

THE SALTSHAKER

APRIL 2023 | VOLUME 270

Easter *at* AVPC

Easter is always a special time for the heart of our church family at AVPC. It is a time for the church to come together to celebrate the gift of Jesus, and his victory over sin and death. Below is the list of events planned.

April 2 | PALM SUNDAY

Early Service | 8:30 AM / Late Service | 11:00 AM

Children's Palm Branch Processional

April 7 | GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

12:00-1:00 PM | Sanctuary

Join us as we remember the suffering of Christ on our behalf.

Church Office Closed

April 8 | EASTER EGG HUNT

10:30-11:30 AM | Altadena Park

April 9 | EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunrise Service | 7:00-7:15 AM | Cemetery

Join us as we celebrate Christ's victory over death and hell.

Breakfast | 7:15-8:25 AM | Fellowship Hall.

A light breakfast will be served after the Sunrise Service.

Early Service | 8:30 AM / Late Service | 11:00 AM

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Pastor's Pen

Brad Allison, Senior Pastor

Please be in prayer for some staffing needs we are experiencing at the church. Our bookkeeper of 28 years, Jimmie Campbell, recently gave us her resignation, effective April 28. Jimmie has been a faithful and hard-working employee for many years, and we will miss her. We also received a resignation notice from Scott Taylor, who has been serving as our custodian for about a year now. Those with an eye for such things have noticed the cleanliness of our building during Scott's time with us. Those of us who are on campus for large amounts of time always see Scott working hard but also greeting us with a kind and respectful greeting. If you know of anyone who might be interested in applying to either of these jobs, check out the job descriptions on the church website for specific information about these openings.

In addition to these two resignations, two other employees have had to be away for extensive periods of time. Our Church Administrator, Christine Rowlette, had some major surgery on February 19 and has been out of the office since February 15. As of the date of writing this (March 15), she has not yet been able to return. Please pray for healing. Our Youth Director, Clint Cvacho, has been attending to his mother's serious health needs since her surgery on February 22. As of today, she remains in ICU, and her recovery is still uncertain. Clint is an only child, and his mother has no husband, so much of his mother's care falls to him. Clint told me, by the way, how significant it has been for him to be on the receiving end of the love of the church during this time.

So your church staff is operating a little short-handed right now. Many have stepped up to help out, and we are thankful. God often does his work through our weakness, and it seems that we are experiencing an opportunity for that to happen right now.

-Brad Allison

minutes

SESSION MEETING • FEBRUARY 21, 2023

- **Pastoral transition Committee Report:**
 - Administrative responsibility changes of current staff in anticipation of the pastoral transition.
 - A change in time line for the pastoral transition process.
 - December 2023 - Congregational Meeting to elect Pulpit Committee.
- The Deacons had requested approval of using funds not to exceed \$20,000 from capital reserves for the repair of drywall and painting of the sanctuary. The request was approved with unanimous consent

DIACONATE MEETING • MARCH 14, 2023

- Limited mobility signs are still temporary, but facilities team is working on permanent signs.
- Deposit Insurance Discussion: The Finance Team feels the Regions Account has adequate deposit insurance.
- Bookkeeper - Jimmie Campbell is resigning effective 4/28/2023
- A draft version of the Bookkeeper Job Description was reviewed.
- Matt Jackson reported that the Handyman Service Team is up and running and has had a good response.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

On March 3 and 4, the women of AVPC gathered together for our annual retreat. It was a time of worship, fellowship, fun, and connecting with one another. It truly was a special time for us.



WOMEN'S LUNCHEON - APRIL 30

Ladies - you are invited to the Ladies Spring Small Group Luncheon on Sunday April 30 after the late service. We will dine in groups of 6-8 of women. Your group can choose to eat inside, outside, in a home, at a park, or at a restaurant. We hope you decide to join in this fellowship time with your sisters.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Prayer and Breakfast - April 15

Starting on Saturday, April 15, the Men's Ministry is kicking off a monthly time of prayer followed by breakfast every third Saturday, hosted at the MacCaughelty home from 7:30-9:00 AM.

Second Annual Men on Bikes

Be on the lookout for information on the second annual Men on Bikes! It will be a great time of fellowship and a chance to go on a fun bicycling journey alongside the men of the Altadena.

