



Happy Easter from Church of the Roses

Jesus is the Reason

March/April 2026 Rose Clippings

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ROSES

Rose Clippings Newsletter Vol. 64 No.2 March/April 2026

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

Upcoming Events

03/07— Sacred Space, 5pm

03/14—Presbyterian Women, 9:45am

03/19—ZOOM Book Club, 2:30pm

03/21—PCOR Men's Group, 8:15am / UCSB Concert Choir, 5pm

03/24—Session Meets, 6pm

03/28—Polenta Feed, 9am / Beading Group, 9:30am

03/29—Palm Sunday

04/02—Maudy Thursday Service, 5pm

04/03—Good Friday Requiem, 7:30pm

04/04—Sacred Space, 5pm

04/05—Easter Sunday Service, 10am

04/10—Parents' Night Out—5:30pm

04/11—Presbyterian Women, 9:45am

04/16—ZOOM Book Club, 2:30pm

04/18—PCOR Men's Group, 8:15am

04/25—Beading Group, 9:30am

04/28—Session Meets, 6pm



From Pastor Kevin

Dear Friends,

The word Lent comes from old English and old German words for spring, the words referred to the lengthening of days. The Latin word for Lent is Quadragesima which refers to the traditional forty-day period for Lent. Even though Lent is one of the oldest liturgical seasons, with celebrations beginning in the second century, it wasn't always forty days. It wasn't until the fourth century that Lent was established as a forty-day period. The season was celebrated to prepare for Easter.

In the early church, the time was also used to prepare people who wished to become part of the Christian faith community. During this preparatory period, the catechumens would fast, pray, and read from the gospels. On the Saturday before Easter, the catechumens would have a vigil to prepare for their baptisms on Easter morning. After their baptisms, they would be given a new white robe to denote their new life in Christ.

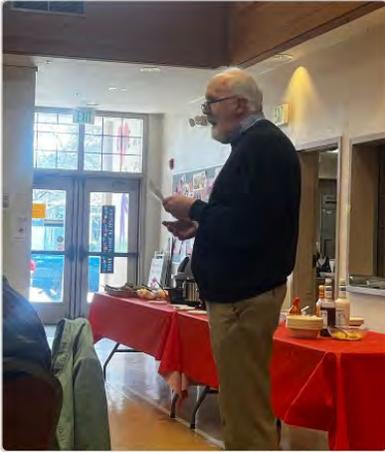
Many of these practices were expanded to all believers when Lent was established as a forty-day season in the fourth century. Believers would fast; part of their fasting would involve refraining from eating meat. There was a practical side to this abstinence, by the time that Lent rolled around, before modern preservation method most stored meat would be on the verge of spoiling. Believers would also follow the canonical hours for prayer, study scripture more, and practice almsgiving.

All these spiritual disciplines were intended to help the believers be ready for the celebration of the resurrection, new life, on Easter.

The early spiritual disciplines led to the modern practice of giving up something for Lent. For many people, this practice of giving up something is more like a reset of New Year resolutions. The practice has been seen as an act of self-improvement. While self-improvement is a laudable goal, I am not certain that such a practice embraces all that should be done in order to fully embrace the meaning of Lent or Easter.

The resurrection at Easter was a gift for the whole world, not just individuals. I think a better practice for Lent would be to challenge ourselves to also act for the world around us. One could ask oneself, what is something I can do that will improve the world about me? In a world that increasingly seems uninterested in the common good, what is something each of us could do for the common good? The old practice of almsgiving is one place to start; could we also add volunteer time to a local food pantry or soup kitchen, helping underprivileged students to read or do their homework, helping a neighbor with yardwork or home repair, or some other action to make the world a better place? Rather than giving up, what will we give to celebrate the new life that Christ brings with Easter?

Yours in Christ's love,
Kevin



VOLUNTEER
Lunch
♡
♡
♡



Director of Music

Happy New Year! This is a wonderful time to step up and join the choir! The Chancel Choir is happy to have a new tenor among us – Ezra Hernandez. We're thrilled that he has decided to join us! Maybe you have always wanted to sing in a choir, or play the handbells? Our handbell Director, Jessie Arriola, is always looking for new ringers! So if you're looking for fun activities that keep your brain working at high speed, just find me or Jessie on any Sunday or send me an email: carol@churchoftheroses.org

Listed below are the last two concerts of the season scheduled on our Roses Signature Concert Series. We have a new group (new on the Roses Concert Series, that is) coming to sing for us – the Chamber Choir from UC Santa Barbara on Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 p.m., directed by Brent Wilson. It's always fun to hear new choirs and the interesting music they perform. Then our Good Friday concert on April 3rd at 7:30 p.m. will feature the lovely Requiem by Michael John Trotta. The choral ensemble, Cantiamo Sonoma, some members of the Chancel Choir, and selected members of the community will join us once again. Be sure to add this to your calendar – the Trotta Requiem is sure to become a favorite!

