

Parkside Nazarene Church

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THE TRANSFORMING SPIRIT

By Frances Cooney

As the transforming spirit of Easter lingers with its message of renewal, knowledge of God's plan of salvation continues. The darkness of Good Friday is done. We are the redeemed.

I'm still in awe of Pastor Lain's Lenten sermon a few weeks ago. We may know the facts of the Crucifixion of Christ but hearing the event laid out as such brings in such a reality. The intensity of it can be felt vividly. The descent, surrender of power, status and more all seem to say that He was reduced to "NOTHING."

Then, as the wonderful words of a song would say "Then came the morning, night turned into day, the stone was rolled away..." It was finished, once and for all. PAID IN FULL! For Us!

My first memory of learning of God's plan of salvation came from a small rural church in Pa. I was a preteen but that lesson never left me though I failed to live up to it many times in my life. But I knew He was there. My Mom, sister and I walked the few miles to church at first. Then circumstances changed and I went alone. I was very shy but hungry for the Word. Regarding this hunger: Psalm 34:8 tells us "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

We were on a small farm. That meant horses, ponies, goats, chickens and more. Stray dogs were often dropped off in our valley. I fell in love with one. I wanted to sneak him food (strictly against the rules). I was not allowed to call him "my pet". I grieved his passing. I've had many pets since then but I've never forgotten him. Was happy when I found the passage in Psalm 36:6 "You, Lord preserve both people and animals." Some say animals do not need heaven. I'll just wait and see.

At one time I wanted to ask "what makes up a Christian?" I was referred to Oswald Chamber's Good reads. Word's came, "Like Olympic athletes, Christians are called upon to train, make sacrifices and to embrace certain disciplines in order to give God "our utmost for His highest." " Five of those disciplines are Bible Study, Prayer, Worship, Service and Stewardship." We know them by their love.

Dark times are not enlightening to talk about. But these times don't have to be deep dark. Worried about something or somebody is not pleasant and bill paying time is sometimes a stretch and health issues may head the list. I, like many others have experienced the quite dark, though I, not so recently. God is my helper against worry and unworthiness. There are so many Biblical suggestions for replacing negativity with optimism. The Lord is powerful in transforming and renewing our minds.

In closing, just a bit of frivolous, "the reason the back window of a car is smaller than the front is because we must drive ahead more than we back up." Isaiah 42:8 tells us "See, the former things have taken place and new things I declare." We must neither regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. We learn from it and move forward.

Soon spring and flowers and sun.

God is Good!



Weekly Services: (services are in person and online)

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Go to: www.facebook.com/parknaz/ or

[www.youtube.com Parkside Nazarene Church](http://www.youtube.com/ParksideNazareneChurch)

Life Groups are weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays!

Go to: <https://parknaz.org/ministry-news/> for details

The April Messenger Continued..

SIGNIFICANT APRIL DATES :

01: Easter Monday

01: April Fools Day

07: Communion Sunday



07: Finance Committee Meeting

14: Church Board Meeting

15: Tax Day



16: Gals w/Grace

20-21: Big Serve Weekend

28: Acts 2 Sunday

HELLO APRIL!



We are eagerly anticipating the Solar Eclipse scheduled for Monday, April 8! To mark this extraordinary celestial event, we will be hosting a Family Event, inviting all to witness and celebrate together. Stay tuned for further details as the date draws nearer.

Exciting news– Chapel is back in session! Pastor Kasey will be leading our classrooms every Thursday, with assistance from Miss Nancy as needed. Our classrooms are ready for this return.

Preparations for our PreK Graduation are well underway. We are thrilled to see what lies ahead for our Graduates as they embark on their journey to Kindergarten.

With the promise of warmer days and abundant sunshine ahead, we are ready to embrace the joys of spring.

If you have any questions, please contact Chery and/or Nancy in the school office.

April Birthdays

Sierra Long	8
Pastor Flack	8
Emily Laker	10
Isaac Szczepanski	16
Lily Szczepanski	16
Debby Kimmey	16
Barb Coon	18
Jylian Purtee	24

BIG SERVE WEEKEND



On **Saturday, April 20** we will be taking Baked Goods to our First Responders in the Westlake Police and Fire Departments. We will also be Blessing our neighbors at the Detroit Dover Laundromat by paying for their laundry washing/drying. There are/will be sign up sheets in the Foyer to volunteer to serve for this day. We will need bakers, deliverers and people at the laundromat to pass out the quarters! Please contact the Church Office with any questions.

SHARING OUR BUILDING



The Board has approved the Leasing of space inside Parkside Church to Aviva Nazarene Church. Aviva will be in the building on Sundays from 1-7 pm and Wednesdays from 7-9 pm. If you would like to schedule an event or activity, please contact Joanne in the Church Office to do so.

SMALL GROUPS

The **TUESDAY NIGHT*** Bible Study led by Pastor Kasey will study “Help My Unbelief” by Barnabas Piper. See Pastor Kasey for details on the start date and if you would like help obtaining a book.



If you would like to watch a promo/intro to the study go to:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=koLZExIbDjl>

You can look at and/or purchase the book on Amazon.

**Please note the Wednesday night Bible Studies have moved to Tuesdays.*