



The Grapevine



He is Risen

Join us this Easter Season - Schedule of Easter Events

Palm/Passion Sunday	April 10	10a.m.
Maundy Thursday	April 14	6:30p.m.
Easter Sunday	April 17	
7:00a.m. at Palma Sola Botanical Park		
10a.m. Sanctuary feat. the Bell Choir & Chancel Choir		

Easter's Refrain

Reverend Edward Dunn

In planning for Easter, I am drawn to the familiar hymns like Jesus Christ is Risen Today or The Day of Resurrection in whose words we hear the joyful news that Christ has been raised from the dead. They are the corporate testimony of the Church to Christ's resurrection, but are there more recent hymns that speak Easter's message? Of course there are...

One such hymn is found in the Presbyterian hymnal, Glory to God, and titled Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers.

*Christ has risen while earth slumbers; Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.*

*Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!*

*Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save;
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.*

He whose word inspires creation can't be silenced by the tomb.

*Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.*

*Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been:
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.*

The words of this hymn were written in 1988 and added to an old Welsh tune (Suo Gan). I find them to be powerfully and astonishingly different from the “classic” Easter hymn. I like the testimony it gives to the ongoing power of Christ’s resurrection to challenge and to change. I take encouragement that Christ has risen for those whose lives are perfect and for those whose lives are imperfect; that the Easter parade isn’t a showy pageant but a march of a ragtag people sometimes in step but more often out of step; a journey that includes those who have it together and those who have no idea what’s happening.

The phrases of this hymn remind us that Easter’s refrain is to those “*whose lives are messed or mangled*” and “*all who find religion strange*”. Easter’s refrain is for the certain and the uncertain alike. The angels who greet shepherds watching their flocks by night and who announce to the women at the tomb that “he is not here” declare what we know to be “good news” for all the people.

The first Easter day began in fear: a day in which the lives of those who followed Jesus were messed and mangled; a day of mourning and sadness and uncertainty. When the news arrived that the tomb where his body had been placed was empty, some could not believe it – the news about Jesus’ resurrection was just too strange. What began in fear is transformed into joy when he appeared to the disciples and became their good news to us two thousand years later.

Who will you encounter who needs to hear Easter’s refrain this month? Who will you meet whose lives seem to be messed and mangled by circumstances of their own making or by conditions the world has placed on them? My prayer for our congregation is that God will make us the *evidence of transformation* in which God is known and seen as we proclaim and demonstrate Easter’s refrain:

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

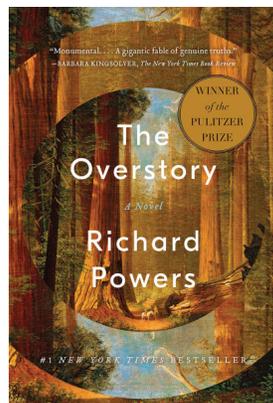
Blessings,
Edward

Ash Wednesday Service Photos



Volunteers Needed
Please call 941-792-3141 for details.

Palma Sola Book Club



APR 11 | 12 - 1PM MAY 9 | 12 - 1PM

Join in any second Monday at 12pm in the library or on Zoom for fun conversation. Find the book selected for the month in our book list.

[View 2022 Book List Here](#)

For more information, call Vicki Schooley at (941) 518-2315.

Men's Group



MEN'S GROUP

You're invited to attend the Morning Men's Group. Get to know the men you see in church. Share your story.

Meetings start at 8:30AM

APR 7 - Fellowship and breakfast at Poppi's

Place restaurant, at an outside table

APR 21 - Fellowship and Christian topic discussions, outdoors on campus

Attend one or both gatherings each

Please contact Ron Dickerson (941) 792-9104 for information

Palma Sola Session Highlights

- Met with Paul Grier from the Presbyterian Foundation to discuss how nesting is going, test the current interest and energy for pursuing a merger and consider future steps.
- Approved holding a Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30 pm on April 14th and an Easter Sunrise Service at Palma Sola Botanical Park at 7:00 am on April 17th.
- Decided to meet in-person at the church at 6:30 pm for future Session meetings.



**JOIN US SUNDAYS FOR
VIRTUAL FELLOWSHIP**

11:30am on Zoom

[CLICK HERE](#)

**CHANCEL CHOIR
REHEARSALS**

WEDNESDAYS AT 7P IN THE SANCTUARY

BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

WEDNESDAYS AT 6P IN THE SANCTUARY





We are a Certified Earth Care Congregation!

“Congratulations on certification as an Earth Care Congregation! The steps your congregation has taken to care for God’s earth are inspiring!”
— 3/14/22 message from Presbyterian Hunger Program

What is this? Earth Care Congregations is structured certification program that guides PS(USA) churches to answer God’s call to care for creation. Earth Care Congregations have committed to the Earth Care Pledge and accomplished a specific number of actions toward caring for Earth in four areas: worship, education, facilities, and outreach. The Presbyterian Hunger Program sponsors it because the areas of hunger, poverty, and environmental destruction interact and impact each other worldwide.

