



The Pastor's Corner By: Pastor Ruffin Stepp

What if...

What if I started out every year with

a commitment to move closer to God? That is a great thought! Moving closer to God through purposeful Study of the Bible, prayer, and getting together with our Church family will help us live deeper – more profound – lives filled with meaning.

What if I committed to regular worship attendance? There is a blessing that comes from commitment to worshipping God in the church setting – when we gather on Sundays our actions inform our family and friends what our top priority is. Attending worship every week is a great example to your children and grandchildren that worship of God is vital for a healthy life – your children and grandchildren are more likely to stick with the faith when they grow older if they attend worship as a child with you.

What if we began asking the question – *Is what I'm doing on Sunday more meaningful than worshipping God with my church family?* – and answered it honestly?



Sunday Morning Worship at PWPC



What if Palms West Presbyterian Church were a place that thoughtfully embraced our Faithful past, Focused on making a difference in the present and intentionally laying the foundation for Future generations.

What if 2014 was the year we put our time and treasure where our talk was...

- Adopting 3 worship services
- New playground and facility improvements
- Moving to a place of Deeper Faith

What if 2015 holds even greater things in store?

- Meaningful discipleship experiences through study and action!
- More purposeful children and youth outreach
- Eclipsing the 300 worship barrier

What if we grew into our mission statement: to grow deeper in faith, connect with others and God, and served with humble abandon.....

May it be so and to God be the glory!

In Christ - Pastor Ruffin



Music Notes

By: Juanita Meeks, Minister of Music



Ever felt the excitement an important challenge generates?

That ground swell of excitement is rearing its head as Ruffin presents his challenge to Palms West Presbyterian to “become mature in our faith- whether 9 months, 39 or 109”! (I believe that was a direct quote from all 3 sermons last week!) When one has the ‘honor’ of listening to a sermon 3 times there are some points that not only stick with one, but make a powerful impact on ones life. Such is the case when this music director was combing through the latest music publications to come up with Easter music for April 5, 2015.

The message of Easter is a powerful message- Christ arose!

Most music written for Easter anthems is loud and powerful to match that message. However, the message of Easter is not only that Christ has risen, but what will we do with that truth in our own lives? It’s amazing how the music chosen has a common thread. Here’s how it all began.

In staff meeting Melanie mentioned to me that in the children’s Sunday school materials, the children has fallen in love with a new song and the song appeared to be a great fit for Easter! After listening to the CD, copying the words, and working out the musical accompaniment, there it was, the answer to Christ’s amazing sacrifice of love. The song’s title, “You Gave” presents the Easter message simply yet powerfully, but the final two lines presents the challenge-“Now the least that I can do is live my life for You!” So the children will be the first to present that challenge on Easter Sunday.

Usually adult church choirs showcase the Easter message with power and gusto highlighting the highest ranges and lowest ranges of the singers’ voices. However, following the children’s lead, the choice was

made to let the congregational hymns describe Christ’s resurrection and let the choir present the challenge as the children will do. So as Paul Harvey used to say, “Stay tuned for the rest of the story”! You will hear all about the choir anthem and praise team selection in the next news letter.

Now for some immediate musical news: Friday, January 23rd, the Blackwood Legacy Quartet will be here at our church in concert. Admission is free with a love offering to be taken during the concert. These men come with impressive musical awards – Dove and Grammy awards, Gospel Music Hall of Fame members, current recording artist, Disney performer, and Christian Recording artists. However, their communication to us also stated this: “We MUST reach the unchurched with the Gospel message! We want to minister to the young people as well as the older members. Your young members are the future warriors for Christ and we look forward to them attending the night of the concert. Please be sure to extend our special invitation to them.” This should not only be a fun evening but one that will challenge our walk with Christ.

Adult choir is in full swing working on Easter, Palm Sunday and Pentecost music as well as all the Sundays in between. We welcome new members. Now would be a great time to join!

The praise team has added Rowan Pelfrey, one of our youth who has grown up here at Palms West to the team. This is a huge commit-



ment for a sophomore in high school. Her musical talent is not only known here at church but Rowan is in rehearsals at school as she has the lead part in the musical to be presented the weekend of March 13th! We have also purchased electronic drums to add to the bass and piano accompaniment. More to follow about that in the next newsletter as I work with that addition.

