

# THE SALTSHAKER

APRIL 2025 | VOLUME 289

## 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 13 | PALM SUNDAY

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

Children's Palm Branch Processional

### April 18 | 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 19 | EASTER EGG HUNT

10:30-11:30 AM | Altadena Park

### April 20 | EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

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

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

Breakfast | 7:20-8:25 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

I had a couple of interactions with people uneasy about their kids in church — let me encourage any and all to breathe easy. We love kids at AVPC!

## **To the Parents of Young Children:**

Welcome! We are glad you are here! We especially welcome those of you with young children. In order to make the most of your time with us, may we suggest the following:

Relax! Unlike some places, we want Altadena Valley to be a place where children are both seen and heard! Don't worry if your children wiggle in the pew or make a little noise. This is God's house and all are welcome – especially the little children!

We encourage you to sit toward the front of the sanctuary where it is easier for the children to see and hear — children tire easily from staring at the backs of other peoples' heads! Explain the different parts of the service so the kids understand what's going on. Sing the hymns, pray the prayers, and participate in the responses — children learn how to worship by imitating you.

If you have to step outside of the sanctuary during the service for a child, feel free to do so. But please come back! Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Let's be sure to welcome the children so that they always know that the church is for them as much as it is for the rest of us!

AVPC's Worship Center is offered to interested parents of 4-6 year olds (it is your choice) during the Sermon portion of our liturgy. Just meet in the Welcome Center when instructed. The teaching and singing are thoughtfully arranged to promote Biblical truth in an age appropriate manner.

## **To the Members of our Church Family:**

The presence of children is a gift and they are tangible reminders that our church family is growing. Please welcome the kids and give a smile of encouragement or a helping hand to their parents — they may need it! Children, feel free to draw or write on the worship bulletin. The Kingdom of God is 'inside out' and 'upside down' in relation to power structures, influence, and work in the word all around us — in the Kingdom of God, the strong serve the weak, never the weak fearing the strong.

Happy Trails

Kyle Parker, *Senior Pastor*

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## 2025 Women's Ministry Fellowship Events

**APRIL 12** – Walk at Botancial Gardens, 10:30 AM

**JUNE 27** – Game Night

**JULY 17** – Bunco

**AUGUST TBD** – Book Club

**SEPTEMBER 28** – Women's Luncheon, 12:30 PM

**OCTOBER TBD** – Flower Arranging

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



## CAMP SOLID ROCK

Camp Solid Rock camper registration is open! Children from K4 through 5th grade are invited to join us June 2 – 5. We invite kids in our church family to learn timeless truths of the Bible through drama, songs, stories, games, and crafts. There is no cost, but if you'd like a t-shirt for your child, \$10 is due with your registration form. Grab a pamphlet from the Welcome Center or Parlor, or you can use the QR code below.



# AVPC PEOPLE NEWS

## OUR SYMPATHY

We want to express our deepest sympathies to the following:

- Rise Marxer for the recent loss of her sister, Judy.
- John McCary for the recent loss of his sister, Lynn McCary.

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

## Congratulations



Serena Jade Harris was born on March 19, 2025. She weighed 8 lbs and was 21 inches long. Parents are Blake and Danielle Harris.

## MEMBERSHIP WEEKEND - APRIL 25-26

Are you thinking about church membership at Altadena? Come to our next Membership Event on Friday, April 25-26. 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 Membership Night offered throughout the year is required for church membership. You can sign up online, the QR code, or by calling the church office to register and request childcare. The deadline to register is Sunday, April 20.



## FAITH PROMISE UPDATE

As of March 16 we have received:



**103 PLEDGES**

*totaling*

**\$403,762**

*towards a*



**GOAL OF \$340,000**

If you would like to make a Faith Promise pledge, please pick up a Faith Promise card located in the Welcome Center or Parlor. Drop the completed bottom portion of the card in the offering, in the clay jars, or turn it in to the office.