Saturday, March 21st at 5:00 p.m.
UC Santa Barbara Chamber Choir under the direction of Brent Wilson
Friday, April 3rd at 7:30 p.m.
Good Friday Concert ~ Mozart Requiem



Roses Signature Concert Series
2025-2026

Sunday, October 12	Jazz Concert 2:00 p.m. Bennett Friedman Jazz Quartet
Sunday, November 2	Recital 2:00 p.m. Carol Menke & Marilyn Thompson
Sunday, November 16	A Choral Afternoon 2:00 p.m. MCHS Choral Department <i>under the direction of Gail Bowers</i>
Sunday, December 21	Christmas Concert 4:00 p.m. Four For His Glory & Roses Chancel Choir
Sunday, February 8	Recital 2:00 p.m. Young Aspiring Musicians
Friday, April 3	Annual Good Friday Concert 7:30 p.m. <i>Requiem</i> by Michael John Trotta

Presbyterian Church of the Roses
2500 Patio Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Free Admission
Donations Gladly Accepted

Roses Signature Concert Series
presents

A Choral Afternoon

**UC Santa Barbara
Chamber Choir**
Brent Wilson, *Director*

Saturday, March 21st, 2026
5:00 pm



Admission is free

Church of the Roses
2500 Patio Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95405



**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE ROSES**

Be an Integral part of our ministry by supporting our Sunday Radio broadcast!
Donate \$100 to pay for a month of sermons and music played over KSRO's radio stations in the Santa Rosa region.

WORSHIP IN THE Arts



Our interim Pastor, Rev. Dr. Kevin Buchanan, Continuing PCOR's tradition of fine preaching that enlightens, refreshes and reaffirms.

LENT began on Ash Wednesday and continues until Palm Sunday. Pick up "Tread Lightly for Lent," in the Narthex or view it from a link in the Mail Chimp. It is a calendar of readings and actions to do during Lent. This resource comes from Presbyterian Church (USA).

FLOWER DONATIONS AND DEDICATIONS FOR EASTER If you want to make a plant donation "In memory of or in honor of..." the form should be submitted by March 29 along with payment of \$20 per plant. Forms will be available in the bulletin or church office 2 weeks prior to March 29.

HOLY WEEK begins March 29 with Palm Sunday.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – Come to Bowen Hall April 2 at 5:15 PM for hand washing by Deacons, followed by a Soup Supper and a service of Communion at tables as we remember the Last Supper and the betrayal of Jesus.

GOOD FRIDAY – A Requiem Concert will be directed by Carol Menke April 3 at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary. See the Music Report by Carol in the Rose Clippings for other details.

SACRED SPACE will meet April 4 at the usual time of 5:00 PM the first Saturday of the month in the Rose Room.

EASTER - APRIL 5 – Please bring cut flowers to attach to the cross in front of the church as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ.

The Worship Committee hopes the Lenten and Easter seasons are meaningful and blessed times for you and your loved ones.

Charlotte Finney, Chair of Worship Committee



PCOR MEN'S GROUP



Mark your calendar for March 21st and April 18th - two Saturdays dedicated to brotherhood, connection, and good conversation.

On these mornings, the men gather over a hearty breakfast, and everyone is welcome to jump in—whether it's helping cook, enjoying the meal, or pitching in with clean-up. These moments around the table are where real connections form and brotherhood grows stronger.

This is a space to meet new men, strengthen friendships, and be part of a circle built on support, respect, and authenticity. Among brothers, you'll find encouragement, laughter, and a community that lifts each other up.

Pull up a chair and be part of it. We look forward to sharing good food, great conversations, and meaningful moments together. See you there.

Coffee, Pastry, and Camaraderie

PCOR women, join us at Pascaline every 3rd Saturday, 8:15 a.m.

