



## *The Spire*

**Plantation Presbyterian Church  
Plantation, FL      April 2014**

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### ***Pastor's Message...***

#### **Didn't See That Coming**

I can't tell you how many times I've been hit by something that I didn't see coming. Mostly, as a youngster this involved dodge ball. Seeing that bright red blur out of the corner of my eye long after I had time to do anything about it, and then there was the sudden loss of breath as the wind was knocked out of me, a hazard of the activity.

But whether it's a good thing or a bad thing, when we're caught off guard there's this wonderful moment, as we try to sort out what we're experiencing. When we're caught off guard by something destructive (like a dodge ball), we try to find a way to forge ahead and regain our wits. When we're caught off guard by something beautiful and wonderful (like a surprising answer from someone desiring to join the church), then we kind of reset our minds in an attempt to live in the moment as long as possible.

During this season of Lent, I have been reading the passion stories and the stories of the resurrection. Despite the fact that Jesus told his disciples all that would happen, there is still such an element of surprise in their reaction to all of these events. What a surprise it was for the disciples to find out that one among them, Judas, would betray Jesus. What a surprise it was to find that the Messiah would not reign as king in Rome, but instead suffer the death of a criminal on the cross. What a surprise it was for Mary and the others to find an empty tomb. Didn't see that coming, did you?

Can you imagine what the disciples felt on Easter Sunday? What would you expect to find when you made your way to the tomb? Death? Decay? Depression? But when you arrive, nothing. Empty tomb. Angels in white. Hope. Joy. Promise. Resurrection. Didn't see that coming, did you?

What a surprise it was for the disciples to see the Risen Lord, to touch his hands and feet. What a surprise it was for these men of simple means to discover that they

would be the ones to spread the gospel and carry on the work of Jesus after his death.

We are surprised when a crisis happens, when life brings upheaval of one sort or another. We are surprised when someone dies though we all will some day. We are surprised when God shows up in our lives, surprised by miracles big and small. We are surprised to find that God still uses us to do his work in the world.

The thought came to me as I read these stories in the Bible that more than two thousand years later we are still surprised when we shouldn't be. What surprises does the empty tomb still have in store for us today? While we hear the familiar story every year, the resurrection tells us that our God is still alive and active in the world. Jesus Christ is alive and well in our hearts, and still has things to show us. God loves to surprise us, to invite us to places our hearts have never been.

No matter what happens, God's love for us will always prevail; the victory has been won in Jesus Christ. God will keep our going out and our coming in forevermore. We have nothing to fear.

So this Easter, I invite you to the surprise! I invite you to let God take your breath away, to open you up to new areas of healing and resurrection and peace. Because what to the rest of the world might seem like just another Sunday, for us is the most important, powerful day of the year. Didn't see that coming at all.

Godspeed,

*David*



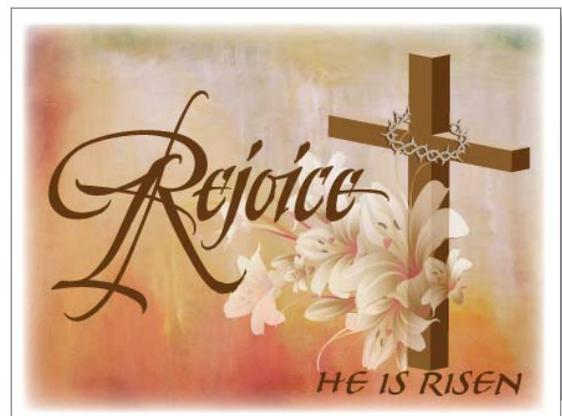
## WORSHIP FOR APRIL

**Sunday, April 13, 2014 - 11:00 am**  
Palm Sunday Service

**Thursday, April 17, 2014 - 7:30 pm**  
Maundy Thursday Service  
in the Fellowship Hall

**Friday, April 18, 2014 - 12:00 – 3:00 pm**  
“Good Friday – Seven Last  
Words from the Cross”  
At Plantation Methodist Church  
1001 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Ave., Plantation

**Sunday, April 20, 2014**  
Easter Service – 11:00 a.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt – 10:15 am  
Easter Bonnet Contest – 12:20 p.m.





