



# PINNACLE VISTAS

The Newsletter for Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale, Ariz. • April 2010

## HOLY WEEK CONTINUES AT PPC



### **MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1**

■ **7 p.m.** worship and communion, in the Chapel

### **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2**

■ **Noon** worship, in the Chapel. Nursery care available.

### **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4**

■ **6:30 a.m.** Sunrise Service, in the Memorial Garden. Breakfast will follow.

■ **8 a.m.** worship, in the Sanctuary with sermon, children's message, Chancel Choir, Pinnacle Pealers and Southwest Brass. Optional children's program (to third grade) will be in Fellowship Hall. Regular attenders are encouraged to come to this service.\*

■ **10 a.m.** worship, in the Sanctuary with sermon, children's message, Chancel Choir, Pinnacle Pealers and Southwest Brass. Optional children's program (to third grade) will be in Fellowship Hall.\*

■ **11:30 a.m.** service with Communion, in the Chapel with the Chancel Choir and Southwest Brass.\*

\* Childcare for children under 3 is available for all services except 6:30 a.m.

## In April, PPC Has Something for...

### **KIDS OF ALL AGES**

Be sure to join us on the Green and in the Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 3, for PPC's annual Easter Egg-Stravaganza. There will be an Egg Hunt, refreshments, crafts and more.

**TEENS** Pinnacle's Youth will lead a special Youth Sunday worship service on Sunday, April 11.

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**SINGLES** Mingles for Singles will meet to enjoy "It's Showtime II" on Sunday, April 18.

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**EVERYONE** "Gift of Music" will celebrate PPC's music programs with a special prelude and worship on Sunday, April 25. **PAGE 7**

### This Easter, Let God Happen in You

Dear friends,

As this edition of *Pinnacle Vistas* arrives it is around Easter, our annual celebration of that great and puzzling story of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ.

Easter tells us so much, and each of us brings our own assumptions and desires to the story. We also bring our own passions, hoping to experience resurrection in our own lives or see the power of resurrection in the world around us.

We've absorbed the story of new beginnings, of staring over, of lives genuinely changed and societies genuinely transformed because we've absorbed the story of Easter. It has an effect.

There's so much to say about Easter. But for this year, I want to offer one thing here. In Easter we see that the God we worship isn't limited to mere thought, ritual or moral lesson.

The God we worship is an active, bursting, reaching God. The God we worship happens. And so we participate with our resurrected God not only by thinking about him, or getting our worship right, or following the rules. We also participate with Christ by getting involved in God's happening.

Ask yourself and others, "What is God doing?"

Don't be satisfied with the first answer that comes. Ask more deeply. Look for answers in the life of Jesus and in the work of the church. Read scripture and ask good questions about it. Be in the outstretched hand of care and compassion through which God is happening in the world.

Let God happen in prayer, with others and alone. Let yourself go and let God happen when you worship. Let God come, even ask God to come into the bleakest of places, remembering that the Resurrection came in

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Dr. Wes Avram,  
senior pastor

## ADULT STUDIES

### How Women Pray

6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, April 8, 15 and 22

*The Invisible Woman* by Nicole Johnson is an unusually reflective and insightful book that brings a powerful message of personal value and hope to every taken-for-granted woman in today's emotionally sightless world. Nicole combines comedy and loneliness with God's wisdom as she follows the story of Charlotte who is feeling invisible. Our study will combine scripture appropriate to this study and you are encouraged to bring your Bible to class. For more information, contact Parris Richie at [pncrichie@aol.com](mailto:pncrichie@aol.com) or 480.551.6855.

### The Thoughtful Christian

The Thoughtful Christian article for April is titled "Health Care Reform: What's in the Way?" Deep ideological and values-based perspectives challenge lawmakers' ability to reach consensus. The article is available in the narthex of both the Chapel and the Sanctuary. The Thoughtful Christian ([thethoughtfulchristian.com](http://thethoughtfulchristian.com)) is a Web-based resource center designed to stimulate discussion about today's world and our faith.

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the midst of some pretty horrible stuff.

God happened, just as God had been happening all along — right in the middle of everything.

