope that is in us and thereby proclaim Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Faithfully yours,

Mark Smutny

**ADULT EDUCATION OFFERINGS
SUNDAYS AT 11:20 A.M.**

**WHAT IS GOING ON IN IRAN:
SOME OF THE STORIES BEHIND THE NEWS**

March 14 and 21

Led by Rev. Mehdi Abhari

**KARL JENKINS' "STABAT MATER":
A PIECE TO BE EMBRACED**

March 28 (1 session)

The Kirk Choir, Pasadena Singers, soloists and Friends of Music Orchestra will present "Stabat Mater," a new work by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins in PPC's Good Friday Devotional Concert on April 2.

PPC's Director of Music/Organist Dr. Timothy Howard and Pasadena Star-News Music Critic Robert D. Thomas will present a special adult education class on March 28 that will discuss and demonstrate with music snippets why you will love this work ... even if it's new!

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Beginning Sunday, March 7 (3 sessions)

Led by Dr. Mark Smutny

The first session will include lunch, conversation, and getting to know one another. If you want to know more about being a Presbyterian, or just more about the ministries at PPC, join us!

**FREE CONCERTS
WEDNESDAYS AT 12:10 PM**

March 3

Steven Vanhauwaert, pianist

March 10

Collegium Bohemia

March 17

Perfecto de Castro, guitarist

March 24

Blue Rose Duo
cello and piano

March 31

Alma Nova Duo
flute and guitar

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



**1ST SUNDAY
FIESTA BRUNCH
Sunday, March 7**



Join us for a special brunch hosted by PPC's Latino/a Ministries' in celebration of their 10th anniversary. There will be lots of great food, with plenty of salsa to go around. Coming to entertain us will be the Mexican Folklorico Dance Group, "Sol y Luna". Suggested donation: \$15 for a family and \$6 per individual. Please make plans to join us.

A THANK YOU

Clara and Ray Heer and their family wish to thank all those who have been a part of the outpouring of prayers, concerns, and best wishes that have been a part of Clara's healing. A month's isolation in Huntington Memorial Hospital brought the exact diagnosis of mycobacterium avium complex, one of the family of lung diseases. An operation, then a stay in the Health Center and the Hearth with oxygen and medication have her on the way to a long range recovery.

Back home after two months, she will be having some meals in the dining hall, and can blessedly have visitors. Best to call first because of doctor's appointments, home health care nurses, physical therapy, oxygen exercises, and the care givers naps.

Most appreciatively,
The Heer family.

PREACHING SCHEDULE

March 7	Dr. Dale Morgan
March 14	Dr. Mark Smutny
March 21	Dr. Dale Morgan
March 28	Dr. Mark Smutny

Easter Week Events 2010

Holy Week — the eight days between Palm/Passion Sunday and Easter Sunday — is the most significant week in the Christian calendar and PPC has several important dates on which you will want to be present and part of the church family.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28 — PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Festival worship begins with the Procession of Palms celebration, but by the end of worship, our eyes are turning to the upcoming events of Holy Week. Dr. Mark Smutny will preach. We will also receive the *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering during worship.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1 — MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

A communion service will commemorate the night of Jesus' last supper with his disciples.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2 — GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT

7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

PPC's 13th annual Good Friday Devotional Concert will feature The Kirk Choir, Pasadena Singers, soloists and orchestra who will perform *Stabat Mater* by Welsh composer Karl Jenkins. (See page 1 for details)

FREE ADMISSION — invite your friends.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4 — EASTER SUNDAY

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Celebrate the holiest day in the church year in a festival worship service with glorious music and the celebration of Holy Communion. Dr. Mark Smutny will preach.

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, March 29.** Donations will be acknowledged in the church bulletin on April 4.

I am donating \$___ for worship flowers for Easter Sunday (April 4).

Given by (choose one of the following designations):

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Celebrating:

By:

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, March 28.**

A MESSAGE FROM REV. LUIS MADRIGAL, PARISH ASSOCIATE FOR LATINA/O MINISTRIES

It's been ten years! Ten years ago in March, 2000, some 45 wandering Latino Presbyterians signed a document of understanding. The group agreed to come to PPC and worship in Freeman Chapel thus getting to know the PPC family. In September of that year, on Homecoming Sunday, some 40 of these Latinos were received into the membership of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church. Thus began Hogar Cristiano's participation in a Vision of a multicultural church.

One congregation, three language ministries. What a wonderful way to teach our youth the true message of the Christian faith. What a wonderful opportunity for immigrant sisters and brothers, from 11 different Latin American countries, to be able come to a church where they can truly experience the challenge of partnership in mission. This has been the experience of Hogar Cristiano/Latino Ministries here at PPC.



