



PAYSON FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Easter Means...

By Pastor Rich Richey

This month I want to share with you a very encouraging message from H. B. London, who currently serves as a “pastor to pastors” on the staff of Focus on the Family. Dr. London has also served in the past as the pastor of some of our largest Nazarene Churches. He is also Dr. James Dobson’s first cousin, the founder of Focus on the Family Ministries.

Dr. London wrote...

“It seems impossible that the preparation for the Easter season has begun – but it has. Ash Wednesday signals to many a time of introspection and, for some, sacrifice. Easter for me this year is wrapped up in a simple statement; **“Everything is going to be okay.”**”

“As Jesus entered the world, it was in chaos – much as our world is today. When the angels announced His birth, they said, *“Today, in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.”* (Luke 2:11) **“Everything is going to be okay.”**”

“When John the Baptist announced the Christ – *“Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”* (John 1:29) – he was saying, **“Everything is going to be okay.”**”

“When Jesus encouraged His people to hold their heads up in a world of tribulation, He told them to cheer up; *“I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world!”* (John 16:33). **“Everything is going to be okay.”**”

“When He went to the cross, it was brutal and cruel, but His act of sacrifice signaled to all mankind that **“everything is going to be okay.”**”

“The message that Christians should proclaim during this Lenten season is the message of hope. **“Everything is going to be okay.”**”

“It does not mean that we will have everything we want. It does not mean that we will not suffer loss, but it does mean that, in the words of Romans 8, we are loved unconditionally; that God knows our situation; that faith and trust are the keys to survival. *“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”* Trouble? No! Hardship? No! Persecution? No! Famine? No! We are more than conquerors! We should live like it, act like it, talk like it and pray like it. – *“Nothing in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Romans 8:39).



“So you see, **“everything is going to be okay.”**”

As a Christian, live like it. Show everyone around you this Easter Season and all year through that you really do believe the Good News that, ‘in Christ’, **“Everything is going to be okay!”**

Happy Easter! Jesus is Risen! And so are you, ‘in Him!’ (Ephesians 2:6)

Pastor Richey



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Meet Alberta Cook

Alberta Cook-Wittenborn

I want you to meet one very nice lady, known to us as Alberta Cook. Alberta was born in Somerset, Kentucky, an only child, to parents who were farmers. She and her parents moved to Dayton, Ohio when she was five years old, then to Union City, Indiana when she was in about the eighth grade. There the family attended a little church where her mother taught Sunday School. It was there that her father was saved, and where God called him to preach and to become an evangelist. In her senior year of high school the family moved to Whittier, California. Alberta graduated from Whittier High School and went to work in a factory making milk cartons; that is where she met Kenneth J. Cook, the man she would marry. Alberta and Kenneth were married in 1949. God blessed their life together with three children: first Julie, then Brenda, and to top it off, a boy whom they named Kelly. They attended the Church of God while in Whittier. There were several moves, to Salt Lake City, Utah, to Harmony, Pennsylvania, to New Jersey, to Elgin, Illinois, then back to California, where they settled in Pomona, and where Kenneth owned a franchised gas station dealership with the Mobil Oil Company. In 1980 Alberta's husband died; they had been married 31 years. That very same year, Alberta lost her mother.

While in Pomona Alberta attended night school art classes, and developed into a pretty good artist. She moved to Payson, Arizona to care for her aged father. She needed a job, so someone suggested she might apply to teach Art at the Gila Community College. Well, she got the job and taught Art there until 2002 when she retired from teaching but not from painting. She still paints the beauty that she sees in God's world.

While in Payson, a fine Christian man used to visit Alberta's father and took an interest in Alberta. His name was Byron Wittenborn. After a few years he popped the question and they were married. They began attending the Nazarene Church and that is where she met and became friends with Ardis Moore; they have been pals ever since. Byron was overcome by Alzheimer's and after 16 years of marriage he passed away in 1999. Her father had passed away as well, and Alberta was alone again. Yet, she reminded me she is never alone, because her Savior, Jesus, walks with her always. She loves her church and especially her Sunday School class, taught by Norma Conner.

