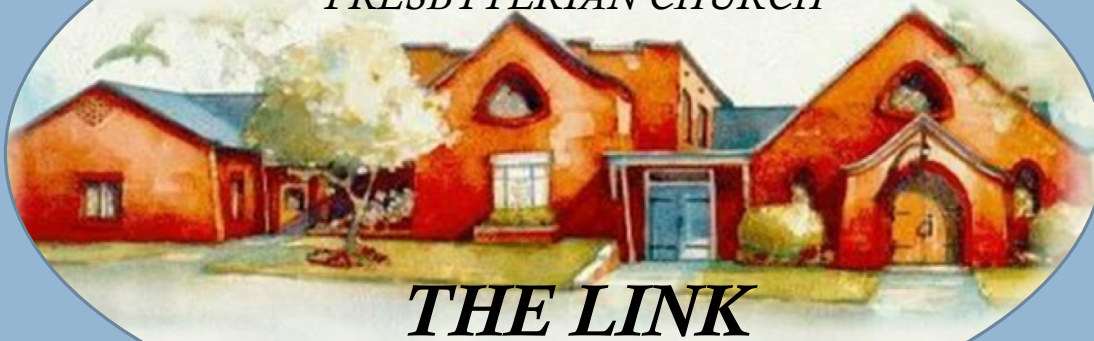


*ALTAVISTA  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



***THE LINK***

*April 1, 2020*

OUR VISION, OUR HEARTS, AND OUR DOORS ARE  
ALWAYS OPEN



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Grace to you and peace,

March was a whirlwind of a month and I am afraid April will be none the better. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we've had to shut down nearly every aspect of social life. Small business and small churches, like ours, are most affected by the national call to quarantine (let's call it what it is). Nevertheless, Paul tells us, "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God." "Therefore, one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience." (Romans 13:1, 5.)

So, what do we do now? Well, first of all, we subject ourselves to our governing authorities. We quarantine as best we can. Second, we remain faithful to the Gospel. We **must** continue to pray, read the Bible, and worship, either as families or individually. We cannot lose sight of God in all of this. Third, we continue to support the church and this community. I plan to post regular videos (more on that later) and make contact with people through other means. We should continue to support the church not simply with our pledges, but in prayer and by watching what videos are published. If someone is in need, whether church member or not, those who are healthy should step up to the plate and lend a hand. The world needs to know that the Church is not four walls and a steeple, but the hearts, minds, and hands of the people who serve the Lord Jesus.

This is a perfect time to purge ourselves of our idols: sports, wealth, politics, entertainers, etc. I am not surprised that this pandemic came to us in the season of Lent.



“ I strongly encourage each of you to pray and read the Bible daily”

For the duration of this pestilence, we will cease to worship, study, and serve **together**. The stress is on the word “together.” We will still publish the April calendar, but if this quarantine takes as long as some predict, most of that month will be canceled. I, then, charge you, brothers and sisters in the faith, to worship, study, and serve individually. I urge you, flock of this pasture, to worship, study, and serve digitally. In lieu of recording a full service or sermon (honestly, there are millions of those out there from far better preachers than I – like those at [www.ligonier.org/app](http://www.ligonier.org/app)) I opted to go a more personalized route. I want us to continue to have dialogue, albeit virtually; therefore, I invite you to submit questions to me and I will answer them with a short video. You can email them ([revsoto@altapres.org](mailto:revsoto@altapres.org)), mail them (PO Box 126), or call them in (369-5286). I look forward to continuing to serve you.

Ed Soto

**From Pastor Ed...**

(taken from the eBlast sent March 26<sup>th</sup>)

As a way of staying in touch during these isolating times, I am sending out weekly eBlasts, which will consist of updates, thoughts, and prayers.

I am posting videos on our website in an effort to remain connected and shepherding. Every Monday and Friday, a video will be posted answering questions from you, the congregation. Every Wednesday, Betsy and I will do a joint devotional. I strongly encourage each of you to pray and read the Bible daily. The only way we will get through this whole and sane is by maintaining our faithfulness.

Another way I want to stay connected is by calling on each of you. If you haven't already received a call, you can expect one from me just checking in.

**APRIL**

	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Anniversaries</b>
7	Janelle Larkin	
8	Mark Younkin, Shirley Vuncannon	
11	Georgie Roark	
12		Kevin & Kelly deBernard
13		John & Cynthia Erb
16	Dennis Janiak	
18	Travis Taylor	
19	Frank Podrebarac	
28	Linda Giles	
30	Alice Barkdoll	

	<b>February-2020</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	10,508	19,785
<b>Non-Pledges</b>	1,505	3,302
<b>Plate Offering</b>	88	166
<b>Total Expenses</b>	10,616.84	22,090.63



# Month of April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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As a reminder, all events, meetings, and services are canceled until further notice.

			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10 AM Palm Sunday Worship Communion/ Children's Church/ Collect OGHS Offering 5 PM Youth Group Mtg.	<b>6</b> 7 PM Boy Scouts Mtg. in FH	<b>7</b> 12 Noon Men's Lunch – Hibachi Grill 5:30 PM Christian Ed. Mtg.	<b>8</b> 12:10 PM Lenten Service 7 PM Holden Evening Prayer 10:30 AM Women's F. Mtg.	<b>9</b> 6 PM Maundy Thursday Koinonia	<b>10</b> 6 PM Easter Cantata	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10 AM Easter Sunday Worship Children's Church	<b>13</b> 7 PM Boy Scouts Mtg. in FH	<b>14</b> 10 AM Bible Study in Adult SS Room	<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Prayer Fellowship 11-12:30 PM -Second Helping Lunch	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10 AM Worship Children's Church Session Meeting after Worship	<b>20</b> 7 PM Boy Scouts Mtg. in FH	<b>21</b> 10 AM Bible Study in Adult SS Room 12 Noon Men's Lunch – Mama Rosa's	<b>22</b> 11-12:30 PM -Second Helping Lunch 1 PM DAWN Board Mtg.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10 AM Worship Children's Church 5 PM Youth Group Mtg.	<b>27</b> 7 PM Boy Scouts Mtg. in FH	<b>28</b> 10 AM Bible Study in Adult SS Room May Link Deadline	<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Prayer Fellowship 11-12:30 PM -Second Helping Lunch	<b>30</b>		

