



Community Presbyterian Church

September 2019

Dear Members and Friends of Community Presbyterian Church,

There are three **'Good News'** items to share with you this month! They are the Presbyterian Women's mission sale, information about the Montlure property and our upcoming congregational meeting.

First the work of the Presbyterian Women. As you know, the PW group has worked all summer to prepare for their craft and bake sale the weekend of August 24/25. You can gain more information about this event and the mission projects they supported in the article elsewhere in this newsletter. But I want to offer up a big 'Thank You' from the congregation for their diligent work (no doubt there was fun involved as well!). This summer long mission endeavor included many women who were willing to give of their time and efforts to make this year's sale such a great success. Thank you ladies for your faithfulness ~ this is **'good news'**!

Second, the presbyteries of Arizona have received verbal permission from the National Forest Service to re-occupy the Montlure Camp site in Greer! (I say 'verbal' permission as they are waiting for an official 'written' document which is in process.) It is questionable if the camp will be ready for use the summer of 2020, but you never know. The presbyteries are putting together a plan for renovation of the property so there will be many more details to come. However, this long-awaited announcement is truly - **'good news'**!

Third, we have received permission from the Committee on Ministry of Grand Canyon Presbytery to move ahead to the next step in our new pastor search. That step is to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Sooooo, we need a congregational meeting to elect this search committee. The congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, September 15th. This is a major step forward in our search process ~ and is truly **'good news'**!

We are experiencing God's grace in many different ways. Again thanks to all the folks who are/were working on these projects. Let's rejoice in all this **'good news'**.

Grace and Peace, Bob

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MONTHLY DEVOTIONS FROM OUR CHURCH FAMILY

These short devotions are a series written by those who worship at CPC. If you would like to contribute to this series please contact Pastor Bob.

DEVOTION TITLE: No Getting Away From God

AUTHOR: Laurie Yost

VERSE: ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:16-19 (RSV)

MEDITATION: A few years ago my husband David and I spent 2 ½ years living in Puerto Rico. He worked with the Puerto Rico Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control while we were there. I was not employed, but found MANY things to do (after all, we lived ON the beach, so that was one thing...). We did a bit of church shopping and settled on attending Second Union Church.

Second Union Church is made up of Episcopalians, Methodists, and Presbyterians. We made some lifelong friends there, including Pastor Bob (Zoba) and his wife Christie, who was also my favorite Spanish teacher. Christie and some other women led a Bible Study which followed Spanish lessons on Tuesdays. One of the best activities I've ever done was during one of our Bible studies.

We were told to think about milestones as well as smaller events in our life. We were to write them down in chronological order and then think about God's role in that activity. The message was that God has been with us every step of the way even if we didn't know it, acknowledge it, or feel His presence at the time. When I jotted down these special events in my life, I saw looking back that God was guiding me and had me in the palm of His hand even when I didn't know it. This gave me such a sense of God's guidance in the past, that I felt He certainly would continue to guide me in the future. The following verse has always made me appreciate God being with me ALWAYS:

³⁸For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39 (RSV)

PRAYER: Dear Heavenly Father, I thank you for guiding me in all the events in my life. May I always feel your presence with me in every step of life as you hold me closely and guide my path. Amen.

PW HAPPENINGS



The Presbyterian Women's Group once again wishes to thank our congregation for their participation in our Craft, Casserole, and Bake Sale which took place this past weekend. I just received the latest accounting from our treasurer, Linda Lewis, that we recorded sales amounting to \$3577.96. Your purchases and kind donations will allow us to continue to support our missions which are so very important to the White Mountains. Thank you to all of the ladies who devoted so much time to sewing, quilting, cooking, baking, setting up, and selling their wonderful creations. We were gifted to have

Linda Lewis and Wanda Gray, seasoned crafters, who were responsible for organizing, leading us in a variety of crafts, and for staging of the sale. And thank you to our Heavenly Father for gracing us with such a giving group of friends, neighbors, and ladies from the United Methodist Church in Show Low who joined in our effort this year.

We continue to sell raffle tickets after each service for the lovely quilt which is hanging in the sanctuary. Once again, this quilt was made and donated by our own Chase Rawak. Our announcement of the raffle ticket winner will take place near the end of September. All proceeds will support our missions.

We will continue to meet each Tuesday in September. For Tuesday September 3rd, Bible Study lesson 7. Please follow the Sunday Bulletin for information related to our meeting content.

