All people smile in the same language. Vol. 20, Is. 1

THE HERITAGE HERALD

A Letter From Paul

Lent Begins Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Why is it important to remember the season of Lent?

The season of Lent is, to my mind,

the most unusual season of all.

Advent, **Christmas**, & **Epiphany** are filled with **expectation**, **warmth**, and **wonder**.

Easter is full of **joy**.

The **Day of Pentecost** is filled with **excitement**.

Ordinary Time (the time between Pentecost Sunday and Advent) **describes much of my life**—ordinary.

But Lent is different; it's a paradox.

On the one hand it is a quieter, more subdued season. The music is softer, the words are measured, the faces are reflective, the ashes linger.

On the other hand, the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter is the most intense Christian time of all as we explore deep questions like,

- **What does it mean to be me?**
- **What does God want me to do with my life?**
- **How do I become a better person?**

Lent is also a time for the church to meditate upon the meaning of the cross in Christian faith and life. The height and depth of Easter joy is directly proportional to the intensity of our awareness of the cross.

To help us begin our journey to the cross, we are all invited to gather with our sister churches on **Wednesday, February 17th, at 7:00pm at East Mesa Christian Church** (706 S. Greenfield Rd., Mesa). Our choir will be part of the combined choir. And I will be helping lead the service. I hope you can join us! Everyone is invited!

Shalom,

Paul

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, February 17, 2010
7:00pm Worship
East Christian Church
706 S. Greenfield Rd., Mesa

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Desert Heritage Staff

Pastor.....Rev. Paul A. Whitlock
Admin. Sec.....Susan Anderson
Music Director.....Mutsumi Mori
Ministers.....All our Members
"Timothy".....Michael Whitlock

Church Board

Buster & Sue Bradley.....Moderator
Richard & Dianne Williams....Vice-Mod.
Carolyn Phelps.....Secretary
Laurel North.....Treasurer
Camille Pietz.....Elders
Laura Meyer.....Deacons
Verlin Pietz.....Property
Roy Phelps.....Membership
Dianne Williams.....Education
Jean McColgin.....Outreach
Anita Joy & Krystol Reece...
...Organizational Secretary
TBA.....Stewardship
Wendy Whitlock.....Worship
Trish Stricker.....DHW
Ryan Dugan.....Youth Rep
Maynard Schneck.....At-Large
Mark Meyer.....At-Large
Bonnie Lehmann.....At-Large
Richard Hicks.....At-Large

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The HERITAGE HERALD is published monthly.
Volume 20 Issue 1

Webmaster: Jill Wen

News to Share from the Sanctuary Chair

Paz de Cristo Report

Our first Sunday of the new year saw us handing out socks, too. We had so many given that we have hundreds left over! They were given to Paz for them to continue to distribute. Good Job, DHC! Thanks to

Harley & Snooks, Verlin, Nancy & Maynard, Kathie, Laurel, Jim & Don, Whitlock 4, Jim, and me.

We cooked beanie weenies, rice, green salad, fruit salad, pastries, bread and butter, PBJ sandwiches & drinks. Wendy is the champion dining room cleaner. She has help but she's always the instigator and only leaves when it is all clean. I want you to know how much I appreciate all you do, Wendy.

With next month being the same time as the Super Bowl, we invite all of our non-football fans to make an appearance so our regulars can take a Sunday off. Thanks to all.

Love, Jean

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Our Next Opportunity to serve at Paz is February 7th. Yes, that's Super Bowl Sunday, but come down anyway and join us at Paz and show why our church is super.

February is *Soup* month.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Food Donation of the Month of February: Soup—canned, top ramen, or whatever else you can bring.

For those who like to plan ahead, the month of *March will be "sack of dried things"—that is, dry beans, peas, rice, etc.*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

In tough economic times…
please remember:

When those of us with resources have less,
those with almost no resources
have even emptier hands
and emptier stomachs.

Desert Heritage Women

Well, we did it again—had a great meeting and looking forward to our next meeting which is Tuesday, Feb. 9. We don't know what will happen then, but I know we will have a good time while serving our Lord. Our attendance is growing and our Bible Study is rewarding. Hope to see you then. 12:00 noon, Feb. 9th and bring a sandwich. Beverage and dessert will be served. Start the year off right—come and enjoy the study, fellowship, and service of DHW. Keep the following date: March 12 & 13 for the Rummage Sale!

Congregational Lunch Out

We're gathering at 1:00pm at Grandma's Kitchen (Main St. & Robson, Mesa) on the second Thursday—February 11th.

Congregational Dinner Out

We're gathering at 6:00pm at McGrath's (South of Hwy 60 on the West side of Stapley, Mesa) on the fourth Thursday—February 25th.

Our Third Annual Women's one-day Spiritual Retreat

We will meet at 8:30am for fellowship. The program will be from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Terese Hovan has once again offered her home and we will meet there for the day (1108 S. 79th Place, Mesa, 85208).

The theme this year will be prayer. Come and join us as we explore the wonder and power of prayer in our lives. The Cost is $10.00, with scholarships available, see Paul.

For more information please contact:

Krystol Reece at 480-641-0277
greece4@cox.net or

Anita Joy at 480-969-7534
joyjoy57@cox.net

Pastoral Care Page

If you or a loved one are entering the hospital, please take a moment and telephone the Church office at 480-969-5631 or Pastor Paul's cell, 480-242-6697. In prayer, please remember these people and their families:

Buster Bradley, Gerry Dillman, Susan Dillman, Dan Dugan, Ed Hook, Wanda Idle, Dot McCown, Bob Montgomery, Steve North, Don Pew, Dottie Rasmussen, Maynard & Nancy Schneck, Mary Short, John Williams

Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute.
Speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy. *Proverbs 31:8-9*

Lord, Let there be Enough:
enough bread, enough mercy, enough caring, enough joy, enough health, enough justice, enough work, enough praise, enough grace, enough peace, enough Christ. Amen.

