

April 2009

Happenings

First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena

This Changes Everything

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PazNaz

TEACHING PARENTING THE POSITIVE DISCIPLINE WAY

with emphasis on the Christian Home

A Two-Day Training for Parent Educators
HOST: JOE WHITCOMB, Marriage and Family Therapist

Saturdays, May 2 and 9
 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
 Room 249, Reed Hall

Cost:
 \$330
 Early Bird Rate:
 \$295 (if paid by April 2)

Contact Jan Morris at 626.351.2420 or
jmorris@paznaz.org
with questions
or to sign up.



Some days the task seems bigger than you thought.

Easter Offering

Sunday, April 12

Give that others might hear the good news.



● In this Issue



This Changes Everything

6

Pastor Scott Daniels discusses the power of the cross to conquer death with love.



Happenings is a magazine publication of First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena (PazNaz). It is designed to highlight the Church's ministries and activities. For a complete overview of PazNaz, beliefs, and ministries, please visit the website at www.paznaz.org.

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● *In His Image: Special Needs Ministries*

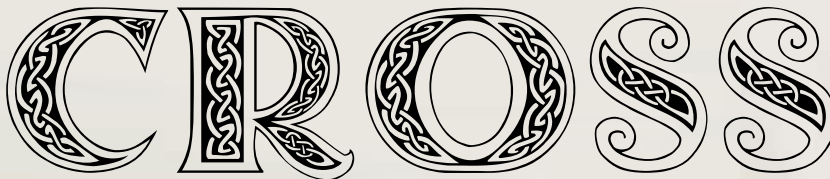


Pastor Julie Keith

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REFLECTING on the



April is a significant month for all of us who claim the title of Christian and are followers of Jesus. During this month we will be ending the Lent season with many special services designed to focus our attention on Jesus and the cross with a celebration on Easter Sunday. What a great celebration to participate in and reflect on the fact that Jesus gave his life to build a bridge between God and mankind.

During the weeks leading up to Easter,

PazNaz's special needs adult group, Oasis, has been going through a study of the last week in the life of Jesus. As I prepared these lessons I was drawn once again to who Jesus was and is. He came and showed a different way of living. His life and message was one of love, compassion, forgiveness, and grace to a broken and hurting world. This message has not changed. Jesus still desires for his people to love each other, to be in the world but not of it. Jesus was no respecter of persons. He came for all people and desires that all people love and serve Him.

As you enter into this Easter season think about the reasons to celebrate. What great joy and hope everyone has.

- Pastor Julie Keith

Parent Connections and Sibshops

April 18 at 6:00 pm

You are invited to be a part of the Parent Connections support group and Sibshops on April 18. Sibshops is located in Room 122, Arms Hall and Parent Connections in Room 246, Reed Hall. Special needs childcare is available in Room 123 of Arms Hall.

Don't miss this great opportunity to come and receive support and encouragement, as well as to reconnect with friends who share the joys and trials of raising a special needs child. Siblings are encouraged to come to Sibshops where they can connect with other siblings. For more information or to RSVP for childcare, contact Rubina at rubinah@paznaz.org or 626.351.2478.

*Easter Sunday: There will be no 9:15 am Sunday school classes or Oasis. Usual programming will continue during church hour.

Children's Classes

Sundays at 9:15 am and 10:30 am
Inclusion Classes

Students have the opportunity to participate in a classroom with their peers. A volunteer will be assigned to children or youth who need assistance based on availability of volunteers. Contact Pastor Julie Keith for inclusion placement.

Special Education Classroom
Rooms 122 & 123, Arms Hall

These classrooms use an adapted Bible curriculum for special needs children. Participants learn in a safe and supportive environment geared towards their own special needs.

Oasis Adult Ministry

Sundays at 9:15 am
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
Room 115, Lower Sanctuary

Oasis is a time of fellowship, Bible study, and connection for teens and adults with special needs. Please come, bring a friend, and study the parables of Jesus.

April is Autism Awareness Month!



Saturday, April 25
at the Rose Bowl

Sign up to volunteer
at the In His Image
booth or organize a
group to walk.

For more info, please
contact Rubina at
rubinah@paznaz.org
or 626.351.2478.





