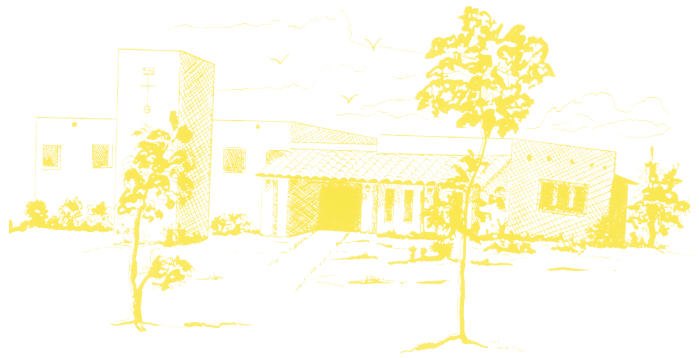


Good News from
The Good Shepherd
 United Church of Christ

17750 S. La Canada Road
 Sahuarita AZ 85629
 520-625-1375
 Fax: 520-625-7230

E-mail: seeyou@thegoodshepherducc.org
<http://www.TheGoodShepherdUCC.org>



April 2011

Our Mission Statement:

The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ welcomes all as we strive to be disciples, boldly living as God's witnesses and celebrating our intergenerational and multicultural life together. The Good Shepherd is an Open and Affirming Congregation.

Holy Week Schedule

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| April 17 | <p>Palm Sunday—We will process with a donkey through our neighborhood professing “Hosanna.”</p> <p>9:00 am The choir will sing Shubert’s Mass In G</p> <p>11:00 am We will be witnessing the symbols of Holy Week</p> |
| April 21 | <p>Maundy Thursday---Although we will not have a full meal we will taste some of the traditional Middle East foods as we prepare ourselves for the Last Supper.</p> <p>6:00 pm Service begins around tables.</p> |
| April 22 | <p>Good Friday---There was very little that was good about this day---but it is important for us to witness the darkness of the world so we can see the light.</p> <p>12:00 Noon Come and witness the nails in the cross</p> |
| April 24 | <p>Easter Sunday We have a plethora of opportunities to witness the risen Christ.</p> <p>6:00 am Sunrise service at the lake---bring your lawn chairs and blankets and watch the drama before your very eyes.</p> <p>9:00 am We will sing all of the great Easter Hymns and literally feel the spirit of new life all around us.</p> <p>11:00 am New life will abound with new music and loud shouts of Alleluia!!!</p> |

The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ

Senior Minister: **Rev. Randy Mayer**
Coordinator of Christian Education: **Julie Ingham**
Assistant to the Minister: **Noel Andersen**
Director of Music: **Chris Thomas** (on Leave of Absence)
Interim Choir Director: **Scott Glysson**
Music Coordinator: **Jessica Thomas**
Pianist: **Kay Jean Moore**
Custodian: **Severo Rivas**
Administrator: **Amy Dillemath**
Newsletter Editor: **Mary Chapman**

Newsletter Helpers:

Jan Bennett
John & Ginny Fridlund
Carlos Henriquez
Bill & Marge Kinhead
Beverly Myers

Your Council:

Moderator: **Connie Aglione**
Moderator-Elect: **Jackie Smith**
Council Secretary: **Drew Mason**
Treasurer: **Bonnie Sondrol**

Board Chairs/Co-Chairs:

Christian Education:
Angie Morris
Facilities:
Donn Bruskiwicz & Pete Hagen
Finance:
Steve Smith
Membership:
Bob Buehring
Mission/Outreach:
Susan Hill
Stewardship:
Hathaway Cornelius
Worship:
Phyllis Hallman

Southwest Conference Annual Meeting: *"IT'S ABOUT MISSION!"* April 29-30th Albuquerque, New Mexico

The word "Mission" comes from the Latin word "to send." Jesus "commissioned" his own disciples by sending them out into the world to train others to practice love, justice, mercy and compassion as a way of life. Mission has been and remains the very purpose of our existence as the UCC.

We are brimming with excitement for this year's Annual Meeting of the Southwest Conference where our featured guest will be Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte, Minister for Wider Church Ministries of the UCC. We have spent several years laying the groundwork to enable our churches and people to better accomplish their missions as they discern them. Now we will give our churches the information and tools that will fuel the energy and excitement about new mission work – local and global.

