



The Chino Valley Chimes

June 2020



Happening this month:

All events cancelled until further notice for health conditions.

Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	2
Lay Leader's Notes	3
Conference Project	4
Men's Group	5
Missions	5
SPRC	5
Finance Committee	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	7
Sunday Scripture	7

"New Normal"

At of this writing, we are still under Bishop Bob's directive that there will be no services or meetings until further notice. It is important, for all of us, to follow the directions of the governor and the Bishop, as well as our own common sense, in what is appropriate to do at this time, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This is especially important in the light of our senior congregation.

To this end, we are again not adding a calendar to this issue of the Chimes. Please watch your email, the church website, and the phone tree for updates on services and meetings. We have had some successful meetings via Zoom (a computer program) and will continue with those as needed.

The church office remains **closed** until further notice. If you drive by, you may see a car or two, as essential employees and volunteers must be there from time to time.

However, **PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE OFFICE.**

If you need to contact any of the office staff, please leave a message on the church phone (636-2969) or send an email to the office (chinovalleymc@gmail.com) and we will return your call or message. Both are checked regularly every day.

We all hope it will be safe to get together again in person in the near future.

Farewell

As you have already been notified, Pastor Clare will be going to Buckeye as of July 1. Since we are still in a "no personal contact" mode, we are unable to have a pot luck or other gathering.

We are, however, planning to say farewell to Pastor Clare. On Sunday, June 14, in the afternoon, we will have a drive-by/parade in the parking lot. While you will be unable to get out of your car to greet Pastor Clare, you can make posters and signs to hold out the window. A basket will also be available for anyone who would like to bring a card. More details will be sent out via email and the phone tree closer to June 14.

From the Pastor



Hello Church,

As I write from home this last Chimes article to you all, the sun is shining brightly, the wind is moving gently as the trees are swaying back and forth, and I hear the birds singing sweetly... which of-course brings the song "How Great Thou Art" to mind.

I am comforted by my humming, and the gift of recalling this essential song of our faith that has been grafted into my being. Just like the song, this community of faith known as Chino Valley United Methodist Church has been grafted into my soul as well.

Who knew that our journey would be so very short... well our Great God did, that's who! God has brought us together, and I am so very blessed and so filled with gratitude for each one of you.

I know that you and I both believe and have experienced the Trinity's movement in our

individual and collective lives together. We have prayed, played and worshipped well. We have not only been in ministry right here in Chino Valley, and we have also supported ministry throughout the world as well. Well done, you!

This past year was one of learning to trust new ways of being together and beginning the process of developing new avenues for moving forward in ministry. We certainly experienced newness in our Church Conference and now we have been thrust into the world of technology with a myriad of possibilities of serving the mission field which is the world.

Church, I have the fondest, most loving memories of our time together building the kingdom of God alongside you. I will remind you to reread Mark 4:30-32. You are a mighty community that provides shade, rescue and relief to all who come seeking, even a Pastor. A most heartfelt thank you!

So long for now... for we shall see one another again.

Christ's Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Clare



Notes from the Lay Leader



We are defined as Christians by our ministry 24/7. As Bishop Bob says, “we have been challenged to be “the church.” In these times we are not physically present with each other. Our creativity has been unleashed these past few months. The phone calls, emails, cards, video conferencing thru ZOOM and yes, an on-line version of our worship service, have given us the opportunity for a more enhanced relationship for each other and those around us. It has taken us to another level in our spiritual leadership. For our continued growth, this needs to continue.

Once again, greetings from home! By now, can we say all our honey-do lists are complete and all our projects can see the light at the end of the tunnel?

I would like to say yes; however, something comes up and for the umpteenth time, things are placed on the back burner. But for sure, we will never lack of something to do.

Our transition of spiritual leadership is on the horizon. As members of Chino Valley United Methodist Church, we prepare the way for a smooth transition. We are “the church” and we rise above all that is before us. We humbly and gratefully say thank you and a fond farewell to Pastor Clare. Our church has been blessed by her presence, her strength in spirit and ministry in this short time.

We offer a heart-warming welcome to Pastor Bob as he embraces upon a new journey. With the spirit of our church’s open minds and hearts, may he and his wife Ruth find our church family as their church family.

And most of all, may God continue to guide Pastor Clare and Pastor Bob in their spiritual journeys; keeping them safe and healthy.

Without the physical presence of being in church, we have celebrated Lenten season – He was crucified, dead and buried. Easter – He is Risen. Ascension Day – 40 days after Easter - He ascended into heaven to assume the fullness of His reign. And, now the beginning of Pentecost (May 31)– 50 days after Easter, marking the birth of the Church and commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and early followers of Jesus Christ.