Hats off to our own Heather Crawford for an outstanding violin addition to the choir anthem last week! We love hearing Heather anytime – another remarkable young musician!

Children's choir will be scheduled for certain Sunday afternoons in February and March. Parents will be notified as to those dates. We have such strong, beautiful voices in our children's choir. It is truly amazing to have so many children with extraordinary, natural vocal talent! So let's develop that gift for Christ.

Hopefully you are part of the excitement of this new challenge to become more mature in our faith and come to the realization that "the least that we can do is live our lives for You!"

Juanita

Upcoming Sermon Series

2015 Winter Sermon Series:

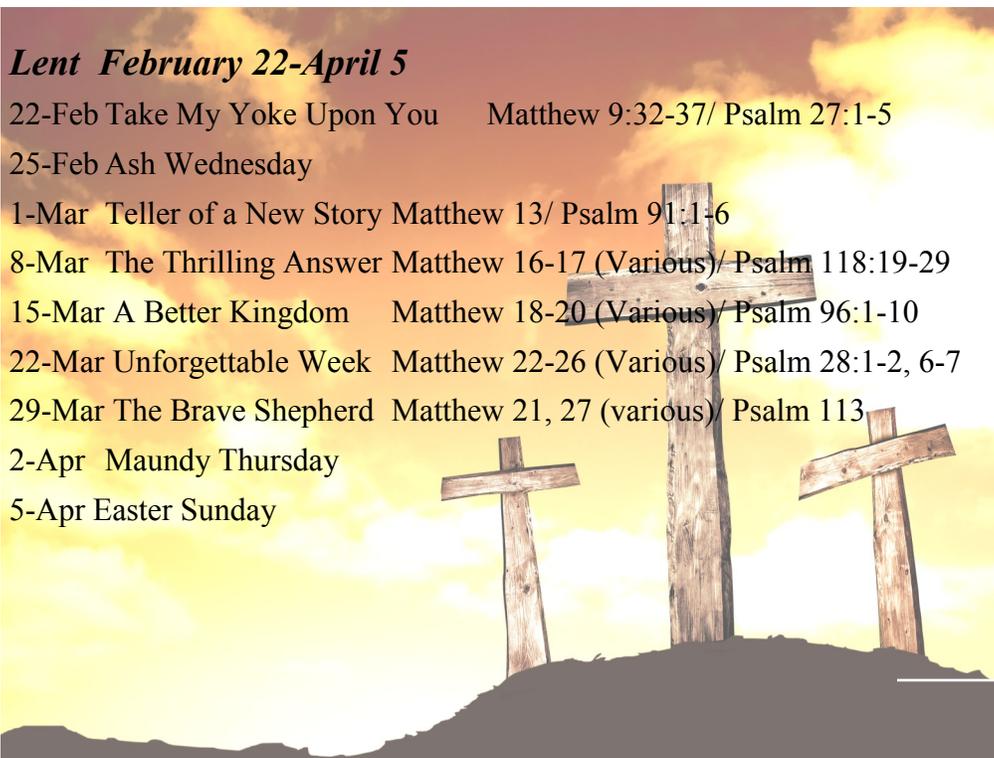
Same Old Problems: Brand New Reality!

The Gospel According to Matthew

1/25/2015	More than "Good News"	Matthew 4:12-25/ Isaiah 8:1-7
2/1/2015	Jesus Taught them Saying	Matthew 5-7 / Psalm 119:33-40
2/8/2015	When Miracles Happen	Mathew 8:1-17/ Psalm 63:1-8
2/15/2015	The Training of the Twelve	Matthew 8:18-27

Lent February 22-April 5

22-Feb	Take My Yoke Upon You	Matthew 9:32-37/ Psalm 27:1-5
25-Feb	Ash Wednesday	
1-Mar	Teller of a New Story	Matthew 13/ Psalm 91:1-6
8-Mar	The Thrilling Answer	Matthew 16-17 (Various)/ Psalm 118:19-29
15-Mar	A Better Kingdom	Matthew 18-20 (Various)/ Psalm 96:1-10
22-Mar	Unforgettable Week	Matthew 22-26 (Various)/ Psalm 28:1-2, 6-7
29-Mar	The Brave Shepherd	Matthew 21, 27 (various)/ Psalm 113
2-Apr	Maundy Thursday	
5-Apr	Easter Sunday	



Mark you Calendars!