## Easter's Meaning?

In a 2010 Barna Group survey, two-thirds of Americans knew that Easter is a religious holiday. But only 42 percent connected its meaning to Jesus' resurrection. And only two percent of adults said they would describe Easter as the most important holiday of their faith.

Not everyone who connects Easter to religion has the facts straight. Two percent of Americans said Easter is about Jesus' birth. Another two percent said it's about Jesus' "rebirth." And one percent said it's a celebration of his second coming. Another three percent described Easter as a celebration of spring or a pagan holiday.

In the same survey, 31 percent of active churchgoers said they'd definitely invite an unchurched friend to worship with them on Easter. Soooo...let's make it more like 100 percent. Invite others to join you on Maunday Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and at 10:30 a.m. on Easter for the Children's Egg Hunt, and at 11:00 a.m. for Worship, followed by Fellowship and our Bonnet Contest!!

**This Easter, share the truth and joy of the holiday with someone who doesn't know what this is all about. News of the resurrection is too good to keep to ourselves!**



## Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday, April 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the church. Please arrive by 10:15 a.m. All children under the age of 12 are welcome to participate. Please bring a basket to collect your Easter eggs.



## Easter Bonnet Contest

Start planning your Easter Bonnet for our annual parade and contest on April 20. Everyone (all ages) can wear an EASTER BONNET of some sort-- whether it's store-bought, home-made, or put-together. There will be many different categories and awards will be presented (most unusual, most traditional, most fun, etc) . Please join us for the fun, during fellowship time, after our Easter Worship service on the patio



## Easter Lilies

Beautiful Easter lilies will decorate the church on Sunday, April 20. The last day to order them is Sunday, April 13. Please fill out the form in the church bulletin or contact the church office. The cost is \$17.

## *Annual Square Dance and Chili Cook-Off*



Buddy Rountree, and Beth and Doug Doubleday



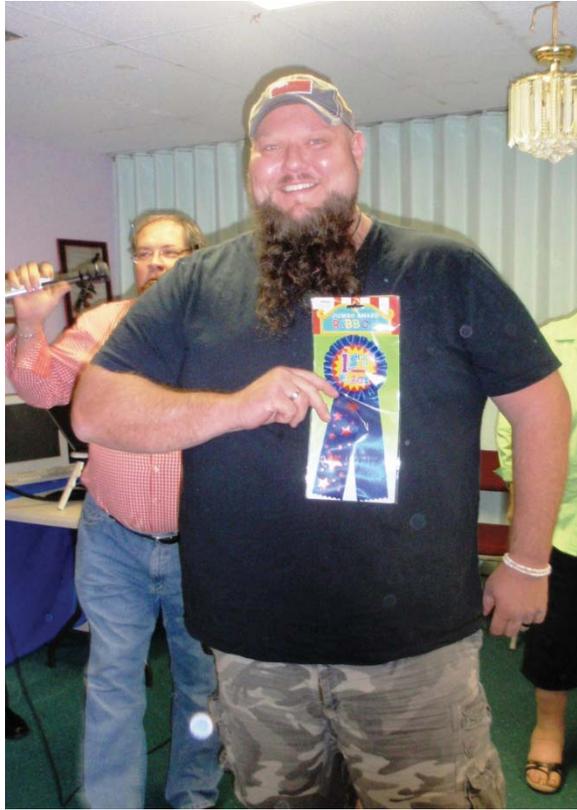
Eugene and Joyce Richardson



Stephanie Sanchez and Arlene McMillan

**Thank you...Thank You...Thank You...**

- ❖ To the Fellowship Committee for organizing the Chili Cook Off and Square Dance and providing deserts and corn bread. Members helping included Jane Simons, Arlene McMillan, Nancy Ramirez, Pat Roberson, and Connie Abel.
- ❖ To the wonderful chefs who cooked chili including Alan Jones, Greg Branom, Becky Rountree, Buddy Rountree, Donna Westcott, Naida Moore, Emily Slotter, Sue Mazzoleni, Joyce Richardson, David Massey, Jeff Durham, and Pat Roberson.