(during Men's Club) for no-host, no-agenda cup of coffee and pastry. And, of course, GREAT conversation!



Volunteers are NEEDED!

We need more Breakfast Angels to keep our breakfast club going every day of the school year! Please plan to give of your time one day of the week from 6:30am to 8:30am with cleanup after either on a weekly basis or as a substitute when needed. Mondays and Wednesdays are most in need.

Call the church office and speak to Raven for more information: 707-542-4272.



AWESOME SHOW COMING TO 6TH STREET PLAYHOUSE - JUNE 14th

6th Street Playhouse

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Sister Act

OPENS May 29, 2024

QUARTET TICKETS

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 Book by Shiz and Chen Shenstone
 Directed by David Carter Stone

WWW.6THSTREETPLAYHOUSE.COM

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No Host - Order Your Tickets

Church and World



Montgomery High School (MHS) Breakfast Program: PCOR is so blessed to have such wonderful Breakfast Angels! We have been serving about 80-90 burritos (and pancakes are served on some days) to the 7th-12th graders. The Program's cost is around \$2500+ per month. Please feel free to donate directly to the breakfast program. If you are interested in being a Breakfast Angel, especially as alternates for Mondays through Fridays, please call the church and speak to Raven if you can help at (707) 542-4272.

Thank you to Joy Olson, Breakfast Angel, who has been helping to seek out grants for the MHS Breakfast Program. Joy Olson and Rhonda Darrow were invited to a lunch meeting to receive a grant check of \$1000. The club members were also invited to come and volunteer. We are currently awaiting word about the grant appli-

cation submitted to The Julia L. Grant Fund for Basic Human Needs—Community Foundation Sonoma County.

Thank you for your continued contributions to the **Cents-Ability** collection baskets in the Narthex and Campbell Court on the **second Sunday of every month**. The collection is for the Presbytery Hunger Fund. We are able to keep 25 percent of the contributions which will go toward the Montgomery High School Breakfast fund.

PCOR is active in becoming better stewards of God's Earth. **The Earth Care Congregation Application** was submitted on January 16, 2026. We are awaiting acknowledgement and certification of our sixth year as an Earth Care Congregation.

Pat Silva is Church & World's Committee's representative of the Interfaith Council of Sonoma County, United in Kindness with Moe Jabbari, and the Smoothing Stones Gathering (Pat, Anthony Lim, and Bob Priestley).

Pat Silva and Rhonda Darrow will be representing PCOR in attending the *Interfaith Symposium on Food Insecurity*, February 24, 2026, 7:00-8:30 PM, at Congregation Shomrei Torah. This event has invited all faith-based organizations in Sonoma County to join this inclusive gathering to learn, connect, and collaborate on addressing hunger in our community. This panel-style event will feature Allison Goodwin, President and CEO of the Redwood Empire Food Bank, alongside other local leaders working to reduce food insecurity.

The One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering is February 18 - April 5, 2026 (offering collection on Easter Sunday).

Our current membership includes **Anita Pinney, Chris Rhodes, Jonathan Steele, Pat Silva, Cheryl Malseed, Pastor Kevin Buchanan, and myself.** This Committee meets by Zoom on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 P.M. If interested in joining the committee or have ideas on local missions or earth-care activities, please contact Rhonda Darrow at rdarrow@pacbell.net or (707) 481-4743.

Prayers for World Peace,

Rhonda Darrow, Chair (2026-2028)





Holy Week & Easter Services

Presbyterian Church of the Roses

Join us as we journey together through **Holy Week**, remembering the story of Christ's love, sacrifice, and resurrection.

March 29 — Palm Sunday

Worship service commemorating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

April 2 — Maundy Thursday Service | 5:00 PM

A reflective service remembering the Last Supper and Christ's commandment to love one another.

April 3 — Good Friday Requiem | 7:30 PM

A solemn and beautiful service of music and reflection honoring Christ's sacrifice.

April 4 — Sacred Space | 5:00 PM

A quiet time for prayer, contemplation, and spiritual reflection.

April 5 — Easter Sunday Service | 10:00 AM

Celebrate the joy of the **Resurrection** with worship, music, and community.

We look forward to sharing this meaningful and sacred week together.

DEACON

We are blessed to have seventeen Deacons serving this year, and they are already busy making plans for 2026!

