



St. Paul's Epistle

St. Paul's United Methodist Church – Tucson, Arizona

AT THE GATE

That's what I am going to call it. The Pastor's corner in the newsletter, I mean. The staff informs me that now that Billy has retired, *"IT'S STILL NEWS"* probably isn't going to work. After rejecting some other suggestions, I landed on this one.

In Jesus' day (and well before) people entered Jerusalem through a variety of gates, depending on their business and reason for being there. There was a fish gate, cattle gate, fabric gate, etc. There was even a Dung Gate. (Now, why one would want to enter the city that way, I have no clue!) Anyway, the Gate was where people gathered, connected with friends, and "caught up" with each other. And, of course, it was a place marked by coming and going.

As I stand "at the Gate" of a new day here at St. Paul's, I am eager to connect with my new found friends and family. I hope this newsletter helps you to do the same. My heart and my door are always open to you if you need me, or just want to say "hi."

Grace Happens,
Pastor Tony

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE ON AUGUST 3rd

We will be collecting school supplies for Dietz, Henry and Robles Elementary Schools on Sunday August 3. This is an important part of our school ministry and the schools count on us. We are including a list of the most basic items that are needed by the schools.

Copy paper, 3-ring notebook paper, pencils, crayons, kid scissors, construction paper, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, spiral and composition notebooks, glue sticks, folders, and backpacks.

Thank you very much for your generosity towards the students in these schools and those in our church community. For more information, please contact Genita at mgsalv@comcast.net

Genita Salvagio, Cheryl Smith, and Janet Luke

Our condolences to:

To the family of Gary Parent who passed away on June 7, 2014. He was a former member of St. Paul's who lived in Melissa, Texas.

To the family of Don Walls who passed away on June 25, 2014.

To Pat McDonald on the death of Mac who passed away on June 30, 2014. The McDonalds participated in many activities at St. Paul's.

To the family of Mary Bian who passed away on July 10, 2014.

5th Sunday in August

St. Paul's will again host a Pack-a-Thon on Sunday, December 28; please mark your calendars! Our plan is to package 50,000 meals this year; allowing us to feed hungry children and adults. In order to achieve this, we will need to raise \$12,500 (*each meal costs \$.25*). Our 5th Sunday in August will be used to purchase meals for our Pack-a-Thon. Thank you!

UPDATE ON JOHN DEAN TOWN ACTIVITIES

To date, we have collected around \$18,000 for the road project as a lasting tribute to Billy Still and his ministry. Road construction will start in November when the rainy season ends. There are 6 miles of jungle/forest to be cleared.

The Project includes two phases. **Phase I** is clearing the forest to make a roadway. Cars will be able to drive on the road when this phase is complete. Total cost for Phase I is \$25,000. The total money collected in Liberia is \$4,000. The Equatorial Palm Com-pany will do the clearing for the road. The Ministry of Public Works did the survey for the road at a cost of \$260 which was paid by the Bishop's wife, Irene.

Phase II involves further grading of the road and the putting in of culverts for drainage. The cost is unknown but should be much less than Phase I. This project is

scheduled for March 2015 and the Liberia Conference will conduct another fundraiser in March 2015 to raise additional money for this phase.

On another note, Bishop Innis had back surgery on July 2nd. The surgery went well. The Covenant Council sent him a card signed by everyone.

10 New Members Join

July 6th, 2014 at the 9:30 Service

Roger Closs and **Nancy Flesher** joined with us by Reaffirmation of Faith. Nancy retired from the U.S. Air Force and Roger is a retired teach and a World War II veteran.

Melanie Esher also joined with us by Reaffirmation of Faith. She has a 13 year old daughter, Catalina. Melanie works at the University of Arizona.

Jessica Hammond-Holmes joined through letter of transfer from the Wesley African Methodist Church in Philadelphia. She has two sons, Julian and Jordan and she enjoys music.

Walter Henderson joined with us by transfer of membership from Christ Church United Methodist here in Tucson.

Kathryn Hubble joined us by profession of faith. She enjoys sewing crafts, reading and anything Hawaiian.

Raymona Kramer joined with us by transfer from another denomination. She is retired and enjoys knitting, crocheting, reading and loves to garden.

Don and **Judy Sinkular** joined us by letter of transfer from their former church in Texas.

They have five children and eight grandchildren.

Faye Vamvakias joins as an affiliate member from her home church in Texas. She enjoys traveling, volunteer work, reading, genealogy, home decorating and playing games with her friends.

FALL KAIROS OUTSIDE WEEKEND

Kairos Outside is a Christian sponsored weekend for women who have been in prison or have a loved one who is or has been in prison. This 2 1/2 day weekend is filled with stories of women who share their faith journey, lots of singing, meeting new friends, and the blessing of God's presence. Susie Goad will be the leader for the next KO Weekend which will be held on the campus of St. Paul's UMC September 26-28, 2014. If you would like more information, please call Susie (722-0867) or Sandy Allen (762-5379). We ask that you keep the team and guests in your prayers as we prepare for this weekend.