Alberta enjoys painting, sewing, reading and Bible study. She would like people to know that her greatest blessing is that she is a child of God.



Alberta Cook-Wittenborn

Laugh A Little

Back Up —

A police recruit was asked during the exam, 'What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?' He answered, 'Call for backup.'

Lying—

A Minister was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen boys, all of them between 10 and 12 years of age.

The group had surrounded a dog. Concerned lest the boys were hurting the dog, he went over and asked "What are you doing with that dog?"

One of the boys replied, "This dog is just an old neighborhood stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog."

Of course, the reverend was taken aback. "You boys shouldn't be having a contest telling lies!" he exclaimed. He then launched into a ten minute sermon against lying, beginning, "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie," and ending with, "Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie."

There was dead silence for about a minute. Just as the reverend was beginning to think he'd gotten through to them, the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give him the dog."



YOUTH AND CHILDREN SECTION

XTRAV 09, Back off the wall

By Dillon Walker

Imprint youth is back with First Place Soccer Champion under their belt! That's right, PNAZ is First Place in soccer! Although that was a major highlight, there were many other events that PNAZ placed in. Both Bernie and Merissa, PNAZ Youth got top marks for their creative ministry works, and Jimmy Brown won 2nd place in the 3-point shoot out held at the event. Many of the others that went contributed in support for all of our events. The Youth were defiantly moved, as two Worship artists, Seventh Day Slumber, and About the Author gave awesome performances that filled the hearts of all that were present. Guest speaker Fred Lynch gave a eye-opening devotional that definitely got our Youth that attended thinking about advancing to a better level in their walk with God. All in all, the event was a major success, and besides the



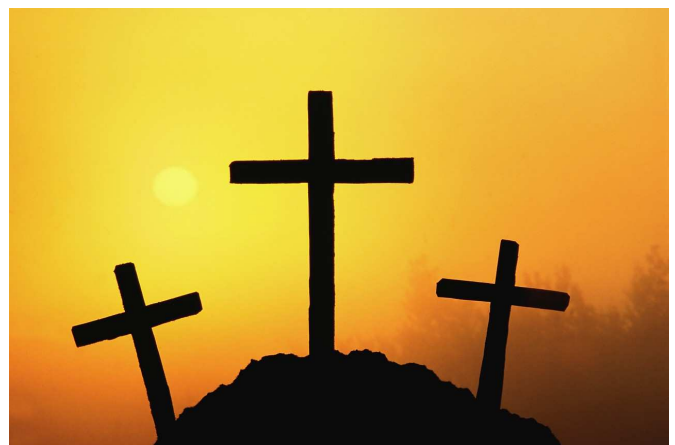
recovery from all of the late nights, nothing to complain about!

If you would like more information, or would like to see a highlight of PNAZ Youth at XTRAV please contact Dillon Walker.

Please pray for Imprint Youth as they look for new leadership in the future.

DON'T MISS IT! APRIL

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| <p>3 Passover Seder 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>4 All Church Clean-up Day 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>5 Palm Sunday</p> <p>9 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>10 Good Friday Service 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>12 Easter Sunday</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Continental Breakfast 9:00 a.m.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Resurrection Egg Hunt 9:30 a.m.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Combined Worship Service 10:00 a.m.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">No Choir Practice or Evening Service</p> <p>18 District Quiz Finals, Cross Roads, Chandler</p> <p>19 Annual Church Election of Officers</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Times 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>19 Silver Ring Ceremony at Ponderosa Baptist</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">5:00 p.m.</p> | <p>25 Regional Quiz Finals, Point Loma, San Diego, CA</p> <p>26 Let's Get Acquainted Lunch 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>26 Annual Church Business Meeting 6:00 p.m.</p> |
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Missionary News from Africa