Pastor Keegan Lenker

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The Gift of

Difference



Stuff You Should Know...

Jr. High Mission Trip Training

Wednesday, April 1, 6:00-7:00 pm
Room 132, Meguiar Youth Center

Sr. High Mission Trip Training

Sunday, April 5, 12:15-2:15 pm
Room 134, Meguiar Youth Center

YouthFest Volunteer Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 7:00-8:00 pm
PazNaz, Location: TBA

YouthFest 2009, April 17-18

Cost: \$20, plus Sporting Event Fees
Students from all over the LA district will be gathering at PazNaz to participate in sports, games, quizzing, and plenty of silliness and fellowship.

Sr. High Dinner & Movie

Friday, April 24, 6:00-10:00 pm
Location: TBA
No Cost

Jr. High SNL

Sunday, April 26, 6:00-8:00 pm
Location: TBA
No Cost

Weekly Activities

Sundays

Student Worship - 9:15-10:15 am
Room 134, Meguiar Youth Center

College Class - 9:15-10:15 am
Room 149 B, Reed Hall

Wednesdays

Evening Activities - 7:00-8:15 pm
Sr. High
Room 134, Meguiar Youth Center
Jr. High
Room 132, Meguiar Youth Center

Growing up in Southern Idaho for the first 22 years of my life was a wonderful experience for me. There was the small town mindset, trying to figure out what to do on a Friday night, (you can only roller skate for so long) and thinking about Jesus in ways that would fit the mindset that was comfortable to me.

When I accepted my call to ministry at 13, I figured that meant I'd be a missionary in Africa. As I got older, I began to see the opportunities for ministry were everywhere. As I discovered my love for youth ministry, I really began to see how my mindset played into how I was shaping ministry. I then told God I'd be a youth pastor anywhere but Southern California. Remember I was a small town boy from Idaho associating Southern California with the city, which I was afraid of.

So, after giggling at the fact that I've now lived in Southern California for 7 years and learning the valuable lesson of not telling God what you will and will not do, I learned some wonderful things about God and His activity in the world in which we live.

One of the biggest observations I have made that has helped me discover Jesus is that not everyone looks like me, thinks like me, acts like me, and views life in the same manner that I do. Sometimes this has been threatening and other times very rewarding.

The initial fear was engaging in conversation with people that were different because I am an easily

influenced person sometimes. Yet, as I have slowly met these people, shared coffee, time and space with them, I have come to appreciate the differences we share.

In an exchange of a story or two, I realize that we are all on our journey and who we are has come mainly through our experiences. Our experiences have shaped who we have become, whether good or bad.

Our different family structures, the part of the country where we were raised, the demeanor of our parents, the schools we attended, the churches we grew up in, the people we surround ourselves with, the life experiences whether joyful or tragic, our choice of occupation, our recognition of the person of Jesus (or lack thereof) have made us the people we are today.

Here I am today a person shaped by my experiences. I'd even say my mindset has changed as I gain more experiences shaping me into the person I am. Yet it has been the risk of engaging in conversations with people that aren't necessarily like me that has really helped me to appreciate who I am and who I am becoming while seeing Jesus in new and fresh ways at times.

My hope for us is that we can learn to appreciate our differences at times and discover Jesus in our diversity as the human race.

- Pastor Keegan Lenker

PazNaz! Praise!

A Worship Service for Palm Sunday

**Sunday Night
April 5
at 6:00 pm**

**Hosted by the Celebration Choir, Sunrise Orchestra, and
Children's Choir with a reception to follow on the patio.**

● *An Article from the Pastor...*

This Changes Everything



The resurrection of Jesus from the dead changes everything. For those who believe it is the primary transformative event in human history. Because Jesus was raised from the dead there is a new creation at work in the world.



Pastor T. Scott Daniels

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Discussion regarding the resurrection of Jesus has increased lately thanks in large part to the wonderful work of N.T. Wright, New Testament scholar and the Bishop of Durham. Dr. Wright has written extensively defending the resurrection as an historical event

but also articulating the significance of Christ's return from the grave. His main argument has to do with the radical transformation that took place in the life of the disciples. For Wright, the only logical explanation for the frightened scattered disciples becoming the passionate apostles, unafraid to die and driven by the mission of the gospel, is that they had encountered

the risen Lord. Plots to deceive the world don't usually include loving one's enemies and a willingness to die as a martyr in peaceful witness to the Kingdom of God.

