

THE HERITAGE HERALD

You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

Vol. 21, Is.2

A Letter From Paul

Lord, sometimes life just seems to have **too many times**;
 too many times of **violence and dying**;
 too many **demands and problems**;
 too many **broken dreams and lives**;
 too many **wars and fights and arguments**;
 too many **moments of greed** and
sounds of people devouring each other
like vultures on a dead carcass;
 too many **mountains of unpaid bills**
 and **valleys of dead ends**;
 too many of **words used as swords to stab and tear**
 leaving **hearts shredded**
 and **souls lacerated**;
 too many **times of silence**
 leaving **a bad taste on my tongue**.

Sometimes the very air I breathe
surrounds me with fear
 until there is nothing but to **inhale pain** and
exhale confusion.

Too many **shadows**, Lord,
 too many acts of **selfishness**,
 acts of **cruelty**,
 acts of **indifference**...

Or, is it **too little**?
 too little of **compassion**;
 too little **grace**;
 too few **rainbows**;
 too little of **courage**,
 of **risk taking**, of **persistence**;
 too little of **sacrifice**;
 Too little of **music**
 and **belly-shaking-laughter**
 and **exuberant, joy-filled celebration**?



O God, make me **an instrument of your peace**.
 Make of me **a loaf** for these times of hunger,
 some **food spiced with grace**
 for my **human family**
 who are **starving** for
hope and **peace**
 and **joy** and **love**
 that, being **some nourishment for them**,
 I may also be **filled**
 with **hope**
 and **peace**
 and **joy**
 and **love**.
 Shalom, Paul

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Desert Heritage Staff
 Pastor.....Rev. Paul A. Whitlock
 Admin. Sec.....Susan Anderson
 Music Director.....Mary Wagner
 Ministers.....All our Members
 "Timothy".....Michael Whitlock

Church Board

- Verlin Pietz.....Moderator
- Jim Fuller.....Vice-Mod.
- Jill Wen.....Secretary
- Don Janiszkeski.....Treasurer
- Terese Hovan.....Elders
- Mary Finnegan.....Deacons
- Richard Hicks.....Property
- Joyce Lowe.....Membership
- Laurel North.....Education
- Jean McColgin.....Outreach
- Anita Joy & Krystal Reece...
 ...Organizational Secretary
- Dan Phares & Brandon Anders...
Stewardship
- Rebecca Robinaugh.....Worship

- Jean McColgin.....DHW
- Maynard Schneck.....At-Large
- Karen Kirkland.....At-Large
- Bob Wen.....At-Large

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The HERITAGE HERALD is
 published monthly.
 Volume 21 Issue 2

Webmaster: Jill Wen



Paz de Cristo Report

It was Super Bowl Sunday—with many regulars out of town—but no worry, our people came through just fine! Thanks to:

Laurel & Alexandria, Mary, Jill, Harley & Snooks, Kathie, Jim & Don, Art & Lorna, Darrell, Kathie, Maynard, Susan & Morgan
After a cold week the weather cooperated and it was nice. Our meal was great: two kind of wings, mac & cheese, salad, fruit & 3 drinks.

My heartfelt thanks to all who helped—it was a great evening. Love to all, Jean

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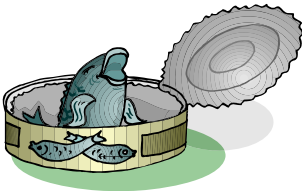
Our Next Opportunity to serve at Paz is SUNDAY, March 6th!!

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Food Donation for Month of March

“Tuna Helper”

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. This month, they are in need of **Tuna Helper**. They have *lots of cans of tuna*, so, by bringing some “Tuna Helper” it will help them provide complete meals to families.



Special thanks to our regional

CYF for helping us raise an additional 467 items of food during their retreat.

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Be careful of your thoughts, for your thoughts become your words.

Be careful of your words, for your words become your actions.

Be careful of your actions, for your actions become your habits.

Be careful of your habits, for your habits become your character.

Be careful of your character, for your character becomes your destiny.

Desert Heritage Women

Desert Heritage Women will have their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 8, at noon. All are welcome. Bring a sack lunch and we will enjoy lunch together, have a devotional, and continue our study from the Book of John. We will be looking at the story of Jesus and the Woman at the Well. We will be designing and beginning to construct new banners for the sanctuary. Fran will be the “in charge” person for the project. Prayer quilts were finished and delivered by Fran to Monica Casey and to Nancy Schneck. Come, join the fellowship, worship, study and work with the women of DHC.