Churches can be recertified each year during an annual application period, January 1—February 15.

How did we qualify for initial certification? Over years we have been shifting to energy efficient appliances and lighting. Despite having no county recycling services, church volunteers have been recycling paper, and last year we added recycling of glass, aluminum and plastic. We hold an annual outdoor worship service, practice re-use of materials through our donations of warm wear and books to Turning Points, and share our building with other organizations.

During the pandemic we also tried new things: used less paper, held classes outdoors, and joined together for outings in nature. When we replaced our roof last year, we installed shingles that meet the country’s highest standard for reducing wasteful and unnecessary building energy consumption. And more—done through the combined efforts of Palma Sola and Westminster.

What is our plan for 2022? The primary focus is reducing our waste, actions that will be highly visible to members, friends, visitors, and partners and set a positive example for us all. A key project is using our metal cutlery and Corelle mugs when cutlery and cups are needed, an initial step in reducing our use of unrecyclable disposables. A log sheet in the kitchen is being used to record our progress, and also capture how much we recycle.

Three operating teams—Renewal, Property & Grounds, and Outreach & Missions—will be taking additional actions. These are: incorporating more earth care hymns, prayers, and readings into our worship services, further reducing the energy we use for lighting, and hosting an earth care guest speaker or program. Volunteers will also be presenting Minutes-for-Mission on earth care topics.

How can I personally contribute? Look for and use designated separate places for recyclables, reusable dishware, and leftover waste items that you use while on campus. Read earth care information in The Cluster, The Grapevine, and on our website, and begin adopting new practices. Offer ideas for new ways we can help care for Earth, including local environmental issues that we might take a stand on.

Welcome to the adventure of being an Earth Care Congregation! We are embarking on a process of gradual change in practices and habits to grow as an Earth Care Congregation.

April Outreach Update

We marched right through March by keeping the service going in our community and beyond. YOU donated money for **Our Daily Bread**, YOU purchased toiletries for **Mision Peniel**, YOU packed 2800 packets of seeds for **HOPE SEEDS** and YOU contributed to **F.E.L.T.** (feeding empty little tummies). YOU also showed up to the Spring Spruce Up to beautify the front entrance of the church. Several of YOU have joined the **Holy Strollers** and enjoyed nature and thanked God for His blessing of a beautiful earth while walking in Robinson's Preserve and Palma Sola Botanical Gardens on Friday mornings at 9:00.

- January/February/March Outreach Offering to Our Daily Bread = \$1554
- First quarter collections for FELT = 202.50

Here are some opportunities for April:

- Outreach Offering for *April* will be for **One Great Hour of Sharing**.
- April D.O.E.S. IT will be “**Sock It To Me Sunday**” collecting socks for **Turning Points**.
- **MindSet Classes** will be held April 4th and 5th to learn strategies for brain health and memory.
- **Meet and Greet our Pen Pals** from Palma Sola Elementary School on Wednesday April 20th from 10-11AM. Meet at the school and join the second grade students in the court yard for refreshments and socializing.
- Join the **Holy Strollers** on Fridays at 9 at the north entrance to **Robinson's Preserve** to walk and give thanks for nature.
- **Earth Day Matinee** on Friday 4/22(Earth Day) at 2:00PM to view “Earth: One Amazing Day”.

A big “thank you” to Don and Linda Azbell for their years of service on the Outreach Committee. Their commitment, love and laughs will be missed. They are moving to Texas to be with family for their next life's chapter.

Happy Spring!

PEN PAL PARTY:

APRIL 20 | 10 - 12 PM

PALMA SOLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*You may want to carpool, as parking is limited. Be on time, as we have a limited time to visit with our pen pals

April DOES It! - Sock it to me Sundays!

Our DOES It (Done On Every Sunday) project for April is collecting socks for clients of Turning Points in Bradenton. Any variety of new or gently used socks in all sizes for men, women, and children are needed. Socks are the single most requested item by homeless people and others in need, so drop your donations in the bin in the Narthex or bring them to the church office by April 24th and help make a difference in your local community.



April Outreach Offering

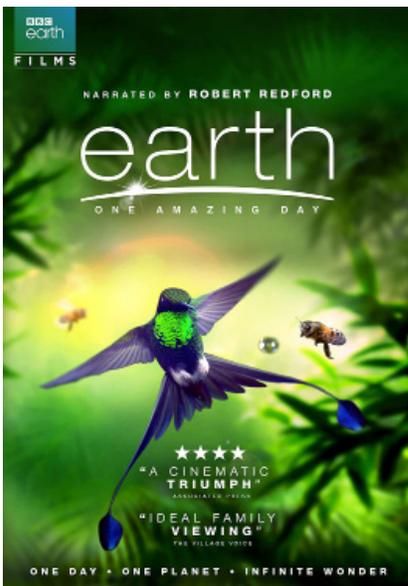
Our Outreach Offering for April will go to Presbyterian Mission Agency's One Great Hour of Sharing. Proceeds support three PC(USA) programs providing people with safety, sustenance, and hope: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Currently, emergency relief funds from PDA are being sent to Ukraine to aid in the humanitarian crisis there.