# minutes

## SESSION MEETING • FEBRUARY 18, 2025

- The following renovations were approved:
  - To contract with White Roofing to replace the roof on the main church building
  - To contract Taylor Concrete to replace sidewalks around the church
  - To renovate the Finance Administrator's office
  - To contract with Masters Fence Company to replace the front deck and exterior stairs on the Altadena House

## DIACONATE MEETING • MARCH 11, 2025

- Insulation is needed in the roof to replace insulation that will be removed from above lay-in ceilings and to prevent pipes from freezing in the currently vented attic space. Insulation to be installed by late spring.
- Automatic Door Opener for Exterior Door at Fellowship Hall is complete.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

I recently had the gift of watching the classic theater production of Les Miserable when it visited Birmingham. In the story, young Gavroche has been dealt a challenging life, leaving him to fend for himself and survive the merciless streets of Paris during the onslaught of the French Revolution. Often disregarded because of his age, his bravery exposes the ruthless Javert as the spy, and his youthful courage is ultimately rewarded when he is among the first to die as a martyr for people's cause. At one point, he sings the following words:

**They laugh at me, these fellows, just because I am small.**

**They laugh at me because I'm not a hundred feet tall.**

**I tell 'em there's a lot to learn down here on the ground.**

**The world is big, but lil' people turn it around.**

**Goliath was a bruiser, who was as tall as the sky,**

**But David threw a rock, and gave him one in the eye.**

**I've never read the Bible, but I know it's true.**

**It only goes to show what little people can do.**

Jesus also knew the value of little children. In Matthew 19, He welcomes, embraces, and celebrates the role children have to play in the Kingdom of Heaven. So often I find myself like the disciples, rebuking the little ones around to me to "contain themselves quietly," or even more pridefully, instructing them to leave me alone while I'm doing "important grown up work." However, if I were honest with you, the numerous roles children have played in my life are one of the primary ways God has shaped me a bit more into the image of His son. They've loved me, exposed me, delighted me, humbled me, broken me, and amazed me; more than anything, my interactions with children have left me with a deeper understanding of my need for my Perfect Father. I am so grateful that Altadena's longing to be a vision of "Christ's coming kingdom by bringing hope to a broken world" recognizes and celebrates the truth that children are a vital part of that calling, and I am so amazed that God is allowing me to witness His story in their lives being written alongside you.

**For Christ's Crown and Covenant,**

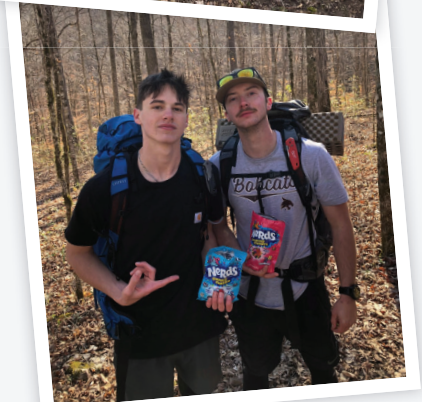
**Catie Lumpkin  
Children's Ministries Director**

# YOUTH HAPPENINGS

It has been my tradition to take the senior guys on at least one adventure trip during their final year in youth group to enjoy Creation together and to build at least one more core memory while opening the door for conversation about what is ahead. This year we only have one senior, Jude Allday, and out of respect for the child protection policy at the church and out of a desire to make this a fun trip for him, we had to switch things up. This year we invited our upperclassmen as well as our college-age graduates. We were joined by representatives from our college and young adult ministry (Blake and Nick) as we headed north to explore one of the natural wonders of our great state, The Walls of Jericho, over the weekend of March 1-2. What an amazing time together just sharing an incredible experience as we felt small, dwarfed by the walls of this dry river canyon, and as we had time to share stories around a campfire. I can't speak for all the guys that were there, but this was definitely a core memory for me, bearing out the words of Psalm 133, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" While I have enjoyed taking just the senior guys on these trips, I believe that we have started a new tradition by inviting all upperclassmen and graduates.

