

April 2011 Shared Life of Old First Presbyterian Church

www.oldfirst.org and pcusa.org

Old First Photostream website -- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/oldfirst/>



April 3 – Name Tag Sunday Please make an extra effort to wear your name tag and to greet guests and members alike.

April 3 – Installation of Officers

Holy Week and Easter

Sunday, April 17

Palm/Passion Sunday

Thursday, April 21

Maundy Thursday – 6:00 p.m. – Seder meal with worship and communion.

Friday, April 22,

with Scripture readings, prayer, silence, and choral music.

Good Friday – 8:00 p.m. – **Tenebrae**, a Service of Shadows and Stones, with Scripture readings, prayer, silence, and choral music.

Saturday April 23

Easter Vigil Service for families with young children. 5:00 p.m.;

The Great Vigil of Easter, Grace Episcopal Cathedral, 9:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 24

Pancake Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall; 9:00-10:30

suggested donation:\$4.00

11:00 am

Worship Service of Resurrection and communion. One Great

Hour of Sharing offering collected.

No children's Sunday School Easter morning.

Shared Life Deadlines -- e-mail articles to molberg@earthlink.net

4 May issue – Sunday, April 10

4 June issue- Sunday, May 15

Lectionary

April 3 1 Sam.16:1-13; Ps. 23; Eph.5:8-14; John 9:1-41

April 10 Ezek.37:1-14; Ps 130;Rom.8:6-11; John 11:1-45

April 17 Palm Sunday Palms: Matt.21:1-11;Ps.118:1-2, 19-29;

Passion: Isa.50:4-9a; Ps.31:9-16;Phil.2:5-11; Matt.26:14-27:66 or Matt.27:11-54

April 22 Good Friday Isa. 52:13-53-53:12; Ps.22;Heb.10:16-25 or Heb. 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John

18:1-19:42

April 24 Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Jere.31:1-6; Ps.118-1-2; 14-24; Col.3:1-4 or Acts

10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matt.28:1-10; Isa.25:6-9; Ps.114; 1 Cor.5:6b-8;Luke 24:13-49

EASTER LILIES AND EASTER MUSIC. The Worship Committee invites you to add to the Easter Celebrations at Old First Presbyterian Church by making donations to help with the expenses of providing either Easter lilies for the sanctuary or music for the Easter Service. All orders must be received by Sunday, April 10. Make your check out to OFPC and please note that it is for either lilies OR music. Please send a check and the form included in the Sunday Bulletins to the church office 1751 Sacramento Street, SF 94109 by Monday April 11th. Suggested contribution is \$10-15 for EACH gift.

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Maggi's Musings

I encourage you once again to delve deeply into our Lenten theme of Tread Lightly in Lent. I dream that this won't be a theme that is lightly passed over, but that with thought and prayer we, as a congregation and as individuals, can reflect on what material things have a hold on us and get in the way of following God and of hearing God's charge to be good stewards of His creation and compassionate brothers and sisters to all of God's people. Can we truly learn to live being fed by the word of God as we follow Christ in 2011? I hope this Lenten season will be a beginning; that the church will claim your own vision; that programs for the greening of OFPC and for our care for creation will grow. Take time to read the prayers and poems in the bulletin each Sunday; be committed to the Sunday all-church-themes; read and use the Lent Daily Readings and Lenten Devotions. May God grow anew in our hearts this Easter!

On a more practical level, I am glad to introduce you to our new Church Office Administer, Brad Peterson. The personal committee looked a number of well-qualified candidates but Brad just stood out. He comes to us a wonderful set of skills and experiences. He has ten years of experience as a church office manager, has been a property manager and has background in computer and technology, communications and worship. Brad is a people person with a kind spirit. He combines the inquisitive mind of a scholar with a sense of humor. Brad shares: "*I am well acquainted with – and fond of – the Presbyterian Church (USA), its history and its Book of Order. I have taken the course on Presbyterian history and polity at San Francisco Theological Seminary and my own master's degree was earned at the then Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia.*" I invite you to welcome Brad into the life and ministry of Old First Presbyterian Church.

Peace, Maggi



Treading Lightly During Lent All Church Sunday Themes

4th Sunday in Lent April 3 Carpool, bike or take the bus to worship!

