

HENDERSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PO Box 91346  
Henderson, NV 89009

# The Sunshine News



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE HENDERSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PASTOR LEE STYER

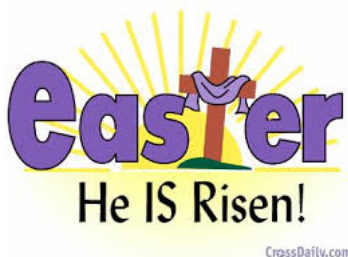
[www.hendersonpres.org](http://www.hendersonpres.org)

565-9684

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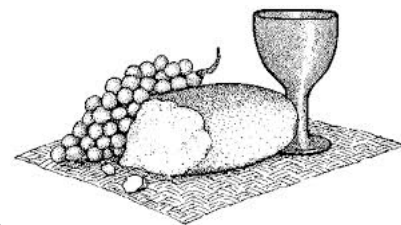
Located right next to Morrell Park on Major Avenue.

**APRIL 2015**



## *April Worship Services*

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> We will have our Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. preceded by a Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on this special evening. The message will be the final in the "Seven Last Words of Christ Series" entitled "Into Your Hands". Luke 23:44-49 is the Gospel passage for the message.

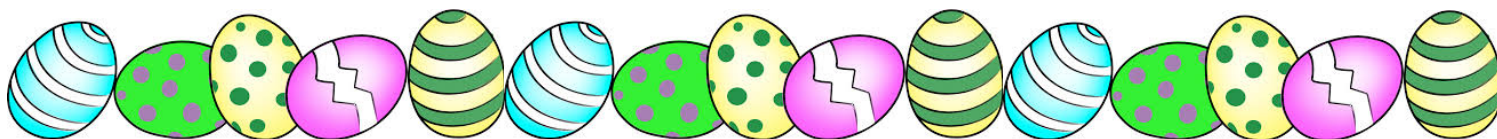


April 5<sup>th</sup> "RESURRECTION OF THE LORD SUNDAY!" Invite some friends and neighbors and worship with us at this very special worship service. "Who Are You Looking For?" is the sermon title with the resurrection account as recorded by the Apostle John in John 20:1-18 as the focal passage.

April 12<sup>th</sup> We will be blessed to have our Parish Associate, Pastor Hilda Pecoraro, as our "Guest Pastor" for this Sunday. Pastor Hilda always has wonderful insights for all of us.

April 19<sup>th</sup> "On the Road to Emmaus" is the title for this morning's sermon. Luke 24:13-35 is the Scripture.

April 26<sup>th</sup> We will look at another of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances with "Peace Be With You" – words spoken by Jesus when he met his disciples in Jerusalem on the day of his resurrection. We will be focusing on Luke 24:36-49 in the message.



# April 2015

1	<b>April Fools Day!</b>	
2	6:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service/Potluck
3	4:00 PM	Youth Craft Group
4	8:00 AM	Men's Group
5	<i><b>Easter Sunday</b></i>	
	9:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service Children/Youth Sunday School
	11:05 AM	Pot Luck Coffee Fellowship
7	10:00 AM	<i>Women's Bible Study</i>
	12:00 PM	Head, Heart, Hands Craft Group
9	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
10	4:00 PM	Youth Craft Group
12	9:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service Children/Youth Sunday School
	11:15 AM	<b>Deacon's Meeting</b>
14	12:00 PM	Head, Heart, Hands Craft Group
15	7:00 PM	Bible Study
16	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
17	4:00 PM	Youth Craft Group
19	9:00AM	Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service Children/Youth Sunday School
	11:30 AM	<b>Commission Meetings</b>
21	10:00 AM	<i>Women's Bible Study</i>
	12:00 pm	Head, Heart, Hands Craft Group
	7:00 PM	<b>Session Meeting</b>
22	11:30 AM	Daytimers' Group Meeting/Potluck
22	7:00 PM	Bible Study
23	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
24	4:00 PM	Youth Craft Group
26	9:00 AM	Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service Children/Youth Sunday School
28	12:00 PM	Head, Heart, Hands Craft Group
29	7:00 PM	Bible Study
30	7:00 PM	Choir Practice