In Eastern tradition the week after Easter is called Bright Week, because of all those who were baptized on Easter wearing white baptismal robes all week — remembering what God did that Easter morning in those baptisms.

Let this week be a Bright Week for you, too, remembering what God has done in the Risen Christ and continues to do, saying: Come Lord, happen again!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wes Avram".

## Dr. Avram's Sermon Series on 'Rethinking the Seven Deadly Sins' Continues

Dr. Wesley Avram began a seven-part series on "Learning to Sin: Rethinking the 'Seven Deadlies'" on Sunday, Feb. 28. The series continues through June.

The sermon series schedule:

Date	Sermon Title
Feb. 28	Pride: Living Off-Center
March 7	Envy: That Burning Feeling
March 21	Anger: What's Eating You?
April 25	Sloth: Just Turf It!
May 2	Greed: For Lack of a Better Word
June 6	Gluttony: How Big Are Your Eyes?
June 13	Lust: Guarding the Eye in an Age of the Show

If you missed the earlier sermons in the series, it's not too late. Listen to them online on the PPC Web site, [pinnaclepres.org](http://pinnaclepres.org), or download them free via the Apple iTunes Store (search in the store for Pinnacle Presbyterian Church Podcast).

## Amigos Hosts Wine Tasting and Pasta Dinner

The Amigos, PPC's social group of older adults (both singles and couples), plans its first Wine Tasting and Pasta Dinner for Friday, April 16, at Legend Trail Community Center.

Wine tasting will begin at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30.

This will be a fun event which you don't want to miss. The cost will be \$25 per person and includes tasting of a select group of wines offered by Total Wine, plus a complete pasta dinner to follow.

A silent auction of fine wines is also planned for the evening.

You will have the opportunity to increase your knowledge about different wines as well as having a chance to spend quality time with your fellow Amigos.

Look for the sign-up table after worship this month.

For more information, please contact Bruce and Anita Baudler at [brucebaudler@gmail.com](mailto:brucebaudler@gmail.com) or John and Candy Richards at [johnrichards@cox.net](mailto:johnrichards@cox.net).

## Come Hike in McDowell Mountains with PPC Friends

In April, the Pinnacle Hikers plan to hike the Desert Park trail in the McDowell Mountains on Saturday, April 17.

The adult hiking group will leave from the Chapel parking lot at 8 a.m. This is a moderate hike of about 5 miles.

For more information, call Donna Mobley at 480.513.0150.

## PINNACLE PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

## Music Is in the Air During April

The month of April will be full of music at the Preschool.

On April 24, the No. 1 selling children's music duo Greg & Steve will perform as part of the Pinnacle Concert Series.

Co-sponsored by the Preschool, this fun and entertaining family event will be held in the Sanctuary at 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 per person; children 2 and under are free. Tickets can be ordered online at the Pinnacle Concert Series Web site, [pinnacleconcerts.com](http://pinnacleconcerts.com), or by calling the preschool office at 480.585.9448 ext 2.

**PPP's Night of the Arts** will also take place this month, at 6 p.m. April 29. The children of PPP will be performing many songs they have learned throughout the year from their Music class. Also several pieces of artwork made by the children will be on display in the Art Studio.

Ice cream sundaes will be enjoyed by all, in bowls personalized by each child.

This is an evening that is dedicated to celebrating the child and their creativity while sharing their accomplishments with family and friends.



## Mingles for Singles Going to 'It's Showtime'

PPC Mingles for Singles will attend It's Showtime II (see next page), at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 18, in the Sanctuary.

When purchasing your tickets, ask for *left balcony* and plan to arrive between 3:30 and 3:45 so that we may sit together. (Assigned seats are not available.)

After the show, consider joining us for a light dinner (you decide the location).

Mingles is open to single members of PPC, men and women, in their 40s and up. For more information, please contact Meredith Downing at 480.518.0789 or [ppc.singles@cox.net](mailto:ppc.singles@cox.net).

## MEET OUR NEW FRIENDS

Say "hello" to our newest members.



Kirsten Bigler



Herb and Jo Ann Dixon



Sonja and Don Hall



Aubyn Howe

## MUSIC AT PINNACLE

## Choirs Present a Gift of Music on April 25

As part of the celebration of the Music Ministry of Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, all the choirs of the church will be participating in the April 25 worship services.



