



The Chino Valley Chimes

April 2016



Happening this month:

- Apr 6 ~ Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Apr 12 ~ Aroma's
- Apr 13 ~ SPRC
- Apr 15 ~ KAIROS Outside
- Apr 17 ~ Service at AZ Pioneer's Home
- Apr 20 ~ Finance Committee
- Apr 23 ~ John Nilsen concert

- ◇ **Staff Meeting—Mondays, 8-9am**
- ◇ **Adult Study—Mondays, 5pm**
- ◇ **Choir Rehearsals—Wednesdays, 6pm**

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Men's Prayer Breakfast



The next Men's Prayer Breakfast will be held Wednesday, April 6. The speaker will be Representative Paul Gosar. This breakfast will be open to all members of CVUMC.

There will be a sign-up sheet in church to RSVP or you can call the church office, 636-2969. It is important to RSVP so the men know how much food to prepare.

The speaker at the March meeting was Scott Teholl from the CVHS Veteran's History Project.

Arizona Pioneer's Home Ministry

The church is beginning a new ministry on Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016. On the 3rd Sunday of each month, we will conduct a worship service at the Arizona Pioneers' Home, in Prescott, at 2:00 pm. This is an exciting opportunity to reach out to members of our community.

All members of the congregation are invited to participate in this ministry, by attending the services, singing, and visiting with the Arizona pioneers.

For more information, call the office, 636-2969.

From the Pastor



Just Rest

It has been said: We can worry or we can worship. Strangely enough, busy people find it a whole lot easier to worry than to worship. It has also been said, "The ability to calm your soul and wait before God is one of the most difficult things in the Christian life. Our old nature is restless...the world around us is frantically in a hurry. But a restless heart usually leads to a reckless life."

Rest. It's a word we hear often enough, but do we really understand its importance in our lives? When I read through the Gospels, I am impressed by the relaxed, calm pace Jesus kept from day to day. You never once see Jesus in a hurry. Even when one of Jesus' closest friends, Lazarus, was on his deathbed, Jesus took His time getting to Bethany to be with Lazarus. How is it that Jesus moved through life so slowly and yet accomplished so much? Is there something we

contemporary Christians have missed?

I am reminded of a story... It seems there were two woodsmen. One day one woodsman challenged another to an all-day tree chopping contest. The challenger worked very hard, stopping only for a brief lunch break. The other man had a leisurely lunch and took several breaks during the day. At the end of the day, the challenger was surprised and annoyed to find that the other fellow had chopped substantially more wood than he had. "I don't get it," he said. "Every time I checked, you were taking a rest, yet you chopped more wood than I did." "But you didn't notice," said the winning woodsman, "that I was sharpening my ax when I sat down to rest."

Mark 6:31: *Then Jesus said, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest. There were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat.*

Rest is not only vital to our spiritual lives, it is imperative if we are to be effective. Christ understood this principle and made it a point to get away both with His disciples and by Himself from time to time in order to rest and rejuvenate. It was Jesus' way of recharging His spiritual, physical and emotional batteries. In doing so, He set an example for us to follow. We are a people too busy for our own good, too busy to stop and realize that in our frantic business we are actually accomplishing less and aging more.

In the Old Testament, the idea of rest was tied up in the divine concept of Sabbath. In Exodus 31:13-14 we read: *Say to the Israelites, 'You must observe my Sabbaths. This will be a sign between me and you for the generations to come, so you may know that I am the Lord, who makes you holy. "Observe the Sabbath, because it is holy to you. Anyone who desecrates it is to be put to death; those who do any work on that day will be cut off from their people."* Observance of the Sabbath day was a top priority from God's perspective. In fact, obedience to this commandment was so important that the death penalty was prescribed for any who disobeyed. The question is, why was the Sabbath given such significance? A careful study of this topic would take weeks, but for our purpose, the answer is, Worship takes time.

Continued next page

From the Pastor, *continued*
from pg. 2

Think of how successful Satan has been in hindering the worship of Christians in 20th century America. We are workaholics, and, in addition, worn out by the time demands of our day. It is no wonder that the quality of our worship is so shoddy. We must have free time to worship, and we must plan our week so that we finish early enough to have that free time. It does take time to be holy. Yet we live in a day when everything is supposed to be done quickly and efficiently. We eat fast foods and drive in the fast lane, and thus, when we come to church, we want our worship pre-digested, pre-planned, and quickly served up so we can get on to other things. God save us from those time eaters which cause us to abbreviate our worship.