5th Sunday in Lent April 10th Paper Free Sunday, No paper bulletin

Palm/Passion Sunday April 17th Eco Palms

LENT DAILY READINGS: TREADING LIGHTLY IN LENT

April 1 As much as possible, eat local produce that is in season. Food that is out of season often travels hundreds or thousands of miles to get to you, using large amounts of fossil fuels for transportation. Go to a new farmers market this week.

April 2 Do some spring cleaning today and give unneeded items to a local ministry for reuse. You can give your items to Community Thrift www.communitythriftsf.org and ask that Welcome be credited with your donation. If you need a new item or clothing, buy second hand.

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April 3 Pick up trash in your neighborhood or as you walk to work or school.

April 4 Find ways to reduce your use of paper: [stop unneeded catalogs](#), www.catalogchoice.org request online billing, and that companies stop sending you junk mail.

April 5 Wash clothes with a full load and use cold water. Washing full loads can save 3,400 gallons of water a year. Heating water accounts for 90% of the energy your washing machine uses.⁷

April 6 Learn about conflict minerals that are sometimes used in electronics. Find places that responsibly recycle electronics, and [learn which companies are concerned about conflict minerals](#), www.earth911.com/news/2010/08/03 new-legislation-monitors-conflict-minerals-in-gadgets.

April 7th Check your tire pressure to be sure that your tires are properly inflated. Properly inflated tires can improve your gas mileage by 3.3%.⁸

April 8th Buy coffee from the [Presbyterian Coffee Project](#). www.gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/enough/Presbyterian-coffee-project through Equal Exchange through our Peace and Justice Committee. This coffee is raised in a sustainable manner and farmers are paid a fair price. Don't forget the have tea and chocolate also! They make great Easter basket treats!

April 9 If you have some garden space use [low impact landscaping and using native plants](#), <http://www.plantnative.org/> Stop using pesticides and herbicides, which damage water quality. Take on caring for the biblical garden in the Fellowship Hall. What biblical garden you say? Look around and see if you can locate this treasure.

April 10 Enjoy a paper free Sunday at Old First! Worship is more than the bulletin.

April 11 Switch to non-toxic cleaning products like baking soda. This is eco-friendly, healthier for you, and cheaper. [Learn more](#), www.eartheasy.com/live_nontoxic_solutions

April 12 Take a shorter shower today. Make this a routine and buy a low flow showerhead. Older showers use 7 gallons of water a minute, versus 2.5 gallons a minute for low flow models.⁹ Brownies Hardware has lots of options!

April 13 Reduce your global footprint by purchasing all the food and other items you need this week in your local neighborhood or in the Old First's Polk street neighborhood

April 14 End "phantom" loads: use a power strip to turn off electronics that use energy even when they are off, like TVs, DVD players, and computers. Unplug cell phone chargers when they are not in use.

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April 15 Learn about the Presbyterian Hunger Program's Campaign for Fair Food and ask groceries to address exploitative wages and [working conditions for farm workers](http://www.gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/fairfood/), www.gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/fairfood/

April 16 April 17 Take a walk outside and pay attention to the entire green growing thing and give thanks as you experience God's creation. Find resources for incorporating earth care into your worship from the [Web of Creation](http://www.webofcreation.org/Worship/resources.htm) <http://www.webofcreation.org/Worship/resources.htm>

April 18 Help reduce the number— approximately 100 billion— of single use plastic bags used each year in the U.S.¹⁰ Remember to carry your reusable bags with you.

April 19 Never dump anything down a storm drain, and [find a proper disposal site](http://earth911.com/recycling/hazardous/), <http://earth911.com/recycling/hazardous/>, for household hazardous wastes like paints, motor oil and pesticides.

April 20 Take action to end the root causes of Hunger, many of which are linked to environmental justice issues. Visit the [Presbyterian Hunger Program Take Action page](http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/hunger/take-action/) <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/hunger/take-action/>

April 21 Check your doors and windows for leaks with a ribbon or feather and add weather stripping if necessary. [Learn more about home sealing](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=diy.diy_index). http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=diy.diy_index

April 22 Compost all your food scraps and other compostable items this week! Stand by the compost can and garbage can on a Sunday at Fellowship Hour and encourages people to make thoughtful choices.

April 23 Contemplate the environmental lifestyle changes that you have made throughout Lent, and make a plan to integrate these into your life after in the long-term. Share about your journey with friends and family.