# April Birthdays

1	Connie Knight
5	Lance McDade
5	Alice Cain
5	Victoria Sylvia
6	Stewart Fallon
7	Adrienne Mondeau
8	Peggie Carter
8	Agnes Phillips
10	Scooter Holmes
12	Neil Holmes
13	John Shepherd
14	Lisa Shepherd
14	Polly Wilson
15	Jared Bushell
16	Tyler Hansen
18	Steven Grevich
20	Colleen Ferguson
20	Anne Mack
21	Jenny Rios
24	Carol Coleman
27	Nancy Clanahan
27	Glen Meyers
29	Richard Frassato



**If you don't see your name listed in the birthdays or anniversaries, please let the office know so we can add**

## Celebrating an Anniversary

6 *Susie and Chuck Parsons*



## SCOUTS THIS MONTH

1st & 3rd Mondays	6:00 PM, Sea Scouts
2nd & 4th Tuesdays	5:30 PM, Girl Scouts
Wednesdays	6:00 PM, Cub Scouts
	7:00 PM, Boy Scouts

## “PASTOR-LEE” THOUGHTS

The month of April starts with three of the most important events in the history of the world. The first is Maundy Thursday; the second is Good Friday; and the third is “Resurrection of the Lord” Sunday (also known as Easter Sunday).

Maundy Thursday is on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is the day we remember and celebrate the Lord’s Supper. Jesus and his twelve disciples ate the Passover meal together that evening and at the end of the meal, Jesus gave us the new celebration we call the Lord’s Supper, the Eucharist, or Holy Communion. We are told to remember HIM when we celebrate this meal rather than remembering the first Passover when the Israelites were “passed over” by the angel of death prior to their exodus from Egypt. The bread and the cup are symbols of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection ... whenever we do this we remember Christ.

Good Friday is on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. On this day Jesus went to the cross for each one of us. I always find it unbelievable that he would love us so much to endure the pain of the cross – both physical and spiritual – in order to not only fulfill Scripture but to bring about the “New Covenant.”

Then, on April 5<sup>th</sup> we have the most exciting day for any Christian to celebrate. It’s the day we start with three very important words: “He is risen!” What a miracle! In the “Fiddler on the Roof” there is a song called “Miracle of Miracles”. This song recalls several of the miracles that occurred in the Old Testament, including Daniel in the lion’s den and David slaying Goliath. The song ends with the following few lines:

But of all God's miracles large and small,  
The most miraculous one of all  
Is the one I thought could never be:  
God has given you to me.

[source: <http://www.lyricsondemand.com/soundtracks/f/fiddlerontherooflyrics/miracleofmiracleslyrics.html>]

This song focuses on the relationship between a young man and young woman being the best of God’s miracles, but it doesn’t remotely compare to the most incredible miracle of miracles. That most incredible miracle was when Jesus Christ, after being crucified rose from the dead on that amazing Sunday morning. As I think about the lyrics of “Miracle of Miracles” I think they should be:

But of all God's miracles large and small,  
The most miraculous one of all  
Is the one I thought could never be:  
God has given His Son to me.

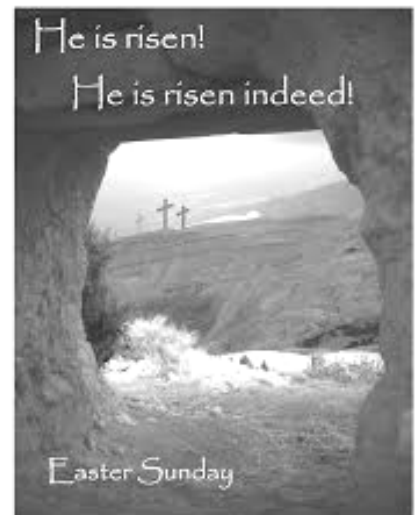
For the Christian, every day is “Resurrection of the Lord” day. Jesus had gone to the cross as the final sacrifice for our sins. It is because of this “miracle of miracles” that we are given the wonderful gift of a new life.

It is definitely a time to celebrate!

He is risen!