AVPC PEOPLE NEWS

OUR SYMPATHY

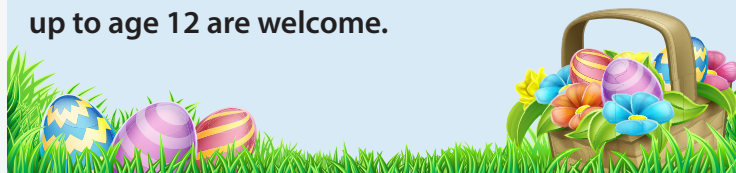
We extend our sincere condolences to the following:

- Cal Martin upon the recent death of his father, Cal Coolidge Martin.
- Josh Moore for the recent death of his father, William "Bill" J. Moore.
- Shahn Washington for the recent death of his Aunt.

You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

EASTER EGG HUNT APRIL 8

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt at Altadena Park on Saturday, April 8, from 10:30 - 11:30 AM! This is always a special and fun time for the kids. All kids up to age 12 are welcome.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WEEKDAY CUSTODIAN: The church is looking for someone to fill a paid, part-time position, who can perform custodial work for 20 hours a week.

AVPC BOOKKEEPER: Altadena is looking for a qualified individual to fulfill a full-time opening for church bookkeeper.

For a complete job description and application for both jobs, visit our website or scan the QR code below.



Congratulations



Austin Katharine Harris was born on March 23, 2023. She weighed 8 lbs 7 oz and was 20.5 inches long. Parents are Blake and Danielle Harris.

MEMBERSHIP WEEKEND



Are you thinking about church membership at Altadena? Come to our next Membership Event, Friday, April 21. There, you will meet church staff members, hear about ministry opportunities, and get to know others who are new to the church. Attendance at this or another weekend offered throughout the year is required for church membership. You can visit the Events tab of the church website, drop down Event Registration; email Connor (connor@avpc.org) or call the church office to register. The deadline to register is April 17.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

During the Sunday School brunch, I shared I am praying I will be a Godly old woman when I grow up and for Jamie to become a Godly old man. I have also been praying this prayer for you and for each of the children under the umbrella of AVPC Kids' Ministry.

I am currently enrolled in the PCA's children's ministry director certification program. This past week I was struck in class when the instructor shared research that although strategic Biblical discipleship and training throughout childhood is a major component in a child's future relationship within the church, an equally foundational factor is the adult relationships a child has within the church body throughout their childhood and youth. When a covenant child has one, two, or three safe, authentic relationships with adults in their home church outside of their family, the probability of that child continuing as a future vibrant member of both the universal and local church is astoundingly greater. Translated into AVPC lingo, God has designed a crucial role for YOU to play in the present and future lives of the little ones wiggling beside you in the pew, which in turn impacts God's coming kingdom!

At the brunch, Pastor Brad challenged each of us to identify and commit to praying for one AVPC child outside of your family. Reach out or even introduce yourself to the child's parents and ask ways you can be praying.

Finally, you'll notice I have begun signing my emails and letters with a phrase Sue Jakes shared with me, "For Christ's Crown and Covenant." These words have become an anchoring filter in all of life, but particularly here at AVPC. I long for each encounter, activity, conversation, etc. to echo the present and future glory of our Savior's reign and promises.

For Christ's Crown and Covenant,
- Catie Lumpkin, Children's Ministry Director



GOD'S HOUSE KINDERGARTEN



The children of GHK this month have enjoyed fellowship and fun with teddy bears and silly socks all while growing in the knowledge of God and his love for them.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Lent this year has been a season of intense shock, grief, and suffering. My mother went in for a routine surgery and had a cascading series of complications that led to intense suffering, a literal near-death experience, and now a long recovery. I spent a few nights at the hospital, watching my mom suffering and wondering if this would be the end for her as I wrestled with fear, grief, and anger. It was during one of those moments, wondering where my Lord and Savior was, that the description of Jesus from Isaiah 53 came to mind: "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows..." In that moment, the Holy Spirit reminded me that Jesus was there with my mother and with me. He not only knows what was happening, but He knows exactly what it feels like.