This year for the first time, the children and youth choirs will be presenting an extended prelude for the 10 a.m. service. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. the young people will offer their "Gift of Music" as a special 30-minute prelude.

This Sunday marks the end of the program year for these choirs and will be a fitting conclusion for their musical journey this year.

We encourage everyone to come early for the 10 a.m. service or linger after the 8 a.m. service to listen to this inspiring music.

Other music events in April at PPC include:

### Dance With Beethoven

7:30 p.m. Friday, April 9

Join Michael Christie and the Phoenix Symphony as they perform Beethoven favorites. The lively rhythms permeating Symphony No.7 along with its stirring melodies and drama continue to inspire audiences today. Coupled with the composer's light-hearted Symphony No. 8 and the Overture from "Creatures of Prometheus," this is an evening of orchestral music not to be missed.

### It's Showtime III! - Encore Performance

4 p.m. Sunday, April 18

Here is another chance to experience the sounds of Broadway in your own backyard. Join Pinnacle's Chancel Choir members and soloists as

Please see **MUSIC** on next page

## Calling All Pets (and Your Owners)

PPC's annual Blessing of the Animals will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 10, on the Green. Meet all of your four-footed friends (and maybe some web-footed ones), get blessed and get free stuff from Petco.

For more information, contact Tina Brown at 480.515.1361 or tcb51@cox.net.

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they step out of their choir robes and into the spotlight for an afternoon of merry musicmaking. Be ready to hear your favorite show tunes sung with an enthusiasm that will put a smile on your face and a song in your heart.

#### **Greg & Steve: Family Fun for Everyone**

4 p.m. Saturday, April 24

With more than three million recordings sold, Greg & Steve are the No. 1 selling children's music duo in the country. It's easy to see why: Their singable lyrics and catchy melodies are set to a contemporary beat that is sure to keep even the youngest listener engaged. With a motto of "Educate, Motivate, Enrich and Entertain," Greg and Steve promise an afternoon of toe-tapping fun for all ages.

#### **ASU Symphonic Choral: An Unforgettable Evening of Choral Music**

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 27

The premiere Symphonic Choral from ASU will showcase works by women composers. This select group of singers, directed by Dr. Gregory Gentry, will perform works by Libby Larson, Gwyneth Walker and Hildegard von Bingen among others. Join this exceptional ensemble drawn from all walks of university life as they present an unforgettable evening of choral music.

**PINNACLE VISTAS DEADLINE** Please remember, the deadline for submissions for the May issue of *Pinnacle Vistas* is Saturday, April 10.

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

#### **BIRTHS**

The congregation celebrates the birth of:

**Charles** and **Henry Collins** to **Kaprice and Rory Collins**  
**Landon Cooper Biggs** to **Maria and Matthew Biggs**

#### **BAPTISMS**

The congregation celebrates the baptism of:

**Kristen Nicole Uelner**, child of **Tiffany and Scott Uelner**

#### **SYMPATHY**

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

**Will Pearson** on the death of his wife, **Sandi Pearson**

**Betty Lee** on the death of her son, **Blake Lee**

**Sabrina and Ed Ball** on the death of Ed's father, **Edward Ball**

**Patty Feldman and family** and **Margaret and Greg Morris and family** on the death of their father, **Charles E. Morris**

### PINNACLE YOUTH

## Youth to Lead Worship on April 11

April 11 is this year's Youth Sunday, when the teens in our church plan and lead the worship service. Come and support the Youth as they share the word of God with the congregation.

## Confirmation Class Continues through April

We are well into the confirmation process. The Youth have been meeting on a weekly basis to learn about and discuss theology.

April is a big month for them. They will be writing their own statements of faith, where they articulate what they have learned and where they see God at work in their lives.

Please keep the confirmation students in your prayers as they finish up this process and move towards publicly confirming their baptism.

## Youth Host Fundraising Dinner on May 14

The Youth will host a dinner for the congregation on Friday, May 14.

There will be fellowship for all and activities for the younger members of our community. Funds raised will benefit the Youth program.