Let's be real honest here. How many of you actually sit in your seat during worship thinking about what you're going to do after church? Or how many of us are just somewhere else instead of focusing on worshipping the One Who died to save our souls? I know what it's like to be in your place. I've spent countless Sunday mornings in the pew struggling to keep my mind focused on worship. The truth is, I hate the fact

that I struggle with this issue! I resent all the distractions in my life and how hard they make it for me to clear my mind and focus on Jesus Christ. This is precisely why it takes time to be holy; and consequently, it takes time to worship.

I want to encourage each individual reading this article to learn the discipline of rest. God designed us to need rest at every level of life, from physical to emotional to spiritual. We all need to seek solitude and peace on a regular basis. And may we, in our times of rest and solitude, open our hearts to the ministry of the Holy Spirit as God tills the soil of our souls in order to make us better able to produce the fruit of the Spirit. Learn to slow down. Learn to "smell the roses" as it were. Life goes by too fast and none of us knows when our life will end.

Rest and let your soul be rejuvenated! May your spirit echo the words of King David when he declared: Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you. Psalm 116:7

Peace and grace,

Pastor Mike



Notes from the Lay Leader



Thought provoking themes for April:

- ◆ **Doubt**
- ◆ **Faith**
- ◆ **Faithfulness**
- ◆ **Identity**

We have moved through the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. Now we begin April with Thomas. However we understand his story, we are reminded that “some skepticism can keep the church from falling prey to the many forms of bad theology in the world out there.”

How do we combine doubt and skepticism with wisdom and grace? How do we keep from casting the doubt and skepticism, either always inside ourselves or always outside ourselves, for certainly “evil” and “sin” reside in both “places”? There is much complexity involved here – much to consider as we begin to think about faith, faithfulness, and identity.

The prophet John offers words both pastoral and

theological in John 20. From the opening salutation extending grace and peace, to the assurance of the risen Christ’s love, John writes to the churches of his day, which is relevant to us today, also.

Reconciliation demands a communal identity and individual identities all striving toward faith and faithfulness from different places to a common reality that is Mystery Itself. We are reminded that all concerned parties have a role to play in this reconciliation.

In Psalm 30 we are aided in our quest for individual identities in both faith and faithfulness. Is it not a consistent understanding of peace, justice, and wholeness for all?

In Acts Chapter 9 we are reminded that resurrection happens when people choose to run toward danger to help others. How do we find the courage to run toward reconciliation within the complexity of our own identities as individuals and communities?

Christian unity is related to the very real and diverse identities of Christians. We each have different traditions, callings, and each are planning different missions. How is God’s grace made manifest in each and all of us through this process?

These ideas are part of what we will hear and think about in April.

See you in church,
Roger



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN

SPRING HAS
SPRUNG,...early.

Along with the lovely weather, we enjoyed 2 young ladies from Prescott Area Shelter Services who spoke on their services and needs.

We sent them back to the shelters with 3 boxes of sundries, food, and other items. We also sent a check to be used as needed for the shelter homes.

We also planned for the rest of 2016

- ◆ Easter Brunch
- ◆ May - Mother/ Daughter luncheon: the theme is *Military Women*
- ◆ June - Annual birthday luncheon: we celebrate members and guests birthdays.
- ◆ No meetings until October
- ◆ Annual Christmas Dinner & Basket Auction

Everyone is invited to any or all of these UMW sponsored events.....

Nancy Mitchell
President



TRUSTEES

The Trustee's have been busy getting the new Heating\ Air conditioning unit installed before the weather turns hot. We have helped setup for Easter services and the Brunch. We also setup for the High School Choir Concerts, which were well received.

KNEE MAIL CHANGE

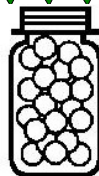


Prayers

Please send your knee mail requests to Karen Mensing:

oldnorth5@gmail.com

HUNGRY KIDS' PROJECT



You may have read in the paper recently about the Hungry Kids' Project. The Chino Valley schools have a lot of homeless children who need meals for the weekends. Three groups at the church have contributed to this project. If you would like to help with this project, you can put money in the jar in the Narthex.



Education News

A Study of the Gospel of John

A study of the Gospel of John, based on John: The Gospel of Light and Life by Adam Hamilton, will begin on Monday, April 4, at 5pm.

We are making the assumption that Monday evening and a start time of 5:00 pm is OK. Any change suggestions let the office or Roger Harlow know.

Books for the class will be ordered as soon as we have a count of how many plan to attend the class.

Please call Roger or the church office, 636-2969, to sign-up for the class and to let us know how many books we need to order.

Roger Harlow
captntop@cableone.net
928.583.5107



HELP IS NEEDED to set up and coordinate clean up for coffee hours on Sundays.

If you are interested in more information or are able to help with this ministry, please call the office, 636-2969.