Lent and Holy Week Events

*Lenten Devotionals will be available on Sun (2/15/2015).

Ash Wednesday:

February 18th

Sanctuary will be open
7:00am-9:00am for the
imposition of ashes
5:30pm Dinner
6:30pm Service

Palm Sunday March 22nd:

8:30am, 9:30am & 11am

Maundy Thursday April 2nd:

5:30-6:30pm Dinner
6:30pm Service

Family Easter Festival :

April 4th 2:00pm-4:00pm
Easter Egg Hunt & Fun for the
whole family!

Easter Sunday April 5th:

6:30am Sunrise Service
8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00 am
(Plan to stay for Easter
Brunch!)



Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor- Ecclesiastes 4:9



**Thank
You**



"That's A Wrap"

We all find ourselves in the end of the year scramble and church is no different. PWPC had so many events going on in December and we would like to **THANK** all those that worked hard to put these events together and **THANK** for all of you that attended. This is the "wrap up" for December 2014: Santa's Workshop, Birthday Party for Jesus, Advent Readers, Gala, the decorating crew, Special Music (our guest musicians), and Christmas Eve Service (creators, performers & organizers).

1 Corinthians 3:9

For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

Youth Group News!

Souper Bowl– Sunday February 1st

Souper Bowl (Sunday February 1st)- One of our most delicious events here at PWPC is also one with great purpose! Join us on Sunday February 1st for our annual Souper Bowl. Please select your favorite soup recipe and bring it for our awesome youth group fundraiser. We will have extension cords for those that have crock-pots. A signup sheet will be on the

patio.

This fun event always delights our taste buds, so bring your appetite! The proceeds collected that day go to support the Youth Group and their activities. This summer we plan to take 10 kids to summer camp, so all money raised will go to help make that possible!

Talent Show! Feb 15th

Let Your Light Shine! Annual Talent Show Sunday February 15th

5:00pm Dinner / 6:00 Talent Show

Join us this year as the youth and kids let their talent SHINE for Christ! We welcome all youth and kids to come with their God given talent to sing, dance, play an instrument or even joke around. For some of our young performers, the stage may be a little scary, so we welcome parents/families to participate together. (Sorry, no adult only performances.) Please email me if you would like to perform or sign-up at the information table. Email

me your act and approx how long your act will be.

Examples of Acts: Dance, Drama, Comedy, Vocal, Instrumental, Art-work Presentation (I will help you put them into a slide presentation), Martial Arts exhibition, Gymnastics

Contact Melanie: (561) 601-7425 or melstepper@gmail.com

Tickets \$10 per person. Available on the patio following worship or from the church office.– Proceeds go directly to the PWPC youth group! We want to go to CAMP!

Youth Group Mission- JDRF Carwash

Every year our Youth Group participates in the JDRF walk to cure Diabetes. The youth group has chosen JDRF to be our mission project. As you may know 3 young ladies in our youth program live with Diabetes everyday, so this is a very meaningful mission project for our youth group. On March 1st the Youth Group will be having a Car Wash to support the JDRF walk. Bring your cars, truck, vans and even boats and the youth group will make them shine! If you would like to walk with our group on Saturday March 7th at the JDRF walk to cure Diabetes, or if you would like to make a donation, please contact Melanie Stepp (561) 601-7425.

Kid's CORNER!

- BRING YOUR BIKE TO CHURCH!

On Sunday February 22nd Bring your Bike to church. After the 11am service we will have Bicycle Rodeo– where kid will learn about bike safety and have fun. Bring \$2 for pizza and drinks. Invite your FRIENDS!

Contact Melanie (561) 601-7425 if you need to have your bike picked up ahead of time or if you need to borrow a bike.



- **Communicants Class– March 15th** During Sunday School (11am). Children 2nd grade and up are invited to participate in this course, led by Pastor Ruffin that will explain the meaning of Communion and how to prepare for Communion. We will recognize the Communicants class participants and their First Communion on Sunday April 12th.
- If you believe that your child is ready for this important step, please contact Melanie Stepp for more information (561-601-7425 or melstepper@gmail.com).