We are planning for the **Annual**

Rummage Sale

which will be **March 18th and 19th.** We



need lots of help getting ready, and lots of “stuff” to sell. Donations for the sale can be brought to the church at any

time. A sign-up sheet will be available for folks (men and women) to schedule time to serve. See Georgiana Gersley, Jean McColgin or any member of the DHW for details.

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Wednesday Bible Study: “God Was Here...”

We are studying a book called God was here, and I Was Out to Lunch, by James W. Moore. Way back in Genesis, Jacob made the statement, “Surely the Lord was in this place, and I did not know it.” Today we might say, “God was here and I was out to lunch.” In other words, God comes to us, but we are so busy, so preoccupied, so set in our ways, we don’t recognize God or realize God is here. Come join us in this study and explore with us God’s presence and love in our lives. We meet at 6:00pm each Wednesday.

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Grieving over the death of a pet? Don’t be embarrassed to let us know. Rev. Jill Borden, specializes in this ministry for us. Let her help you during this time.

To be the church God calls us to be we've got to have a heart, a brain and some courage: sometime 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:



Monica Casey, Gerry Dillman, Dan Dugan, Mary Finnegan, Ed Hook, Art Gilmore, Skip & Shirley Hughes, Jim Lowe, Scott Lowe, Ruth Ludington, Dot McCown, Bob Montgomery, Don Pew, Camille Pietz, Margie Sanders, Maynard & Nancy Schneck, Mary Short, Joanne Spotten, Fran Williams, Paul Whitlock

Welcome New Members!

Give a warm DHC welcome to **Keely Hughes and Tiffany Davis**. They joined on February 13, 2011. They reside at 3755 E. Broadway Rd, # 31 Mesa, AZ 85206. Their home phone is 480-292-5271.

Give a warm DHC welcome to **Phyllis and Doug Anderson**, who placed their associate membership with us on February 13, 2011. Their address is 5533 E. Boise, Mesa, AZ 85205 Phone: (402) 440-0214.

www.ucc.org/oghs

There is Enough— One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering, March 20th

There is enough. On this vast planet of God-given resources, we honor our Creator because there is already enough for all. We live in a world brought into being and intended by God to sustain all of creation. Yet far too many across our globe do not have all they need. Brothers and sisters near and far lack even the basic necessities of life: water, food, shelter, jobs, or peace.

So if there is, indeed, enough to go around, why are so many without?

There is enough—but for all to have access, we must share. And that's what One Great Hour of Sharing has been doing for over 60 years—sharing your resources with those who need them most. **Sharing your resources with the One Great Hour of Sharing offering literally changes the lives of those who otherwise would not have enough.** Sharing our God-granted resources helps others not only survive, but perhaps even thrive as they find new ways to generate income, gain access to clean water, grow food, and to live in communities where peace and justice prevail over poverty, violence, and inequity.

All that we are and have are gifts of God. Won't you join in giving to One Great Hour of Sharing? Sharing your resources really does change lives—your own life and the lives of others. **Please give generously.**

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

Jan. 30:	106	Rec.:	\$21,096.52
Feb. 6:	95	Exp.:	\$17,549.05
Feb. 13:	131	Bud.:	\$17,309.20
Feb. 20:	96		

Camp: \$ 1,599.12

Camp goal: \$5,000.00

Stewardship Thoughts for 2011

♦ **Enjoy your two-percent bonus.**

Maybe you missed it, but payroll taxes are going down in 2011, meaning that you'll see an extra two percent in your paycheck. For workers making \$25,000, that's an extra \$500 this year. Put it to good use by bumping up your giving to the church during 2011.



♦ **There's a story of a pastor** who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: **"I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our budget. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."**

♦ **In lieu of Lilies in the sanctuary...**the worship ministry has requested that in lieu of people donating lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, members donate directly to the church ministry budget. **Give what it would have cost you to purchase a lily directly to the church budget**—suggestion: donate to the camp fund.

♦ **Tithe your Tax Return!** Getting a check from the government? **Give a tithe of your return above and beyond your regular giving to the church.**



Opportunities...in March

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME ON MARCH 20TH

WHAT: The annual All Church Tailgate Party and Cubs Ball game: **Chicago Cubs vs. the San Francisco Giants.**

WHEN: Sunday, March 20 after worship. Pre-game lunch at Hohokam Field, Hamburgers, Bratwurst, Hotdogs and side dishes. Under trees and Statue of Chief Hohokam on North Center Street

FOLLOWED BY: The Cubs vs. the Giants at 1:05 p.m. first come—first served will get shaded seats!

WHERE: Hohokam Stadium (1235 N. Center Street, Mesa)

HOW: Plan on sharing rides after Sunday worship...remember it costs each car that enters the stadium grounds \$5.00 parking fee...so ride together.