From Scott Dooleys

Awhile back Gail wrote a blog about personal and cultural identity (you can see it at www.dooleysinpng.blogspot.com, Jan. "Personality vs Culture"), as a missionary we are always struggling with living between two cultures, my colleges buddies just had an e-mail discussion about cultural change and it's effect on marriage, everywhere seems to have a struggle between generational ideas of what is acceptable. I was recently told by two PNG pastor friends on a committee that the missionaries needed to stick around from now "until Jesus comes back". They talked about cultural problems that they thought the missionaries helped to confront in PNG culture and in the church. I replied by saying that what we needed wasn't necessarily a constant presence of people from another culture but to help Christians get beyond their culture, I went on to explain to them how much of the American church is following western cultural ideas that we can't seem to get past. In fact it made me wonder if in the same way, the American church would benefit from some PNG missionaries coming to teach us about community, the importance of people over events, the ability to cope without the latest technology, etc...

Anyway, it seems I have been flooded with questions about who I am and should be. Not only how do I get my identity but how do I decide who it is I am becoming? If we are to maintain that the gospel is true, Christ's power must be nothing less than revolutionary to our lives – I don't mean simply in taking us from a life of gross sin to a life of observable holiness. We have not really met Christ if it does not re-shape who we are and challenge us to think about how we view the world around us. We must let God show us the way our own culture, age, or peer group has tainted the way we see every aspect of life and kept us from living out His truths. The Christian should look different in the way he works, treats his family/marriage, treats strangers, looks after the poor, lives responsibly towards God's earth, submits out of love to others, considers the needs of others,...

Consider the ways in which the scripture tell us how truly changed we should be. We are to "come out and be

separate", "let our light shine before men, "let the word of God dwell richly" in us, to be "transformed by the renewing of our mind" being able "to test and approve what is his good, pleasing and perfect will", to be "remade in the image of our creator", "reflect the Lord's glory, being transformed into his likeness", "regarding no one from a worldly point of view", "being Christ's ambassador's", with the realization that "our citizenship is from heaven," that we are already "with Christ in heavenly places"... and in every other way God tells us again and again that he expects us to be like Him and that this will cause us to be a light in a dark world. We are to reflect God's ability to change and transform our lives, not just our Sunday habits or the rules we follow.

Please pray for all of those who are overseas right now spreading the love of God.

The test of whether or not our lives live up to this is simply the display of the fruits of the Spirit. Do my words and the tone of my voice, my actions, my reactions, the way I spend my time and money, the way I treat others,... do they show God's power to make my life overflow with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control? 1 Corinthians 13 makes it clear that what we accomplish is not as important as our motive, attitude, and way we do what we do – that is it is all about experiencing and reflecting God's love.

My prayer for you and I hope your prayer for me: Phil 3:12-14 "Not that I have already attained all of this or been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me....forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

In Christ

Scott

Perspectives

No submissions this month.

NEW SECTION:

This section will now be renamed Perspectives, for anything that anyone would like to place here. This is a community bulletin board for you, the congregation. Feel free to send an editor an email with your request.

Please submit articles for next month to the editors on page 8.

Think About It!

God writes with a pen that never blots, speaks with a tongue that never slips, and acts with a hand that never fails.

God never asks about our ability or inability - just our availability.



Christian Classifieds

As Christians we are called to support one another. There's no better way to do that than to support our church members' businesses and services. In this especially difficult economic time, it is important to make sure that our Christian brothers and sisters get our support. The "PNAZ News" wants to develop a list of all those in the church body that have their own businesses or services. If this describes you, please send in a business card or e-mail us your business information so we can "get the word out" on your behalf. A list will be published in each newsletter. This is advertising without cost! The contact information is on the back page of this newsletter.

JS & K Pumping Services

Concrete-Grout-Shotcrete

Locally owned and Operated in Payson

Jim & Sherry Rheinhardt

Office 928-468-0414

Cell 602-309-4077

Help Wanted Ads

Re-start our **Van Ministry**. Volunteers needed to re-start our Van Ministry. We are looking for **two adult drivers** and **two ride-a-longs**. Drivers must be 21 and have a clean driving record. Please contact the church office or Pastor Char at 474-1632.

Prayer Warriors needed—meet on Tuesday at 6:00p.m. in the Pacesetters Room.