Moving forward in our liturgical calendar - Sunday, June 7 - Trinity Sunday where Christians remember and honor the eternal God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Sunday, June 14 - the 2nd Sunday of Pentecost; and wherein Pentecost continues thru mid-November.

To get a greater understanding of this time, you can read the story of Pentecost in Acts 2. Key symbols of Pentecost are: (1) the color red, reminding us of flames; (2) the dove, symbolic of the gift of the Holy Spirit when Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came to him like a dove; (3) the wind, the Holy Spirit came on the first Pentecost like a mighty rushing wind; and, (4) the flames, the Holy Spirit rested on Jesus’ followers on the first Pentecost like tongues of fire.

Why is all this important? Simple - in the Christian tradition, Pentecost represents the birth of the early church wherein we are a part of that thru Him.

Simple explanation, yes; but, quite an understatement in the complexity of it all. We are so blessed to be part of this celebration!

Take care, stay safe and healthy!

Sandy Jones

Conference Project

Water for the Reservation by Billie K. Fidlin

Imagine a people with a spirit of survival and triumph. A people who value not only their elders, but as a matriarchal society have a strong sense of family allegiance and obligation. A people who place value on tradition and realize the stress brought about by reservation to urban migration. A people who's courage is exhibited in the Navajo Code Talkers from World War II. Navajo artists whose works are in many of our homes – from their woven rugs and blankets to jewelry of silver and turquoise. As the largest tribe their population as of the 2016 count equaled 356,890 tribe members – and roughly 170,000 Navajos still speak Navajo. Such heritage!

A rich history. A painful history such as in 1864, when thousands of Navajos were forced to surrender to American soldiers, enduring “The Long Walk” to Ft. Sumner New Mexico where they lived and died in horrible conditions from beginning to end. A history that includes the creation of the Four Corners Ministry, “Where the Holy Spirit Touches Navajo Hearts.”** A history of trials and great achievement.

While this background is interesting, perhaps this very day is of more immediate interest. Why should the people of the Desert Southwest Conference concern themselves with the

Navajo Nation? Among the many reasons: we are a people of faith who care for the vulnerable; many of our churches send work teams to sites on the reservation for hands-on mission trips; and we engage in ministry on the reservation, from Bible studies near Page to the United Methodist Church presence in concert with the Four Corners Ministry.

But there is one painful event that is drawing our attention to mission. COVID-19. The virus is devastating the Navajo. The greatest deterrent, simply washing our hands frequently, for many is impossible. It is hard to wash hands without running water. Hospitals are few and not easily traveled to. We cannot do much about the hospital access. We can help with water. As of April 29, 2020, 1,977 positive cases have been identified for COVID-19, with 62 deaths. These numbers rise daily. With population dispersal throughout the region and the lack of accessibility to health care and water, as with many parts of the country these statistics represent only what is known for certain and may not reflect accurately how the virus has impacted the people. Additionally, as Rev. Tweedy Sombrero, former chair of the Conference Committee on Native American Ministries shared, “Part of the reason COVID is spreading so fast, culturally families live in clusters and a handshake is very important. To greet one another with a handshake is very important and then all of a sudden one cannot do this or see each other is devastating to tribal members.”

This year's Annual Conference Mission Project is to receive donations that will be put toward providing water where it is needed on the reservation. While we understand that many of us have experienced furloughs or job lay-offs, we also understand the mission heart of the Desert Southwest Conference. Your donation can be made electronically or by post mail. Please remember to indicate that this is for Mission Project 2020: Water!

NOTE: In “Purpose of Payment” please note AC Mission Project 2020. In “Other Details” please list your church name
Mail in giving: Desert Southwest Conference PO Box 32830
Phoenix, AZ 85064

NOTE: On your check please note AC Mission Project 2020 & please list your church name

You can also use this link to send your contribution <https://dscumc.org/annual-conference/mission-project/>

Committees and Groups



As with all other church events and groups, the Men's Group will not meet until we open up again.

You guys take it easy and stay well.
Bob Haslett

What is our Missions ministry during this time of uncertainty? Simple, nothing has changed in our ministry other than not being physically present with each other. We continue to be creative and innovative in what are we doing as Christians; and, that is to continue to move forward. The challenge of the pandemic does not make us useless in our Christianity.

The Missions Team will have their first ZOOM video teleconference on Wednesday, June 10, 10:30 am. We will be in contact to get all on board for the meeting. And, if anyone would like to join in, let the front office know. While the agenda will be short, the main focus will be on this year's upcoming events and whether we can meet those obligations for us and the community. All thoughts and suggestions are most welcome! Email sandylee1953@gmail.com.

Remember – the church is open. The only things closed are the buildings! Take care.

Hello Everyone!

