

Road to the Cross 2023

40 days of prayer

Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday
February 22 to April 2

Prayer Meeting at the Pastor's
Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 PM
Call the church office for directions.



Holy Week at Westside

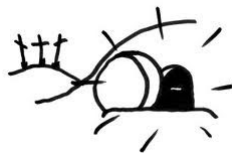
April 2 to 9, 2023

Sunday, April 2
**Palm Sunday Worship &
Deacons' Benevolence Offering***
10:30 AM

**Used to meet emergency needs in our
church and community.*

Easter Sunday, April 9
Sunrise Service & Potluck Breakfast
Time TBA
*Chapman's home in RR
(call 896-8412 for time, directions)*

Resurrection Service at the Rec.
10:30 AM



*To preach and teach biblical TRUTH and to
live that TRUTH in love.
~ WCPC's Mission Statement ~*

Meeting next to Ace Hardware
At 110 Sabana Grande SE
1 light north of 528 & Southern

Join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 AM
westsidecpc.org
Friend us on Facebook

WESTSIDE
CUMBERLAND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 15209
Rio Rancho, NM 87174
(505) 896-8412

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Understanding



The TIMES

1 Chronicles 12:32

Volume 13, Issue 2

February 28, 2023

The Old Rugged Cross

"But we preach Christ crucified: A stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks..."
(1 Corinthians 1:22-25)

Since 2020, a new cross, largely undetected, has come into the church. The new cross is like the old but different. Any similarity is largely superficial. The new cross goes to great lengths not to disrupt the course of man's life. For Adam's proud flesh the old cross meant the end of the journey. Sadly, the new cross does not clash with the human race at all. *"The old cross would have no truck with the world"* writes A. W. Tozer. So, to which cross do you cling? Is your life defined more and more by the old rugged cross? Or does your life conform day by day to a new more accommodating cross?

THE NEW CROSS

The new cross embraces good clean fun and innocent enjoyment. It lets Adam live without interference. His motivation in life is unchanged, only now he takes delight in swooning to praise tunes and watching movies of a Christian bent. There is nothing wrong with these things, but the new cross does not slay the sinner... it redirects him. He still lives for his own pleasure. It gears him for a cleaner more respectable way to live and saves his self-respect. To the self-assertive it says, *"Come and assert yourself for Christ."* To the egotist it says, *"Come and do your boasting for the Lord."* To the risk-taker it beckons, *"Come and enjoy the thrill of fellowship."* The new cross slants Christian preaching to whatever is in vogue so the message is pleasing and acceptable to the public. The philosophy behind this thing may be sincere but its sincerity does not save it from being false.

THE OLD CROSS

The old rugged cross is the emblem of suffering and shame; the symbol of death. It stands for the abrupt, violent death of a human being. The man or woman in Roman times who took up his cross, started down a road from which there was no looking back. The old cross made no compromises, modified nothing, spared nothing (including so-called 'feelings'), it slayed the man completely, for good. The old cross did not try to stay on good terms with the sinner. It still pierces the heart of rebellion. It still is hard and cruel until the old man is crucified. He must repent. He must believe, forsaking his sins and then go on abandoning himself and declaring himself unworthy before God, no hope to negotiate with God. It's time to receive Christ's mercy.

We're called to *"Preach and Teach Biblical Truth and Live that Truth in Love."* Our trouble is not that we refuse to believe right doctrine, but that we refuse to practice it. As Westside CPC enters the first week of our 40 day journey on the Road to the Cross, I hope you find Sinclair Ferguson's Daily Reflection helpful. Sing with me, *"I will cling to The Old Rugged Cross, its shame and reproach gladly bear."* No matter where you are in the world, if you're ready to cling to the old rugged cross and need prayer, call.