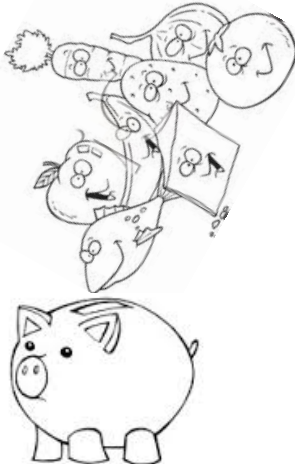
He is risen, indeed!

*In His Service,  
Pastor Lee*



# Food Bank

Please remember the Betty Baucom Food Bank, in your weekly giving. Your contributions are desperately needed as we try to supplement our needy neighbors with food and personal hygiene items. You are making a huge difference as we share the love of Christ in this most tangible and concrete way. Thank you for your continued support of this worthy church outreach program. Make your check payable to "HPC Food Bank."



## HEAD, HEART, HANDS CRAFT GROUP

Head, Heart & Hands continue to create various treasures for sale. We have a few new pairs of hands and are enjoying getting to know them better. The main project we were hoping to accomplish (the storage below the front staircase) will not happen. We have been informed that there would be a safety issue per the fire department. We are continuing to organize and clear out the old to make room for the new. Should you see a need, whether it be a change or clean up item please let one of our ladies know so we can address it. Once again, we thank you all for your ongoing support. We truly enjoy our time together.

Alice Cain

WE NEED GROCERY BAGS for giving out the food to our clients, and personal hygiene items are particularly helpful (soap, small shampoo, small toothpaste, tooth brushes, small towels).



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

The Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study continues to meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room led by Pastor Lee. The study focuses on the "Faith Lessons" DVD series presented by Ray Vander Laan. Mr. Vander Laan is a teacher-historian that has taken tour groups to locations in the Middle East and Mediterranean region and taught them about the culture, history, and context of the Bible pertaining to the specific biblical location. We will be continuing with Volume 12 of the 12 part series. It is called: "Walking With God in the Desert." In the description for this volume we have the following:

Are you going through a difficult period of life? The loss of a loved one? Unemployment? A crisis of faith? During these desert times, it's easy to think God has disappeared. In *Walking with God in the Desert*, you'll discover that it's only when we are totally dependent on him that we find God is closer than ever and can experience his amazing grace and provision.

[<http://www.christianbook.com/world-vol-12-walking-desert-with/9780310329923/pd/112536>]

The weekly lessons for April include: "Join the Journey" (filmed in the Sinai Desert); "It's Hot Here and There's No Way Out" (filmed in Wabi Nasb); and "Help is Here" (also filmed in Wabi Nasb). There is always a "Faith Lesson" following the video to challenge us.

Note: The Bible Study will NOT meet on April 1<sup>st</sup> (during Holy Week) and April 8<sup>th</sup> (Pastor Lee will be on vacation) so it will only meet on the 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> of this month.

All are welcome to attend. If you have never come to the Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study, we would love to have you join us. Each lesson is independent of the others. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **PRESBYTERY OF NEVADA SPRING GATHERING MARCH 15-18**

The Presbytery Meeting happens twice a year, where all the churches meet for Church worship, business and fellowship. This time it was hosted by the Green Valley Presbyterian Church and a fulfilling and inspirational time was experienced by all. The theme this Presbytery was "Lead, Not Leave!" The representatives from HPC were Gil Tam, Marshall Hanson, Dennis and Rev. Hilda Pecoraro and Rev. Lee Styer.

Presbytery began with a commissioner reception where people got to know one another in a social situation and orient the commissioners as to their responsibilities and business that is brought before them for consideration. This is the beauty of the Presbyterian Connectional church form of governance, in that many heads inspired by the Holy Spirit will make wise decisions for the good of the Body of Christ.

The Presbytery was called to order by Moderator Rev. Rebecca Watkins of Community Church in Lee Vining, California. Roll was called and various committee reports were received concerning Pastoral preparation, mission projects, and budget. Highlights included the call extended to Rev. David Dendy who will become the installed Pastor on June 20 at Mtn.View Pres. (We are cordially invited to attend this ceremony and celebration) He is a young, dynamic family man who has grown up in the Presbyterian Church and hails from Houston, TX. Capt. Mitch Holley who grew up in the GVPC was welcomed as an Air Force Chaplain stationed at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. Rev Richard Hutchinson was installed as Interim Pastor for Spanish Springs in the Reno Area. We then enjoyed a sumptuous dinner hosted by the Filipino Pres. church meeting at GVPC.