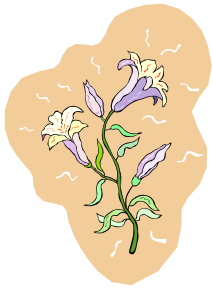
With great joy, we invite you to our 2011 Annual Meeting on April 29-30, 2011 at First Congregational UCC in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Please join us as we meet together to share our experiences, learn new things and discern our shared local and global mission. Join us in worship and praise. Join us in showing God's loving justice to all of Creation. It really is all about mission.

If you have questions or would like to attend please contact Randy Mayer for more information.

Newsletter Deadline
MAY Issue
Wed., APRIL 20, 2011

Send items to: **Mary Chapman,**
mchapman15@cox.net

Just Coffee will be sold on
April 3, the first Sunday
of the month



Easter Flowers

Once again, we will be having spring flowers on our altar on Easter Sunday. If you would like to purchase flowers in honor or memory of one or more of your loved ones---please fill out one of the forms that will be in the Sunday Bulletin or contact the church office—625-1375. The price will be \$10.00 and you can pick up the flowers after the 11:00 am Service on Easter Sunday.



Taizé

How wonderful it was to have 65 at our Ash Wednesday Taizé service. We hope that many will become regulars at the monthly service---October-May. (Our YAVs did such a good job, in Jess's absence, of leading the singing, cantoring and providing the flute.) The next service will be on April 13--just before Palm Sunday. Taizé might be a very good way to prepare yourself for Holy Week so do come and bring your friends and neighbors.



Javarita Coffeehouse Presents

Ross Nickerson & X-Train

Friday, April 15 at 7:00pm

Ross is a banjo picking virtuoso and a regular attraction at our Javarita Coffeehouse. This year he will be bringing his picking buddies from his band X Train including national flat picking guitar champ Peter McLaughlin. This band is creating quite a buzz with their exciting, fresh approach and superb musicianship to bluegrass music. Tickets for this show will be \$10.00 dona-

tion. Be sure and arrive early. The Javarita Coffeehouse is located at: The Good Shepherd UCC, 17750 S, La Canada, Sahuarita, AZ 85629, Phone 520-625-1375. Ross's webpage is: www.banjoteacher.com

Ecclesiastical Council for Noel Andersen April 9th, at 2:00pm

Believe it or not, Noel Andersen has been with us at The Good Shepherd for nearly two years. During this time he has done great things with our youth, been a steady leader in worship, has started our community garden, and has become a trusted friend of The Good Shepherd Congregation. As Noel has been walking with us he has also been discerning his call into ministry. He has been "In Care" during this process with the Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ and in February he successfully presented his Ordination Paper before the Church and Ministry Committee of the Conference. Now he has just a couple more steps before he is ordained and will be looking for his own congregation or place of ministry.

That is where The Good Shepherd Congregation comes in. On Saturday, April 9th at 2:00 pm everyone is invited to come to The Good Shepherd for an Ecclesiastical Council. We will be joined by pastors and lay members of UCC churches around the conference who will come to engage in an examination of Noel so that we all can be satisfied in his preparedness and fitness to be a Minister in the United Church of Christ. It sounds a little intimidating doesn't it? No doubt, it is a serious process that is done with great care and conversation. But it sure helps if the love and support of a congregation is there to season the gathering with goodwill and express the promises we see in Noel as minister. Please plan to come--- it is important for Noel, but it is also important in the life of The Good Shepherd Church.

A Big Rummage Sale Thank You!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make this year's Rummage Sale a success!!! The Good Shepherd is a special church. You answered my call for merchandise to be donated. You answered my call to volunteer. Over 85 people worked the sale. A big thank you to Sue and Ken Woodward for donating storage space. Another big thank you to Continental Self Storage for the donation of a storage unit. All "left over" merchandise (except boutique) is donated to Arivaca Human Resources. "Left over" boutique clothes are donated to Dazee's.

Hack McCall, Chairman
P.S. Start collecting merchandise for next year!

Quilters' News

The Good Shepherd Quilters will be meeting April 12 from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the church. We will be continuing to complete thirty quilts for Las Amigas and other to be distributed through Project Linus.



Our group takes primary responsibility for meeting the need at Las Amigas. This agency serves pregnant and recently postpartum women recovering from alcohol and other drug abuse. The women stay about a year and go through a comprehensive program in a healing environment. The services to assist them in recovery and meet the challenges of the future include counseling, life skills training like budgeting money and time, parenting classes, and employment training. Many of the women have young children in addition to the babies so there is a nursery and many services for the children. On visits to this facility it has been gratifying to see the colorful quilts very much in evidence.

