



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

April Showers or Reassurance?

"April showers bring May flowers.." is the old song. And that is certainly true. But this year, the *first* song we sing is "*Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the Highest!*" followed by "*He lives! He lives!*" The first Sunday of April: EASTER SUNDAY.

This year, caught in the quagmire of a "War of Choice" that seems to make little sense, it is a relief to turn, not to the usual April phrases, but to the reassuring Holy Words and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. At the Last Supper, Jesus told His disciples, "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. NOT as the world giveth, do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, do not let them be afraid.*" John 24:27.

As an example....at times in need of reassurance and a feeling of calmness and, yes, peace, a pattern of people seeking and turning to their church has been shown in the past. In some situations church attendance increases.

While I am on the subject, I often attend the Corona Police Department monthly meetings of "Cops 'N Clergy." I am pleased to report that the Corona P.D. takes good care of the Corona citizens. If a family member might anticipate a need, in a future time, of emergency services (such as one with dementia, perhaps) there is a form that can be completed and kept on file at the P.D., giving the name and personal details of the specific family member. That way if it does happen, the Police already have necessary information available to quickly assist.

You probably know, for a long time Elder Sue Bain records our Sunday worship service, placing the weekly worship service (along with other appropriate items) on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CoronaFirstPresbyterian. (And also at [instagram@fpccorona](https://www.instagram.com/fpccorona) and [Twitter@fpccorona](https://twitter.com/fpccorona).)

In 2024 when I first came to you, the **number** of people "following" our services on Facebook was **counted on one hand**. The number shows right there on Facebook. Recently I happened to review one of our services and the count was **222**. The next Sunday I asked Sue, "Is this possible?" "Yep," she says, "*that is correct.*" She explains, not everyone may stay for the entire service...

but definitely we are reaching out with the Word! *Alleluja and Amen!*

This says to me, the concerns, worries, grief or heartache we are experiencing in our country right now, has people reaching out for reassurance. And reaching out to find some peace and guidance ... given **through the power of the Holy Spirit**.

Gosh, didn't mean to carry on so long before getting back to "flowers." We have appreciated Elizabeth Bostian occasionally bringing flowers to our Sanctuary on Sundays...bringing cheer first in service and then sent home to others. (And the fact she lives near a strawberry farm we are spoiled when she brings strawberries!) And the cooks for after service! (All told taking turns, I think we might have seven of them!) We have appreciated their expertise and generosity! Thank you all! Marilyn's faithful writing down of our *Joys and Concerns*, shown in the following Sunday bulletin, keeping us informed and able to pray as needed for those named. Good to see Marge Welch able to come again to worship with Alison Osborne.

Though we are only now getting rain...part of my yard was chock full of tall grasses and weeds mixed in, and I finally had to get help this week. However, I am happy to report the large number of purple iris in my small front yard, has been my private joy with March-April flowers as I drive into my carport. A gift from heaven. Sometimes when I drive to Corona (and, of course, *in* Corona) I go via the streets rather than the freeways. This gives me the opportunity to see God's cheerful flowers and trees as I go, rather than only cold gray buildings along the freeways.

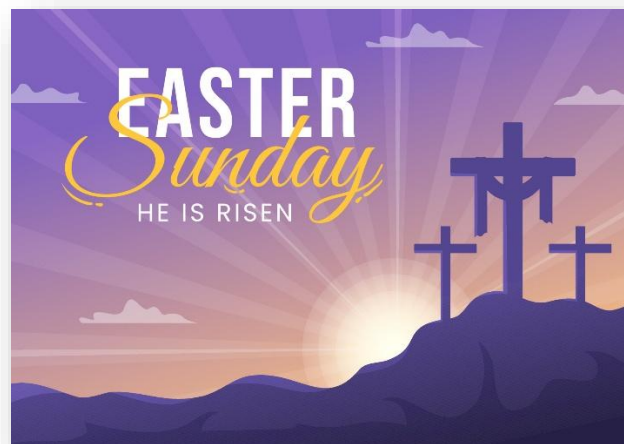
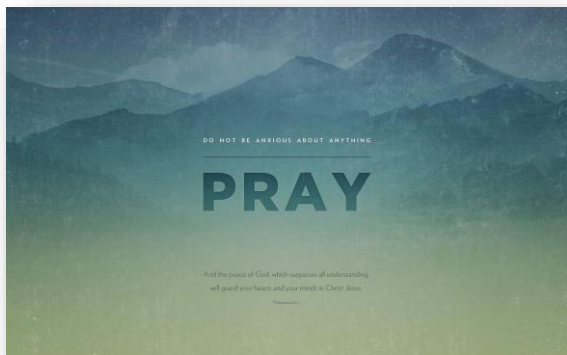
Do you enjoy reading? I completely lose track of time when I read...especially with Biblical and new books! I am trying to find time to finish the very new book about Jesus' mother, "*The Lost Mary*. Our events every month...a Tuesday Bible Study; our PC(USA) Bible Study on the 4th Saturday of the month; and professional movies on the first Saturday of the month (all invited).