Please mark your calendar for Deacons Buddy Day, which will take place following the service on April 12 in Bowen Hall. Join us for a time of fellowship, connection, and refreshments as we gather together as a church family.

Your Deacon Buddy will be reaching out soon with more details, so stay tuned!



MEMBERSHIP

JOIN US

Hello! Greetings from the PCOR Membership Committee!

We are seeking friendly people to greet visitors before worship on Sunday mornings. Would you like to make our guests feel welcome? If so, see Kim Seamans in the Narthex on Sunday to learn about this easy and fun opportunity!

We also have openings in the Membership Committee. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 in the Adult Education room off Bowen Hall. We are working on updating the welcome brochure and other publications, as well as the church website. Join us on April 7th. We would love your participation and input!

Fellowship Committee

While we neglected to take pictures, on January 4 the Fellowship Committee welcomed Pastor Kevin Buchanan with homemade soups, salad and biscuits. Our Girl Scout troop came in on Saturday to prepare the meal and returned on Sunday to serve and clean up afterwards.

On February 15, our Girl Scouts returned to make 300 Blessing Bags with members of the church. After the bags were made, everyone enjoyed pizza and ice cream. We also helped consume the leftovers from the volunteer appreciation lunch the previous Thursday. Please feel free to take blessing bags stored in Bowen Hall to distribute to those in need that you encounter.



As we approach the spring season, the church is busy with activities that you can become a part of. Our Fellowship Committee is looking for additional members to join us and help plan fun activities and fellowship for the Church.

We could not offer weekly fellowship time without volunteers helping to set-up, clean-up, bring snacks and make coffee. We encourage you to sign up for a Sunday to help. Catherine Priestley is now coordinating Sunday fellowship. Please sign up for a Sunday on the sign up sheet on the refreshment table each Sunday or contact Catherine to donate.

Thank you,

Linda Lance, Fellowship Chair

Church of the Roses

presents

Requiem

Michael John Trotta

April 3, 2026 · 7:30 pm

Carol Menke, *Conductor*

Cantiamo Sonoma & Roses Choir

Brian Shaw, *Organist*

Requiem is a prayer for those who have gone before us, for those that are left behind, and a prayer that all of us may find peace when facing the unknown.

Michael John Trotta, 2024

Church of the Roses

2500 Patio Court
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Suggested Donation at the door

OUR VISION

Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to ALL



OUR MISSION

- To be an inclusive, caring Christ-centered community.
- Follow the Holy Spirit's guidance as we live and proclaim the Good News of God's love, peace and justice.
- Worship God with gratitude in a welcoming environment
- Bring glory to God.
- Serve youth, families, seniors and singles who need God's love and compassion.



PRESBYTERIAN
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OF THE ROSES



Each Sunday morning from 7:30-8, we broadcast a 30-minute church sermon on KSRO radio.

Over the last couple years, we have grown our audience and in 2023 we had an average weekly listenership of 5,380 each week!

KSRO has 3 signals, 1350am, 103.5fm and 96.9fm.

1350am



103.5fm



96.9fm



SESSION NOTES – FEBRUARY, 2026

SESSION ACTION:

- ◆ Accepted the resignation of Lynne Vandercook as Parish Associate for PCOR.
- ◆ Approved the serving of beer and wine at the wedding reception of Fred Morgan and Teddie Neyman on 5-2-26 in Bowen Hall.
- ◆ Approved the new contract with Teddie Neyman as Sunday School Teacher, and the new contract with Fred Morgan as Director of Youth Ministries.
- ◆ Accept a bid of \$24,800 or lower for the replacement of two HVAC units serving the pre-school
- ◆ Accept the bid from Buena Vista Company for pest control services at \$180 per month

SESSION REPORTS:

Deacons: Vicki Lewis has been elected as the new Moderator of Deacons.

Pastor: Pastor Kevin has two volunteers for the Mission Study Group, and another potential member. He would still like at least two more for the committee, and is looking for more volunteers or suggestions for members from the congregation.

Personnel: Chair Chris Rhodes noted that three youth who are members of our Audio/Visual Team are graduating this summer and moving out of town. We will be advertising to the Montgomery HS Breakfast youth, and asking our graduating youth for recommendations. Of course, any suggestions from the congregation are welcomed.

Building & Grounds: After reconnaissance by Dennis Darrow, it has been determined that the persistent water leak in the kitchen ceiling is coming from a damaged HVAC duct, possibly due to rodents. We will seek expert advice on repair when the two HVAC units for the preschool are replaced soon.

