

THE HERITAGE HERALD

When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this—you haven't. Thomas Edison Vol. 21, Is.4

A Letter From Paul

When Ruthie was about eight years old, she was with me as I went out to the mail box. We opened the mail box door and began to take our each piece of mail one piece at a time. As the piece of mail was taken out, she would read aloud to whom it was addressed. Her mom got a few, I got some and her brother got one that day. However, most of the mail was junk.



But, Ruthie stopped me and said, "If it's from Disney, it's not junk, dad." And then I stopped.



And I reflected. What, from my perspective, was clearly junk, was, from hers, clearly not junk. Indeed, it was special to her.

Are there people in our lives that we label "junk" that may need a second look with a different or fresh perspective?

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The ones that were labeled, "Our Friends At..." or "Resident" she would say, "junk". She said that a lot that day.

Are there people with whom we deal with that might benefit if we treat them as special delivery rather than junk?

We were right in the middle of taking the mail out of the box with her saying, "junk, junk, dad, mom, dad, junk, junk, Michael, junk" when we ran across a piece of advertising mail from our credit card. The card had a Mickey Mouse picture on it and we get Disney rewards for spending. It was not the bill, it was telling us about Disney products to buy to earn more points, a.k.a., "junk". It was most certainly a piece of junk to me. It was going to the shredder and then into recycling bin ASAP.

That's exactly what God does to us—sees us and treats us as special delivery. And since all people are from God, made in the image of God, they're not junk!

**You are not junk
and neither are the people
around you!**

But, this time, Ruthie didn't say, "junk", like she usually did. She just looked at it like it was the holy grail. So, I said, "junk" and went on to the next piece of mail.

That's what the resurrection is all about!

Shalom, Paul

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 Admin. Sec.....Susan Anderson
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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
- Mary Thomas.....Peace & Justice
- Maynard Schneck.....At-Large
- Karen Kirkland.....At-Large
- Bob Wen.....At-Large

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Paz de Cristo Report

Great night, wonderful crew and the crowd seemed to be a happy group. We served hamburgers, beans, tossed salad, fruit salad, pastries & three cold drinks. Thanks to our help:

Whitlock 4 and Mary, Bev, Harley & Snooks, Laurel, Kathie, Maynard, Susan & Eric, Verlin, Don & Jim, Will & Mike, Jim, Brian & Will, and the Warners (a couple of my friends).

We served 149 guests and served 221 plates of food.
Love, Jean

Our Next Opportunity to serve at Paz is SUNDAY, May 1st!!

Food Donation for Month of May

Beans...dry or canned

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 beans.

Holocaust Remembrance Day Service

On Sunday, May 1, the Jewish organizations in the East Valley (Temple Emanuel, Temple Beth Shalom, Jewish Community Center & Chabad) are sponsoring a service for Yom Hashoah or Holocaust Remembrance Day. A play titled ROSE will be presented which is the story of one survivor. It recalls her life—especially the years she spent in the sewers of Warsaw during World War II.

Our own Terese Hovan is included in the cast. Call Terese if you are interested in attending the program at Temple Emanuel at 7pm on May 1st. There is no fee.

At Desert Heritage Church, we are about...

- Grace-giving,
- Open and affirming, and
- Doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with our God.

Where all of God's children are welcomed.



Desert Heritage Women

We'll celebrate another great year of ministry by going out to lunch on Tuesday, May 10th. Meet at 11:00am at Crochaw's (6731 E. Brown Rd. Suite 104, Mesa). It is a gourmet pie restaurant! After eating we will return to the church to continue our banner & quilting ministry. Come & join us!

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. 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.

Thank you to all of the church mice who installed our new sound system! Can you hear me, now? Yes we can!



Camille Pietz Appointed the Duchess of Scheduling

We are consolidating our various lists and Camille Pietz has volunteered to coordinate them and get the schedules out for our various ministries. Want to volunteer to be a reader, liturgist, or acolyte, talk to Camille.

Holy Humor Sunday! Sunday, May 1st

There will be no sermon on Sunday, May 1st. But there will be lots of laughs. We will celebrate a holy humor Sunday. Congregants are invited to share a favorite church joke or story (clean ones folks!). Talk with Paul to secure your spot. Start thinking about what you can share. Dress a little crazy that day. Celebrate the resurrection with :-) or two!