RESERVATIONS FOR THE GAME – get them ASAP

Don Riemer 847-309-1523

Don Pew 480-497-6047 or

Richard Hicks at 480-250-2460

COST FOR THE TAILGATE AND TICKET \$30 per person. All Money due at church on /or BEFORE MARCH 6TH.

If you can help with the tailgate party contact Richard Hicks at 480-250-2460.

Lent Begins on Wednesday, March 9th.



We will gather with our sister churches at **Chalice Christian Church** (15303 S. Gilbert Rd., Gilbert, 85299) at 7:00pm, March 9th for an **ASH Wednesday worship.**

Some of the highlights of that worship will be the **combined choirs** of all churches **singing an awesome anthem**, the **imposition of ashes** and **communion**. Pastor Paul will help lead the service.

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Also for Lent, our **Peace and Justice Ministry** is teaming with our **Worship Ministry** to sponsor a **Bible Study during lent:**

Church for All People: Becoming A Multiracial and Multicultural Church

Sunday evenings, from 5 to 7pm at the church, a meal of soup and bread will be served.

March 13, 20, 27, April 10 & 17th

Without a clear understanding of the biblical and theological grounding for the vision of diversity and oneness, of a common identity in the context of the whole family of God, the journey toward becoming multiracial and multicultural will never become a living reality.

Come join us as we travel through this Bible Study on our Lenten journey.

We will meet for Soup and Study on **Sundays, March 13, 20 & 27, plus April 10 & 17 from 5 pm to 7 pm at DHC.** A sign up sheet will be posted in the Heritage Room so we can plan accordingly.



To download a copy of the bible study in pdf format go to <http://www.ucc.org/justice/multiracial-multicultural/pdfs/a-church-for-all-people.pdf> or you can download it from the DHC website on the Peace and Justice page.

To read the Multi-Racial Multi-Cultural Pronouncement go to <http://www.ucc.org/justice/multiracial-multicultural/>.

Contact Mary Thomas or Wayne Manske for more information.

Our Fourth Annual
Women's one-day
Spiritual Renewal
March 26th

We will meet at 8:30am for fellowship. The program will be from 9:00am to 3:00pm. It will take place at the home of Paul and Wendy Whitlock, 1911 E. Fountain Street, Mesa, 85203.

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

For more information please contact:

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

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

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Congregational Meeting
regarding changes in the constitution
March 13, 2011 after worship
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Splinters from the Board



- Approved the purposed **changes in the constitution**. It now goes to the congregation for a vote on March 13th.
- Approved the **placement of two vending machines in the Heritage Room**. The church is not responsible for the machines but will receive **12% of every dollar spent** which will more than offset the electricity used.
- We are **still waiting** for some equipment for the sound system upgrades.
- Verlin, Jim and Paul will be attending a two session **boundary training** event in Phoenix.
- Paul Reported four people joined this past month: **Keely Hughes and Tiffany Davis** plus **Doug and Phyllis Anderson**

GRIEF PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Journey to Joy

Do you know someone who is grieving?

Are you working through your own grief issues?

Would you like an opportunity to get some answers?

DHC will be offering an **overview** of Journey to Joy, a Christ centered six week grief recovery program. The intent and focus of the program will be presented in a **1 & 1/2 hour session** to acquaint you with the program and allow you to see the possibilities of grief recovery.

When: Sunday, March 27th

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

Place: Desert Heritage Church

Childcare will be provided

Please register by contacting Krystal Reese 480-641-0277 greece4@cox.net or Anita Joy 480-969-7534 joyjoy57@cox.net If you have questions of a personal nature contact Pastor Paul.

Invite your friends – *This is one issue that has or will affect each and everyone of us.*

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Living Within Your Means for Meaningful Living

Saturday, March 5th, 11am to 2pm
at First Christian Church
(805 N. Country Club Drive, Mesa)

This workshop is designed to help us take **an honest look at our giving and spending habits** in light of the economic realities of life "after the boom".

Rev. Bruce Barkhauer will lead the workshop.

Contact Paul if you are interested in attending or call FCC directly at 480-833-7312.

A free will donation to cover the cost of lunch and child care would be most welcome.

For several months a coalition of Jewish, Christian and Moslem groups have been in work and prayer drafting "Seven Resolutions" against religious violence. The SWC UCC through our Justice Witness Team has had a significant role in moving the process along. Our pastor, Paul Whitlock, has added his name to the draft.

Seven Resolutions Against Prejudice, Hatred and Discrimination:



As **Jewish, Christian and Muslim** leaders, we believe in a common core of ethical standards which compel us to speak out against all forms of prejudice, hatred, and discrimination that our faiths encounter. The following seven resolutions provide common ground for

us as "children of Abraham." We affirm these 7 statements and resolve to share them with everyone, everywhere.

