

THE HERITAGE HERALD

A Letter From Paul

For just about everyone, this year



brought a shroud of uncertainty with no job being recession proof, and budgets shrinking with demands expanding. Often these times bring on a sense of worry. The gospels tell us not to worry. Yet, it is hard to expect anyone not to worry at least some during this time; So, if we're going to worry, I suggest we just worry about *worthy things*.

Things *not to worry about*:

- Perfect plans (or trying to be perfect for that matter);
- Wrinkled clothes; Wrinkled faces; Scratches in the paint;
- The Brand names on your clothing; Scores (especially if you're a Sun's fan);
- Burnt stuff (tell folks that really it's Cajun);
- Enough time (there never is);
- Newsletter articles being on time; Spelling.

Things *to worry about*:

- ◆ Did I say a least one kind thing to the kids in school, house, and/or church?
- ◆ Does everyone in the family (including those not related by blood) know that I love them?
- ◆ Is there gentleness, forgiveness and patience (or at least one of the three) in my heart?
- ◆ What am I doing to help the poor and the marginalized in this community?



If you read this, know that we love you and wish for you a less worrisome new year.

God Bless you.
Shalom,

Paul and Wendy Whitlock,
Michael, Nathan & Ruthie

<p>Inside this issue:</p> <p>News to Share from the Sanctuary Chair...2</p> <p>Pastoral Care & Vital Stats.....3</p> <p>Silent Auction.....4</p> <p>Youth.....5</p>	<p>Church Email Addresses:</p> <p>Paul: dhchurch@qwestoffice.net</p> <p>Katy: dhchurchsec@qwestoffice.net</p> <p>Web: dhcmesa.com</p> <p>Desert Heritage Staff</p> <p>Pastor.....Rev. Paul A. Whitlock</p> <p>Admin. Sec.....Katy Messare</p> <p>Music Director.....Mary Wagner</p> <p>Choir Director.....Nathan Whitlock</p> <p>Ministers.....All our Members</p> <p>"Timothys".....Michael Whitlock & Ryan Dugan</p>	<p>Church Board</p> <p>Verlin Pietz.....Moderator</p> <p>Jim Fuller.....Vice-Mod.</p> <p>Jill Wen.....Secretary</p> <p>Don Janiszkeski.....Treasurer</p> <p>Anita Joy.....Elders</p> <p>Bob Wen.....Deacons</p> <p>Mary Thomas.....At-Large</p> <p>Karen Kirkland.....At-Large</p> <p>Bob Wen.....At-Large</p> <p>Ministry Chairs</p> <p>Joyce Lowe.....Property</p> <p>Laurel North.....Fellowship</p> <p>Brandon Anders.....Education</p> <p>Rebecca Robinaugh.....Worship</p>	<p>Dan Phares.....Stewardship</p> <p>Mary Thomas.....Peace & Justice</p> <p>Fran Williams.....DHW</p> <p>Art Gilmore.....Men's Ministry</p> <p>Susan Dillman.....Grief Team</p> <p>Terry Womacks.....Prayer Ministry</p> <p>Office Hours</p> <p>9:00 a.m. to 12 noon M-F</p> <p>Office Phone: 480-969-5631</p> <p>Paul's Cell: 480-242-6697</p> <p>The HERITAGE HERALD is published monthly. Vol. 21 Is. 12</p> <p>Webmaster: Jill Wen</p>
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News to Share from the Sanctuary Chair



Paz de Cristo Report

What a cold night! But what a talented group of helpers. We served Tuna sandwiches, tossed salad, fritos, fruit salad, and pastries, PBJs and drinks. Thanks to:

Harley, Kathie, 2 Warners, 4 Whitlocks, Verlin, Bev, Mary, and Jim and me. Love, Jean

Our Next Opportunity to serve at Paz is **SUNDAY, January 1st!** Start the 2012 year off right, serve at PAZ!

The Health Department is requiring that volunteers at Paz be 10 years or older

Food Donation for Month of January

"Helper" Boxes



One of our goals in bringing food to Paz is not just to bring whatever is leftover in our cupboards, but supply them with what they need. Paz does food boxes on the 1st and 2nd Tuesdays of the month plus the 4th Saturday. Just bring a piece of mail (current) showing you have a place to live and your personal ID. The

hours are from 10am - 2pm.

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.