How would life be different if Jesus was not raised from the dead? How would our faith be different than it is today?

If Jesus is still in the grave then love doesn't win. Jesus called his followers to take up their cross daily and join him in a revolution of love. The mission of Christ's Kingdom is to not continue in the pattern of overcoming evil with evil but to, in love, overcome evil with good. If the crucifixion is the end of the revolution of Jesus then love certainly doesn't win.

At the cross, power plotting religious leaders and violent principalities and powers conspired together to end the life of God's self-revelation of love. The response of Jesus was, predictably, love.

Instead of returning curse for curse or abuse for abuse, he prayed prayers of forgiveness upon those who were taking his life from him. If Jesus remained dead, then his love, however admirable, does not win. His revolution of love would be a reminder to us all of the danger of trying to love enemies or working to overcome evil with good.

But Jesus did return from the grave. And thus love overcomes all the evil and violence made evident in the crucifixion. In the light of the

risen Christ the plotting and scheming of those who crucified Jesus seems silly and petty. All weapons of destruction are made irrelevant before the love of the risen Christ.

If Jesus isn't alive, then sin wins. The ministry of Jesus was about freeing people from the bondage of sin. He helped people to walk, speak, and see the world as people free from all that kept them bound.

The Kingdom of forgiveness and reconciliation with God and others is the defeat of all the brokenness that has plagued human history.

At the cross all of the powers of sin come together to stomp out God's revelation of grace. If the cross is the last word in the life of Jesus then sin also has the final say. Whatever forgiveness or reconciliation we grant to others (or even to ourselves) is not lasting because sin will inevitably rise up to make its presence known as the power from which we can never be free.

But Jesus is alive. He took all sin into himself and ended its dominion

in his death and resurrection. If Jesus is alive then the grace he extends to us does indeed have the last word over our sin. Although sin clings to us so closely it does not have to. The power of the risen Christ is also the power over sin.

Most importantly, if Jesus was not resurrected, then death wins. Death is the great enemy of us all. A life ended by natural causes is too short, so a life threatened by the potential of death at the hands of another is always our fear. The threat that the forces of sin and hatred have over Jesus is that they can kill him. His entire ministry existed under a cloud of threat and suspicion by his enemies. Finally, they are able to have their way and they kill him. Crucifixions are a very public way of reminding those who are thinking about going against the system, that the system has the power to kill you. If Jesus was not raised from the dead then his loving life is simply another example of foolish idealism leading to destruction.

"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died... For as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ... The last enemy to be destroyed is death... 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' 'Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?'... Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15).

Because Jesus lives, everything has changed. Love wins. Grace wins. And life – life everlasting – gets the final word in all things. Thanks be to God.

- Pastor T Scott Daniels

How would life be different if Jesus was not raised from the dead? How would our faith be different than it is today? If Jesus is still in the grave then love doesn't win.



Pastor Selena Holston

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Art Auction and Celebration May 7, 2009

Compassionate Ministries of PazNaz will host an Art Auction and Celebration Banquet on Thursday evening, May 7, at 6:00 pm. This event underwrites a large portion of Helping Hands community food bank operations, Church in the Park's ministry to the homeless, and many other annual community outreach and development initiatives. Together, compassion can create change for the community and the world.

For more than two decades, Compassionate Ministries has been devoted to providing support and assistance to the poor and marginalized in Pasadena. There is a disparity of need that surrounds us in our communities and in the world beyond. The philosophy of Compassionate Ministries is based upon a holistic approach that combines compassion with principles of human development. We each have something to give and contribute; through service and sharing our resources, we use our strengths and gifts to develop and empower the poor and needy and work toward social justice.

Compassionate Ministries is comprised of two campus-based programs: Helping Hands, a community food bank and clothing assistance program, provides necessary items and spiritual support to more than 500 households each month. Church in the Park provides a hot breakfast

and spiritual enrichment to 150 people from Pasadena's homeless community each week (600 monthly) at Central Park near Old Town Pasadena.