Jeff Durham, Chili Cook-Off Winner



There was a tie for third place. The winners were Joyce Richardson, Naida Moore, Buddy Rountree, and Emily Slotter.



Emolyn Shaw



Presley with her dad Greg Branom who won second place.



Stephanie and Alex Sanchez



former student knowing of her interest brought her a guitar so she could start learning.

Franklyn and Daisy met in high school and they attended college in Trinidad. In April, they will have been married 46 years. They have a son and daughter who live in Trinidad.

We are so glad to have Franklyn and Daisy as part of our church family. Everyone please give them a warm welcome!

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### ***Spotlight on New Members...***

Franklyn and Daisy Seegobin joined Plantation Presbyterian Church last year. They moved to the area from Trinidad three years ago. They immediately felt comfortable at our church, because it was similar to their church in Trinidad. Plus they received a warm welcome from everyone and especially from Sally and Bob Beals.

Both Franklyn and Daisy are retired, but they are still very busy. Franklyn was an accountant in Trinidad. Until last year, he raced cars cross country in Trinidad. Now he likes to be a spectator, but it is hard just to watch.

Daisy was a primary class teacher in mathematics. She helped to train other teachers. She also wrote some math books and goes back to Trinidad to help with the distribution of the books. Franklyn helps on the financial side of the book business. Daisy enjoys reading and likes to sing. She has just started to learn how to play the guitar. This was on her "bucket list." A



### ***Welcome New Members!***

Rev. David Massey welcomes the following new members to the church.

- Jeff Durham
- Danielle Durham
- Ivy Campbell
- Harold "Christopher" St. John IV
- Claire Will
- Al Will



### PPW Recognizes Ruth Magly and Becky Rountree

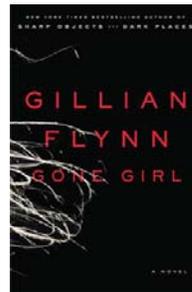
On Sunday, March 9, the church celebrated the gifts of women, by recognizing Ruth Magly and Becky Rountree. Kathy Guariglio, moderator of Plantation Presbyterian Women, presented both Ruth and Becky with Honorary Life Memberships of Presbyterian Women of the Presbyterian Church. They were presented with a certificate and the Honorary Life Membership pin. This is a tradition with Presbyterian Women since 1912.

Ruth Magly has given hours of service to the church. She is a long time member of the choir and works each week with her husband Bud to prepare the music for the choir members. Ruth is currently a Deacon and has served in that capacity for many years. She also works many hours on the rummage sale and clean up days and whenever needed.

Becky is currently serving as Clerk of Session and she has been a Deacon. She has served on the finance committee for 20 years and

assists with editing the church monthly newsletter and the weekly email blast to the congregation. She also has given many hours of service coordinating the annual rummage sale and other fundraising projects throughout the year.

The church is blessed to have Ruth and Becky in our congregation and appreciate their commitment to Christ and the mission of the church. We thank them for their faithful service and congratulate them for receiving this very special recognition.



### *The Proofreaders...*

The book group's next book is *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn. They will be discussing this contemporary thriller novel on Sunday, May 18, 2014, at 6 p.m.

The suspense of this novel comes from the main character, Nick Dunne, and whether he killed his wife, Amy Dunne. Amy Dunne disappears on their fifth wedding anniversary. This is a marriage that has gone terribly wrong. The author created a thriller that will keep the reader guessing at every turn.

Everyone is welcome to attend this evening of discussion and fellowship. For further information contact Beth Doubleday at [B5Chicago@aol.com](mailto:B5Chicago@aol.com).



## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 *David and Alice Todd*
- 3 Benny Paulus
- 4 Alan Jones,  
Alexander Sanchez
- 7 Eugene Roberts,  
Mary Lou Vega
- 12 Mary Norwood
- 13 Ruth Magly, Lillian Potter
- 14 Don Sinclair
- 15 Betty Amfo
- 17 Jane Hill
- 19 Ed West
- 20 Jim Moorman
- 21 Irvin Jones
- 22 Kevin Jones
- 25 Mason Edeward,  
Heather Hanson
- 26 Alex Branom
- 30 Tricia Boodhai, Paul  
Froehlich, Paul Westcott

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### April Calendar of Events

- 6 Fellowship Meeting, 12:20 p.m.
- 6 Session Meets with Confirmation  
Class, 12:20 p.m.
- 7 Finance Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Session Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 16 PPW Bible Study,  
Make-Up, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 PPW Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
- 17 Maundy Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Good Friday Service, Noon – 3 p.m.  
Plantation Methodist Church
- 20 Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 a.m.
- 20 Easter Service, 11 a.m.
- 20 Easter Bonnet Contest, 12:20 p.m.



