

# THE HERITAGE HERALD

Our Mission: To live God's grace, justice, and inclusiveness.

Vol. 21, Is.8

## A Letter From Paul

I like sermons. I like listening to them. I like reading them. I like preaching them. I enjoy planning them and thinking through each turn, word play, and phrase.



**I like sermons.**

While on sabbatical, I enjoyed the opportunity to hear some of my colleagues that I knew preach. I also heard sermons from people I didn't know or had ever met.

Some of the messages were profound, joyful and moving. Some others had a point or two. Unfortunately, some were sadly lacking either in content or delivery. And finally, there were those that were just dreadful.

I remember one particularly bad one—in content and delivery. There was no way to say it but that it was simply horrible...until the end. Having already lost my attention on the preacher, I looked down the pew and saw the woman adjacent to me with tears in her eyes. She whispered quietly but loud enough for me to hear as the preacher ended, "That's exactly what I needed to hear."

Her comment caused me to pause and I realized that something very important had happened in that service. She had come in need and somehow, somehow, that poorly crafted sermon translated into a message that spoke to her heart and blessed her. On the other hand, I had come in judgment and heard nothing but faults. That experience reminded me that it is holy ground when the preacher and the listener-in-need meet.

**That experience reminded me that it is holy ground when the preacher and the listener-in-need meet.**

I try my best to bring a message that includes humor, theology and real life experiences so that the good news of Jesus can be present and alive for you. Sometimes it absolutely does that on all fronts. Sometimes it doesn't and falls flat. Often, it is somewhere in between those two.

**But, let me suggest a radical thought... My sermon on Sunday is never more important than yours.**

But, let me suggest a radical thought... My sermon on Sunday is never more important than yours. That's right this preacher who spends so much time studying the art of preaching admits that mine is, in many cases, (dare I say), in most instances, no more crucial than yours.

Visitors and long-time members have built-in expectations that I have little power over regarding my sermon. But, the way in which you greet each other, the fashion in which you listen and reach out with care and compassion, the time you spend sharing grace and love and joy and support takes them by surprise. They simply don't expect it. And they are more open to it than you can ever imagine. That is why I say that your sermon (that is, the way you represent Jesus in your words and deeds) each and every Sunday is as important as mine.

I don't have to remind you that so many people next to you in church, at work, at school, in line at the grocery store, are in-need. They are listeners-in-need. In your words and deeds, what are you saying?

Preach a good one this Sunday! Shalom, Paul

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 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
Anita Joy.....	Elders
Bob Wen.....	Deacons
Mary Thomas.....	At-Large
Karen Kirkland.....	At-Large
Bob Wen.....	At-Large

**Ministry Chairs**

Joyce Lowe.....	Property
Laurel North.....	Fellowship
Jill Borden.....	Education
Rebecca Robinaugh.....	Outreach
	Worship

Dan Phares & Brandon Anders...  
 .....Stewardship  
 Mary Thomas.....Peace & Justice  
 ...Desert Heritage Women  
 Dennis Pestel.....Men's Ministry  
 Susan Dillman.....Grief Team  
 Terry Womacks.....Prayer Ministry

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## Paz de Cristo Report

What a hot night it was but we had lots of great help. We worked with a new staff member from Paz, Roger. At the end of the evening, as we left, he said, "Jean, you sure have a great group." And I said, "I TOLD you so!" Our menu was spaghetti, with meat sauce, tossed salad, fruit salad, pastries, bread & butter, PBJ's and drinks.

We served 138 people for a total of 171 servings. How they could eat seconds I don't know because Paul gave them generous helpings. Thanks to:

Joyce, Trevor & Stephanie; Jill; Verlin;  
Whitlocks x 4; Mary W.; Warners x 2;  
Albins x 3; Laurel; Wayne; Jim Duel and me.

My thanks to all who helped, you are all really great and best of all you enjoy doing it. Love,

Jean

Our Next Opportunity to serve at Paz is **SUNDAY, Sept 4th!!**



## Food Donation for Month of September

### Helper boxes

(They still need them—so we're doing the same thing again). 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.