The reality is that many of us are suffering right now, whether it be physically, emotionally, or spiritually. What a gift it is that we have a Savior and we follow a Lord who willingly endured the horrors of this fallen world for us. Think about it. Jesus' death on the cross was the fulfillment of all those sacrifices in the tabernacle and temple for centuries. Lambs that were sacrificed were killed quickly, they were not abused and beaten. Jesus could have just come and lived a perfect life, died a quick death, and still accomplished our salvation. Instead, He chose to be one of us, fully. Are you suffering in some way physically? Jesus knows what that pain feels like personally. Are you afraid? Jesus knows what it is like to be afraid to the point of sweating blood. Have you been misunderstood or betrayed? Jesus knows what that feels like. As we look to the cross and the empty tomb this Easter, we can be assured that Jesus is with us during the suffering that we encounter in this world. None of this is surprising to Him, as He assured us that we would have suffering in the world. However, Jesus followed this with a greater promise: He has overcome the world! Friend, Jesus knows you wherever you are and He is in control!

- Peace,
Clint

LOOKING AHEAD...

MAY 7: Youth Sunday

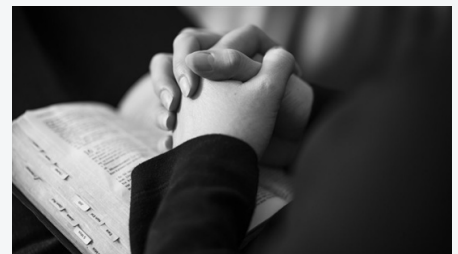
JUNE 19-23: The Edge (Junior High)

MAY 30: Summer Kickoff at Blue Water Park

JULY 15-22: Mission Trip

PRAYER MINISTRY NEWS

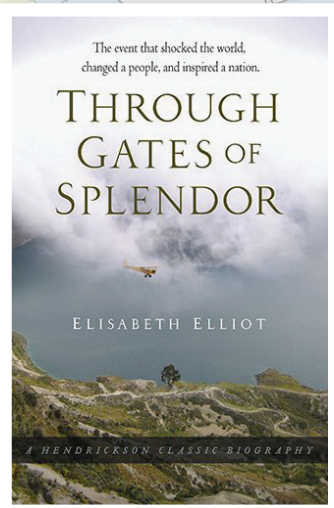
As most of you know, the Session has asked the Prayer Ministry Team to launch a prayer initiative to equip and encourage the congregation to faithfully and consistently pray over the pastoral transition process. Each month, there will be a new Prayer Prompt bookmark in the Parlor and Welcome Center with a specific theme, and four Scripture verses for you to use in praying for the Pastoral Transition Process. We hope you will take advantage of this guide and use it as you take this important decision before the Lord. The Prayer Prompt bookmarks for the month of April are now available for use. You can pick up your copy from the Parlor or Welcome Center. You can also access them with the QR code on the right.



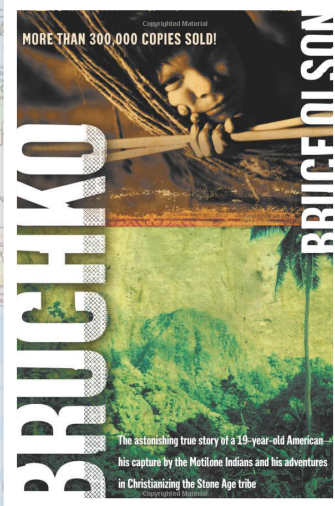
MISSIONS NEWS

So far this year, the Missions Team has had the privilege of interviewing two new missionaries being sent out from our church. Both of these interviews were incredibly encouraging and it was exciting to hear how God led each of them to a life of reaching the nations for Jesus. The common thread among them was a continued enrichment of engaging their heart for the work of the Kingdom of God around the world. How can we all challenge ourselves to engage our hearts for the nations and gospel ministry? One way to do this is our annual Missions Conference. This is an up-close and personal interaction with people who will inspire us with stories of God's mighty work in our local community and our world. Praise the Lord, we have all just experienced this recently!