Peace, *Georgia*

PW Diaper and Paper Products Drive

This month, we will be collecting diapers and paper products (toilet paper, tissue and paper towels) to be given to the Living Hope Center in Show Low

Collection will conclude on September 24, 2019



NEXT UP

Don't Miss It—Ice Cream Social

"Get the Scoop" Ice cream Social will be held in the fellowship hall following our Worship service and after congregation meeting on Sunday, September 15, 2019



NEW BIBLE STUDY

starting

Thursday September 5th

at 10:00 am

Dr. Bob Anderton

will lead a 4 week study

on the Book of Ezra



READING WORLDWIDE



Reading Volunteers wanted at Blue Ridge Elementary School We are seeking 30+ volunteers from the community to work as mentors/coaches for reading. No special skills are required. Reading is set up at the school library. Students are coached one-on-one or in small groups. Up to 4 students each day are assigned to each volunteer by the teacher. For information please contact Bob Butler at (520) 260-2032.

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC—SEPTEMBER 22



The session has approved sponsoring a neighborhood picnic in our outdoor facility on September 22nd after the service. The purpose of the event is to contribute to a sense of community in our neighborhood and to present our church as a of the neighborhood. This outreach is not intended as a means of recruitment, but simply as a means of facilitating relationships in our neighborhood. We want our neighbors to know us and each other better.

The picnic will be paid for by donations. If you'd be interested in representing our church and helping with the picnic, contact Steve Knutson. Help will be needed with visitation, food preparation, serving, and cleanup. If you are interested in donating to purchase the food you can put a check in the offering; on the memo line write: neighborhood picnic. Please pray that our neighbors will share in the wish to get to know each other better.

Steve Knutson

FOOD DRIVE FOR VETERANS

For a number of years, the deacons of the church have taken on the mission of organizing holiday food boxes for veterans in need in our community. We have been working with three organizations: the Pinetop VFW, Fishers of Men for Veterans, and Walking Down Ranch. Last year we donated 45 food boxes at Thanksgiving, and for Christmas, Tom and Liz Jernigan put together another 45.

It is time to begin the process of planning and then collecting food for this project. We typically collect a different non-perishable food item each week from September through October, as well as donations by check for the later purchase of perishable food items.



We can also use other nonperishable food items, besides those on our list. So if you're cleaning out your pantry in preparation for returning to a warmer climate, we'll be happy to make use of those items. Below is our planned schedule for collecting food.

September 8	Canned corn
September 15	Canned green beans
September 22	Canned cranberries and/or applesauce
September 29	Macaroni and cheese
October 6	Instant potatoes
October 13	Stuffing mix
October 20	Jello and/or instant pudding
October 27	Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce

THE CHURCH MOUSE



I'm sure you have heard the old saying 'laughter is good for the soul'. I don't know where it originated from but it could have come from reading some of these announcements in Church bulletins or at Church services. Since we have never seen or heard any of these at Community Presbyterian Church in Pinetop, I thought I would share some with you.....

"The sermon this morning is "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight is "Searching for Jesus".

"Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands."

"Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation."

"Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the Choir. They need all the help they can get."

"A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening at the Church hall. Music will follow."

"This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin."

"The Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door."

"Weight Watchers will meet at 6 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance."

"The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon."

"The Associate Pastor unveiled the Church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours'."

Until next time – be happy, do good deeds, and keep love in your heart.

Love to You All,

Webster

Submitted on behalf of Webster
By Lynda Marble

MISSION STUDY FINDINGS

Church Health Assessment Tool Findings (CHAT Mission Study)

As a congregation we completed our mission study the end of July and here are some of the major findings....

Strengths:

- **God's Empowering Presence** (sensing the church seeks direction from God)
- **God-Exalting Worship** (worship is refreshing, renewing, uplifting, meaningful)
- **Wise Administration and Accountability** (approval how 'behind the scenes' administration is managed)
- **Stewardship and Generosity** (how resources are handled and shared with others)
- **Commitment to Loving and Caring Relationships** (God honoring life together)

Areas for Improvement:

- **Outward Focus** (could do more outreach in the community)
- **Learning and Growing in Community** (could be more community building activities within the church)
- **Servant-Leadership Development** (could improve identifying, training of leaders)
- **Networking with the Body of Christ** (could be more connected with other churches)
- **Spiritual Disciplines** (could encourage more the spiritual vitality of members)

If you would like to discuss these findings further, Pastor Bob will be hosting a discussion in Fellowship Hall following worship on Sunday, September 1st. Thanks to all for supporting this study and helping us give a good snapshot of our congregation to a new installed pastor.