Palm Sunday Palms-Our choices can make a difference to local economies and on a global scale like when think about our choices like Eco Palms. OFPC has encouraged six local churches to order their Palm Sunday palms with us this year so each church can make a difference and educate their congregations' sustainable choices that care for God's creation and God's people.

ECO-PALMS-A Healthier Harvest

In Guatemala and Mexico, an effort is underway to develop a new structure for harvesting palms that protects the environment and also provides a fair income for the harvesters of the palms. Called Eco-Palms, the palms are harvested in a more sustainable way, whereby the harvesters are paid on the quality of the palms they harvest rather than the quantity, which helps to limit the amount of palms taken from the forest. These communities have taken upon themselves to learn about harvesting practices that minimize impact on the natural forest where the palm grows, and ways to protect this wild species of palm.

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In fact, in Guatemala, the palm harvesters have received SmartWood certification from the Rainforest Alliance, a "seal of approval" that ensures consumers that the wood products they purchase come from forests managed to conserve biodiversity and support local communities. In some areas where the waste ratio reached as high as 50% before, now the discarded palms count for only 5-7% of the harvested volume. And, rather than sending the harvested palms off to a distant warehouse for sorting and packaging, the community members complete those tasks themselves and sell their palms directly rather than relying on middlemen-ensuring that more of the money paid for the palms actually goes to those who worked the hardest to provide them.

When done in a socially and environmentally just way, palm gathering protects valuable natural forests. Steady markets for palm prevent the forest from being destroyed for other uses. Eco-Palms protect the unique and important biodiversity of the region and maintain the local communities' standard of living.

Easter Sunday Morning April 24, 2011

Easter Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Join us for Easter Sunday Breakfast! This opportunity for fellowship allows for coming together to enjoy pancakes from Sears as well as the delicious accompaniments (syrup, butter, fruit toppings) and bacon/sausage too! This is an opportunity for members and visitors to nourish themselves before the Sunday worship services and celebration of Christ's resurrection! Suggested donation \$4.00. For information on volunteering, providing an extra griddle, setup, or cleanup, please contact Bob Hermann, Elder Chair of Community Building Committee at bobhermann@aol.com, or any of the other volunteers on the CBC team!

DUST OFF YOUR VOCAL CORDS AND YOUR MESSIAH SCORE!

The Old First Choir will be singing the renowned *Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's *Messiah* during the Offertory on Easter Sunday morning and we would love for YOU to join us in the choir loft. We did this about 5 years ago and many of you came up and sang this joyous anthem. There will be a run through at 10:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday morning with everyone, including the trumpets! I hope to HEAR you there. Scores will be provided.

Dr. Jay Pierson

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Easter 2011

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent.

Of particular urgency now is the outreach by **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**. PDA stands ready to respond to needs from the 9.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Japan and the ensuing tsunamis across the Pacific rim. PC(USA) has mission partners in Japan. World Mission is contacting mission co-workers, partner organizations and churches and will offer updated

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information as available. Read about the status of coworkers and updates from partners on the “World Mission Japan” page.

PDA staff and National Response Team members are contacting potentially affected presbyteries to offer assistance and prepare for potential impacts. ACT Alliance reports that the Pacific Islands are highly vulnerable and most of them will be touched by the tidal waves. Read reports as they become available, and find resources on the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami index. Denominational leaders have issued a Call to Prayer for those impacted by the earthquake and tsunami.

The PC(USA) **Presbyterian Hunger Program** is excited to work with the “Let’s Move Initiative” because of our commitment to ending childhood poverty, hunger and obesity. Poverty in a world of abundance is an intolerable violation of God's good creation, and hunger and obesity are symptoms of such poverty. PHP and “Let’s Move” are dedicated to solving the problem of childhood obesity in a generation so that kids born today will grow up healthier and able to pursue their dreams. Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates in America have tripled. Today, almost one in every three children in our nation is overweight or obese. The numbers are even higher in African American and Hispanic communities where nearly 40% of the children are overweight or obese. Rates are estimated to be even higher in American Indian/Alaska Native communities. If this problem isn’t solved, one-third of all children born in 2000 or later will suffer from diabetes at some point in their lives. Many others will face chronic obesity-related health problems like heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer and asthma.