You may donate to One Great Hour of Sharing:

- during the worship service, in your offering envelope,
- by mailing a check to the church office with "OGHS" in the memo line, or
- Palma Sola members may also contribute through [online giving](#)



Classroom Supplies Collected
for the February DOES IT



Earth Day Matinee

Friday, April 22nd | 2 pm in Fellowship Hall.

You are invited to celebrate Earth Day and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and fun with an free matinee on. Join us for a showing of the movie *Earth: One Amazing Day*, which follows the sun across the world over the course of one day. From the highest mountains to the remotest islands to exotic jungles, *Earth: One Amazing Day* highlights how every day is filled with more wonders that you can possibly imagine. Snacks and drinks will be available and the event is free and open to the community. Hope to see you there!

Hope Seeds - Thank you!

Thanks to all who supported our Spring Hope Seeds Packing event on Friday, March 25th!

Nineteen volunteers packed 2800 packages of eggplant seeds that will be sent to Haiti. Many children, families, and other organizations will benefit from your generosity.



Holy Strollers





Crop Hunger Walk

Spring Spruce Up - Thank you!

A BIG thank you to everyone who came out to help spruce-up the front flower beds of the church on Saturday, March 19th! Twelve hardworking volunteers weeded, trimmed, raked and mulched to prepare the church grounds for the Easter season. It was lovely morning of fellowship and fun, and a feeling of accomplishment was had by all.



March Birthdays & Anniversaries

APR 1 Chuck & Bev Danley
Andrea & Lee Harmon
APR 4 Janice Jarrell
APR 5 Mark Wolf
APR 6 John Crowell
Chris Hauser
APR 7 Carol MacFarlane
Carolyn Reynolds
APR 10 Myrna Adams
Peter Sokolich
APR 12 Marilyn George
APR 15 Edith Onugha

APR 19 Lois Swallow
Kay Lee
APR 20 Bev Banks
APR 21 Toby Chinwuba
Alease Hamilton
Kathy Muscatell
APR 26 Tim & Amy Pedon
APR 27 Joan Carlson
Chris James
APR 28 Robert Felix
Russ Montano

**HOLY STROLLERS
WALKING GROUP**



**JOIN US ON A WEEKLY STROLL
TO GET SOME FRESH AIR**

EVERY FRIDAY | 9AM

**ROBINSON PRESERVE
(NORTH ENTRANCE)**



Palma Sola Presbyterian Church
- March Newsletter 2022 -

**6510 3rd Ave W.
Bradenton, FL 34209
941-792-3141
pspchurch.org**

Westminster Presbyterian Church
- March Newsletter 2022 -

**6510 3rd Ave W.
Bradenton, FL 34209
941-748-2848
wpcbradenton.com**

APRIL

2022

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

					1 Holy Strollers - 9a Robinson Preserve	2
3 Worship Service - 10am (Communion) Zoom Fellowship 11:30a Westminster Congregational Meeting - 11:30a	4 Mindset Class 9:30a	5 Mindset Class 9:30a Outreach Team 3pm Renewal Team 6:30P	6 Lenten Lunch 11:45a Bell Choir - 6p Chancel Choir - 7p	7 Morning Men's Group 8:30a inviting Church Study -6:30pm	8 Holy Strollers - 9a Robinson Preserve	9
10 Worship Service - 10am Zoom Fellowship 11:30a	11 Palma Sola Book Club - 12p	12	13 Bell Choir - 6p Chancel Choir - 7p	14 Resources Team - 11a FINANCE TEAM 3:30P Maundy Thursday Service - 6:30p	15 Good Friday Holy Strollers - 9a Robinson Preserve	16
17 Sunrise Service - 7am (Botanical Park) Easter Sunday Service - 10am Zoom Fellowship 11:30a	18 WPC SESSION 1pm PSPC SESSION 6:30pm	19	20 Pen Pal Party 10a Bell Choir - 6p Chancel Choir - 7p	21 Morning Men's Group 8:30a	22 Newsletter Input Deadline Holy Strollers - 9a Robinson Preserve Earth Day Matinee 2P	23
24 Worship Service - 10am Zoom Fellowship 11:30a	25	26	27 Bell Choir - 6p Chancel Choir - 7p	28	29 Holy Strollers - 9a Robinson Preserve	30

Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday | 9am - 4pm

View the online church [Calendar](#) for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at [Online Worship](#).