Graduation Sunday May 22



Do you have a graduate in your home? Sorry, no pet obedience school. Let the church office know—we would like to honor them on Sunday, May 22 during worship and we don't want to leave anyone out.

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, Ed Hook, Skip & Shirley Hughes, Art Gilmore, Scott Lowe, Ruth Ludington, Dot McCown, Bob Montgomery, Don Pew, Camille Pietz, Margie Sanders, Maynard Schneck, Mary Short, Joanne Spotten, Al & Mary Thomas, Paul Whitlock

Welcome New Members!

Give a warm DHC welcome to *Art and Lorna Gilmore* who joined the church on March 27, 2011. They live at 625 W. McKellips Rd. # 60. Her cell is 402-671-3066; his is 402-671-3224.

Give a warm welcome to *Joann Saunders*. She is friends with Debbie and Janet Wallace and she lives near them at 530 S. Alma School Rd., # 74. 480-610-4584

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."



Baptism



Congratulations to *Trevor Dugan* who will be baptized on Easter Sunday, April 24th. *We are proud of you, Trevor!*



*Let there be peace
on earth
and let it begin
with me!*



Prayer Support Ministry

A new ministry is being formed **to lend support through prayer for our church, our pastor, our staff, and any other needs of the congregation.** All are welcome to join. There are no meetings to attend, we will **simply gather each Sunday after worship and pray.** The congregation will be invited to join us at that time to lend support or to bring any special prayer requests that they did not want to share during Joys and Concerns.

We feel it is important for Paul & the staff to know they are being held in prayer each Sunday and to ask for God's guidance as we seek the direction our church is to take.

You may simply join us on Sunday. If however, you wish to be a member of this ministry or if you have any questions, please contact Terry Womacks at 480-970-7708, twomacks@cox.net. People present: Anita Joy, Laurel North, Krystal Reece, Mary Whitlock, Terry Womacks.



Report for 2011

March 27:	95	Rec.:	\$43,655.07
April 3:	101	Exp.:	\$34,260.81
April 10:	81	Bud.:	\$34,066.37
April 17:	97		

Camp: \$ 2,661.12
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. Put it to good use by bumping up your giving to the church during 2011.



*Love isn't a state
of perfect caring.
It is an active noun
like struggle.
To love someone is to strive
to accept that person
exactly the way he or she is,
right here and now.*

Fred (Mr.) Rogers

We are now in the church season called "Easter tide." Consequently, it is fitting time to consider that our resurrection faith has **tidal qualities**.



It **breaks upon us as waters upon the shore, molding and shaping**. Sometimes it smoothes our rough and jagged edges and at other times it pulls at us to expose new sharpness. It uncovers what has previously been hidden. It also reminds us that the castles we build and cherish are not important and do not last compared to the eternal vastness of God's transforming love.

Faith **brings us surprises**, laying them before us as though they were dropped by an outgoing tide. Its offerings connect us with people in far off places like **Israel, Afghanistan, Japan, Columbia, and Iraq** as well as places like **North Carolina** and throughout **Maricopa County**. Its gifts include living things such as **hope** and **charity**.



Faith tells us of **God's power and grace**, both ever in motion as the seas, both ever present whether we are at high or low points in our lives.

Faith **constantly beckons**. It seems to stretch towards us as the waters of a new broken wave reach out to the walker on the shore.

In gathering together during this season of Eastertide, **we open ourselves to a God who changes us**, informs us, draws us, surprises us. May our worship be Eastertidal, our community filled with Spirit. I look forward to making a splash with you in worship during Eastertide.

Were not

our hearts burning

within us while he was

talking to us on

the road, while

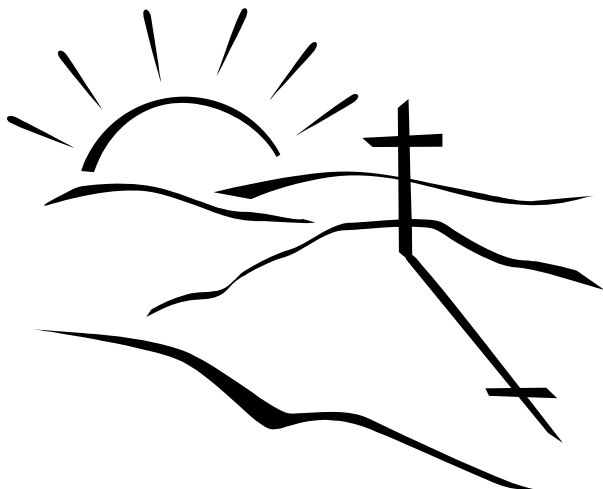
he was

opening

the

scriptures

to us?