1) Our commitment to partnering for peace does not mean we dissolve our distinctive, historic beliefs into an imaginary "One World Religion." Rather, it means each community seeks to be authentically faithful to their historic beliefs and finds within those beliefs the resources to reach out to one another in love and respect. **We encourage Jews, Christians and Muslims to work towards peace and justice together. We believe that our communities of faith should be a force for peace, justice and reconciliation, instead of discord and strife.**

2) Dialogue between Jews, Christians and Muslims provides us with opportunities to understand one another, build relationships, and engage in peacemaking. Through dialogue, we work toward mutual respect, graciously bear witness to our faith and work toward religious freedom. **We emphasize the common core of ethical teaching about love of neighbor and peacemaking.** Whether in wartime or peacetime, religious people must engage in "hospitality" toward each other. We must reach out in love and respect toward the alien and protect the stranger in our communities.

3) We seek to be accurate when we speak about one another's faith. Overstatement, exaggeration and words taken out of context should not be the case among people of faith. The Torah teaches us "not to bear false witness against our neighbor" (Ex 20:16). The Gospel teaches us to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (Matt 7:12). The Qur'an teaches us to "stand out firmly for justice as witnesses to God, even though it be against ourselves or our parents" (Qur'an 4:135). Thus we strive to speak truthfully about one another's faith, to respect each faith



community's own interpretation of themselves, and **not to compare the best interpretation and practice of our faith with the worst interpretation and practice of others.** We encourage every person be discerning re: how media and literature portray the "other."

4) We recognize that there is a difference between the teaching of any religion and the actions of misguided followers. No religion or religious community should be judged by the evil action of some individuals. **Thus, we do not believe that Islam, Christianity, or Judaism is inherently a religion of violence.** Without exception, proponents of each religion have extremists. We should not allow tiny extremist groups to become spokespersons of their faiths. **We, the main stream followers of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, want to live in peace, justice and with respect for one another.**

5) We defend the right of Jews, Christians and Muslims to express their faith respectfully. We stand against all forms of religious persecution against Jews, Christians, Muslims or anyone else. God desires all people to choose and practice their faith based on conscience and conviction rather than any form of coercion or violence. **We affirm the right of religious freedom for every person and community in the world.** We denounce those who use violence in the name of religion.

6) Respect for all faiths, languages, colors, and ethnicities is an ideal that America has sought to achieve. Since America was founded, Quakers, Catholics, Jews, Mormons, Native Americans, African Americans, Chinese, and Japanese, and others have been persecuted for their faith or ethnicity. We do not want to repeat the same mistake with Muslims, or any one else. We do not believe that the vast majority of Muslims want to take over the world by force. We do believe that both Islam and Christianity want to win the world to their respective faiths by persuasion and not through violent means.

7) We pledge to work together for the constitutional right of Americans of all faiths, to build houses of worship anywhere in our nation as allowed by local laws and regulations; we stand against all forms of racism, hatred, religious intolerance, and ethnic bigotry and seek to preserve the human rights of all people as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; we call upon local and national elected officials to join their colleagues in denouncing and rejecting inflammatory rhetoric that endangers the lives of Muslims, Christians, Jews, and all faiths.

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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 Adult Sunday School
10:00am Worship & Children's Church

Return Address Requested

March Youth

Camp Fund Raisers

- ◆ **Thank you to everyone who made the CYF retreat such a huge success!** Forty people spent the weekend laughing and learning and sharing and caring. The group went door-to-door and gathered **467 food items** which will be donated to Paz de Cristo. Thank you, also, to all who helped prepare the meals—they were tasty! It was a great weekend for the church!
- ◆ What a great experience the Silent Auction was. We raised over **\$1,000 for camp scholarships!** The night was filled with lots of laughter and fun as people kept outbidding one another. Thank you to all who donated items—especially the gift cards. Thank you to all who made food to share.



Youth Schedule

Sunday, March 6th is our day to serve at Paz. We can't do Paz without our youth and kids! Meet at 4:00pm (424 W. Broadway Rd.) Come and **give any time you are able!**

CCF (2nd-5th) will meet on third Sundays—
March 20th at 1pm at FCC, Mesa.

Chi-Rho (6th-8th) will meet on the 1st & 3rd
Sundays at 1pm here at Desert Heritage = **March 6th
& 13th.**

CYF (9th -12th) will meet on the 1st 3 Sundays
of the month = **March 6th, 13th & 20th** at 1pm at
Desert Heritage.

Camp Dates are June 26-July 1, 2011
Cost of Camp Will Be \$299 before April 30
\$330 May 1