Peace,

Clint Cvacho



## LOOKING AHEAD...

**APRIL 13 | Youth Group Leads Bridge Night**

**MAY 3 | Mission Trip Fundraiser Carwash**

**MAY 4 | Youth Sunday**

**MAY 27 | Summer Kickoff at Blue Water Park**

**JUNE 16-20 | The Edge**

**JULY 12-19 | Mission Trip**

# MISSIONS NEWS



We have just learned about a situation facing one of our missionary families that needs prayer. The Webbers, who have worked for the Kingdom of God in Chogoria, Kenya, for many years are going to be in the States on home assignment for the school year of 2025-2026. This decision was difficult, and with the help of their organization, God has made it clear that it is how He is leading them.

The educational needs of their children require some time in the US to get academic help and other tools for their toolbox so Derek and Lauren will be equipped to return to Chogoria in 2026.

Lauren and Derek ask for your prayers as they reluctantly leave their team in Africa to come here to focus on their family needs. They will still be living on support while they are here in the US and would appreciate your prayers concerning their financial needs. Please pray that God will bless this time away from the community they love and encourage and sustain them as they walk through this new season.

Our congregation can look forward to a visit from the Webbers while they are on home assignment as they will be nearby in Springville, AL.

Thank you!

Mardi Penuel for AVPC Missions Team

# GOD'S HOUSE KINDERGARDEN

In March, our school had a fun-filled month of activities! We kicked off with a wacky Silly Sock Day, where students showed off their most colorful and creative socks. We also celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday with exciting reading activities, bringing the magic of his stories to life. To top it off, we hosted a charming Teddy Bear Tea Party, where students brought their favorite stuffed animals and enjoyed tea and treats. It was a month full of laughter, learning, and cherished memories!



# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/3	Beth McCallum	4/14	Thomas Prettyman
4/3	Malcolm Prettyman	4/20	Lynn Bratton
4/4	Adelaide Allday	4/20	Romina Foster
4/4	Catherine Boggs	4/21	Wendi Drace
4/4	Susan Cummins	4/22	Clint Waggoner
4/5	Rusty Campbell	4/23	Rob Wise
4/5	Jack Morris	4/25	Erin Carr
4/6	Karl Poythress	4/25	Lauren Moore
4/7	Dave Mayhew	4/27	Josh Moore
4/8	Marsha Wakefield	4/29	Betty Blighton
4/10	Betty Carter	4/30	Ryan Edwards
4/11	Lori Frank	4/30	Kathryn Jackson
4/12	Ryan Parker	4/30	Ayla Lumpkin
4/13	Chalon Lunceford		

## WILD WACKY WEST

Gather round, and hear the tale of Don Coyote, the seeker of *A New Song*. Travel with us to the small town of Singin' Springs, where folks don't follow common practices of music, where anything goes in a song, and where people settle disputes with kazoos at high noon. Strap on your music chops and join us for a Wild Wacky Western adventure that will help you discover *A New Song*.

WACK WEEK  
JULY 7-10, 2025



## REGISTER EARLY!

Don't wait! Register by June 1 to receive a \$10 discount per student. Register by June 15 to ensure t-shirt size! Scan the QR code to register online.



YOU'RE INVITED TO...

THURSDAY NIGHTS, STARTING JUNE 5TH  
6:30-8:00 PM

SUMMER COLLEGE NIGHTS

WHO IS THIS FOR?  
ANYONE AGES 18-22

DINNER PROVIDED | BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP

MORE DETAILS TO COME

## MEN'S MINISTRY

### THE FELLOWSHIP – MAY 4



Men of all ages, mark your calendars! Sunday, May 4, we will have a hearty meal and pray over our high school senior, Jude Allday. We'll meet in Altadena Park from 12:30 - 2:00 PM.

## FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSES	TRANSFER	ENDING BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	(\$1,400)	\$97,639	\$112,306	(\$7,537)	(\$29,633)
MISSIONS	\$2,275	\$33,005	\$40,484	\$7,537	\$3,528
TOTAL	\$875	\$130,644	\$152,790	\$0	(\$26,105)