Presbytery Worship and communion was celebrated Tuesday evening. It featured the GV choir, hand bell choir, instrumentalists, communion and an inspiring heartfelt message by Robert Crall, the interim Pastor at Mtn. View. His message of "One Hope Which Belongs to Our Call," emphasized that the Holy Spirit guides us as we read the Bible and calls us to Christian Ministry. The offering was collected and over \$1400 was dedicated to Amazing Grace Ministry here in town, as they transform lives of the most challenged in the Las Vegas Area.

The next day, final voting on the Peace Affirmations suggested by the last General Assembly was taken. Nevada, having an independent mind, suggested various amendments and these will be suggested to the next General Assembly in Portland Oregon in 2016.

The voting on the various Amendments to the Book of Confessions/Order were then taken. A new Confession to be added, the Confession of Belhar, which originated in South Africa, was defeated. A Child Protection Policy was approved and the most publicly controversial amendment to allow (but not compel) the PCUSA pastors and churches to conduct same sex marriages was voted on. Although a majority of other Presbyteries in the PCUSA approved it the day before (87 of 172 presbyteries) our Nevada Presbytery voted against this by an 11 for versus 43 against margin.

Closing prayers, blessings and thanks were extended. The fall Presbytery meeting will be held at Zephyr Point Conference Center in Lake Tahoe Sept. 13-17.

Blessings,  
Marshall Hanson Elder  
Presbytery Delegate

Answer to Bible Cryptogram, pg. 11  
My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is  
my mighty Rock, my refuge, Trust in Him at  
all times, O people Psalm 63:7-8 N.T.V.

## OPPORTUNITIES AT HPC

Calling all who worship at Henderson Presbyterian Church! We need you to sign up on the clipboards on the end of the hallway leading to the Sanctuary. There are multiple opportunities to be part of your church. Get involved in the life of the church in one of these ways.

You can sign up ...

- ⇒ to be a **Lay Leader** on Sunday morning – it's not as hard as you might think! Check with Craig Sell, our Elder in charge of Worship, for more information.
- ⇒ for **Coffee Fellowship** (sign up with several friends if you like) – our Coffee Fellowship is a great time to introduce ourselves to someone we don't know ... or "touch base" with our friends over something to eat. (see below)

Note: On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month there will be a "Pot Luck Coffee Fellowship" in which all are encouraged to bring some item to share. It will be a great time to taste the various food items – from cookies, fruit, vegetables, chips, or other treats – prepared or brought by our congregation. Coffee and punch will be provided.

- ⇒ to be a **Greeter** to welcome those who come to worship with us – a friendly smile is a great way to be met on a Sunday morning. If you have any questions, please contact Marshall Hanson, our elder in charge of Membership & Evangelism.

# Coffee Fellowship

Thanks to everyone who has offered to provide for the coffee fellowship on Sunday mornings. Some people have never done the coffee fellowship before, or might not have done it in a while. Here are some "Dos and Don'ts" of coffee fellowship service.



### DO

1. Bring food and set up in Fireside Room

Nothing extravagant is necessary. Try to bring something for someone with a sweet tooth and something for one with no sweet tooth! In other words, try fruit and cheese and crackers, or cookies and a veggie tray, or chips with hummus and a special dessert.

2. Clean up after coffee hour. This includes:

- washing out coffee pot,
- dumping tea water,
- if tablecloths and dishcloths are soiled take them home, wash and bring back next week,
- vacuum or sweep,
- take out garbage from fellowship room and kitchen.

### DON'T

1. Purchase plates, utensils and napkins as they are provided by the church.
2. Make coffee and hot water for tea. It will already be set up for you in the Fireside Room.

**Thank you!!**

# FIRST QUARTER DEACONS' REPORT

The mission of your Deacons is that of HPC with a sub-mission to see to the welfare of its congregation. The Deacons believe that our first concern is the church's members and regular attendees. The duties we perform and programs we plan revolve around this premise.

Notwithstanding our regular duties as prescribed by the Church and Session, the Deacons are endeavoring to plan functions that bring the Church Community together.