~Vaya con Dios, Pastor Harry



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

***Please pray for:**

Sherry B; diagnosed w/ breast cancer, small and slow-growing; **Michael & Kristie** (nephew/wife, Don L), as Kristie has been placed in hospice following a several-years battle with a cancerous brain tumor; **Hannah M**, continued prayer for complete healing following 10-month complications from strep; **Paul L** (bro-in-law, Ida M), recovering from (successful!) triple bypass; **Jessica** (daughter/Judy T), blood clots in lungs, right lung has died due to lack of blood flow; for our March **Presbytery** meeting, those traveling and attending

***Continue to Pray for:**

Tommy (brother/Kathleen B), stage 4 lung cancer, blood clots; **Kristy** (daughter/ Pastor Tom & Rena B); as she continues to recover from back surgery; **Lola** (7 year old granddaughter/Tom & Tonya W), undergoing cancer treatment

***Those serving in the military:**

Nicolas B (E-6 Petty Officer First Class/ Navy, Hawaii); **Josh L** (E-5/Air Force, NM); **Mark V** (Major/Army)



2023 Session (Elders)

Melanie C, Sherry M, Steve N,
Kristen P, & Dell W

2023 Diaconate (Deacons)

Ann M, Toni M, & Linda N

Westside Calendar of Events - 2023

March

- 05 - Communion Sunday
- 08/10 - Presbytery del Cristo, El Paso, TX
- 11 - Saturday Women's Fellowship Brunch
- 12 - **Daylight Savings begins**/clocks forward
- 14 - Deacons' Meeting
- 28 - Session Meeting

April

- 02 - Palm Sunday/Deacons Benevolence Offering Communion Sunday
- 09 - Sunrise Service & Potluck breakfast - TBA Resurrection Service - 10:30 AM
- 11 - Deacons' Meeting
- 25 - Session Meeting

Weekly Meetings

Thursdays

***Men's Breakfast & Bible Study**
Week's RR, 7:00 AM
Contact: Ken Y, 505.220.2968

Fridays

***Friday Women's Breakfast & Bible Study**
9-11 AM
Hosted by Ida M, 505.814.4155

The Times is a bi-weekly publication and ministry of **Westside Cumberland Presbyterian Church**
Pastor, Harry Chapman, 620-2427
Editor, Nancy Nolan, nancye320@aol.com

WCPC Bulletin Board...

***Happy Feb/Mar/Apr Birthdays to:**

- Mark S, February 1
- Josh M, February 5
- Maria S, February 11
- Megan M, February 14
- Cecilia M, February 27
- Danny N, March 16
- Laurie Y, March 18
- Sonja H, March 20
- Leroy T, April 2
- Hannah M, April 18
- Linda N, April 23
- Lueck, April 24



Westside Happenings

***Saturday Women's Fellowship Brunch...**

March 11th, 10:00 to Noon, our hostess this month is Ida M. Sign up at church or online: nancye320@aol.com

***"Road to the Cross" Prayer Meeting...**

Wednesday, March 15th, 7:00 PM at Pastor & Sally's home in Rio Rancho. Call the church office for directions.

***Sunday School Classes...continue**

9:45-10:15 AM. Adult study: the Apostle Paul's letter to the **Ephesians**, Children's class: "The Spirit of a People Called Cumberland Presbyterian."

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it...It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

~Ephesians 4:7, 11-13

***Friday Women's Breakfast & Bible**

Study...9:00 to 11:00 AM, hosted and facilitated by Ida M. (505) 814-4155. Our study: *30 Life Principles Bible Study* by Charles F. Stanley.

Giving by mail:

Westside Cumberland
Presbyterian Church
PO Box 15209
Rio Rancho, NM 87174

Giving on our website:

westsidecpc.org
click GIVE
scroll down to DONATE

In the Mail

Dear Westside Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Peace be with you! I am writing to notify you of my change of address. My mother passed away in October, I sorted and packed in November and moved to a small apartment in Longview, TX in December. Through it all, God has blessed our family in many ways. I continue as Pastor at Pine Tree CP Church but am able to be more present and focused on ministry. Keep in Touch!

~Pastor Cindy Barton

Editor's note: Pastor Cindy is a long-time friend and supporter of WCPC.

Dear Operation Christmas Child Volunteers

Thank you for working with Samaritan's Purse in '22 to send gifts, prayer, and the gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to children all over the world. I am looking forward to seeing what God will do in 2023!

Peace and blessings,

*Trina Hatcher, Rio Rancho
Church Relations Team Volunteer*

Dear Westside Cumberland Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of the Missions Ministry Team we would like to express our deep appreciation to you for the generous gift recently received from your congregation, designated for the Loaves & Fishes offering. Your contribution to this year's (2022) campaign will help fund a new Harvest Project in Brazil.

Thanks again for the kind generosity and stewardship manifested in the gift you have made.

Grace and Peace,

*Milton Ortiz
Missions Ministry Team*