Your help would be appreciated in making the quilts for Las Amigas or the many other places where quilts are used. All skill levels can participate and tools and material are available.

Bookworms News



Bookworms, the Monday evening women's book group, will meet April 18, 7 pm, at Doodee Backstrom's, 1919 W. Camino del Huarache. Myrna Simon will lead our discussion of *The Help*, by Kathryn Ford. For directions, call Doodee, 399-4239.

Afternoon Book Group



"The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie" by Alan Bradley, is the book for discussion at the Afternoon Book Worms on April 26, at 1:30 pm. We will meet at the home of Carolyn Hubbard, 3701 S. Camino Comica in Green Valley. Guests are welcome - just give Carolyn a call at 399-3944. Come and get acquainted.

Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, April 2, 8:30 am at the church, will be our annual pancake breakfast. Chef Bill Cochran will be "working his magic" in the kitchen! Tickets are \$5.00. **EVERYONE** is WELCOME. Questions? Ask Donn Higley or Vern Wing. Sponsored by Men's Fellowship.



OWL Update

The Owl programs for both Middle and High School are going well. The two groups have been meeting since January. The Senior High expect to be finished this month. The Junior High program is longer and may go into June. A special thanks goes to the leaders Glen Harrison, Debbie Buehring, Kelly Freiders and Bob Buehring for their commitment to this program.

Amigo News

The Mid Abrego Amigos will be gathering for their **4th Annual Miniature Golf Tournament** on April 6th. This is always a surprising challenge event as pro's as well as beginners compete for the "Traveling Trophy" created by Jim Hyatt four years ago. Each year's winner has their name on the plaque. Brenda Olson has proudly displayed it at their home this past year. The event ends with a leisurely supper on the Triple Play patio, as we share our summer travel plans for the coming season with each other.

Let Your Voice Be Heard!

If you're concerned about some of the legislation that has recently been before the state legislature, there is a way to make your voice heard. You can go to the Border Action Network website (www.borderaction.org).

There you can sign up to receive border action updates, state action alerts, and AZ legislative updates. Once you sign up, you will receive an email from them every time there is a bill to be voted on that affects border and immigration policy in Arizona. They include a sample letter that you can edit as well as the target legislators (a committee, the whole Senate, etc.) With a couple of clicks, your voice is heard.

Our district is District 30. Our State Senator is

Frank Atenori, fantenori@azleg.gov. Our House Representatives are David Gowan, dgowan@azleg.gov and Ted Vogt, tvogt@azleg.gov

You can also access the contact information for every legislator at www.azleg.gov

Is The Good Shepherd Part of Your Legacy?

Regardless of where each one of us finds our self along the 20 year journey of membership, relationship and involvement with The Good Shepherd, there is one common denominator we can all relate to: how quickly we begin to sense the legacy (gifts) that we receive from the church as members and friends through the sharing of our time, talents and treasures. Getting involved in the life of The Good Shepherd, wherever that niche may be, we quickly come to realize that "it is more blessed to give than to receive".

A very real and critically important way we all support our church is through the annual sustaining campaigns, as well as the periodic (two to date) capital campaigns that have been focused mostly on brick and mortar. These important personal commitments, as members and friends, fall under our annual giving responsibilities. But, what about your legacy to The Good Shepherd? What will your legacy be in perpetuity long after you have passed on?

A bequest through your will or estate plan, or a planned gift instrument will help ensure The Good Shepherd's long-term financial security and leave a legacy to something that you believe in and want to preserve for generations to come.

The Legacy Committee of The Good Shepherd encourages and invites each one of you to either pick up a Legacy brochure in the narthex and to consider its content or, if you already have a brochure in hand, to carefully revisit its content and opportunities and contacts if needed.

Thank you for your interest and support.
Pres Johnson



Christian Education

We are mid-way through the Lenten season as Easter is April 24th this year. The focus scriptures for Sundays in the month of April start with Psalm 23 on April 3rd. We know it as 'The Lord is my Shepherd.' Sheep and goats were the most important domestic animals in the biblical period and many of the early Hebrew leaders were shepherds, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Moses and David. The shepherd must guard the sheep against predators and find food for them, sheep need constant care. This Psalm portrays God as caring for the people in the same way. God's steadfast love '*hesed*' restores and sustains us.