*This month, they need us to be good helpers and bring some helper.*

## It's a NEW LAW...

For those who serve at Paz on a regular basis, you will need to get a **food handler card**. We will have a study sheet to help everyone who wants to regularly help out with that ministry. But, everyone (who helps out more than 4 times a year) will need to get one.

*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

Desert Heritage Women have met this summer to make both **prayer quilts and casserole covers**. The casserole covers are fabric with removable wooden handles. They have an insert for the bottom to make them stable, and come in a variety of patterns, and two sizes, oblong and square. **You can order them from Fran, Vera, or Georgianna. They are only \$10.00 each!** The money will go to help fund our quilt ministry and the nursery attendant.



Desert Heritage Women will continue to meet **the second Tuesday of every month at 12 noon**—bring your lunch. **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 13th.**

## Men's Group

7 men gathered at our last meeting, five of which had just finished the lawn work. Thanks to Will and Brandon who helped with the lawn! Good job, guys! At the meeting we discussed upcoming events and told wild stories. It was a very entertaining event. **Our next meeting will be**



**Saturday, Sept. 17 at 7:30am where Breakfast will be served.** Let Don Pew know if you are coming so he can catch enough chickens & gather enough eggs.

**Bible Study:** *"Yes, Lord, I Have Sinned But I Have Several Excellent Excuses."*

Our Wednesday night Bible Study has been a huge success. This next study proves to be just as promising. **We meet in our conference area in the narthex from 6 to 7pm on Wednesdays.** Walk-ins are welcomed!

## Choir to Sing in Worship on September 11th.

There is still time to join us. No tests, no embarrassing solos. Just good fellowship while singing great songs with wonderful people. **We are especially looking for some altos.**



## Bread Bakers are Needed for Communion

With Camille being unable to bake our communion bread for a couple of months, **we need people to volunteer and sign-up to bake bread!** The recipe is on hand. Contact the office and use your talents to help us.



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:



**Pat Casey, Gerry Dillman, Dan Dugan, Ed Hook, Skip Hughes, Art Gilmore, Bob Montgomery, Dennis Pestel, Don Pew, Camille Pietz, Margie Sanders, Maynard Schneck, Mary Short, Joanne Spotten, Paul Whitlock, UCC Conference Minister John Dorhauer, DOC Regional Minister Denny Williams**



We express our sympathy to **Skip Hughes** on the death of **Shirley**. Skip was our interim when Pastor Paul went on Sabbatical last summer. Shirley will be missed. Please keep Skip in your prayers.



### 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. There are no meetings to attend, we will **simply gather each Sunday after worship and pray.** The congregation is invited to join anytime.



"There is no normal life that is free of pain. It's the wrestling with our problems that can be the impetus for our growth." Fred Rogers.



### Another Letter From Paul

I was challenged recently to play a game. Grab a book, any book, and turn to page 56. Then, read the fifth sentence down. I did exactly that and came up with this:

**"But one of the most important gifts a parent can give a child is the gift of accepting that child's uniqueness."**

The quote is from Fred Rogers (Mr. Rogers), one of my heroes. Grab one of your books and do the same thing! The results should be interesting!

Second, I'm not as smart as I used to be. I used to have guest preachers come in who were really inferior—that way I looked especially good upon my return. But, this summer, we've had three different guest preachers bring three completely different messages—all of them excellent. Thanks to **Jill Borden**, **Jeffrey Dirrim** and **Ryan Dugan**. You are all "tough acts" to follow! Shalom, *Pastor Paul*

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 July 31st

Aug. 7:	72	Rec.:	\$ 82,275.03
Aug. 14:	82	Exp.:	\$ 77,913.88
Aug. 21:	88	Bud.:	\$ 75,721.15

**Our Camp fund sits at 1464.12**

**Vending Machine revenue: \$ 143**



Our Mission:

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



# MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, Sept. 18th at 5:00pm in the Heritage Room

Each year we kick off the fall season with a ministry fair. **It is open to one and all** and gives us an opportunity to **plan for the coming year, gather for good food, and connect our ministry programs.**



Each Ministry is urged to come and make plans for the year. **All members of a ministry** (committee) **are urged to come.** An **All-Church calendar** will be created that night so that everyone has a better idea of what is going on and when.