January 29th—Heritage Room mix-up Sunday!

Desert Heritage Women

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 10th at noon at church. Bring your own lunch. Dessert will be provided by & the lesson will be lead by Mary Thomas—we're on lesson # 8. Dorothy Peabody will be doing the Narthex display.

With help from DHW and our Men's group plus the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, we were able to sponsor 5 families for Christmas. Good job DHC!

Men's Group

Our next meeting will be Saturday, Jan. 21 at 8:00am where Breakfast will be served. Let Don Pew know if you are coming so he can catch enough chickens & gather enough eggs. The men will also be sponsoring a pancake lunch after worship on Jan. 22nd—Yum!



Bible Study: We meet in our conference area in the narthex from 6 to 7pm on Wednesdays. See Mary Whitlock for a book. Walk-ins are welcomed!

Your Help is Needed on Jan. 1st!

We will be taking down the Christmas Decorations after worship. Stay a few minutes and help the worship ministry.

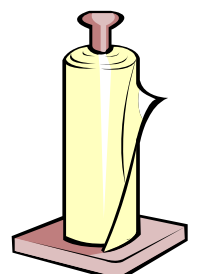


Change of Address:

Rev. Jill Borden, PO Box 512, St. Ignatius, MT 59865, cell phone is 480-633-3380.



Every month with Five Sundays, is Church Supply Month! And January 2012 has 5 Sundays! You are invited to bring grape juice, and paper products to the church in January: TP, paper towels, plates, napkins, utensils. Thank you!



To be the church God calls us to be we've got to have a heart, a brain and some courage; sometimes we have to look at things in a new way.

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:



**Pat Casey, Gerry Dillman, Dan Dugan, Ed Hook, Terese Hovan,
Skip Hughes, Jean McColgin, Bob Montgomery, Dennis Pestel,
Don Pew, Camille Pietz, Margie Sanders, Maynard Schneck, Mary Short,
Paul Whitlock, Our Timothys: Michael Whitlock & Ryan Dugan,
UCC Conference Minister John Dorhauer, DOC Regional Minister Denny Williams**

Prayer Support Ministry: Our prayer support ministry lends support through prayer for our church, our pastor, our staff, and any other needs of the congregation. All are welcome to join. The congregation is invited to join anytime.

The healing that you need.

Why is it so important to address grief? The answer is quite simple. Grief, especially severe grief, can negatively affect virtually every aspect of your life.

- ◆ **It can restrict your ability to function properly at work.**
- ◆ **It can sour your family and personal relationships.**
- ◆ **It can virtually eliminate your enjoyment of leisure.**
- ◆ **It can negatively affect your health and well being.**

In January, we'll be the grief program, *Journey to Joy*. This program offers a starting point for healing to those whose lives are negatively affected by the death of a loved one, whether the death occurred recently or many years ago. **Contact Anita Joy** if you are interested in participating. We invite you to regain life's joy.

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."



Report for 2011 as of Dec. 25th

Nov 27:	114 +	Calming:	30
Dec. 4:	131	Dec. 11:	118
Dec. 18:	109	Dec. 24:	109

Dec. 25: 78 **Wow! This is the highest Advent attendance in over 5 years! Your presence is a great present to the church—keep on coming! Avg. attendance for 2011 was 95—up 6.5% from the previous year.**

A complete year end financial report will be available in the next newsletter.

Great job, DHC, in giving money to help provide the new patio. **There is still much more to go**—we'll need tables and chairs and a cover—this is above and beyond the patio—make a donation today!

- ◆ **There will be a called board meeting at 11:30am on January 8th to discuss the ministry budget for 2012.**
- ◆ **There will be a congregational meeting for the 2012 ministry budget on January 15th following worship. Thank you to all who made a pledge to our 2012 ministry budget. If you have not made a pledge yet, talk with our treasurer, Don Janiszski.**

Prayer Walk— Jan. 8th 3:00pm on McKellips (from

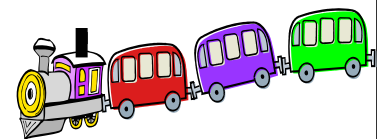


Gilbert to Lindsay roads.) Churches from all over Mesa will be encircling Mesa in prayer. Interested in joining? Talk to Anita Joy or Pastor Paul



Our Mission:

**To live God's grace,
justice, and inclusiveness.**



As we begin this new year, how do we make that happen? In 2012, we will be asking each one of you how we're going to make that happen!

A Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction Sunday, January 22nd, 5:00pm.



Can your company offer a **gift certificate?**

Donate it for the Silent Auction.

Was **Santa particularly odd** in the gift giving this year?

Donate it for the Silent Auction.

Can you offer a **ride**, a **place to stay**, or **another service?**

Donate it for the Silent Auction.

Have a **particular skill** or **talent** like lawn care or cooking?

Donate it for the Silent Auction.

Last year we raised over **\$1,000** for Camp Scholarships.

How much can we raise this year?

The spaghetti will be provided, just bring your checkbooks (and cash)! It will be a fun-filled night which will be perfect to invite your family and neighbors.

We are particularly looking for skills and talents and opportunities that people can offer.

Be Creative and think Big!

For more information about the UCC, look up the website: <http://www.ucc.org>

or go to the Southwest Conference's site: <http://www.uccswc.org/>

For more information about the Disciples of Christ, look up their website: <http://www.disciples.org>

or go to the Arizona Region's site: <http://www.arizonadisciples.com/>

If you would like to be added to the UCC Conference or the Disciple Regional email listings, contact the DHC office.

CELEBRATING OUR DIAMOND JUBILEE



In three short years, we will be celebrating the **25th Anniversary of Desert Heritage Church**. This celebration will also include, our birth churches, *Shepherd of the Desert Church and Christian Heritage Church*.

A Historical Society is being formed. Members of the Historical Society include:
Dan Dugan, Jean McColgin, Verlin and Camille Pietz, Maynard and Nancy Schneck, Joanne Spotten, Fran Williams, Joan Dellar and Susan Smith—Consultants Krystal Reece—Facilitator

The Historical Society will assist the celebration committee with any church history they might need. In the process, we will begin to preserve the current collection. If you have anything in your home that you feel should be included, in the archives, please bring it to the church office. Thanks!

New Patio on East Side

We have a problem...a good problem!

The number of people staying for fellowship is greater than our space can handle so...we're getting a new patio...and the good news is that **THE PATIO HAS BEEN POURED** including sidewalks that lead to the fellowship hall. **Yes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

- ◆ Imagine being able to walk around the tables and chairs with plenty of room—inside the Heritage room and outside on our new patio!
 - ◆ Imagine wide aisles and clear walk-ways for those who have trouble navigating the tight room!
 - ◆ Imagine a cover to expand the season we can use the out doors space; imagine tables and chairs for folks to comfortably sit.

Thank you for all the folks who donated money toward the slab. Now we need a cover and tables and chairs. Talk with Verlin Pietz, our moderator or Don Janiszkeski, our treasurer to donate.

Please donate generously.





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.dhcmesa.com
 9:00am Sunday School
 10:00am Worship & Children's Church

Return Address Requested

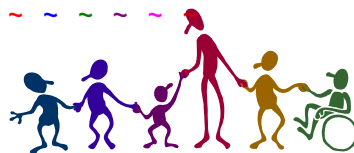
January Youth

Our East Valley Youth Groups

(From **Community Christian**, Tempe; **Chalice Christian**, Gilbert; **FCC** in Mesa & **Desert Heritage**)

- ◆ **Chi-Rho (6th-8th)** will meet **Sunday, January 8** from 5-7pm at **Community Christian** (1701 S. College Ave., Tempe, 85281).
- ◆ **CYF (9th-12th)** will meet **Sunday, January 8** from 5-7pm at **Community Christian** (1701 S. College Ave., Tempe, 85281).

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The first of January, join us at Paz from 4 to 7pm.
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Congregational Safety Policy

The DHC Board is discussing an over-all policy that will protect and insure the safety of congregants at all times. Central to this policy is that we will make sure that no adult is alone with children. This will provide safety for the kids and for the adults; There will be at least two adults with kids at all times.

That means parents of kids will need to step up and volunteer for kids programs, including Sunday school and our nursery time. Contact Laurel North to help out.

If you have any questions about this matter, Talk with Pastor Paul or Verlin Pietz.



Help us with our Cookie Ministry! We hand out cookies to Kino students on Wednesdays. Contact our "Cookie Lady" Janet Reeves, or **sign-up in the Heritage room.** We need helpers and cookies! Thank you!