"A Christian community is not a healing community because wounds are cured or pains alleviated, but because wounds and pains become openings or occasions for a new vision." Henri J. M. Nouwen

February 17th marks the beginning of Lent.

It's not a time for splitting hairs about what we can or cannot eat, what we can or cannot do, what we must or must not give up. Instead, **it is more about a re-examination of what it means to be faithful at this time and in this place.**

Haitian Relief

If you would like to donate to our Haitian Relief fund, please give a check payable to DHC and marked "Haiti". And we'll make sure it gets passed on to One Great Hour of Sharing for the UCC's and Week of Compassion for the Disciples. 100% goes to help people. Thus far, we've given $535.00. Please give generously.

Great
Renewal
Opportunity
Within / without

From our Peace Statement:

"No one will be denied into the full life, leadership and ministry of the church due to color of skin, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, language or status."

Final Report for 2009

Dec. 27:	99
2009 Avg.	101

(that's up from 92 in 2008)

Received:	$ 127,372.84
Expenses:	$ 130,290.13
Budget:	$ 138,706.00

Report for 2010

Jan. 3:	102
Jan. 10:	123
Jan. 17:	116
Jan. 24:	108

Yr. Avg. 112.25

Received:	$ 12,829.20
Expenses:	$ 7,968.25
Budget:	$ 9,409.69

Congregational Meeting Results

The congregation, meeting on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010, passed a $122,326 budget. Thank you to everyone who made a pledge and to everyone who helped prepared the budget. It is a balanced budget! Hooray!

Camp Fund Has a Great Start

Received:	**$ 1,424.02**
Goal:	**$ 5,000.00**

Silent Auction for Camp Scholarships Report

What a great turn out we had for the auction. We raised $769.51 for our camp fund. Great job DHC!

Spring Training Baseball Game

Remember how much fun and what great food we have had in recent years going to the ball game together! Well, this year will be no different! Here is the information you need to know:

What: *A Spring Training Baseball Game on Saturday, March 20—game starts at 1:05 pm. But the tailgate party starts at 11:00pm.*

Who is playing: *Chicago Cubs hosting the Kansas City Royals.*

Who can I bring: *friends, neighbors, family.*

Cost:

- *$23 for each ticket to the game.*
- *$5 for the tailgate party which includes a lunch of brats, burgers, pulled pork sandwiches & all the fixins, sides dishes, and drinks!*

Deadlines: *All tickets must be paid for 2 weeks in advance (that's March 6th).*

Contact Person: *Roy Phelps at 480-892-4677*

More Exciting Upcoming Events in February

- House Meetings. If you want to go and haven't been contacted, call Anita Joy at 480-969-7534 or Krystol Reece at 480-641-0277
- Our Ash Wednesday service will be held at East Mesa Christian Church on Wednesday, Feb. 17th. See the front page article for more information about this.
- Lent is the time for the Pastor's Class for young person wanting to be confirmed or wanting a baptism by immersion. If your child (or grand child) wants to be confirmed or baptized, contact Pastor Paul.
- Game Day sponsored by the Membership Ministry will be Saturday, Feb. 20th at 4:00pm at the church. For more info, contact Roy Phelps.
- Women's One-Day Spiritual Retreat will be from 8:30am to 3:00pm on Saturday, Feb. 27. Contact Anita Joy at 480-969-7534 or Krystol Reece at 480-641-0277

Important links…

For more info about the *Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*, look up their website: www.disciples.org

or go to the Arizona Region's site: www.arizonadisciples.com

For more information about the *United Church of Christ,* look up the website: www.ucc.org

or go to the Southwest Conference's site: www.southwestucc.org

Don't forget to check out our DHC webpage: www.desertheritagechurch.com

Check out our listing as an ONA church at www.ucccoalition.org

and also in the "Find a Church" section of the UCC website www.ucc.org/find/

Desert Heritage Church
The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
& United Church of Christ
1020 N. Horne, Mesa, AZ. 85203
480-969-5631
e-mail: dhchurch@qwestoffice.net or
dhchurchsec@qwestoffice.net
Find us on the web: **www.desertheritagechurch.com**
9:00am Adult Sunday School
10:00am Worship & Children's Church

The right angle to approach a difficult problem is the try-angle.

Return Address Requested

February Youth

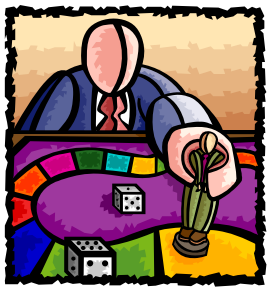
Youth Calendar

Feb. 7th 4:00pm PAZ

(Our kids are such a blessing!
They really are needed in helping out)

Feb. 21st 11:30pm

Come meet for a game extravaganza!



(Special thanks to Susie Anderson for taking over and leading our youth).

Silent Auction Results…

We raised $769.51 for camp through out silent auction. Thanks to those who *brought food*, the people who *gave gifts*, and the folks who *bought stuff*. A special thank you to the people who brought valuable items. Good Job DHC!

Youth Group is for all ages!
Fourth grade on up is invited to participate in youth group activities.

We will divide into age appropriate groups at our meeting.