People Who Care

People Who Care is an organization that helps members of the community, both here in Chino Valley and in Prescott. Some of their ministries include driving people to medical appointments, taking people shopping, occasional sitting with the homebound, helping with other needs. As many of you know, People Who Care has a lending "closet" here, with walkers, wheel chairs, and many other items.

The Prescott office of People Who Care hosts an orientation on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Occasional orientations are held in Chino Valley as well. If you are interested in helping or learning more about this ministry, please call Peggy at the Prescott office, 445-2480, or Barbara at the Chino office, 636-3295.



PLEASE MAKE THESE
CHANGES IN YOUR
DIRECTORY

WISE, Ralph & Joyce
Ralph—533-1759
Joyce—710-2051

NORRIS, Donna
Cell only—928/379-1882

A revised directory was sent out in early February. Please let the office know if you need a copy.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



BIRTHDAYS

4/3 Kevin Nolan
 4/5 Karen Mensing
 4/12 T.J. O'Neil
 4/13 Roxann Lathrop
 4/19 Nina Lam
 4/23 Anna Houston
 4/23 Pastor Michael Keffer
 4/24 Joyce Mastropiero
 4/27 John Dean

ANNIVERSARIES

4/3 Bob & Laura Bell
 4/12 Rick & Alice Merriman
 4/21 Bob & Rita Haslett
 4/25 Pete & Karen Mensing



BIRTHDAYS

5/3 Naomi Richards
 5/5 Ilona Dean
 5/5 Betsy Terry
 5/7 Bill Harris
 5/12 Jessica Benny
 5/14 James Willingham
 5/16 Alice Harris
 5/26 Ann Moses
 5/27 Richard Boller
 5/31 Diane Judge
 5/31 Bill Mitchell

ANNIVERSARIES

5/4 Dick & Norma Liska
 5/12 Don & Janet Warren
 5/15 Geoffrey & Nina Lam
 5/19 Kevin & Peggy Nelson
 5/25 Joseph & Deborah Culjak
 5/26 Jim & Ann Moses
 5/26 Lewis & Margaret Pehl
 5/28 Dave & Barbara Starnes

April Liturgists

2nd Service

3 Janet Warren
 10 Monte Colucci
 17 Todd Hoeffner
 24 Dave Starnes

April Readers

1st Service

3
 10
 17 Dave West
 24 Molly Schnieder

If you are interested in reading at the 1st service on Sunday, please sign up in the Narthex.



+ Christian Symbols +

Tau Rho

The symbol of salvation is composed of the Greek letters tau (T) and rho (P). It was first used in ancient New Testament manuscripts as an abbreviation for the Greek word for "cross." The symbol also seems to visually represent Jesus on the cross.

SHAVING CREAM EARTH

God created this wonderful world and told us to care for it. Remember that by making a unique painting.



What you need:

- A cookie sheet
- White shaving cream
- A wooden craft stick
- Paint (blue and green)
- A straw
- A paper plate

What you do:

1. On the cookie sheet, spray shaving cream in a circle (the same size as the bottom of the paper plate). Smooth it out with the craft stick.
2. Squirt the blue and green paint on top of the shaving cream in loopy, squiggly patterns. Swirl the paint around with the straw.
3. Place the bottom of the paper plate on top of the paint. Press it down gently so the whole plate bottom is covered in paint.
4. Lift up the plate and gently remove excess shaving cream with the stick.
5. After the painting dries, hang it on your wall.



A SPECIAL GIFT

Give thanks to God for this amazing planet, which he filled with people, animals and plants.

Directions: Following the code below, fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse. Then color the earth.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



The 5 1 18 20 8 is 20 8 5 12 15 18 4 19, and
5 22 5 18 25 20 8 9 14 7 9 14 9 20, the
23 15 18 12 4, and 1 12 12 23 8 15 12 9 22 5
9 14 9 20 24:1, NIV
16 19 1 12 13

What was the name of Esther's cousin who raised her after her parents died?

- A. Hegai
- B. Haman
- C. Mordecai
- D. Ahasuerus (also known as Xerxes)



Answer: (See Esther 2:7.)

CHINO VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am—12 noon

*If you do not wish to receive this publication,
please contact the church office.*

LESSER KNOWN CHURCH FACTS

Why is the Easter season fifty days long?

Easter for Christians is not just one day, but rather a 50-day period. The season of Easter, or Eastertide, begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends on Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church (see Acts 2).

Easter is also more than just an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. In the early church, Lent was a season for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. The initial purpose of the 50-day Easter season was to continue the faith formation of new Christians.

Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. It's the season when we remember our baptisms and how through this sacrament we are, according to the liturgy, "incorporated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation." As "Easter people," we also celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church and gifts of the Spirit (Pentecost), and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Christ.