**Birthday Blessings
January**

Pam Fix	1/2
Viola Gamble	1/2
Kyle Kelly	1/5
Austin Armstrong	1/7
Skip (Walter) Linn	1/8
Janet Thompson	1/8
Hazel Gray	1/11
Tami Sullivan	1/11
Margaret Granda	1/13
Cindy Kepler	1/13
Katelyn Widness	1/13
Analeigh Casto	1/14
Carol Joy Morrison	1/14
Lauren Smundin	1/14
Marilyn Hill	1/15
Robin McLeod, Jr.	1/15
Alvetia Tassone	1/15
Miriam Smith	1/16
Charmine Sangster	1/18
James Stepp	1/19
Nancy Wilson	1/19
Neil MacMillan	1/20
Eddie Crawford	1/21
Janet Rankin	1/21
Kelsey West	1/21
Lorna Drummond	1/22
Emma Roura	1/22
Rosemarie Hosford	1/23
Jenna Friedman	1/24
Sandra Polson	1/24
Oliver Roberts	1/24
Martin Squire	1/25
Janet Bowers	1/26
Melissa Giles	1/26
Carissa Kazee	1/27
Kenneth Varone	1/27
Elaine Moore	1/28
Beth Hershock	1/29
Karl McNish	1/29
Luther Mills	1/30

Education Opportunities

Bible In 90 Days:

This is a 3 month class will be offered on Tuesday evenings (starting 1/20/15) and Thursday evenings (starting 1/22/15).

- Tuesday night will be the “Master Class”. It will meet from 6:30-7:30pm followed by the prayer team.
- Thursday night is geared for individuals that have not done “Bible in 90 Days” or those who did not complete it last time. The group

will meet from 7-8pm. Look for signup sheets located on the patio.

- **Youth Group!** If you are participating, be sure your parents sign off on your reading. Any Youth Group member who completes the entire reading in 90 days will get to join us on a trip to BUSCH Gardens....and we will pay for your ticket and travel!
- Be sure to get your Bible from the church office or Pastor

**The Power of a
Godly Grandparent:**

a 5 week class that will start Wednesday, January 21st (6-7pm and finish up February 25th. The Class is led by

Melanie Stepp. You may or may not have material wealth to leave your grandchildren, but you



have a rich heritage to pass on. Give your grandchildren the power of unconditional love.

Give your grandchildren the power of your own testimony of faith and show them how God will be faithful through the coming generations. Give your grandchildren the power of your prayers. Give your grandchildren a spiritual legacy.

We'll have lots of practical ideas that you can put into place right away. There is still time to join our class!

Fellowship– Valentine Tea

Women’s Valentine Tea - will be Saturday, February 14th from 2pm—4pm. Cost is \$5.00 per person,. What a wonderful way to spend Valentines Day...with your church family! Bring your favorite tea cup and wear a hat. There will be lots of fellowship and games—including the famous “Hat Contest”. There will be a prize for the “Prettiest Hat” or “Most Unusual Hat”, put your creativity to work . Look for the clipboard on the patio to reserve your spot. Bring friends and family– young and young at heart!



Stewardship / Generosity

Offering Envelopes are here. Please stop by the tables on the patio before or after worship to pick up your envelopes. If you have never requested envelopes, but would like them, please contact the church office administrator, Carol Everest at (561) 795-6292 and she will assist you in getting envelopes.