On April 10th Ezekiel 37:1-14 is again a passage that we are familiar with, Ezekiel and the 'dry bones.' Ezekiel is led by God to a valley full of dry bones, perhaps an old battlefield. 'Dry bones' is a phrase that is found elsewhere in scripture as a metaphor for spiritual desolation. Ezekiel prophesies to the bones that God is the one that will give them life, the breath (wind or spirit) of life. God is the source of life. The Hebrew people in exile will return home and God's spirit will breathe new life and hope into them.

April 17th is Palm Sunday, the scripture Matthew 21:1-11 is the narrative of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Matthew 26:14-27:66 forms the passion narrative (encompassing the events of Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial, suffering and crucifixion). Matthew often portrays the disciples (The Twelve) in a harsh light, Jesus asks them or tells them to do things and invariably they mess up. In these verses he asks them to keep watch, they fall asleep; when Jesus is arrested they flee; they are not at the cross during Jesus' crucifixion or at the tomb. Matthew's gospel demonstrates how Jesus' life fulfills the Hebrew scriptures as Matthew is writing for the Jews in the early church. From 'Seasons of the Sprit' (our church school curriculum) - "Jesus' followers today participate in Jesus' death in two ways. We endure betrayal and injustices, and we also betray and treat oth-

ers cruelly. Jesus' death resonates with every exploitation and lie that diminishes or destroys a human life."

Finally Easter Sunday, in both Matthew 28:1-10 and John 20:1-8, the words "do not fear" and "do not weep" are the message to the two Mary's. They are the witnesses that spread the good news of Jesus' resurrection. Go and Tell!

On both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday we will have activities for the youngest and younger amongst us. A procession of the Palms on Palm Sunday and an Easter egg hunt at 10:30 on Easter Sunday! We will not have our regular Church school either of those Sundays, instead we will have learning experiences at the 11:00 service.

Thanks to Jessica Lambertson for teaching the 5th-8th grade church school during the month of March.

Our Lenten study "Pausing on the road to Jerusalem" continues on Wednesday's through April 20th. Please join us at 6:30 pm.

The event of the summer - Vacation Church School- is coming!! Join us June 6th-9th at 6:00 pm for dinner and learning opportunities for Kids, Youths and Adults. **SHAKE IT UP CAFÉ**, Where we carry out God's recipes. A fun time for all ages, look for more information in the May newsletter.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at Julie@TheGoodShepherdUCC.org or call me 909-4561.

Julie C. Ingham, Christian Ed Coordinator

Theology on Tap

Tuesday, April 19, 6:00-8:00pm at
El Charro Cafe

We gather to talk about high theology and deep religious questions once a month in a more relaxed setting. Please plan to come and be part of the conversation on Tuesday, April 19th from 6:00-8:00 at the El Charro Cafe Patio across the street from Fry's in Sahuarita.

EfM (Education for Ministry) coming to The Good Shepherd this Fall!

Christian faith and teaches them how to interpret and express that faith in daily life.

Cost: \$350/year

Please contact Julie Ingham for more information. Tel: 909-4561 or email:

Julie@TheGoodShepherdUCC.com

What is it?

EfM is a theological program for lay people. Year 1 covers the Old Testament, Year 2 the New Testament, and Year 3 & 4 church history/theology/ethics/philosophy. This program combines in-depth study, discussion and theological reflection to promote individual growth and development of a personal theology in a small group setting.

How does it work?

EfM is a four-year program; students commit one year at a time. The core of EfM is a group of 6 to 12 students with discussion led by mentors. It is a seminar-style study (no lectures) intended for laity who desire more than “just another bible study.” There are no quizzes, no tests, no papers, and no final exam. Format is based on the idea that people learn best within an accepting environment of free and open discussion.

Who sponsors EfM?

EfM was developed and is administered by the Episcopal Seminary at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. EfM has always been ecumenical by design and is currently used in Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Disciples of Christ, UCC, Quaker, and many other denominations. This international program is taught in the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and Europe. Since its beginning in 1975, more than 60,000 people have enrolled in EfM. More than 25,000 folks have graduated from the four-year curriculum. EfM currently has over 8,000 students enrolled in over a thousand groups.

Basic Assumptions Underlying EfM:

Every baptized person is called to ministry. Today lay persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the Church's faith in a complex and confusing world. EfM familiarizes individuals with the foundations of the

Youth News Preparing for Summer Mission Solidarity Opportunities

Both Middle and High School are preparing for the Summer Mission Solidarity Opportunities after receiving amazing support from the congregation in our fundraisers.