Prison Ministry needs **pen-pals** for inmates. Contact Marga Cullumber 468-0149.

Assimilation program needs volunteers. Contact Mil Thornton 468-6086.

The church **nursery** needs **volunteers** for both services. Contact Charlene Bradford 474-1632 or Marianne Foster 978-5136.

Sunday school **teachers, substitutes** and **aides** are needed for all ages. Contact Charlene Bradford 474-1632 or the church office.

Some of you may know me. I am Dillon Walker, and I run a Web Design business out of my home. I have the most affordable prices in the Rim Country, and God knows we need it now! If you, or your business is in need of a website you can reach me with the contact information below. Thank you.

DMD Web Design

www.dmdwebdesign.net

Phone: 928-951-3649

E-Mail: dmwalker@dmdwebdesign.net

The **Payson Senior Center** has the following for sale:

1993 Ford 9 passenger Tram, w/wheelchair lift, 140,000 miles, asking price \$5,800.

1989 Ford, 12 passenger Van, 50,000 miles, asking price \$3,700.



Volunteers are needed in the **church office**. Contact Norma Peirce 468-2136 or the Church office 474-5890.

The **choir** needs you. Contact Diana Rushlow 478-0909.

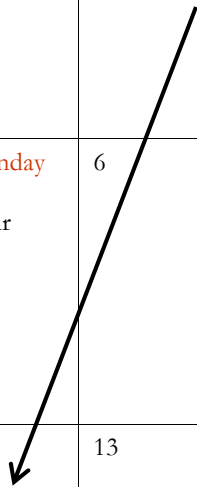
Youth Ministries need **adult volunteers**. Contact Pastor Richey 474-5890.

The **A.N.D.Y. Group** is looking for **Council members**. Please contact Sandy Van Vleet or Norma Peirce 474-5890.

Use your gifts and talents for God

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 3:45 Blue Level Quizzers 6:00 PM In His Image 6:00 Finance & Trustees	3 6:30 pm Passover Seder/ Rabbi Pastor Jack Zimmerman	4 8:00 All Church Cleaning Day 9:00 NMI Council 11:00 ANDY Council 1:00 Worship
5 Palm Sunday 5 pm Choir Practice	6	7 6:00 p.m. Bible Study at Thornton's 6:30 pm Prayer and Praise	8 8 am Ladies Prayer 3:00 pm Red Quizzing 4:30 to 5:30 Puppets 7 pm Imprint	9 3:45 Blue Level Quizzers 6:00 PM In His Image 6:00 pm Board Meeting	10 Good Friday 6:00 Good Friday Service/ In His Image	11 1:00 Worship Team
12 Easter Sunday 7 am Sunrise Service 9-9:45 am Continental Breakfast World Evangelism Easter Offering	13	14 6:00 pm Bible Study at Thornton's 6:30 pm Prayer and Praise	15 8 am Ladies Prayer 3:00 pm Red Quizzing 4:30 to 5:30 Puppets 7 pm Imprint Youth	16 3:45 Blue Level Quizzers 6:00 PM In His Image	17	18 District Children's Extrav/Quiz Meet Crossroads 1:00 Worship Team
19 Church Election Day 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 5 pm Choir Practice	20	21 6:00 p.m. Bible Study at Thornton's 6:30 pm Prayer and Praise	22 8 am Ladies Prayer 3:00 pm Red Quizzing 4:30 to 5:30 Puppets 7 pm Imprint Youth	23 3:45 Blue Level Quizzers 6:00 P.M. In His Image	24	25 Children's Region Quiz Meet/Pt Loma 11:30 Andy Gathering 1:00 Worship Team
26 Night: Annual Church Meeting 5 p.m. Choir Practice Let's Get Acq. 12:30	27	28 6:00 p.m. Bible Study at Thornton's 6:30 pm Prayer and Praise	29 8 am Ladies Prayer 3:00 pm Red Quizzing 4:30 to 5:30 Puppets 7 pm Imprint Youth	30 3:45 Blue Level Quizzers 6:00 P.M. In His Image		

10 am Combined Service/no evening service



DATES TO REMEMBER!