**WHO:** *Ministry Chairs + people interested in a particular ministry or serving with that ministry. Everyone is encouraged to find a ministry with which to participate.*

**WHAT:** *A gathering of folks for food, a coordinating of the church schedule.*

**WHAT TO BRING:** *Yourself + a potluck dish to share—we're going to eat!*

**DATE:** *Sunday, Sept. 18 from 5– 7pm.*

Peace and Justice

Christian Education

Outreach

Grief Team

Property

Desert Heritage  
Women

Men's Group

Worship

Prayer Ministry

Stewardship

Membership

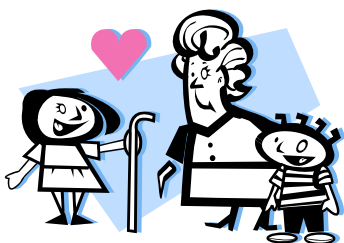
Or are you interested in a ministry not represented?

Maybe you can help us with technology or how we welcome new folks.

## Arizonans for Children needs Volunteers

Arizonans for Children is an organization for families where the child has been removed from the home. The goal is to reunite the children and their parents through a program of supervision, assistance and education. One of the AFC facilities is housed at Desert Heritage and is one of our outreach ministries.

**Volunteers are needed to work with the staff in parent / child relationships.** There is a training segment so you would understand and be comfortable with your role. If this is interesting and you would like more information please talk to Pastor Paul or contact AFC's Visitation Center Director Carol Siekmann at 480-760-5334.



## Board Splinters—a highlight of the Board Meeting



Members present: Verlin Pietz, Jim Fuller, Don Janiszkeski, Mary Thomas, Paul Whitlock, Anita Joy, Laurel North, Karen Kirkland, Bob & Jill Wen (and Jean came to make a Paz report).

◆ The board amended the Bylaws to include a line that any / all search committees work with both the UCC Conference Minister as well as the Disciples Regional Minister should there be a vacancy.

◆ **New Elders were announced: Karen Kirkland and Jill Borden; We are hoping to add one more this winter.**

◆ The Ministry Fair will be September 18.

◆ The Board officers will remain the same for this coming year: **Verlin Pietz—Moderator; Jim Fuller—Vice Moderator; Don Janiszkeski—Treasurer; Jill Wen—Secretary.**

◆ The new chairs of our ministries include:

**Elders=Anita Joy;**

**Deacons=Bob Wen;**

**Christian Education=Laurel North;**

**Membership=Joyce Lowe;**

**Outreach=Jill Borden;**

**Stewardship=Brandon Anders and Dan Phares;**

**Worship=Rebecca Robinaugh.**

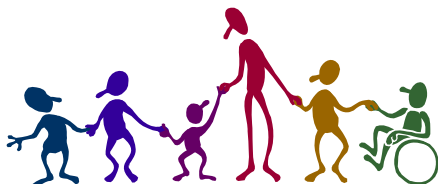
◆ **At Large Members: Mary Thomas, Bob Wen, & Karen Kirkland.**

Thanks to one and all who serve on the Board! We've got a great group of people for the 2011-2012 Church year!



### Conference Minister in Worship Sept. 18th

What a joy it will be to welcome our **Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer** to worship with us on September 18th. John is not only Pastor Paul's pastor, but also a friend of Paul and this congregation. Everyone is urged to be in worship for this special occasion.



## New Roles for Deacons/Greeters

Our deacons and greeters will be helping us with some new responsibilities in and around worship.

1) We have assigned two deacons to usher people to come forward for communion. **The deacons who are designated "U" (short for usher) on the schedule will guide each row as to when to come forward for communion.** Simply go to the back of the sanctuary during the communion hymn and at the appointed time, guide rows to come forward. **These deacons are also responsible for straightening up the sanctuary after worship.**

2) The other two deacons will also be holding the cup communion, plus, handing out worship bulletins. That means **the deacons designated "C" (short for cup) will come to the table and assist the elders with communion; They will also hand our bulletins before worship starts. They need to get here by 9:30am to hand people a bulletin as they come into the sanctuary.** (There will be a 5 minute deacon training [review] every Sunday in September led by Anita Joy and Paul Whitlock after worship for those who have any questions about how to "do" the cup.)