We had seventy-five people attend the Talent Show with thirteen different entertaining acts from comedy, dancing, music and skits; it was a very fun multi-generational event. Many thanks to Julie Franzone and Julie Ingham, for making a great Spaghetti dinner, and to the many volunteers who made it such an amazing evening.

For the High School Solidarity trip this year, we will be visiting and working with the City of Refuge United Church of Christ in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco. The City of Refuge, led by Bishop Yvette Plunder, is a ministry of restoration that is intentionally radically inclusive, welcoming all persons regardless of race, color, ancestry, age, gender, affectional orientation, and those who are specially abled.

It will be a wonderful experience to celebrate the Creator's diversity together and will be a special time to share the vision of The Good Shepherd UCC with their congregation and take back the experience and knowledge they will surely offer us. Thank you again for the consistent congregational support for our youth program at The Good Shepherd.

Chris Thomas On the Journey

Dear Congregation,

I wanted to pass along a letter that Chris Thomas, The Good Shepherd Director of Music, sent to the choir announcing that he has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. Chris and I have been in conversation over the past month and I received a Letter of Resignation earlier in the week. Although it is hard to receive a letter from someone who has given so much to The Good Shepherd Congregation, I think everyone is very happy for Chris and Jessica.

Please know that as head of staff I think we are in good hands right now with our Interim Director of Music Scott Glysson, our Music Coordinator Jessica Thomas and pianist Kay Jean Moore. The Church Council will be assessing our music director needs in the near future and the congregation will be kept up to date as decisions are made. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Peace,