Luke 24:32



Splinters from the Board

Those in attendance: Verlin Pietz—Chair, Jim Fuller—Vice-chair, Rebecca Robinaugh, Jill Wen—Secretary, Krystal Reece, Richard Hicks, Maynard Schneck, Anita Joy, Karen Kirkland,

Paul Whitlock—Pastor, Don Janiszewski—Treasurer, and Jean McColgin. Jean brought along her son, Patrick.

- We continued to fine tune the constitution. We will take any changes to the congregation in our June meeting.
- Don reported that our vending machines turned a \$26 dollar profit this past month.
- Rebecca reported on our Graffiti abatement Project in Sells. The date is April 30, 2011—meet at the church at 6:00am to carpool. Wear painting clothes.
- Susan Dillman will now be chairing our Grief Group.
- The Board approved Phyllis Anderson and Mike Blake as financial secretaries. They'll take turns helping Susie count the offering.

You call 911, then what?

On Sunday, May 22nd at 11:30am, **DHC's Grief Ministry** will host a speaker from the **Mesa Fire Dept.** Anita Maples

is the Fire & Life Education Specialist Coordinator and a member of the Community Response Team, which works to assist families after a death.

The presentation and discussion will be on what happens when someone dies at home.

Please join us. *This is a tough subject and no one wants to think about it. It does however happen and this is a way to be prepared and get some helpful information.*



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.uccswc.org

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

Abilities faded and forgotten are channeled

toward new creativity—*that's resurrection!*

Friendships once killed by frosty

misunderstanding bloom again in warm

reconciliation—*that's resurrection!*

Hopes glimmering and gone are rekindled by

expressions of caring—*that's resurrection!*

Faith, dulled by lack of exercise, dances

again to God's everyday rhythms—*that's*

resurrection!

*We worship the God whose
resurrecting power lives on as does
the Christ we serve.*

*How many resurrections do we
miss out on because we didn't
anticipate seeing the Resurrected
Christ?*

Through locked windows,

Bolted doors—

Through latched down minds,
gated hearts, it comes;

inevitable grace—

the stone rolled back.



Patricia G. Rourke

Another Letter from Paul:

“In Times of Economic Turmoil”

When unexpected and truly unprecedented events occur—leaving us exposed, anxious, fearful—it can be **both unnerving and clarifying**. **Unnerving**, because what we thought we knew and could trust has changed. **Clarifying**, because the basic, almost invisible, assumptions we hold are exposed to view.

Life is made up of circumstances and our response to circumstances. And of the two, the latter is usually the more important, the more telling. **Our response tells us what we trust beyond the circumstances**, and whether we think there is anything greater or more consequential than the events that might be overwhelming us. **Our response exposes what we think matters the most** when life's challenges land on our doorstep.

Times of loss and fear are such formative crises for any of us. I have had and do have my own significant struggles in these areas. Such times hold some of the most important life-shaping opportunities we are given to mature. We might not want them, but they can be valuable! Having to face ourselves in our neediness can give us the chance to understand why we are as anxious as we are, or whether our default instincts help/disable us.

No one really knows the depth and scope of this season of economic turmoil. But here are some things I hope we will remember and act on:

♥ **Our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever!**

♥ **Jesus tells us again and again that God is trustworthy in the small and the big details of our lives.**

♥ **God can take any circumstance and use it for good.**

♥ **With God's grace, we can come to be content whatever our circumstances.**

♥ **We each have a ministry of encouragement and support towards one another in this time, however our circumstances may be.**

♥ **The mark of our freedom in Christ is measured by our capacity to remain more concerned and even more generous towards others, knowing that our difficulties are not as great as the need of many others.**

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

Easter I. Q. Test

Instructions: this is an “open book” test. **Place an “x” on the line if you think the answer is Biblically correct:**