Mark your calendars and watch for additional details.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### April 2

William Ball  
Eric Blomquist  
Austin Fairbanks  
John Voris

### April 3

Gregory Frey  
Carl Gates  
Heather Mains

### April 4

Steve Moore  
Sandy Redd

### April 5

Peyton Heuser  
Charles Ruebling  
Florence Solomon  
Linda Wade

### April 6

Lynne Avram  
Nick Roe

### April 7

John Casas  
Campbell Honing  
Laurie Jones  
Warren Lasater

### April 8

Janet Lincoln Bale  
Erica Bender  
William Kirk  
Fran Lindsey  
Ralph Mullen  
Marilyn Strohan

### April 9

Randall Downing

### April 10

Mark Casada  
Brandon Lake  
Mary LaValley  
Michael Misner  
Myrna Richard

Hannah Schafer

### April 11

Kathryn Normann

### April 12

Ted Brenalvarez  
Cheryl Clarkin  
Brooklyn Dean  
Marilyn Hylton  
Tom Lyon

Winslow Schmelling

Karen Voris

### April 13

Bill G. Bale

### April 14

Nancy Houston  
Alex Kowal  
Christina Pribish

### April 15

Jonathan Harris  
Christina Koster  
Paige Satterfield  
Ian Seabright

### April 16

Dona Campbell  
James Frein  
Eric Honing  
Eugene Wade

### April 17

Walter Joachim  
Leilani Southworth  
Jennelle Yarwood

### April 18

Lauren Casada  
Marilyn Harrer

Lily Helfert  
Ella Mancini

### April 19

Chloe Barbato  
Sharon Riley  
Linda Rooker

### April 20

Connor McKnight  
Jerry Pryor

### April 21

Stacey Lampkin  
Alexander Potter

### April 22

Alexa Augustine  
Dylan Bender  
Megan Davis  
Dale Gerald  
Cindy Neel

### April 23

Ben Wells

### April 24

Emily Beghin  
Lori Biondo  
Cinnie Montague  
Jerry Smith  
Rachel Sutherland  
Sharon Yeakley

### April 25

Nancy Conover  
Ruth Norton  
Nicole Pribish

Please see  
**BIRTHDAYS**  
on next page

**NOT LISTED?** We must not have your birthday on file. Please call 480.585.9448 or e-mail Carol Skewes at cskewes@pinnaclepres.org.

## PINNACLE THEOLOGICAL CENTER

### Rev. Joan Brown Campbell Discusses Implications of the Social Creed

Rev. Joan Brown Campbell concludes Pinnacle Theological Center's 2009-10 program, "Transforming God's Dream Into Reality," at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 15, in the Chapel. She will discuss Implications of the Social Creed for the 21st Century for the Church and Ecumenical Religious Community.

Her life's work has truly been an example of applying that vision. She led a delegation to present the Catholic edition of the New Revised Standard Version Bible to Pope John Paul II. She worked with Martin Luther King Jr.. She served as a monitor in the election of Nelson Mandela as President of South Africa. She was the co-director of a mission to Belgrade where, with the help of the Serbian Orthodox church, she successfully negotiated the release of U.S. soldiers held captive. Archbishop Desmond Tutu referred to her as "a woman of courage and compassion."

Rev. Campbell received her B.A. in speech and M.A. in elementary education from the University of Michigan. She taught for a year and then focused on her family while becoming a leader in the ecumenical movement.

At age 50, she was ordained in both the American Baptist and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ.) She was the first women appointed as Executive Director of the U.S. office of the World Council of Churches. And today, she serves as Director of Religion at the historic Chautauqua Institution, a 131-year-old center for art, education, religion and recreation.

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#### April 26

Ramsey Dean  
Anjali Hayes  
H. R. "Dick" Swanson

#### April 27

Michele Hammer  
Campbell Helt  
Helen Hutchison

Amanda Swanson

#### April 28

Isolde Davidson  
Mark Ralston  
Grimes Redd  
Megan Shell

#### April 29

Christopher Armstrong

Olivia Pascucci

Austin Schmelling

#### April 30

Todd Balvin  
James Heidbreder  
Grace Murray