It is often the small affairs that matter. The success of Valentine's cards and Green Sunday have encouraged us. We have enlisted assistants to help when we have functions which has involved more of the congregation. Still, it can become tiring when too many events coincide, so, the extra help is much appreciated. Plans for the future involve a baseball outing, pot lucks and the June Ice Cream Social.

The Deacons have an ongoing project that involves connecting with members and attendees to be sure we are meeting their needs. You can always contact us if you feel someone needs the church to call or, if you notice their extended absence. Likewise, the Deacons encourage you to call the church if you need help or are planning an extended absence.

Your suggestions are always welcome. Put a note in the plate or call the office.

As we prepare ourselves for the Easter Season, may we remember those who cannot be with us in person. Reach out to those you know and help celebrate Christ's resurrection by a visit or phone call.

Karen

## WHAT IS MAUNDY THURSDAY?

Maundy Thursday is observed during Holy Week on the Thursday before Easter. Also referred to as "Holy Thursday" or "Great Thursday" in some Christian denominations, Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. Derived from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning "commandment," *Maundy* refers to the commands Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper: to love with humility by serving one another and to remember his sacrifice. In contrast to joyful Easter celebrations when Christians worship their resurrected Savior, Maundy Thursday services are typically more solemn occasions, marked by the shadow of Jesus' betrayal.

While different denominations observe Maundy Thursday in their own distinct ways, two important biblical events are the primary focus of Maundy Thursday solemnizations:

Before the Passover meal, **Jesus washed the feet** of his disciples. By performing this lowly act of service, the Bible says in John 13:1 that Jesus "showed them the full extent of his love." By his example, Jesus demonstrated how Christians are to love one another through humble service. For this reason, many churches practice foot-washing ceremonies as a part of their Maundy Thursday services.

During the Passover meal, **Jesus took bread and wine** and asked his Father to bless it. He broke the bread into pieces, giving it to his disciples and said, "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup of wine, shared it with his disciples and said, "This wine is the token of God's new covenant to save you--an agreement sealed with the blood I will pour out for you." These events recorded in Luke 22:19-20 describe the Last Supper and form the biblical basis for the practice of Communion. For this reason, many churches hold special Communion services as a part of their Maundy Thursday celebrations. Likewise, many congregations observe a traditional Passover Seder meal.

Taken from: <http://christianity.about.com/od/easter/qt/maundythursday.htm>



**MAY 2, 2015**

**7:00 PM**



Come out to Cashman Field for a Great Game against the Reno Aces.

It's also Scout Night!

\$10 cost includes:

Admission and Reserved Seat Tickets

\$5 Food Vouchers good at any concession stand and 51s' Team Store  
51s' Baseball Hat

See our name on the scoreboard!

Plus, the first 2500 fans receive a Las Vegas 51s Poster!!

**See Sue Lednicky to reserve your seat. Payment required in advance, due by April 19.**

**Let's Go  
Fly a Kite**



**Sunday, April 12  
11:00 a.m.**

Keep your eyes open for kites overhead! Yes, we'll be flying kites again on **April 12th**. Meet after church in the Sunday school room to design your very own kite, then go next door to the ball fields to fly it! **Bring your own lunch and spend the afternoon!** Harvey Rolf is our resident kite flying pro and will help us all create great kites for flying. This is for everyone who enjoys a good time!



**MEN'S  
FELLOWSHIP**

The Men's Fellowship group will be meeting on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Come and join other men in a time of a fellowship over a delicious breakfast, prayer, and a devotional thought to inspire us in our lives. The group will be meeting in the Fireside Room at 8:00 a.m. Thanks to Marshall Hanson for his outstanding leadership!







**Henderson Presbyterian Church is enrolled in Smith's Community Rewards Program. Please take the time to link your *rewards* card to HPC's account. It costs you nothing and you don't lose fuel points or your coupons.**

## Enrollment Instructions Smith's Community Rewards

- ◆ You must have a registered Smith's *rewards* card account to link to an organization
- ◆ Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 1-800-576-4377, select option 3 to get your Smith's *rewards* card number.
- ◆ If you do not yet have a Smith's *rewards* card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Smith's.