Randy J. Mayer
Senior Minister

~~~~~

Church friends,

Please know you have been in my thoughts many times since I left in early January. The journey has been exciting and filled with the usual highs and lows of beginning a new adventure. It was a highlight to see so many of you at my lecture-recital in January.

Just a few days ago I finished negotiations for the next leg of the journey as I accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Music (tenure-track!) Director of Choral Activities at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ. Jess and I are thrilled to have a chance to finally think about a life that involves more than a 2 or 3 year rush. The idea of buying a house and having some roots is finally a reality. We're not sure just how "east coast" we are, but being only a train ride from NYC seems rather thrilling for two people who are fortunate enough to spend a life steeped in the arts. I will be conducting the top choir and the men's choir. My staff will conduct a women's choir and collegium musicum (early music ensemble). I'll also have graduate students, teach choral literature, and choral conducting. It's a job that I'm far too young and inexperienced to have, so it will keep me humble as I find myself in this new role.

It's hard to know where to start when I make an attempt to relay what you have meant to Jessica and me. Perhaps it's too difficult to even try so it will suffice to say working with you was never a job, and I believe the entire experience filled me with far more than I could have ever imagined. We did some great things together, but more importantly, I think in some ways, we made a difference.

I hope to keep in touch. We'll be moving rather early in the summer, but as things go, many of you will have already flown the coop. Be well.

Warmly,

Chris

# Men's Fellowship News

By Hack McCall

**MONDAY BREAKFASTS** Continue at La Placita. This 8 am breakfast is a good opportunity to meet new friends.

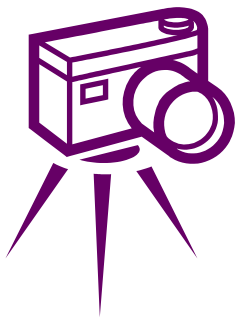
KIVA, a men's discussion group, meets on Mondays at 7 pm in the church library.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST** will be held April 2 at 8:30 am, at the church. Men's Fellowship sponsors this, but the breakfast is **OPEN FOR EVERYONE**. Tickets are \$5.00

**RUMMAGE SALE REPORT.** Is the Rummage Sale a money maker or a social event? Over 85 people worked the sale and many of these people celebrated on our patio Saturday night. Thanks for everyone who helped with the sale. This was quite a money maker too! This year, we took in \$6,099!! (Last year's figure was \$5,016.)

**JUST COFFEE** update. After 8 years of selling Just Coffee, Roger Kleckner retired. His successors are Sharon and Bob Chamberlin. They have experience with Just Coffee sales in another church. Thanks to Roger and thanks to Sharon and Bob.

**ATTENTION MEN!** Is there a way you want to be more involved in Men's Fellowship activities? Do you want to "step up" and take charge of the Italian Dinner, scheduled for Friday, December 2, 2011? Please consider this and give me a call at 625-0759.



## Pictorial Directory Corrections

The corrections sheet for the Pictorial Directory is available in the narthex. Please pick one up and attach it to your Pictorial Directory.



## Summer Spanish Classes

Well, my friends, after one year of vacation I am prepared and willing to start my summer Spanish classes. Classes are going to be more practical than formal, as you will see. I already have 2 students and I hope to have more. Questions? Call Carlos Henriquez at 648-9947

## Stewardship Message

Well, our annual pledge campaign has come to another successful conclusion; I know we're all gratified to see the depth of commitment and ongoing support that so many have invested in this community. Now we move into the ongoing ministry that our contributions support.

I have to tell you that, for Nancy and me, we take immense pleasure in knowing that our gifts to Good Shepherd continue like clockwork. Our giving happens automatically—we use the automatic withdrawals that we've authorized the church to take each month—so even though we are temporarily living in Sun City, we still get to be part of the work of our church in Sahuarita.

Our gifts mean a lot to us. We get to participate in the ministry, every day, as Good Shepherd makes its witness in the community as a place of welcome and transformation. Even though we can't be present in worship, we ARE present every time our pastor visits, prays, supports, challenges, invites another, because our gift supports that work. We are present when our church reaches out through Our Church's Wider Mission, our primary mission support of our denomination. Our electronic giving allows us to do that every single day.

In one of our visits to another church, we learned a little ritual that has become important to us personally. Making the contribution electronically has been helpful to our money management and an expression of our ongoing commitment to the church. Nonetheless the presentation of the offering in worship, and the blessing of the gift at the altar, also means something important. The church has some cards available that can be placed in the plate if we give electronically (or frankly we could make our own), but it does require finding one on a Sunday morning! So we have begun simply placing a hand over the plate for a moment, blessing the gift that we have already made, before we pass the plate. It is a simple gesture, but I find I look forward to the offering as I ask God to bless those gifts.

If you would like to find out more about elec-

tronic giving, please contact the church office. And thank you, our home church community, for continuing to hold our ministry in Sun City in your prayers.

-Curt Ackley

### Community Food Bank List of Items Most Needed

Peanut Butter

Tomato Products – Canned, Paste,  
Sauce

Canned Fruit

Cereal

Misc. Canned Meat (Tuna not needed)

Canned Vegetables (corn and green  
beans not needed)

Rice and Potato Mixes

Sugar-Free Products and Gluten-Free

Baking Products - Flour, Sugar

Mustard, Ketchup, Mayonnaise

*Personal Care Items are  
Always Welcome!*

Baby Food Infant Diapers – All Sizes  
Bar Soap Feminine Hygiene Products  