3) The **greeters then will have the job of greeting and getting people to sign the guest book.** During good weather, this will be done outside before people enter the building. During severe heat or inclement weather, it will be done in the narthex. **Please be ready to greet at 9:30am.**

Questions? Deacons ask Bob Wen; Greeters ask Mary Whitlock; or talk with Verlin Pietz or Pastor Paul



## Have you "Friended" us on FB?

Get **updates** of your church happenings; See **photos** of events; **Connect** with church friends and get **observations from the folks** in the congregation. **Become a Facebook friend of Desert Heritage Church!**



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

or go to the Arizona Region's site:  
[www.arizonadisciples.com](http://www.arizonadisciples.com)

For more information about the *United Church of Christ*, look up the website: [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

or go to the Southwest Conference's site:  
[www.uccswc.org](http://www.uccswc.org)

Don't forget to check out our DHC webpage:  
[www.dhcmesa.com](http://www.dhcmesa.com)



Desert Heritage Church  
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& United Church of Christ  
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480-969-5631  
e-mail: dhchurch@qwestoffice.net or  
dhchurchsec@qwestoffice.net  
Find us on the web: [www.dhcmesa.com](http://www.dhcmesa.com)  
9:00am Adult Sunday School  
10:00am Worship & Children's Church

Return Address Requested

## September Youth

### East Valley Youth Groups

(From **Community Christian** in Tempe, **Chalice Christian** in Gilbert, **FCC** in Mesa and us!)

◆ **Sunday, August 28, Chi-Rho (6-8th) and CYF (9th-12th) and their parents** are urged to attend a potluck and planning session for the year calendar. *We are asked to bring side dishes.* Meet 12:15pm—2:00pm at Chalice Christian (15303 S. Gilbert Road, Gilbert).

◆ **Labor Day weekend Gatherings:**

→ **CCF(3rd-5th grades)** gather **Saturday, Sept. 3 at 2pm** at Debbie Donaldson's home (672 W. Mesquite St., Chandler 480-917-7421). They will go to the **Oasis pool** for swimming and a water sliding good time. They will finish at 6pm. *Bring swim stuff & \$2 (for entry and food).*

→ **Chi-Rho (6th-8th)** will be having a **"Dive-in Movie and Retreat" Sept. 4th-5th** at the home of Bill & Mary Jacobs (1821 E. Carver Rd., Tempe, 480-755-7554). Includes dinner and breakfast. *Bring \$7, pool stuff, sleeping bags, toiletries, and signed permission slip.*

→ **CYF (9th-12th) 2011-12 New Connections**

**Retreat. Sept. 4th-5th.** Meet at First Christian (805 N. Country Club Dr.) at 12:30pm. They will be going up to the **Jacobs' cabin in Payson.** They will return Sept. 5 in the afternoon. *Bring \$20 for 3 meals and gas and bring a signed permission slip.*

**SCHOLARSHIP \$\$ IS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH ACTIVITIES. CONTACT PAUL FOR MORE INFO.**

◆ Other September Youth Stuff:

→ **Chi-Rho and CYF** will meet at **Chalice Christian** in Gilbert on **Sunday, Sept. 18th from 5pm to 7pm.**

**We will be gathering with just our youth once a month, too.** Details about that will be coming soon. Good things are happening. Be a part of our Youth. **Question? Talk with Pastor Paul.**

**We will be having our Sunday school kick-off on Sunday, September 11th.** Makes plans to be here! If you can help with any Christian Ed program, contact **Laurel North or Pastor Paul.**



**Our Cookie Ministry has begun again.** Yeah! Want to help? Contact our **"Cookie Lady" Janet Reeves**, or sign-up in the **Heritage room.** Also, "non-melting" cookie donations are needed. Thank you!