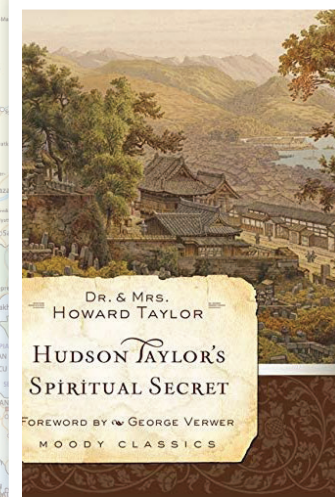
The second way is to read and learn more about the stories of God's faithfulness throughout the ages. There are so many good missionary biographies that could be listed for you to read, but here are a few that have been helpful to me over the years.



Through Gates of Splendor
Elisabeth Elliot



Bruchko
Bruce Olson



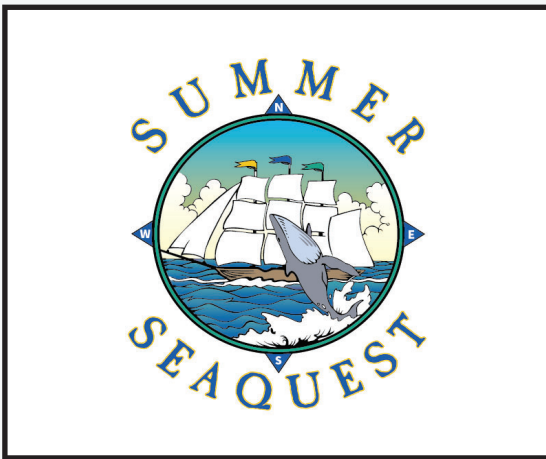
Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret
Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor

Is there an area of interest, a place in this world, that speaks to your heart? Explore this area by connecting with a missionary that serves where you are interested. Sign up for their newsletter updates. Pray for them and for the people of that country regularly. Maybe even go on a visit or a short-term trip to serve. There are a lot of ways to begin actively engaging your heart with missions on a local, regional, or world level. Reach out to the Missions Team. We would love to help you explore the many available options and even connect you with one of our partner missionaries!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

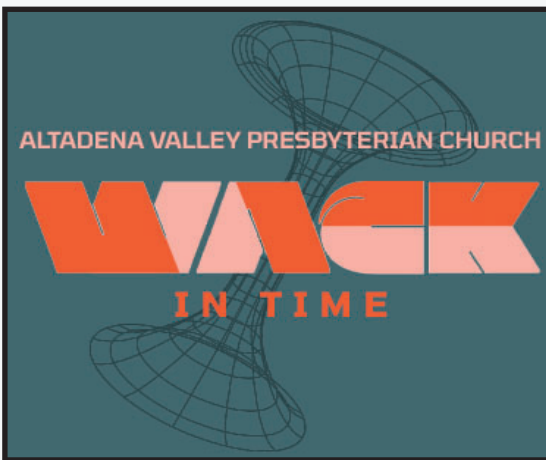
4/3	Beth McCallum	4/10	Betty Carter	4/23	Robert Wise
4/5	Jack Morris	4/11	Lori Frank	4/25	Lauren Moore
4/5	Lory Whitaker	4/12	Ryan Parker	4/27	Josh Moore
4/5	Rusty Campbell	4/13	Chalon Lunceford	4/29	Betty Blighton
4/6	Karl Poythress	4/14	Thomas Prettyman	4/30	Kathryn Jackson
4/7	Dave Mayhew	4/20	Lynn Bratton	4/30	Ryan Edwards
4/8	Marsha Wakefield	4/20	Romina Foster		
4/8	Kathy Coats	4/21	Wendi Drace		

UPCOMING CAMP DATES



CAMP SOLID ROCK 2023

We are set to sail on the high seas as we head to Nineveh June 5-9! Join us on our SeaQuest adventure! Registration opens April 15 and volunteer registration is open now. Please reach out to Catie at catie@avpc.org if you can serve at any time during the week.



W.A.C.K 2023

Registrations are now open for this year's WACK week, July 10-13. Grab a pamphlet from the Welcome Center or Parlor or you can register on our website by scanning the QR Code below.



FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSES	TRANSFER	ENDING BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	\$17,285	\$121,431	\$113,378	\$-7,406	\$17,932
MISSIONS	\$4,343	\$22,306	\$41,709	\$7,406	\$-7654
TOTAL	\$21,628	\$143,737	\$155,087	\$ 0	\$10,278