Note: Elder/Deacon Retreat is Saturday, 2-28-26 from 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM at the church.

Linda Burille, Clerk of Session



**Support the Presbytery Hunger Fund
and the Montgomery High Breakfast**

It's Cents-Ability Sunday

**Baskets await your
Contributions in the Narthex and
Campbell Court!**

Presbyterian Women



**Saturday March 14
Lesson 5
The Gift of the Woman
Who Was Poor. Mark 12:41-44**

**Saturday April 11
Lesson 6
Finding Our Joy in Christ
"I Will Say It Again Rejoice"
Philippians 4:1-23**

Come join our friendly fellowship!



**Book Club
Thursday March 19
2:30 p.m. on Zoom**

The Barbizon By Paulina Bren

Stories of the Hotel that set women free.

Jeanne will have books



**Book Club
Thursday April 16
2:30 p.m. on Zoom**

Black Cake By Charmaine Wilkerson

Estranged siblings come together to deal with their mother's death and solve the mystery of her secret past.

Jeanne will have books

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ROSES

SACRED SPACE

EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT IN A NEW WAY

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

5-6 PM

Parents Night Out!

**Friday, April 10 5:30 -7:30 p.m.
At Church of the Roses**



**Games and Crafts for kids (Ages 2-11)
and a short children's movie
Pizza for Fats**

**Register your children by April 15
by contacting Amber at Preschool
707-544-8600 or rosebudpreschool@sonic.net**



**Lenten Bible Studies Begin
February 25
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on
ZOOM**

Pastor Kevin will be leading the Study.
We will be using materials from
The Anglican Church that focus on
The Fruits of the Spirit
On Zoom every Wednesday till March 25

The Beading Group



**Meets Every 4th Saturday at 9:30 AM in Bowen Hall
Come for the craft, stay for the connection
All are welcome!**

Our Rosebuddies

have been busy learning all about transportation! From everyday vehicles to emergency vehicles and even postal trucks, children have been exploring what different vehicles do and how they help our community. We were especially excited to welcome a sheriff's visit, where the children got to see the patrol car, flashing lights, and hear the siren up close. It was such a memorable experience! We can't wait for March 25th when the fire department comes for a visit.



In preparation for Valentine's Day, the children practiced writing and delivering mail, which was a fun way to build early literacy skills while connecting learning to real-world experiences.

Next, we'll be moving into a cheerful unit focused on spring and Easter, exploring seasonal changes, new growth, and celebration traditions.

In Pre-K, we continue our Letter-of-the-Week exploration. Each week brings a new letter name, sound, and writing practice, along with engaging mini-units such as weather, birds, rainbows, friendship, and Lunar New Year. It's been wonderful to see the children's confidence with letters growing each week!



Upcoming Dates:

- March 16-20: Spring Break — *School Closed*
- March 27: Easter Celebration

March 30: School Closed in observance of César Chávez Day

We're looking forward to a joyful spring season filled with learning, creativity, and community!



Seniors on the Move

Get ready to embrace strength, vitality, and community! Join us every Monday at **10:30 AM** for **Stronger Seniors Exercise**. This energizing session helps uplift your spirit, strengthen your body, and keep you moving. Come connect, stay active, and enjoy the journey to a healthier you.

Let's Get Your Move On – see you Monday!

If you or someone you know is being abused (and they are under 18 years old), call: 707-565-4304.

If you suspect Elder Abuse, call the hotline:
707-565-5940.

Your report can be anonymous, the call is
CONFIDENTIAL.

You might be saving a life or connecting the family to resources they need.
BLESS YOU!



BUILDING & GROUNDS



Interior building climate progress is being made; two failed HVAC units serving the preschool are scheduled for replacement mid-March. Using temporary replacement parts one has been kept operating at a minimal but sufficient level. The other units will be maintained as long as reasonably possible before replacement.

Periodic small roof leaks continue to be a problem from the part of the roof not recently replaced and our committee minimizes the repair cost by opening the ceiling and identifying the origin area of the leak saving time and cost when the roofer is hired to make repairs,

We have developed a request form for use when events such as a special music presentation requires furniture rearrangement. This helps ensure we are best able to provide necessary support services.