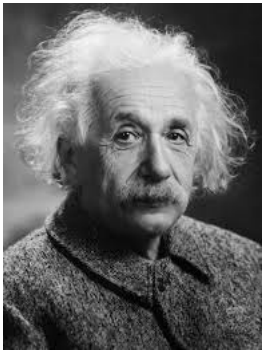
### Step by Step instructions for new online accounts:

- ◆ Visit our website at [www.smithscommunityrewards.com](http://www.smithscommunityrewards.com)
- ◆ Click on REGISTER NOW
- ◆ Complete Sign in information by entering your email address and creating a password.  
Enter your zip code in the "Your location" space, then select your favorite store and agree to the terms and conditions.
- ◆ A message to check your email inbox will appear. Check your email account, you must click on the link within the body of the email to continue.
- ◆ View all information—enter your *rewards* card number and edit as necessary.
- ◆ Link your card to your organization in Account Summary:
  - ✓Community Rewards
  - ✓Enroll
  - ✓Search for Organization by name or the Organization's unique Non-Profit Organization (NPO) number (HPC's number is **20641**)
  - ✓Click ENROLL

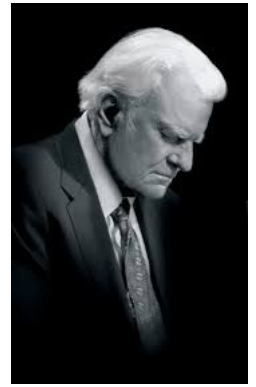
### If you already have a Smith's online account or want to Edit the Organization you previously selected:

- ◆ SIGN IN to your account. Enter your email address and password. Click on your name under "Welcome back!"
- ◆ In ACCOUNT SUMMARY—The last option is Community Rewards
- ◆ Click on ENROLL/EDIT
- ◆ Enter a Non-Profit Organization (NPO) number (HPC's Number is **20641**) or a few letters of the organization's name, then SEARCH. Select an organization from the list and click ENROLL.
- ◆ To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see the organizations name on the Account Summary page.

**REMEMBER**, purchases will not count until after you register your *rewards* card and link to an organization. Members must swipe their registered Smith's *rewards* card or use the phone number that is related to their registered *rewards* card when shopping for each purchase to count.



## EINSTEIN AND BILLY GRAHAM



Billy Graham is now 96 years-old with Parkinson's disease. In January 2000, leaders in Charlotte , North Carolina invited their favorite son, Billy Graham, to a luncheon in his honor. Billy initially hesitated to accept the invitation because he struggles with Parkinson's disease. But the Charlotte leaders said, 'We don't expect a major address. Just come and let us honor you.' So he agreed.

After wonderful things were said about him, Dr. Graham stepped to the rostrum, looked at the crowd, and said, "I'm reminded today of Albert Einstein, the great physicist who this month has been honored by Time Magazine as the Man of the Century."

"Einstein was once traveling from Princeton on a train when the conductor came down the aisle, punching the tickets of every passenger. When he came to Einstein, Einstein reached in his vest pocket. He couldn't find his ticket, so he reached in his trouser pockets. It wasn't there. He looked in his briefcase but couldn't find it. Then he looked in the seat beside him. He still couldn't find it. The conductor said, 'Dr. Einstein, I know who you are. We all know who you are. I'm sure you bought a ticket. Don't worry about it.'"

"Einstein nodded appreciatively. The conductor continued down the aisle punching tickets. As he was ready to move to the next car, he turned around and saw the great physicist down on his hands and knees looking under his seat for his ticket."

"The conductor rushed back and said, 'Dr. Einstein, Dr. Einstein, don't worry, I know who you are; no problem. You don't need a ticket. I'm sure you bought one.'"

"Einstein looked at him and said, 'Young man, I too, know who I am. What I don't know is where I'm going!'"

Having said that Billy Graham continued, "See the suit I'm wearing? It's a brand new suit. My children, and my grandchildren are telling me I've gotten a little slovenly in my old age. I used to be a bit more fastidious. So I went out and bought a new suit for this luncheon and one more occasion. You know what that occasion is? This is the suit in which I'll be buried. But when you hear I'm dead, I don't want you to immediately remember the suit I'm wearing. I want you to remember this: I not only know who I am. I also know where I'm going."