Additionally, Compassionate Ministries mobilizes to support the relief and development work of community and international relief and development organizations through strategic partnerships. Partnerships are formed around issues of social or global concern to equip and empower the poor and to advance justice. Currently we are working alongside several organizations that are committed to addressing the following: homelessness, teen pregnancy, leadership and spiritual development of inner-city youth, healthcare for the underserved, education for marginalized children and youth, and housing for the poor.

I'm writing to ask each of you to participate in this very important work among Pasadena's poor. Would you and your friends and family plan to attend this event or sponsor a table? Would your business or organization make a contribution to the silent auction by donating a product or service for this cause? Artists, would you consider donating an art piece from your portfolio or create a piece specifically for this event? Donations to the art/silent auction are requested by April 19th. Reserve your event tickets or

register as an event sponsor through the Service Cornerstone during the month of April.

Thank you for your support and contribution. I look forward to seeing you at the Art Auction and Celebration on May 7. This will be a fun-filled evening that you don't want to miss. Together we can make a difference!

- Pastor Selena Holston

PazNaz News

Missionary Chapters in April

Schendel Chapter

Thursday, April 16, 10:00 am
Royal Oaks Manor
1763 Royal Oaks Drive
Bradbury, California 91010

Program:

Japan: A Season of Friendships

Hostess:

Iona Duke - 626.305.2302
Ruth Ernst - 626.305.2543

Prescott/Ragains Chapter

Tuesday, April 28, 6:00 pm
Gilmore Hall, South
Program to be announced

Potluck Reservations:

Margaret Street 626.584.0815 or
Fran Walling 626.794.3993

● Women's Ministries



Director of
Women's Ministries:
Debbie Daniels
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626.351.2429

Girlfriend to Girlfriend with Debbie Daniels

*Starting April 22 for 7 weeks
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm*

Join this ladies' group in Gilmore Hall, North as they study the book, *9 Things You Simply Must Do To Succeed In Love and Life* with Debbie Daniels. The price for the book is \$15, but time spent with Girlfriends is priceless. Books will be available at the Women's Ministries cart on Sundays or in class. Free childcare is available with a reservation. Contact Debbie Hammock at 626.351.2475.

Last Birthday Brunch

Ladies, if you were unable to attend the birthday brunch during your birthday month, this is the brunch for you! You are invited to celebrate at a brunch on Saturday, April 25, at Pastor Scott and Debbie's home, from 10:00-11:30 am. RSVP to Sharon Densford by April 22 at 626.351.2414. For childcare reservations contact Debbie Hammock at 626.351.2475.

Claim Jumper Invaded

Monday, March 9

On Monday, March 9, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) profited \$147.00 from the efforts of all who participated in the Claim Jumper Fundraiser. A group of 20 moms and kids met during the lunch hour and the restaurant was full of PazNaz supporters at dinnertime. Your efforts allow PazNaz MOPS to thrive as an outreach to moms of preschoolers. A big thank you from MOPS to all who participated.



Mark your calendars! The next event for Single Mothers will be April 26 after the 10:30 am service. If you would like to help or participate in Make Lemonade events, contact Tina Ozaki at 626.294.2475. Childcare is provided at all Women's Ministries events. To make childcare reservations, contact Debbie Hammock at 626.351.2475.

Gift Cards On Hiatus

Stay tuned. The Gift Card program will be returning soon so you'll be able to help Women's Ministries raise funds while shopping at your favorite stores, restaurants, or even gas stations.

● Pasadena PrimeTime



Pastor Ridge Ireland
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Phone:
626.351.2427

UPCOMING PRIME TIME EVENTS

Museum of Tolerance

Thursday, April 2

April's daytrip features the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. The group will see artifacts, documents and exhibits from the Holocaust. The Museum's archives contain the original letters written by Anne Frank. The visit will also focus on major issues of tolerance in our daily lives.

Conference on Aging

Thursday, April 30

Save this date for the 2009 Conference on Aging here at PazNaz! The conference is free and includes breakfast and lunch. Make

sure to RSVP to Souci Hovsepien at shovsepien@cityofpasadena.net or 626.744.6927.

Three District Prime Time Retreat

April 20-23

Another exciting opportunity is coming in Murrieta, California. It's time again for the annual *Three District Prime Time Retreat*, and there's room for YOU! This beautiful resort and worldwide vacation site was built around hot mineral waters. Pastor Scott Daniels will be a guest speaker this year and Pat Johnston from PazNaz will teach how to preserve your families' history through stories.