FAMILY CAMP IS COMING TO PINE CANYON

Family Camp will be held on September 12 (Friday) - Sept 14 (Sunday) at Pine Canyon Camp in the Chiricahua Mountains, one hour south of Willcox in the cool pines. All ages are invited. First-timers and veteran campers welcome. We're back to an exclusive St. Paul's camp at our old time slot! Camp starts whenever you can get there on Friday afternoon/evening (no dinner) and runs until after lunch on Sunday. We'll do registrations in late August. Hiking, basketball, 5

great meals, low ropes course, horseshoes, camp fires, songs, s'mores, crafts, ping pong, tetherball, snacks, mountain biking (BYO bike), relaxation, more. Youth & Adults \$80, Kids ages 4-10 \$40, Kids ages 0-3 free. Add \$10 for the lodge. See the Sunday bulletins for more details or call 760-1439 (Bob Kruse).

MEN'S OPEN GYM AND BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Want to shoot some hoops? On Monday nights, beginning June 16th, Brian Sonneleitner and Rick Hornback will be hosting open gym and a Bible study from 7-8:30 pm for men 30 years and older in the St. Paul's Life Center. The series Brian and Rick will be leading was written by former NFL coach Tony Dungy titled Quiet Strength (cost \$9). Even if you're physically or spiritually out of shape, come join us!

SPORTS MINISTRY ZUMBA and YIN YOGA CLASS UPDATE

Thursday evenings

(Brummet Hall): ZUMBA- 6 PM

Saturday mornings (A-Frame):

YIN YOGA CLASS- 7AM

COFFEE BREAK- 8-8:30 AM

ZUMBA- 8:30-9:30 AM

ZUMBA classes cost: \$6.00 per one hour session or \$50.00 for a 10 class punch card (plus one free class). YIN YOGA cost: \$8.00 or \$65.00 for a 10 class punch card (plus one free class). Mention this announcement for a free trial first class! No prior registration required. Class location could change due to other campus activities. For information call/text Instructor, Kiersten Gallerani (520) 982-641

Youth News

ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS & RETREATS INFORMATION

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

JR and SR High

Sunday School will be on summer recess beginning June 1st. We are currently in the process of restructuring the JR and SR High Sunday School Program. We will keep you posted on the new schedule as it becomes available.

UNITED METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GROUP

All youth grades 6-12 are welcome. Starting in the month of June, youth group will be meeting on Wednesday evening from 5:30pm till 8:00pm instead of Sundays at 12:30pm. We will also meet on some other days for special events and summer activities, so check your text messages from the youth director for specific information as it becomes available. If you are not receiving texts from Michael DeSchalit and would like to be informed of what's happening with the youth group, contact him at 270-0183.

YOUTH NEWS THAT YOU CAN USE...

The youth are in full summer swing as we are doing all kinds of fun summer activities. We just recently held a swim party and enjoyed time cooling off from the heat and dining on delicious BBQ Chicken sandwiches. We are going on a field trip to the movies for a double feature to watch "Heaven Is For Real" and "God's Not Dead" and we are continuing on our spiritual journey as leaders and disciples through the "Lord of

the Rings" Bible Study Course. We are also planning another Mt. Lemmon hike later in the summer sometime in August, lead by our very own hiking guide extraordinaire, Jim Moffett. We will cap off the hike with a visit to the DeSchalit Family Cabin for a scrumptious lunch on the deck looking out over Summerhaven.

We would love to have more youth involved in our group, so if you are in 6th through 12th grade, please come and check us out on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 8:00pm in the Life Center. I can always promise Food, Fun And Fellowship... and a Great Time!

I am very happy to report that we have our Youth Task Force in place and will hold our first meeting the last part of July. This group will be tasked with facilitating and implementing the wonderful ideas the Youth Focus Groups came up with. I will continue to keep you all updated at the progress and I thank you all for your tremendous support of our youth.

For more information about our youth groups please contact Michael DeSchalit at 270-0183 or at youth@stpaulsumctucson.net.

SAVVY SENIORS

▶▶ STRETCHING AND STRENGTHENING CLASS

We meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9:00 AM in the Billy and Ann Still Life Center Activity Room. Our leader is Sam Freeman. A donation of \$1 per class is appreciated.

▶▶ THE BELLES OF ST. PAUL'S

Welcoming ladies 50 years and older to join us for fun, food and fellowship.

Chapeaux Rojas will be

taking a summer hiatus and returning in September.

Desert Roses will be going to lunch at El Charro Café, 6910 E. Sunrise Drive on Thursday, August 14 at 11:30 AM. Contact Sandy Cannon at 298-1470 for more information.

Glad Hatters will be taking a summer hiatus and returning in September.

▶▶ BIBLE STUDY

This group meets Mondays at 10:30 AM in the Covenant Room. The Study Group is led by Gene Kern.

▶▶ BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

Is run by our Parish Nurses, will resume in September. Clinics are held between services in Brummet Hall.