Our members include people with a number of valuable talents and experience including but not limited to carpentry, plumbing, landscaping, sheet-rock, and painting., all skills required to maintain our large and ageing building that includes a commercial kitchen and preschool. Others with similar skills and interests are invited to join us.



PRAYER REQUESTS

THOSE WITH HEALTH ISSUES

Greg Basham

Jim Bauer

Dan Bargar

Barbara Blinn

David Barber

Diana Burdick

Walker Cash

Marjorie Cortez

Yvonne Draper

Robert Flandermeyer

Michele Hare

Phil Henry

Macey Luu Kellam

Kensi

Marina

Chris Ledwick

Vivian Mazeski

Carole Michel

Gene Michel

Lesley Pillsbury

Jonathan Steele

Bill St. John

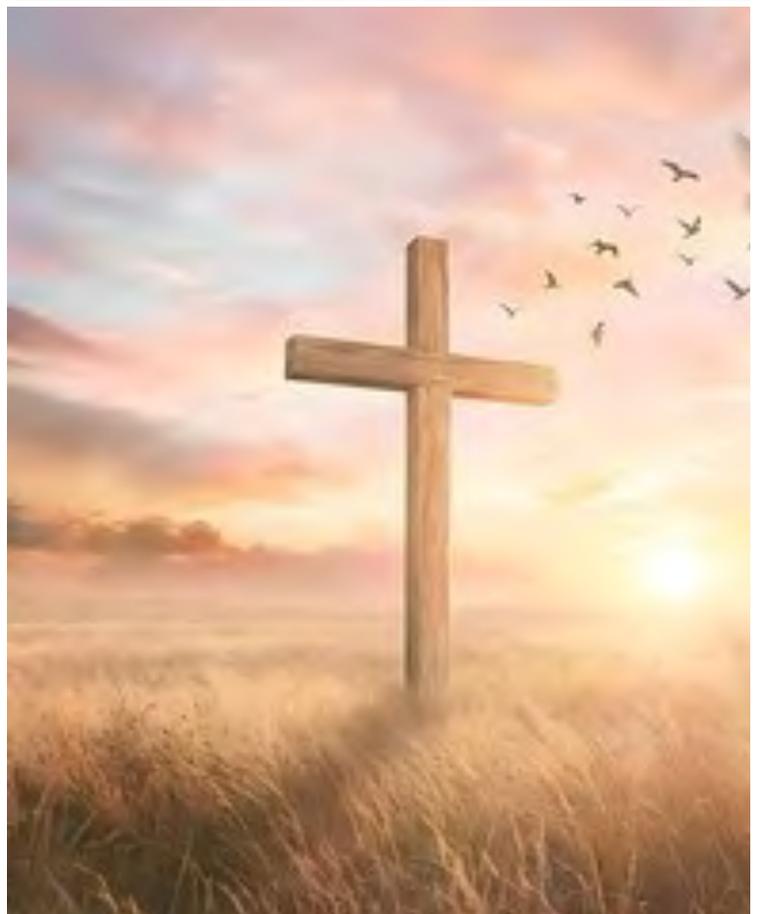
Lynne Vandercook

Dr. Bob Yee

THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Coast Guard Commander Ian Alloway Culver in Washington D.C - Headquarters, Col.

David Trowbridge, M.D. with the Air Force Reserve, those aboard the USS Midway CVS



CHURCH OF THE ROSES WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE BUSINESSES FOR MAKING OUR NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE

EARTH Day Is April 2026
Fun book for children 3-8
6 stories, 60 pages

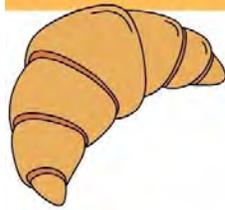
"Grandma's Garden Friends"

Author, JR Moore ~ Art, Emily Wycoff



Ages 3-8 Children Meet The Wonders In Their Garden
on Amazon Soon
 JudithRiversMoore@gmail.com

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NEW Book Release...Memoir

1976 Bicentennial Travels

A Family of Four On Quarters
 by Judith Rivers-Moore

Exploring our USA's history
 on a 7.5 month journey.
 Released For Our 2026
 250 Year USA Birthday

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Join us Sundays @ 10am
 in the sanctuary or watch the
 Livestream on our Facebook
 page. Or at
www.churchoftheroses.org



Sundays 7:30-8am Listen to
 Pastor Kevin's
 Sermons on
KSRO 103.5 FM