The Presbyterian Committee on the **Self-Development of People** has approved grants totaling \$261,255 to 14 self-help projects in the United States. Projects range from assisting low-income Hispanic women address poverty through a sewing program to a group of ex-offenders who have been trained in building construction and repair. SDOP enables members and non-members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to form partnerships with economically poor, oppressed and disadvantaged people in order to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

♀Interfaith Faith Food Pantry at Old First Needs Your Help.♀

Old First is committed to hosting the food pantry every 6th Saturday, plus an additional Saturday when the six churches providing this mission service join together.

This is an easy, no advance training needed service that offers a great team building opportunity for you and your colleagues, and wonderful service project for teens and whole families. It’s also a great way to spend quality time with, and get to know, OFPC better.

We’ve been serving over 260 persons in need each Saturday, from 9 a.m. To 11 a.m. out of the Munro Room. We need volunteers to come at 7:30 to help bring in the delivered food in (you’ll have a chance to mix and meet new friends before the doors open). Free parking is available at the Old First Garage.

Upcoming Saturdays throughout 2011 on which OFPC needs to gather 18-20 hands: March 19 and March 7; May 18; June 6; August 17; September 29; October 17; December 10.

Saturdays on which OFPC needs to provide 4 helpers: April 30; May 28; July 30; September 3, October 22, and December 10.

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I hope that you're ready. Please send me an email at Foodpantry@ofpc.org, letting me know which days works for you, or if you have any questions. With many thanks for your consideration - Joy Crosser (volunteer coordinator)

Vacuum Cleaner and Microwave Needed:

If anyone has an extra vacuum cleaner and/or small simple to use microwave that could be donated, would you please notify Heather Losee or Pam Free? These items are needed for a member of our church. They need to be in working order and can be picked up if necessary. Thank you. Heather Losee and Pam Free

What a great experience from Harriet McLean on the "Cookies for Cops" venture!

It was such a pleasure to carry four Safeway bags crammed full of treats to each of the two SFPD stations that serve us. I so enjoyed telling the officers who greeted me what I was bringing, which church OFC is and where we are located, and how we wanted to thank our police for all they do. They were so surprised (almost incredulous at Northern!) and SO happy once they grasped what was happening. I'd do it again in a second! In fact, I claim this job in perpetuity. (I have dibs - ha ha!) HRM

Greetings from Summer intern Arlo Jones

I miss Old First Presbyterian Church very much! I am working on finishing my last semester at Columbia Theological Seminary and I am anxious and excited to see where God will lead me next. The classes I am taking this semester are World Christianity, Christianity in American, Reformed Theology and Worship, as well as a full unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). For CPE I am serving as a chaplain intern at Saint Joseph's Hospital on the oncology wing. Saint Joseph's Hospital is a catholic hospital that specializes in oncology, and heart surgery. I am learning a great deal at Saint Joseph's about myself, being present with people, and what it means to be a minister. I am planning on moving back to San Diego to meet with my Presbytery at the end of the summer and then I hope to be called to a Church. I think of everyone at Old First Presbyterian Church often and I am so thankful to Old First Presbyterian for shaping me and my understanding of my call. God bless!



Message from Community Building Committee

As part of our community outreach at Old First, we are continually renewing and refreshing opportunities for various avenues of church life communications. Our Community Building Committee is keenly aware of being good financial stewards while continuing to foster this aspect in the life of the church.

Our Shared Life Newsletter provides rich insights to the life of the church, from calendar events to member birthdays to articles written by Pastor Maggi and members alike. This provides a way for Old First to keep in touch with members and visitors who are near and far.

We make the newsletter available to members through a variety of options again providing a flexible approach to our members and visitors. The "ask" of each of you is to ensure you provide our church administration with your current address and email information **and** that your preferred method to receive Shared Life **is accurate**. Your help in keeping records accurate will

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help keep these costs down and manageable.

☐ Current ways to receive the shared life include:

- a) Online version of Shared Life is on the church website version at: www.oldfirst.org for the last year. Historical copies that are not stored online can easily be retrieved from the archives we maintain.
- b) United States Postal Service mail (USPS) is dependent on the right address information we have on record. If you have moved and changed your address please let the church office know.
- c) E-mail copy of Shared Life can also be done, but again, this is dependent on the right email address. The emailed version is in a PDF file that makes the attachment process easy and provides a unified format that can be read from a variety of computerized platforms (Window, Macintosh, etc.)
- d) Limited copies are placed in the Narthex and outside the Social Hall primarily for visitors.