Birthday Blessings February

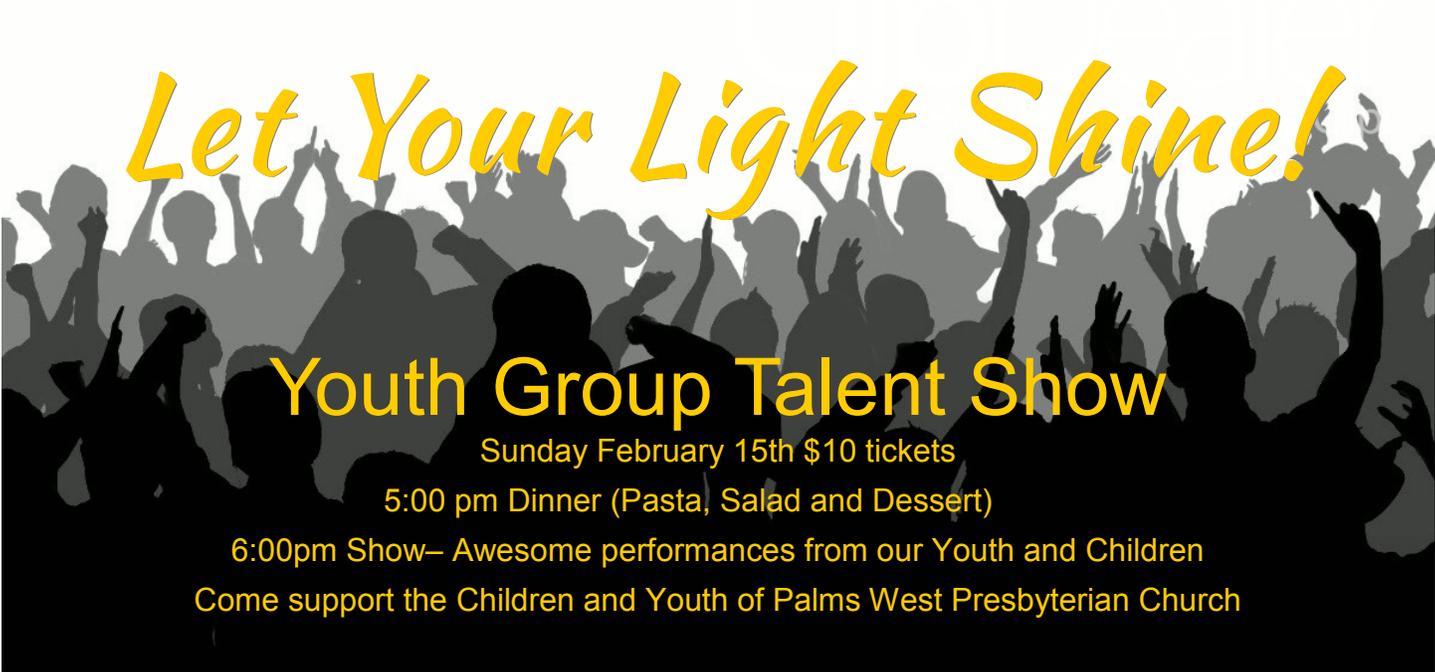
Jen Allen	2/3
Bruce Hoffman	2/5
Susan Nesbit	2/7
Tiffany Comerie	2/8
Christopher Wint	2/9
Kathy Adams	2/13
Jim Joy	2/13
Karen Kelly	2/13
Hunter Truman	2/15
Adlin Francis-Lee	2/17
Kyle Sangster	2/17
Rick Sullivan	2/18
Paul Eiseman	2/22
Angela Stitt	2/22
Lucy McQuillan	2/24
James Park	2/24
Carlton Willie	2/25
Marva Park	2/26
Marie Pelfrey	2/27
Heidi Allen	2/28

Cancer Support Group:

Facilitated by Nancy Thurston-Lang, LCSW. The Group will meet Mondays at 6:30pm beginning on February 9th for 4 weeks

When you receive a cancer diagnosis, you may feel too numb to think about what you need to manage the stress and anxiety that naturally comes with this diagnosis and treatment. Dealing with the feelings and changes cancer can bring can be lonely even when you are surrounded by loving and supportive people. Talking to someone may be the first step in helping you cope with the uncertainties ahead.

A support group can become a lifeline to information, support and encouragement through good times and bad. This group is open to those with a diagnosis of cancer, cancer survivors, and family members.

A background image showing the silhouettes of a large crowd of people with their hands raised in the air, suggesting a concert or a talent show. The silhouettes are in shades of gray and black against a light background.

Let Your Light Shine!

Youth Group Talent Show

Sunday February 15th \$10 tickets

5:00 pm Dinner (Pasta, Salad and Dessert)

6:00pm Show– Awesome performances from our Youth and Children

Come support the Children and Youth of Palms West Presbyterian Church