April 4, Church Clean Up Day! Be there! 8:00am. See Dillon Walker for more details.

Sunday, April 5—Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 12—Easter Sunday, 7am Sunrise Service

April 19, Annual Church Election—8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

April 26, Annual Church Meeting—6:00 pm.

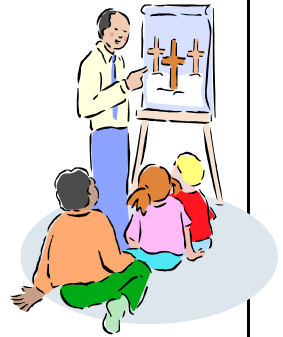
The A.N.D.Y.* Group

An adult ministry of
Payson First Church of the Nazarene
for those who* Ain't Nearly Done Yet

Coming Activity Dates

Gatherings:
April 25, at 11:30 a.m.
May 23, at 11:30 a.m.
June 27, at 11:30 a.m.

SAFE HAVEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Payson First Church of the Nazarene
Safe Haven Child Development Center
200 E. Tyler Pkwy Payson, AZ 85541
Call 928-474-5890 for information



From 7:30am to 6:00pm Mon-Fri, Safe Haven is a full service pre-school that provides parents with a safe, structured environment where children are influenced by God's love as they learn about the Bible and develop life skills.

Church Clean Up Day

We need your help on Church Clean Up Day! Come out and help your Church spruce up for Easter. We need yard tools for the outdoor clean up. Please see Dillon or Mil for more information.

Easter Offering

Please pray on what God would have you offer for the World Evangelism Fund on Easter Sunday.

Prayer and Encouragement!

Rim Quiz Kids, Current and future quiz meets.

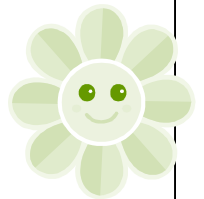
Imprint Youth Ministry, New leadership.

PNAZ office staff, changes and need.

PNAZ finance committee and board, financial hardships and support.

In His Image, new performances and involvement.

Therefore, let's keep on pursuing those things that bring peace and that lead to building up one another.
[Rom4:19]



April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays	
Sondi Hilgendorf	4
Mickie McCrocklin	5
Clifford Kelly	7
Ardis Moore	8
Janice Morgan	8
Shawn Hilgendorf	12
Betty Kauffroath	12
Ernie Hatcher	14
Esther Linkey	14
Jason Slaght	16
Carin Mendoza	20



Paulina Goodwin	21
Kathleen Phillips	23
Mary Jo Bradford	24
Hunter Horsley	24
Andrew Martinez	27
Dylan Slaght	28
Charles Van Vleet	28
Myrl C. Foster	29
Matthew Radick	29



Anniversaries	
Lee and Jody Brown	11

Church Information

C - Christlike Disciples of the Rim

A - A willingness to serve

R - Restoration

I - Individual attention

N - Networking the Family of God

G - Giving all to win some

Weekly Happenings

Mondays

6:00pm Puppet Ministry

Tuesdays

2:00pm Friendship Bible Study
(Fireside Espresso)

6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study
(at the Thornton's)

6:00pm Prayer and Praise
(Pacesetter's Room)

Wednesdays

8:00am Ladies Prayer

3:45pm Rim Quiz Kids-Red Level

7:00pm Imprint Youth Ministry

Thursdays

9:00am Craft Time with Wyleese

3:45 Rim Quiz Kids-Blue Level

6:00 In His Image, Drama Ministry

Saturdays

3:00pm Worship Team Practice

Our Ministry Team

Senior Pastor

Rich Richey

Youth Ministries Director

Pat Karlowski

Children's Pastor

Charlene Bradford

Church Secretary

Seeking New Position

Preschool Director

Don Certain

Worship Service Times

Traditional 9:00am

Sunday School 10:10am

Contemporary 11:10am

Family Celebration 6:00pm

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Payson First Church of the Nazarene

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POSTAGE



IN GOD WE TRUST



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