Pasadena PrimeTime San Antonio Tour

May 11-16

There are still a few spaces left for the Pasadena PrimeTime San Antonio Tour. The Alamo, Paseo Del Rio, Witte Museum, Texas State Capitol and a visit to Enchanted Springs Ranch with a chuck wagon dinner are just a few of the great places planned for the tour.

There is still time to sign up for these upcoming events. If you are interested, please stop by the PrimeTime office for a brochure.

● *Early Childhood Ministries*



Pastor Eleanor Blosser

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626.351.2469

Thank You!



Volunteers of the Month: **Mark and Lori Washburn**

Families are Growing!

Early Childhood has added new classes to accommodate you:

1. Nursery, Room 228 –
Ages: Birth to 17 months
2. Wee Walkers, Room 229 –
Ages: 1 ½ to 2 ½ years old
3. Terrific Toddlers, Room 227 –
Ages: 2 ½ to 3 ½ years old
4. Preschool Class, Room 129 –
Ages: 3 ½ to 4 ½ years old
5. Pre-K Class, Room 125 –
Ages: 4 ½ to 5 years old
(or the year before Kindergarten)
6. Kindergarten Class, Room 128 –
Ages: 5 to 6 years
(attending Kindergarten)

Saturday Bible Time Class

Join the Saturday evening worship service crowd at 5:00 pm and bring your children to Early Childhood. Birth - 2 years meets in Room 228, Arms Hall; 3 years – Kindergarten meets in Room 227, Arms Hall. Maria Ross will be leading the class in Bible time using the same Bible program that is used on Sunday mornings.

Mark and Lori Washburn met in 2000 when they were students at UCLA. They quickly became friends as guides for a backpacking trip to the Grand Canyon with the UCLA Outdoor Adventure program and fell in love when they were scheduled to guide another trip together to Yosemite a few months later. Mark and Lori got married and moved to Pasadena in 2003, when they started attending PazNaz and joined the Conquerer's Sunday school class.

In 2005, they decided to volunteer in the nursery in order to gain exposure to infants and babies in preparation for starting their own family. Their daughter, Sophia, was born in May 2007, and they continued to work in the nursery watching Sophia among the other children and soon began volunteering two weekends a

month. When Sophia graduated to the Wee Walker's class they felt they were still needed in the nursery. The great joy of this ministry is witnessing the dramatic changes in the children during their first two years of life. It is really rewarding to watch so many children learn to sit up, take their first steps, and say their first words.

The Washburns live in San Dimas and enjoy family life as Sophia is quickly growing into a little girl. Lori is a biologist at Caltech and Mark is a graduate student at UC Irvine. Mark will be graduating this June and starting a faculty position at Cal State Long Beach in the fall. During their free time, Mark and Lori still love the outdoors and try to travel as much as their schedule and budget allow.



Mark and Lori Washburn with Sophia

Mark Your Calendar

- **April 5 -10** Holy Week - all events include childcare for ages Birth – K in Room 228, Arms Hall
- **April 8, 15** Easter Break, no *Bible Explorers*
- **April 11** Eggs-travaganza's coming to PazNaz!
11:00 am-1:00 pm
- **April 12** Easter services for Early Childhood
8:00 am and 10:30 am
- **April 19** Child Dedication in the 10:30 am service
- **May 3** Singing in 10:30 am service, ages 3 ½ - K

● Children's Ministries



Pastor Matt Schilz

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The Jesus Attitude

Philippians 2:1-11



This spring PazNaz Kidz will be learning Philippians 2:1-11 which speaks about the humility of Christ and how His followers are to have the same attitude. It is very difficult to serve and put others first. However, Jesus set a perfect example for his followers, and because of his spirit that lives within those who follow him, it is possible to emulate his humility. The challenge for PazNaz Kidz is that they would be this example of Christ in their homes, schools, and with their friends. On May 30 during the 10:45 am service, PazNaz Kidz will recite this passage and sing a special song that goes along with verses 9-11. Copies of the NIV passage are available in the Elementary Children's Department.

"Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

- Philippians 2:9-11

Forest Home Summer Camp 2009



Summer Camp is coming for 2nd-5th grade, July 21-27. Cost is \$350. Registration and information is available in the children's department. A \$50 deposit is due now to ensure your child has a spot. There are 24 spots available for Indian Village and 20 for Adventure Mountain. Please make checks payable to PazNaz.

PazNaz Kidz will be hosting a Spaghetti Luncheon Sunday, June 7 in Gilmore Hall to help raise money for camp. Children attending and Parents of Children attending can help earn money towards camp by selling tickets and serving. See Pastor Matt for more information.

Parents and church leaders, now is the time to start praying to see if God is leading you to be a counselor this summer. Contact Pastor Matt Schilz for more information about this amazing experience.

Family Worship Sunday

Easter Sunday, April 12, is Family Worship Sunday. There will be no Sunday School.

Girls' Night In

Friday, May 8

Boys' Night In

Friday, May 15

Dinner and Discussion: 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Sleep Over: 9:00 pm - 9:00 am

Room 102, Lower Sanctuary

Cost \$5 per person

A night of fun, games, and discussion. The 4th and 5th grade boys and girls each have a night planned to meet with their friends and leaders to be encouraged and to discuss more about being a 4th and 5th grader. This will be a great time for them to hang out and also talk about how their choices have the power to reflect God's love in the world around them. Areas of discussion will include movies, video games, music, magazines, books, and the Internet. Also, they'll discuss self-image and being who God created them to be. For more information contact Pastor Matt.

Fam Jam '09

July 14-17, 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Parents of all ages, start planning now for this brand new event from PazNaz. *Fam Jam* is a time for families to come together for a fun-filled evening of games, activities, and worship designed to build up the family unit. You can start signing up at Eggs-travaganza!

Holy Week at PazNaz April 5 - 12

Palm Sunday, April 5 at 6:00 pm

Sanctuary

Hosted by the Celebration Choir, the Sunrise Orchestra, and the Children's Choir, it will be an evening of great music and fellowship.

Seder Dinner, April 8 at 6:30 pm

Gilmore Hall

Messianic Rabbi Sammy Openheim teaches the meaning of Passover to Christians through this 4000 year old ceremony. Experience the full meal for \$16 or participate solely in the ceremonial meal for \$5. Tickets can be purchased in the Guest Services office on Sundays or in the main office during the week.

Childcare is provided by reservation. Please contact Eleanor Blosser at 626.351.2469.

Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 pm

Lee Chapel

Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin words "mandatum novum" meaning new mandate. It was Jesus' commandment to his followers to "love one another as I have loved you." This was exemplified by Jesus taking the role as a humble servant and washing the feet of his disciples in the last hours of his ministry. Join this service of music, readings, meditation, and partaking of the Lord's Supper together.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service, April 10 at 7:00 pm

Sanctuary

The Tenebrae Service is one of the oldest Holy Week traditions of the Christian church. "Tenebrae" is the Latin word meaning "shadows" and the Tenebrae Service tells in experiential form the story of Jesus' passion. As the service unfolds, symbolic candles are extinguished. The sanctuary is darkened to depict the final hours of Jesus' life and to dramatize the impact of his death. Experience this deeply moving service with music, readings, meditation, and a message by Pastor Scott Daniels.

Eggs-travaganza, April 11 at 11:00 am

PazNaz Campus

Eggs-travaganza includes multiple egg hunts for ages 2 - 5th grade, a petting zoo, popcorn, balloons, games, prizes, and yes, a visit from the Easter Bunny himself!

Easter Sunday, April 12

Three Services 6:30, 8:00, and 10:30 am

Easter Garden (6:30 am) / Sanctuary (8:00 and 10:30 am) / Baptism (9:30 am)

Keeping with tradition, the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord begins early in the morning as the sun rises in the Easter Garden. Two services follow in the Sanctuary, where you can worship with the Celebration Choir and Sunrise Orchestra and hear an inspirational message from Pastor Scott Daniels. There will also be a special time of baptisms between the services in the Sanctuary.

Easter Breakfast, April 12 from 7:30-10:00 am

Gilmore Hall

Bring the whole family and enjoy a delicious Easter morning breakfast for only \$5 a person with a \$20 maximum per family. Children five and under are free.