So what does one do on such an occasion? **One has a "fiesta"!!** On Sunday, March 7th, for our monthly luncheon after worship, Latino Ministries wishes to invite all the Pasadena Presbyterian Church family of members and friends to its 10th anniversary fiesta. There will be lots of great food, with plenty of salsa to go around. Coming to entertain us will be the Mexican Folklorico Dance Group, "Sol y Luna". Suggested donation: \$15 for a family and \$6 per individual. Please make plans to join us.

(Continued from page 1)

However, Jenkins never forgot his classical roots and "Stabat Mater" is the latest in a series of major works that have made him one of Great Britain's most prolific and popular composers. His early "pop"ularity and commercial success became a two-edged sword for classical musicians, as Darrent Henley of Britain's FM classical radio notes: "Any classical composer whose CDs are stocked in supermarkets where they sell by the trolley-load," wrote Henley in the London Times, "is marked out as a particular threat in a world where many commissions never make it as far as being committed to disc and struggle to gain any further performance after their premiere."

"Stabat Mater" premiered to a sold-out audience in Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral on March 15, 2008. In his Liverpool Daily Post review, Glyn Mon Hughes noted there were "moments of extreme, soul searching beauty," and in the same paper, Sarah Batley praised the work as "a sound pure and strong, a performance that will be a land-mark event in this city filled with exciting cultural achievements." Since that premiere "Stabat Mater" has been performed more than 60 times in Great Britain, Ireland, Europe, Canada and the United States.

What, exactly, is a "Stabat Mater"? The title comes from the first line of text, "Stabat mater dolorosa," and is often translated as "The Mother Stood Weeping." It's a 13th century Roman Catholic meditation on the suffering of Mary, the mother of Jesus, at the foot of the cross from which her son was hanging. Some scholars attribute the work to Pope Innocent III but most, including Jenkins, believe the text was written by Jacapone da Todi (1230-1306). It has been set to music by many composers, among them Haydn, Dvorák, Vivaldi, Rossini, Pergolesi, Penderecki, Poulenc and Verdi.

To the original Latin words — a series of 20 couplets — Jenkins added six texts using English, Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic, the language in the Middle East at the time Jesus was born. "One of the texts, 'Are You Lost Out of Darkness?' comes from the "Epic of Gilgamesh," explains Jenkins, "the world's oldest written story, recorded on clay tablets in the 7th century BCE and based on material from the third millennium BCE." Another section, "Now my life is only weeping" is by Jalal al-Din Rumi, the 13th-century Persian mystic poet. Contrasting those ancient texts, "Lament" — perhaps the most haunting section in the entire work — was written by contemporary English composer and librettist Carol Barratt.

This is an evening you won't want to miss — it will be the highlight of your Holy Week observances. It's also a great chance to invite friends who aren't members to experience the great music program at Pasadena Presbyterian Church.

A LETTER FROM DR. BARBARA ANDERSON

Dear friends,

It has been a long time since we have seen each other. I have missed you. During the long weeks of cold, snowy Ohio winter I was warmed by memories of both our many years together and the celebrative, bittersweet, gracious send-off that concluded my ministry among you. Thank you, again, for your notes, gifts, efforts, time and love that made August, 2009 such a memorable farewell.

I have returned to Pasadena and it feels wonderful to be back. At the same time, my being in Ohio was truly a gift to my mother and me, and to my siblings. God does not force us to take certain steps, but if we are open to God's leading, the importance of taking certain actions becomes clear in hindsight. This was evident almost from the time I arrived in Ohio. During my time there, Mother moved from her "cottage" to an independent living apartment in her retirement community. She was hospitalized once and had several health issues along the way. Although still spry, her health is somewhat fragile each winter and I'm relieved she has a better safety net under her than one year ago. I love her dearly. Each of us will always cherish this time we had together at important life transitions. Given the attention Mother needed, health issues that developed for me, and the unsettled nature of my housing, I did not get much writing done. But I did get to shift gears, take care of my health, write three articles for The Presbyterian Leader, and create a buffer between past and future. Never knowing what the next week would bring, I was constantly grateful for the care and sustenance of God who provides all we need.

I'm ready to settle down in one place again, having been a vagabond living from a suitcase for six months. Stepping away from the pastorate reduced my stress greatly, strengthened my heart, and gave me a chance to participate in parts of life that I was missing because I was giving all my energy to the church. Now that I'm back in Pasadena, I hope to build on that, clear the brush out of the way and look again for God's leading. Some have asked if my new path includes returning to Pasadena Presbyterian Church in some manner. As much as I miss you and the church, am excited by PPC's ministries and pray for you, I will not be returning to PPC, except for occasional worship and musical events. I will not be teaching classes, attending Bible studies or church dinners. As a former Pastor married to your current Pastor, I will put my toe in a few social events, but will approach this uncharted water slowly.

Even if it were not Presbytery's policy that I keep my distance from PPC, I would do so from my own understanding of what will be best for the church and its ministry, and for me. I believe that churches are usually hindered, sometimes in ways that are not immediately evident, by the presence of a former pastor who returns too soon. Even when the church does not technically replace a person or position, the church's ministry continues and my presence—or hoped for presence—could inadvertently affect PPC's movement forward.