▶▶ WATERCOLOR CLASS

Beginning September 8, the class will meet on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. in the "A" frame. Call Mayre Miller at 298-3690 for more information. Bring a snack or lunch.

▶▶ WEDNESDAY MORNING MOVIE for August 13th

Our film will be Amazing Grace. This is the true story of William Wilberforce who led the quest to end the British slave trade. The film will be shown at 10:20 AM in the Covenant Room. Popcorn, drinks - 25 cents.

▶▶ POSITIVE AGING CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

Mark your calendar for the Positive Aging for Women Conference on Thursday, October 9th. Watch the September Epistle for more details.

STRATEGIC TASK FORCE HIGHLIGHTS

Contact: Nancy Scott -
leadership@stpaulsumctucson.net
or 520.296.6149

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. PAUL'S

NOTE: Please read the weekly Sunday Bulletins for Strategic Task Force Groups meeting dates, times and locations.

☩ **Sundays in August: Coffee Table** - (Sponsor: Kairos Inside)

☩ **Sunday, October 5: Fall Festival & Silent Auction - Silent Auction proceeds provide Scholarships for Fee Based Programs at St. Paul's** (Sponsor: Stewardship Development in partnership with St. Paul's Foundation and Community Events) **4:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Billy and Ann Still Life Center**

☩ **Sunday, October 26: Fourth Annual Halloween Daze - 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Billy & Ann Still Life Center** (Sponsor: Community Events)

TASK FORCE UPDATES

Strategic Planning 2014 - NEW TASK FORCE OPPORTUNITIES

Inclusion for ALL (Chair: Jenny Fletcher) **Primary Focus:** Education; Inclusivity and Acceptance. **Results/Next Steps:** The kick-off meeting was held in early July. The mission statement is almost complete and will be announced soon. Once the mission statement is complete, key priorities and actions to address will be determined. **Contact:** Jenny at [520.405.9060](tel:520.405.9060).

Community Outreach (Chair: Shannon Turnage) **Primary Focus:** Community Outreach Initiatives and Continuity. **Results/Next Steps:** The kick-off meeting was held in June. The mission statement will soon be finalized and announced. The group will then determine key priorities and actions for implementation. **Contact:** Shannon at [520.990.6736](tel:520.990.6736).

Church Growth (Chair: Jaclyn

and Ryan Mahlstedt) We are delighted to announce that we have six members and will have our kick-off meeting at the end of July; please watch bulletins for the date, time and location. **Primary Focus:** Growth including spiritual, generosity, volunteerism and membership. **Next Steps:** Schedule the kick off meeting and develop mission statement. **Contact:** Jaclyn or Ryan at [520.760.8775](tel:520.760.8775).

ON-GOING TASK FORCE UPDATES

Community Events (Linda Jones, Chair) **Thank you to all who attended our July 4th Food, Fellowship, Fun and Fireworks Event.** We served 180 individuals dinner of which many were from our neighborhood. What a wonderful way to be invitational and live our St. Paul's Mission Statement. **Thank you to our amazing volunteers; we could not have done this without you!** A special THANK YOU goes to **Linda Jones** who coordinated and cooked the delicious meal. Thank you also to **Grace Multiplied** and the **Sanctuary Quartet** for sharing your amazing musical talents which created a fun and lively atmosphere.

Stewardship Development (Rich Revis, Chair) **Fall Festival & Silent Auction** - *Silent Auction proceeds provide Scholarships for Fee Based Programs at St. Paul's.* The Silent Auction on Sunday, October 5 is our primary annual fund raiser for scholarships, i.e. Upward Sports, Youth Group, Preschool, Harp Choir, etc. We hope you will contribute; please bring "NEW" items or Certificates for Services, i.e. haircuts, yard work, etc. to the church office (attn: Nancy Scott) during business hours.

Are you looking for a short term commitment to get involved, have some fun and make a

difference? We have it! We need 3 new members to join the Stewardship Development Task Force to help plan the Fall Festival & Silent Auction and the Stewardship Campaign. Meetings begin in August and continue through mid-November; please contact Rich Revis at [520.971.5500](tel:520.971.5500) if interested.

St. Paul's Preschool (Council Chair: Jenny Fletcher) Welcome and congratulations to Jenny Fletcher, our new Preschool Council Chair! Thank you to Tommy Sanford for serving as the chair for the past year. New Preschool Council positions are available, effective August 1, 2014; if interested please contact Jenny or Nancy Scott. **Fall Registration is OPEN and a few spots remain.** Call Sheri at [520.260.1350](tel:520.260.1350) for more information. Visit our website: www.StPaulsPreschoolTucson.org

Coffee Table: Thank you to the **Welcoming and Community Integration Task Force** for handling the coffee table in July.

The deadline for the **September Epistle** is Thursday, August 14, at 5:00 PM. It will be mailed on Tuesday, August 26. Please submit all *Epistle* articles to Tamara Swerline. Her e-mail address is: membership@stpaulsumctucson.net

This is just for the August deadline for the Epistle.

St. Paul's Epistle is mailed the fourth Tuesday of the month by St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 8051 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ 85710