How do you spend your personal time? As long as I can remember, a balance in a daily routine is known to be healthy (all ages). Not only that, more than one doctor told me during my time as a Chaplain at the Yuma, Arizona hospital, that prayer is a big part of healing. Healing physically *and* emotionally.

Once upon a time I had a physical interest in tennis ... and now the interest in sports is only as a fan. I love watching the professional tennis tournaments on TV. There's competition for my time when football season starts. Yes, I know, baseball is here. It's still Dodgers, and now and then the Angels. (Does any of this sound familiar to you?)

Here's my Preaching Moment of the day: Review your living pattern once in a while...keeping your interests balanced. And don't forget to include time for a good way to pray - private conversations with Jesus, our Lord.

May the Lord be with you. Pastor Nancy.

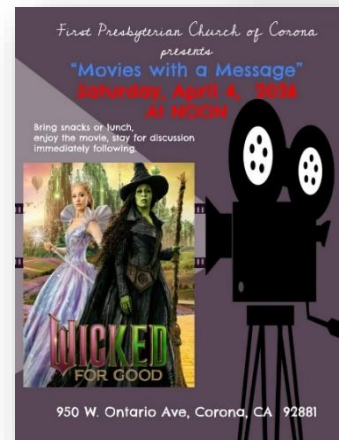
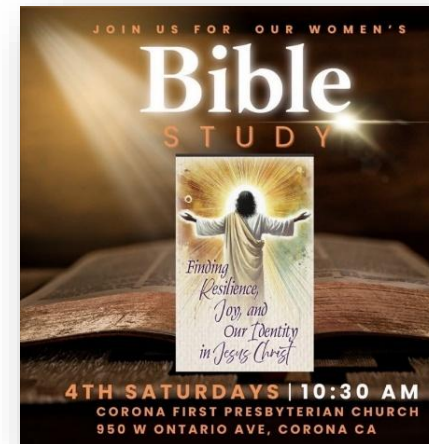


From your session

From our March meeting:

- Motion lights are to be installed on outside west wall of church.
- Ako and Awu Ncha recently attended a Presbytery-wide youth event in Crestline.
- Movies With a Message and Women's Bible study continue each month.
- Session is working on revising our bylaws.

Fellowship February 22



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

22..... *Marilyn Mittelstadt*
23..... *Jason Nyeango*



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

None



PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES

Squeak & Teri White
Cathy Aronson
Lillian Atia
Susan Bain
Elizabeth Bostian
Rudy & Terrie Burbank
Julio Garcia & Delia Martinez-Samojluk
Mavis & Philip Hagan



APRIL 2026

SUN MON TU WED TH FR SAT

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



April 5



*Easter
April 5*



*Worship Sunday at 10:00 am
at church & via live
streaming Facebook*



*Vietnamese Church every
Sunday at 12:00 pm*



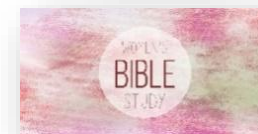
*Apr. 4
12:00 PM*



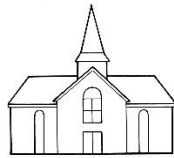
*Clarity Church of Corona
every Sunday at 4:30 pm*



*April 18
10:00 AM*



*April 25
10:30 AM*



Our mission is to live out the good news of Jesus Christ

Our Church Staff

Guest Pastor	Nancy Richmond
Administrative Assistant	Judy Hanson/Marilyn Mittelstadt
Accompanist	Delia E. Martinez-Samojluk
Church Treasurer	Terrie Burbank
Bookkeeper	Teri White
Director of Social Media	Sue Bain

*April 2026
Volume 32, Issue 4*



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SUNDAY SCHEDULE
10:00 AM Worship Service
First Press deadline – 4th Wednesday of every month
Editor reserves the right to edit for content & space



We're on the WEB
<http://www.fpc-corona.org>
www.facebook.com/coronafirstpresbyterian