1. **The woman/women who went to the tomb was/were:**

- ___a. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary
- ___b. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, & Salome
- ___c. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Joanna & others
- ___d. Mary Magdalene

2. **The time of early morning was:**

- ___a. When the sun had risen
- ___b. While it was still dark

3. **At the tomb was/were:**

- ___a. An angel
- ___b. A young man
- ___c. Two men
- ___d. Two angels

4. **The reaction of the woman/women was one of:**

- ___a. Amazement, astonishment
- ___b. Fear and trembling
- ___c. Great joy

5. **After leaving the tomb, the woman/women:**

- ___a. Told the disciples
- ___b. Said nothing to anyone

6. **The reaction of the disciples at first was that:**

- ___a. They didn't believe the women; seemed an idle tale
- ___b. Peter & John went immediately to the tomb

7. **Jesus first appeared to the disciples:**

- ___a. In Galilee, on a mountain
- ___b. In an upper room in Jerusalem

8. **Jesus seemingly last appeared to the disciples:**

- ___a. On a mountain in Galilee
- ___b. On a mountain in Bethany (or just outside Bethany)
- ___c. By the Sea of Tiberias

9. **The gift of the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples:**

- ___a. Before Jesus ascended; in the upper room he breathed on them
- ___b. After Jesus ascended, on the Day of Pentecost

10. We have many details about the crucifixion and death of Jesus. **Which Gospel writer gives the most details about the actual Resurrection of Jesus from the grave? Which one best describes what happened when Jesus rose from the dead?**

- ___a. Matthew
- ___b. Mark
- ___c. Luke
- ___d. John

The answers are found in **Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20-21, and Acts 1**. **In questions 1 through 9, all of the choices are correct**, and in **question 10, none are correct**, since none of the Gospels describe the actual Resurrection of Christ; **only what happened afterward**.

Desert Heritage Church Sabbatical Mission Project Information



What: Graffiti Abatement Project

Where: Sells, Arizona, on the Tohono O'odham Nation Indian Reservation

When: Saturday, April 30, 2011 9:00 a.m. to noon. We will depart as a carpool from DHC at 6:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided in Sells following the project.

Who: You!

Who are the people we will be helping? The Tohono O'odham Nation consists of 28,000 members that reside in Southwestern Arizona. It is the second largest reservation in the State of Arizona.

Where is the Tohono O'odham Nation, and where is Sells? The reservation runs roughly from Casa Grande to the Mexico border (and stretches along 75 miles of the international border!), and from Ajo to Tucson. That's a huge area, so we'll be assisting them with their "capital" or headquarters, which is Sells, located an hour southwest of Tucson, or 1 & 1/2 hours south of Casa Grande.

What will we actually be doing? We will be applying paint to areas in the Sells community that have been vandalized with graffiti. The more people we have, the more areas we can tackle by spreading out! We are providing the Community with resources to make this happen. Youth members of the Tohono O'odham Nation will be joining us.

What benefit does this provide to the people of the Community? If not immediately removed, graffiti sends out the message that "no one cares" about the area. Pride in a community may decrease, businesses may suffer, the graffiti may attract more crime, and neighborhoods as a whole can deteriorate. Ignoring graffiti gives the impression that it is acceptable and invites more graffiti, littering, and loitering. The more quickly, however, that graffiti is removed, the less likely that other negative elements in the community will fester.





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

May Youth



Youth Schedule

Items of Interest

- ◆ **Camp dates are June 26- July1, 2011.**
- ◆ **We are still raising money for camp! Have a job that a kid can do?**
Let us know,
we'll send them to go,
and the camp fund will get the dough,
and that is so!
- ◆ **Thank you to all of the helpers that E. Bunny had. That was a bunch of eggs!**
- ◆ **Are interested in helping out with our children's ministry that takes place Sunday mornings? Laurel North heads up our Christian Education and would be glad receive your help.**
- ◆ **VBS this summer will be July 11-15th with the celebration on Sunday, July 17th.**

Sunday, May 1st 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!**

Chi-Rho (6th-8th) will meet on the 1st & 3rd Sundays at 1pm here at Desert Heritage = **May 1st & 15th.**

CYF (9th -12th) will meet on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month = **May 1 & 15** 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

Graduation Sunday will be Sunday, May 22nd.