It's Molly Schnieder here, and I'm the Chair of our SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee). Our function is to manage relationships among the Pastor, congregations, community and the District Superintendent of the West of our Desert Southwest Conference. Basically, we are the HR (Human Relations) of the church as we hire/fire all staff and are the liaison between the Conference and the Pastor. The members of this committee are as follows:

Barb Brooks, John Dean, Roger Harlow, Sandy Jones, George Stoecker, Steve Taken & Molly Schnieder

Even though it has been a surprise to us all, and has caught us a bit off guard, come July 1, 2020, we will be saying "Goodbye" to Pastor Clare Sullivan, and "Welcome" to Pastor Bob Gilfert. We know this will not be an easy transition. It will take time to become accustomed to our new Pastor as he will also be trying to get to know us. We ask that you keep an open heart and mind. Your SPRC team would like to make this transition as easy as possible for all of us. To do that we are asking that once we have our new Pastor, if you have any questions, concerns comments (good or bad) that you come to one of us and talk. We are here to listen to your feedback and to help you through this time with love and understanding and without judgement or expectations. We are here for you. Please let us know how you feel.

God's Blessings to us all.
Molly Schnieder - Chair

Committees and Groups, etc.



Greetings from Ray Benny,
Finance Chairperson,

Well, we are beginning to see the light around this Corona virus. Things are looking better, and maybe we can begin to return to somewhat of a normal life very soon.

Financially, the Church is doing OK, we are more half way thru our Federal Personal Payroll Program funds which allows the church to pay our employees their normal wages. Beginning in the third week of June, we will start the process to request forgiveness of our payroll loan. According to the Small Business Administration publications, there is no reason that it will not be forgiven.

The church office would like to thank all the members who have been giving their offering on a regular basis. Without this happening, our status would not be as nice. If you are behind in your pledge or giving, please remember you can send your offering to the church.

Oh, I also personally would like to thank all those who bought take-out food from Aroma's Pizza in May. The church received a check

for \$32.38. That's one of the largest amounts that we have received in a while.

I would like to announce that the church is now set up for eGiving, that is, electronic giving using your computer or smart phone. Church members will be able to provide their offering through a checking account, debit card or credit card. As of now, we have four families using eGiving through the church Realm/Vanco software. Currently, those using this form of eGiving have deductions from their checking account. An eGiving account can be set up to donate once, weekly, monthly, or whenever you would desire, it's quite versatile. There are other features that will be introduced over time. Funds go to the church's checking account for the church's general fund account. Soon we will be offering other funds that can be supported: Memorial, Trustees, Worship, Christmas as well as those that are covered by the Love Offering. eGiving will be soon accessible via our church web site but we are still working on those details.

If anyone would like to hear more, or start eGiving, please give me a call at 848-2158 and I will be glad to assist in getting you started. Once the restrictions on church meetings are lifted, we hope to provide real time demonstrations.

For finance committee members, I am planning a real-time, Zoom finance meeting in early June. You will need at least a microphone on your computer or a smart phone so you can be heard. A web cam will allow you to see others in the meeting, and we will see you, too.

So let's hope and pray for a brighter future, but meanwhile, take logical precautions and Stay Healthy.

Ray Benny

Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

6/2 Janet Greer-Warren
 6/18 Jan Mauck
 6/18 George Rist
 6/18 Barbara Starnes
 6/21 Dave Jenkins
 6/23 Mary Taken
 6/24 Pat Clingman
 6/25 Marti Hays
 6/29 Charles Thompson

ANNIVERSARIES

6/15 John & Ellie Magarrell
 6/16 Chris and Cassie Botel

June Scripture Readings

June 7 - Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1--2:4a
 Psalm 8
 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
 Matthew 28:16-20

June 14 - Pentecost 2

Genesis 18:1-15
 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35--10:8

June 21 - Pentecost 3

Genesis 21:8-21
 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

June 28 - Pentecost 4

Genesis 22:1-14
 Psalm 13
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42

Prayers are asked for...

In our thoughts and prayers this month: Our church & church family, Pastor Clare, our youth, President Trump, our country and its leaders, our military men & women, Chino Valley Police Department, Chino Valley Fire Department, those in nursing homes.

Home bound: Alma Holt, Pat Jones, Bob Reese, Beth Vandenberg, Jack & Janis Heller, Jessica Benny. **Church members:** Pastor Mike Keffer, Terry Braner, Kevin Grell, Deedee McHenry. **Friends & family of members:** Merle Houston, Chris Everidge, Alice Herod, Caitlin, Kyle Larsen, JoAnne Ledbetter, Marge & Don Mastin, Ernie.

If you would like a name added or deleted from the prayer list, please call the church office.

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.*

Coming Events

**Watch this space each month for
coming events in the next few
months.**

June 14 ~ Drive through Farewell for Pastor
Clare

June 12-13 ~ Desert Southwest Annual
Conference video conference

June 19 ~ Chimes Deadline