Shampoo

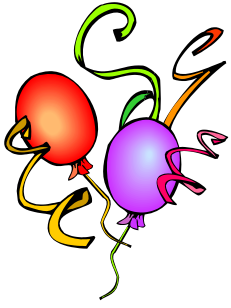
Toilet Paper - Paper Products

Grocery Store Gift Certificates

Please, no pre-opened items

Food bank regulations do not allow us to  
accept prescriptions.

**Thank you for helping us help those  
in need**



## Best Wishes for a Happy Birthday!

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Joan Ernst         | 04/01 |
| Rowland Van Es     | 04/03 |
| Judith Van Es      | 04/03 |
| Chris Thomas       | 04/05 |
| Lawrence Berg      | 04/07 |
| Marian Kellermeyer | 04/08 |
| Bill York          | 04/08 |
| Jim Brown          | 04/10 |
| Sandra Rooney      | 04/12 |
| James Hyatt        | 04/13 |
| Clifford Grindy    | 04/15 |
| Judy Holcomb       | 04/16 |
| Scott Griessel     | 04/17 |
| Tony Belser        | 04/20 |
| Ron Schoepflin     | 04/20 |
| Jack Kressley      | 04/25 |
| Irene York         | 04/28 |
| Connie Woodbrey    | 04/29 |
| Virginia Timmons   | 04/29 |
| Susan Hill         | 04/29 |

## New Member Contact Information

David J. Zweig  
265 S. Placita Arcos  
Green Valley, Az. 85614  
Phone (608) 335-7777  
Email [dzweig@yahoo.com](mailto:dzweig@yahoo.com)

Linda Redford  
501 Camino Tunera  
Sahuarita, Az. 85629  
Phone 520-306-2049 OR 203-524-0229  
Email [redfield29@aol.com](mailto:redfield29@aol.com)

If you have not seen your special day (birthday/anniversary) in the newsletter, we may not have a complete record for you. Please contact Amy if you would like to provide this information.

## Receiving New Members

New Members **are received on the last Sunday of each month** at the end of the morning worship service. If you feel you are ready to unite in faith with The Good Shepherd Congregation you are invited to join. Questions? Please call Rev. Randy Mayer at 625-1375



## Congratulations on Your Wedding Anniversary

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Albert & Velma Adams  | 04/01 |
| Ron & BZ Schoepflin   | 04/03 |
| Jack & Evie Collins   | 04/05 |
| Frank & Marie Gery    | 04/11 |
| Bill & Ferne McHaffie | 04/18 |
| John & Yong Rueb      | 04/25 |

**The Jug** in the narthex is a good place for your loose change. This money helps with our summer campers. (Dollar bills also accepted!)

From your UCC...

## The Environment and Spirituality

By Judy Chan

*Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. (Isaiah 55:2-3)*

Recently, I joined a Christian environmental group on a field trip to one of Hong Kong's most mysterious destinations – a public dump. Global Ministries missionary Judy Chan reports, a group from our Kowloon Union Church, decided it was important to visit the not-so-beautiful places in the city to understand how our lifestyles impact Hong Kong's environment.

As we approached the landfill area, we saw large garbage trucks coming and going. Entering, we noticed off in the distance what looked like a wide open valley of plots of dirt. Much of it was covered by sea green plastic sheeting. Other areas were covered with grass and trees. We drove in our van (windows closed!) to see the landfill. To my surprise, the grassy spots were 'restored' areas, meaning my family's garbage was buried underneath, covered by layers of heavy plastic, deodorizer and a few feet of soil and now greenery. The areas covered by sea green sheeting were being prepared as areas for garbage to be dumped in the future.

It is clear that the real problem is Hong Kong people produce too much garbage! It is one of the sins of an affluent society. Despite environmental education campaigns (recycle, reduce, reuse), it appears that people really need to learn the 4<sup>th</sup> "R" – repent! The only thing that has worked so far is making people pay. Plastic bag usage has dropped dramatically since stores began charging 10 cents per bag.

Our chairwoman, is a shining example of simple living. She makes a point of shopping infrequently, and tries to create no rubbish on Sun-

days. Most importantly, she believes, we must look within and ask ourselves why we need to buy, own and use so much stuff. Our Christian green group doesn't have any easy solutions, but we are working on it. For you see, the environmental crisis is at heart a spiritual matter.

*Global Ministries missionary, Judy Chan is responsible for communications, the ecumenical radio broadcasting ministry, English publications and ecumenical partnerships with the Hong Kong Christian Council.*

## Focus Service

Saturday, April 9, at 6:00 pm

We are renewing our contemporary arts/reflective FOCUS worship service. Come and enjoy this truly spiritual and deeply meditative style of worship that takes secular music and makes it sacred. We will be offering this service once a month---usually on the second Saturday.



## Eye on Latin America

A series of Latin American documentaries will be shown at The Good Shepherd. The first one will be Oliver Stone's *South of the Border*, on April 16, 4 pm. Come to see the film and discuss afterward. Free admission, of course. ~ Carlos Henriquez

## Visitation Message

Know someone from our church family who could use a phone call, card, ride, meal, or visit? Many people and groups at The Good Shepherd are here and glad to help, but we need to be informed when such assistance is needed. Please call or e-mail the church office, leave a note in the offering basket, or inform someone at the Welcome Kiosk if you or someone you know could use our help.

**Good Shepherd  
United Church of Christ  
Council Minutes February 22, 2011**

The Good Shepherd UCC Council was called to order at 5:45 pm by Moderator Penny Pestle. The Council met at the home of the Moderator and following a very gracious welcome by Ms. Pestle the Pastor opened with a prayer.