CHURCHILL DOWNS 44 MAY 3, 2014

### Derby Party

Mark your calendars for the Kentucky Derby Party on Saturday, May 3 sponsored by the Fellowship Committee. Come and watch the run for the roses on the big screen. There will be food and a movie following the race. More details will follow later. It is a fun evening for everyone.



### Per Capita

The church treasurer is still accepting per capita payments of \$35 per member. This is a set amount which is sent to the Presbytery to cover their expenses. Payment can be put in the Sunday offering or mailed to the church. Thank you for doing your part.

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### Newsletter Contacts

#### Co- Editors:

Becky Rountree, [routreelo@aol.com](mailto:routreelo@aol.com)  
Beth Doubleday, [B5Chicago@aol.com](mailto:B5Chicago@aol.com)

Rev. Dr. David Massey,  
[revdmassey@bellsouth.net](mailto:revdmassey@bellsouth.net) or 954-587-0830

P R E S B Y T E R I A N  
Mission Exchange

### Online Giving Now Available

The finance committee has been working on the church website and you can expect to see a final version soon at [www.plantationpresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.plantationpresbyterianchurch.com). We also recently entered into an agreement to accept online donations via credit/debit cards and electronic funds transfers with the Presbyterian Mission Exchange, a part of the Presbyterian Foundation. You can make donations both one-time and recurring. We are planning our outreach so expect to receive more information once our website is fully operational. In the meantime, you can donate online by going to [www.presbyterianmissionexchange.org](http://www.presbyterianmissionexchange.org) and click on search all giving in the upper right and then at the next screen type in Plantation Presbyterian Church. You can designate your gift under faith promise, major repair fund or designated. After you successfully enter your information you instantly receive a confirmation similar to below:

#### Plantation Presbyterian Church Donation Confirmation

Dear Plantation Presbyterian:

Thank you for your donation. Please retain this documentation as it serves as official substantiation that you were provided with no goods or services.

Below is a summary of your donation.

**Date:** 3/23/2014

**Amount:** \$500.00

**Payment Method:** Visa Credit Card, 41223

**Designation:** Plantation Pres

byterian Church, Plantation, FL  
Your credit card statement will reflect a transaction from "Presbyterian FDN 800-858-6127."

Thank you for setting up your recurring donation. Please retain this documentation as it serves as substantiation that you were provided with no goods or services.

Below is a summary of your recurring donation.

**Frequency:** Second Sunday of every month  
**Starting On:** 3/23/2014  
**Ending On:** 12/31/2014

**Thank you again for your generous donation.**

**Presbyterian Mission Exchange**  
**"Bringing people and mission together"**  
**200 East Twelfth Street**  
**Jeffersonville, IN 47130**  
**1-800-858-6127, Ext. 5919**  
**missionexchange@presbyterian**  
**foundation.org**

*Ronald Albert, Church Treasurer*



#### Help Wanted – Fellowship

Everyone enjoys the fellowship after church each Sunday but it doesn't happen without volunteers. Please consider volunteering for a Sunday to assist with set-up, clean-up and food preparation. With more people involved, it makes it easier for everyone. The sign-up sheet is at the back of the church.

Food donations are welcomed any Sunday. Donations of food items for Easter Sunday would be very much appreciated. Fellowship will be served on the patio that day. Please bring your contributions to the church kitchen before the service. Monetary donations are collected each Sunday to help with the cost of fellowship.



Helping out at Plantation Presbyterian Church booth at the Scottish Festival were Rev. David Massey, Kathy Guariglio, Pat Roberson, Sarah Dixon, Jane Simons. And Maxine and



**Plantation Presbyterian Church  
901 NW 70 Avenue  
Plantation, FL 33317**