Again your help in clarifying your method of receiving Shared Life is important in helping us consider how money can be saved and help other committees in our church. Respectfully submitted, Bob Hermann, Elder Chair Community Building Committee.

Disaster Relief--Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

Presbyterians have been in Japan since 1859. All our nine mission co-workers and their families are safe. You can hear first hand reflections by visiting www.pcusa.org. PDA stands ready to respond to needs from the 9.00 magnitude earthquake that struck Japan and the ensuing tsunamis across the Pacific Rim. Donna Derr, director of Church World Service's development and humanitarian programs, said: "Japan is obviously a country of substantive resources and a construction industry that is renowned and the country has been on the cutting edge of building earthquake-resistant housing. As such, this bodes well for them being able to manage a pretty effective recovery over time themselves." ACT Alliance reports that the Pacific Islands are highly vulnerable and most of them will be touched by the tidal waves. ACT general secretary John Nduna said: "We are deeply concerned about the most vulnerable countries and their people, and we are monitoring the situation closely so that ACT Alliance can direct its resources to where they are most needed, as quickly as possible".

A gift for disaster relief supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering to enable a significant response for relief and disasters in Japan. Your faithful giving is deeply appreciated. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). You can make a check out to Old First and designate to Japan Relief or by calling PresbyTel at 800-872-3283, on the [secure PC\(USA\) Web site www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org), or by sending a check to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P.O. Box 643700 ☐ Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. ☐

Please refer to the on-line version of Shared Life for information on Summer Camps program at Westminster Wood.



Old First Concerts - \$17 general admission, www.oldfirstconcerts.org

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Friday, April 1, at 8:00 pm The Del Sol String Quartet

Kate Stenberg, *violin*; Rick Shinozaki, *violin*; Charlton Lee, *viola*; Kathryn Bates Williams, *'cello*. Works by: Zhou Long; R. Murray Shafer; Sally Beamish; Elena Kats-Chernin; Ben Johnson, Reza Vali

Sunday, April 3, at 4:00 pm Melodiya Chamber Ensemble

Sergey Rakitchenkov, *viola*; Arkady Serper, *piano* Works by Bach, Beethoven, and Kodály

Friday, April 8, at 8:00 pm HEAR HERE

Music Illuminated: an evening of new compositions and video-art. Travis Andrews, *mandolin & electric guitar*; Andrew Meyerson, *percussion*; Alexis Alrich, *piano*; Karla Avila, *clarinet*; Regina Schaffer, *piano*. Works by Alexis Alrich, Dan Becker, Clark Suprynowicz; Michael Kaulkin and Belinda Reynolds

Sunday, April 10, at 4:00 pm

Namik Sultanov, *piano*. Works by Medtner; Brahms; Ravel; Qaraev; Dadashov and Rachmaninoff

Sunday, April 17, 4:00 pm

Hadley McCarroll, *piano*. Works by Bartók; Schumann; Ligeti; Liszt and Beethoven

Friday, April 29, 8:00 pm Ives Quartet

Bettina Mussumeli, *violin*; Susan Freier, *violin*; Jodi Levitz, *viola*; Stephen Harrison, *'cello*. Works by Haydn; Armer, and Dvorák

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The Officers of Old First Church

Deacons - **Nina Berg**, Treasurer, Communion Clean Up, Funding Requests; Tracy **Clagett**, prayer coordinator; Dan **Joraanstad**; **Craig Kehne**, Coffee Hour; **Diane Lewis**, **Funding** Requests; Harriet **MacClean**, Nominating Committee Representative, Memorial Receptions & Meal Coordination; Dana **Nojima**, Merchandise Sales; **Glen Potter**, Transportation; **Annie Scott Rogers**, Prayer Chain Coordination; **Oliver Spencer**, Special Events & Community Outreach; **Priscilla Yu**, Memorial Receptions & Meal Coordination

Elders - **George Becker**, Personnel, **Michael Berg**, Stewardship, Mission & Giving, **Christopher Burt**, **Saskia de Vries**, Worship, **Gregory P. Free**; **Kristi Hoerauf**, Finance, **Sidney Hollar**, Christian Education, **Jeanne Kirkwood**, Clerk of Session, **Mary E. Russell**, Stewardship, Mission & Giving, **John Sebastian**, Planning, **Steve Taber**, Operations, **George Yu**, Christian Education.