Members present: Penny Pestle, Drew Mason, Noel Andersen, Julie Ingham, Steve Smith, Carolyn Hubbard, Jane Eubank, Hathaway Cornelius, Wayne Carlson, Bonnie Sondrol, Susan Hill, Rex Crouse, Connie Aglione, Jim Elliott and Randy Mayer. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with no changes.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Randy recounted his recent activities which ranged from his participation in a border conference in San Diego to an outstanding performance at the Annual Talent Show the previous weekend. His summary of February's events was that they have been productive.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ms. Sondrol provided the Council with the January Summary and engaged in a discussion of the process of accounting for the resources of the church. The summary of Operating Income and Expense for the month indicates steady growth over the same period of last year, with a comfortable surplus of income for the month. She also indicated that our 2010 budget year ended with a \$2,064 loss. Although we had hoped that we would be in the black, the results were far better than a budgeted loss of \$28,000.

**BOARD REPORTS:**

**Worship:** The Board Chair, Jane Eubank, concluded her service in this capacity and was appropriately acknowledged and thanked by the Moderator and Council members. She mentioned that there will be a combined Ash Wednesday and Taizé service will be on March 9 at 6:00 in the evening.

**Christian Ed:** The Board Chair, Carolyn Hubbard, also is retiring and was thanked by the Council. She graciously credited staff members Julie and Noel for their respective contributions to the

Christian Ed and Youth Programs. She also offered a positive account of the book written by Jim Elliott's dad.

**Youth Program:** Noel recapped the events of the Youth Program and announced that a mission trip for the high school youth to San Francisco is in the planning stages for later this year.

**Mission:** Susan Hill announced that in honor of retiring members, the Mission Board will contribute \$50 to the micro loan program. She also said that the Mission Gift Fair this year will limit contribution opportunities to six. A sub-committee of The Board is in the process of determining the focus of that event. She also promoted the Homeless Connect event in Tucson, on March 4, to which The Good Shepherd always sends a number of volunteers. The Board is also planning ahead to ensure that we can sustain the English-as-a-second language classes and the community garden over the long term.

**Finance:** Steve Smith, Chair, supported the Treasurer's report.

**Membership:** Jim Elliott offered that the Board is exploring ways to utilize "social media" to seek new members. Members are attending "webinars", seminars on the internet, to learn more.

**Stewardship:** Hathaway Cornelius reported that the Church has received pledges for 96% of the goal of the Stewardship Campaign, and is optimistic that the balance will be secured shortly. The Moderator commended Hathaway and the Board on their fine work this year.

**Facilities:** The Chair, Wayne Carlson, is retiring and announced that the new Board will organize the responsibilities for maintaining church property under co-chairs, special event (work-day) coordinators, and selected point persons for unique or special problems. The Moderator commented on the fine job that Wayne has done preparing for a smooth transition.

**Long Range Planning:** Connie Aglione said that the product of the LRP process will be e-mailed or mailed to each congregation member and

friend on Thursday, Feb. 24, so that all will have ample opportunity to read and understand the provisions that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Copies also will be available at the Church.

Open and Affirming/Diversity: Rex Crouse, Chair, said that the Homelessness project is continuing in the development stage, with the participation of two of the ONA committee members. Discussion on the scope of the problem in Green Valley and southern Arizona revealed that the term “homeless” has several definitions, and that the Church's experience with the Food Bank has highlighted the problem in our community. The committee, with members from two area churches and several human services agencies, will be organized under the Tucson Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Connie Aglione is organizing a group of interested Church members to attend a preview workshop on Stephen Ministry on March 12 in Sun City, AZ. This will assist the Council in determining which caring ministry model we want to adopt. Jane encouraged us to meet with representatives of the several churches in Green Valley that have a Stephen Ministry.

A brief discussion highlighted Scott Glysson's seamless transition as interim director of the music program. Randy commended him and the choir for this smooth transition. Choir members present expressed very positive comments as well.

Noel's ordination process is proceeding satisfactorily. He presented his Ordination Paper successfully, with unqualified approval, and is preparing for the next step which is the Ecclesiastical Conference at The Good Shepherd. All Good Shepherd members and friends will be invited to question him, as well as a quorum of area UCC pastors.

Suggestions for the Nominating Committee were discussed and will be approached as to their interest.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Moderator Penny Pestle graciously thanked each of the members of the

Council for their service and gave special attention to those who are retiring. The Council, in response, recognized Penny for her outstanding leadership throughout the year, and for hosting this final meeting before her term expires at the upcoming annual meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned for dinner.

Drew Mason, Council Secretary

## One Great Hour of Sharing

Our offering for One Great Hour of Sharing will be received on **April 3**.

### *1. What is One Great Hour of Sharing?*

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

### *2. How is the United Church of Christ's offering used?*

More than 60 percent of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives, including annual support for approximately ten missionaries working in health care, education, and agricultural development. Gifts are also used for disaster preparedness and response, refugee and immigration advocacy and assistance and related volunteer initiatives.

### *3. What percentage of OGHS donations are used directly for mission?*

On average, of every dollar given to One Great Hour of Sharing, 88 cents are used directly for mission programming; 6 cents for interpretation materials and 6 cents for administrative costs.

Please share Christ's love and hope with your generous gift.