Amen and peace, my friends. And may each of us have lived our lives so that when our ticket is punched we don't have to worry about where we are going. Even at his age and with Parkinson's Disease, he could still deliver a powerful sermon!

### AUDIO CDS OF PREVIOUS SERMONS

Audio CDs of Pastor Lee's sermons are now available for your personal use. Just phone the church office, 702-565-9684, and let them know which week's sermon you would like to borrow.



### PRAYER CHAIN

The members of the prayer chain have been finalized and are ready to pray for you and your friends and family. Phone or send your requests to Karen Fallon at 702-592-0811 or email [kate42nate@yahoo.com](mailto:kate42nate@yahoo.com).





# SUDOKU

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4		5				6		7
6			9					
1			7	8			2	4
				3				
5	8			4	6			3
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			2		3	4		

## Bible Cryptograms (Below)

Solving Pointers:

Start with small words like I, a, of, as, he, to, be, etc.

For example, in your puzzle the letter "I" may be substituted everywhere the letter "R" is found.

Once you use a letter, mark it off the letter list at the bottom of the page.

By looking for the same combinations of letters

more than once in a puzzle you will find the more common words. The combination "S X B" might appear more than once and "X B" appears 4 times together, so the word "THE" would be a good choice to try first. With those three letters used you already have many letters of the puzzle finished! Now you will be able to see common three letter words starting to form. By filling in the most common letters in the three and four letter words, other bigger words will start to form.

Just continue filling in the four and five letter words and the bigger more complicated words will start to form. Basically the trick is to start with common small words and progress up to bigger less common words.

## BIBLE CRYPTOGRAM (Scripture Verse in Code) No. 14 <http://www.Biblewordgames.com>

**A B O R P X R Q V L U R U F A B T L U L G**

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**F Y Z Y U F L U E L F ; T Y V O A B A V E T Q B**

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**G L J W, A B G Y H K E Y. Q G K O Q V U**

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**T V A R Q R P P Q V A Y O, L Z Y L Z P Y.**

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## LETTER USED

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# Easter Lilies

Often called the "white-robed apostles of hope," lilies are said to have been found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony. Tradition has it that the beautiful white blooms sprung up where drops of Christ's sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow and deep distress. At Easter time, churches bank their altars and surround their crosses with masses of Easter lilies to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and hope of life everlasting.



A mark of purity and grace throughout the ages, the regal white lily is a fitting symbol of the greater meaning of Easter. Gracing millions of homes and churches, the flowers embody joy, hope and life. Whether given as a gift or enjoyed in your own home, the Easter lily serves as a beautiful reminder that Easter is a time for rejoicing and celebrating.

## Caring for Easter Lilies

The most popular lily species to grow indoors is the Easter lily. The tall stems grow to two feet or more and the white six-inch, trumpet-shaped blooms are heavily scented. The average lily with one stem has four to six flowers. A "double nosed" or two stemmed plant may have as many as twelve buds. The shorter and more compact plants are usually preferred.

Easter lilies are beautiful plants and with some helpful maintenance suggestions, an Easter lily can last well beyond the Easter season.

Over-watering is one of the biggest problems when caring for these plants. Determine when to water by feeling the soil surface. When it is dry to the touch, add water until it runs through the drainage holes in the bottom of the pot. Let it drain. If foil decorates the pot, punch holes in the material to allow excess water to drain. After watering, discard excess water in the saucer to prevent root rot.

To get best results with a lily, place it in bright light away from direct sun light. Temperature in the daytime should average 60 to 70 degrees and about 60 degrees at night.

Remove spent flowers from the plant as soon as possible. When new buds open, remove the yellow anthers bearing the pollen. This keeps the white trumpet clean and prolongs the life of the flower.

When the last flower of the Easter lily plant has faded, remove it from the pot. Plant on the east or north side of the house in a semi-shady area where drainage is good.

Leave the stem attached to the plant until new shoots start coming up from the base. Then, cut the stem off at the soil line.

When given proper care, the Easter lily should become a permanent part of the garden. It will flower each summer. For more information on Easter lilies or other gardening questions, contact the Cooperative Extension at 702-222-3130.



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