When former pastors do return, their relationship with the present pastor is developed delicately over time. Being a clergy couple is an unusual calling, different from what any of you have experienced in your marriages or ministries. This was the case during our ministry and is now, as well. It is up to us to recognize these dynamics and be wise, ethical and judicious as we move forward. It is also important for me that Mark has the space to be the Pastor he is called to be among you. This is more likely to happen if I am not hovering in the wings.

Finally, because over the past twelve years I have put so much of myself into PPC, have so many hopes and dreams for the church, care so much for its people, and worry so much about both the people and the church, I need to keep my distance for my own good. God seems to have called me to write at this time in my life. I don't know what path that will take yet, or how to get there, but I do know that if I re-engage with PPC, as some have suggested, I run the risk of turning away from the calling God has set before me. It is not that I don't want to see you and hear about your lives, but I need to move on to where God is calling me, and give both you and Mark Smutny the space to move along your journey together where God is calling you to go.

It is a new path for all of us. God will lead us forward.

Faithfully,
Barbara Anderson

MARCH CALENDAR

Tuesday - 2
Session

Wednesday - 3
Bibles & Bagels

Sunday - 7
First Sunday Brunch

Monday - 8
Women's Bible Study

Tuesday - 9
Investment Committee

Wednesday - 10
Presbytery

Friday -12
Second Friday Fellowship

Sunday -14
Daylight Savings Time begins

Wednesday - 17
Bibles & Bagels
Joint Finance Committee

Thursday - 18
Presbyterian Women Circle

Sunday - 21
Congregational Life Com.

Monday - 22
Women's Bible Study

Friday - 26
Fuller Concert

Sunday - 28
Palm Sunday

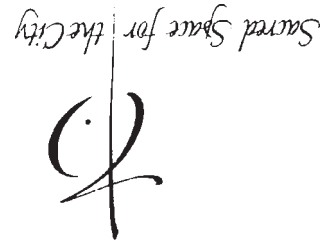
PPC'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

During PPC's Capital Campaign *Share the Vision 2004-06* a portion of your contributions was set aside for mission projects. We thought you might like to hear how those gifts were received.

"Thank you for your generous donation of \$5,624 to **Big Bear Conference Center**. We can certainly put your donation to good use! In fact, our sign out on Highway 18 was knocked down by a snowplow, and we are planning to use your generous donation to help pay for the replacement sign. Thank you so much for your support of this effort."

Westminster Gardens tells us the funds were used in the following ways: Funds for assisted living have been used for room improvements and office equipment in both Memorial Lodge and Shu Lodge; two projects have been installed this year that significantly reduce water use and enhance the beauty of Packard Hall and Morrison House. As residents experience financial hardship, funds from the Living Tapestry Benevolence Program will be available. The Common Areas Improvement Fund provides for improving, refurbishing and replacing meeting spaces so that they remain capable of serving all the needs of Westminster Gardens.

"Your recent gift in support of the mission and ministry of the **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** makes it possible to be a visible presence of God's redeeming love for all people. As partners in Christ, we covenant with you to use it to display the promise of God's continuing presence in the world through the new humanity revealed in Jesus Christ."



Forwarding Service Requested

Pasadena Presbyterian Church
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Pasadena, CA 91101

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - KAREN LEE



Karen spent many of her formative years on the eastside of Los Angeles attending El Sereno Junior High, Franklin High School, and Occidental College. She was a Coro Fellow and worked for Councilman Mike Hernandez. After several years outside of California working and in graduate school, she now works for the City of Rancho Cucamonga.

While visiting PPC she met Jim Petersen and was impressed by the friendly welcome. After listening to several sermons, Karen decided PPC was the church for her. She dove right into life here. She is active with the Young Adults, cooks for a number of church events, serves on the Stewardship Committee, was elected Trustee, and is a teacher for Sunday Morning Live, the Christian Education class for grades 1-5 whose students are drawn almost equally from the English and Spanish-speaking ministries.

Although she has been a SML teacher for a few years, Karen is especially excited this year because of additional support and planning for teachers. January's theme was Jesus growing up and finding his calling. After teaching the story of Jesus in the temple as a child, she explained how she found her calling by recognizing what she did well. Karen brought in her Master's hood as a symbol of making her calling a reality. The children later did an exercise identifying what they did well and what they would like to be when they grow up. As someone who grew up in a local neighborhood, Karen's students can relate her experiences to their lives. She says, "I feel like we are in charge of the curriculum instead of the curriculum driving us." The quality of the experience for both teachers and students has greatly improved in great part because of the support and the expertise of CYC chair and LAUSD teacher, Andrew Warner.

She is now organizing a Young Adult service day with Habitat for Humanity. When asked about her volunteer work, Karen says she is the recipient of so much of God's grace she just wants to pass it on. Be sure to give Karen a smile and thank you the next time you see her!