

# The Bell Tower

News from The Church  
at Litchfield Park  
September 2010



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## Dr. Merton's Epistle to the Church at Litchfield Park

Dr. Bruce Merton will share his message of ministry with us on Sunday, September 12. Dr. Merton serves on the ICCC Board alongside Pastor Dale. Dr. Merton is the pastor of Peace Community Church in Fort Myers, Florida, and sends this greeting in the style of Paul writing to the early Christians

*A Not Likely to Become Canonical Epistle to the Church at Litchfield Park: Chapter One*

**1** Bruce Merton, called to be an apostle and minister of Christ Jesus by the great will and boundless grace of God.

**2** To the church of Jesus Christ which is gathered at Litchfield Park, to those are, with me, called to be apostles and ministers, together with all who are part of the International Council of



PHOTO BY: MICHAEL JORDAN

Community Churches (I.C.C.C.) and those who in every place call on the name of our LORD Jesus Christ:

See "EPISTLE" on Page 9

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SENIOR PASTOR'S CORNER:

# An Exemplary Example of Commitment and Family

*Rev. Dale L. Hopely Jr., Senior Pastor*

For the past 12 years, Fernando Moreno has played his guitar in the contemporary service. For those of you who have had the pleasure of hearing Fernando perform specials in church, you know he is an accomplished musician. His “Dylan-like” style, coupled with his staccato guitar playing, leave an indelible impression. I will never celebrate Christmas without thinking of his rendition of The Little Drummer Boy.

Fernando recently announced he would be leaving as he is moving to Colorado. On his last Sunday in the contemporary service, he spoke a few words to the congregants, recalling his past dozen years at our church. Following this, I placed my arm around his shoulder and we prayed for him. The prayer was a prayer of thanksgiving to God for using Fernando to minister to us. It was also a commissioning prayer: a prayer that God would continue to use Fernando to minister to others like he had done for us.

Departures from church are often difficult. As I try to impress each time we receive new people into our membership, joining a church is a wedding of sorts. It is a commitment that people make to a group of sisters and brothers in the Lord and a commitment that a group of believers make to an individual. The commitment, like marriage, is a covenant of love, whereby the two parties



*Fernando Moreno plays his guitar at the Contemporary Service.*

agree to commit to one another in service, worship, and mission.

Fernando’s time here has been a textbook example of that kind of commitment. Over the years he served here, he saw many changes in the church as a whole and in the contemporary service. He attended during the tenure of three Senior Pastors (Jud and Terry before me). He has worked with three contemporary music directors, (Mark, Michael, and Amy). He watched the contemporary service begin as Life Link, begin again as Manna, and transition to The Contemporary Service. He has witnessed the service run

concurrently with the traditional service under the leadership of three separate pastors (Eric Biehl and Roger Withee before me) and transition to one of three consecutive services which changed time slots from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Each of these changes has seen church members and staff come and people go, but Fernando has been faithful through it all.

I cannot imagine a better example of a commitment to a church than Fernando has demonstrated through the years. He has continued to be faithful through thick and thin, happiness and sorrow, victory and defeat. On top of all of these considerations, Fernando has never accepted any compensation for his service to the church; his ministry to us has always been on his nickel.

I hope the example that Fernando has lived for us will inspire you. I hope it will help you to realize that changes occur in the church from time to time, but that our unity as a body of believers centered on God’s love should not change. I hope you will pray for Fernando and the opportunities that lie ahead for him and the new music ministry that he will embark on as God calls him to be faithful to another family of faith.

God bless you all,  
*Pastor Dale*



## EXECUTIVE PASTOR'S SPOT:

# Back to Church

*Rev. James Butler, Executive Pastor*

Imagine attending a church that meets in a back room, with no sign announcing its location. Instead of meeting in the Sanctuary, the group meets in a back building of the church. If people can find their way past the Sanctuary, down the hallways and to the room, they will find praise songs filling the air accompanied by a vocal praise choir, acoustic and electric guitars, saxophone, flute, drums and grand piano. Coffee is served free of charge, with fresh baked cookies served free at least monthly. A nursery and preschool are also provided every Sunday — no charge. Lighting and sound people work to ensure the words are projected and the lighting is just right. Vibrant biblical preaching follows the singing. You may say, “Why, that’s the

kind of church I’ve been searching for all my life! How do I find it?” Hundreds of people somehow find their way annually to this contemporary service simply through word of mouth. This church describes our 10:30 a.m. Sunday Contemporary Service.

Our historic Sanctuary has a street side location, but our contemporary service remains lit like the lamp under the basket. It’s time to take out the light. As the great hymn says, “I Love to Tell the Story,” we will explore new ways to put the good news out to our community that we have a world class contemporary service. Some things are just worth talking about. We welcome your ideas. Send them to me at [jbutler@churchatlitchfieldpark.org](mailto:jbutler@churchatlitchfieldpark.org). Banners, ads, flyers, newspapers

— don’t limit your imagination. And of course — invite your friends to church.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said –

“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

“Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lamp stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

*Matthew 5:13-16 (NKJV)*

Let it shine,  
*Pastor Jim*

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## THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Thrift Shop had a makeover this summer and is now ready for your donations. New carpet was donated by a generous church member, tile flooring was donated by Stan Stanton in memory of his wife Ginger, some painting was done and more peg boards were installed. A big THANK YOU to Rev. Butler, Alberto Hernandez (our custodian), and Fred Bom-

gardner for all the work they did to get the place ready for the new carpet.

The best way to donate merchandise is to call Monica at 623-935-2656 or Millie at 623-935-3953 to schedule a drop-off time. When donating items please make sure all pieces are there and nothing is broken or stained. Keep us in mind when you have a gently

used furniture item that needs a new home.

Our sale days are the first Saturday and third Thursday of each month from 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (No donations are accepted on those days) If you’re on a tight budget or just looking for a great deal this is the place to shop. You never know what you’ll find!!

# New Members Join July 25



**Ron and Lyn Lundeen** joined our church family during the contemporary service on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Ron is retired and serves as a Maricopa County Justice Courts mediator. He serves on the board of Cook Native American Ministries. Lyn is a registered nurse and consultant with United Health Group. She enjoys needlework, crafts and reading. Lyn is also involved with the Boys and Girls Club and UMOM (United Methodist Outreach Ministries) which is an organization that supports homeless families with children. They reside in Pebble Creek and have six adult children.

## Joining the Church

Our Membership Committee, under the leadership of Peggy Vasiloff, has continued to work tirelessly through the summer contacting people new to our church and inviting them to partake in our new member orientations.

Joining The Church at Litchfield Park has always been easy—on purpose. It has historically been the belief that this “House of Prayer for All People” should accept people from all different backgrounds and experiences.

Joining the church can be done by **transfer from a church of any denomination, a reaffirmation of faith, or by affirmation of faith**. Reaffirmation of faith is for those who have or have had membership in another church and for whatever reason are unable to obtain a letter of transfer. Affirmation of faith is for those individuals who have not been baptized and wish to join. There is also an associate membership for those people who wish to keep their affiliation with another church and at the same time join the membership here.

I hope those of you who have been considering joining the church will consider this time of new beginnings to join our church family.

Pastor Dale



*If you or someone you know might be interested in joining our church, we invite you to an informational session in the Fireside Room on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 a.m. For more information, please contact Peggy Vasiloff at (623) 935-6156 or pvasiloff@cox.net.*

## PREACHING SCHEDULE

**Traditional Worship: 8:00 and 9:15 a.m.**

**Contemporary Worship: 10:30 a.m.**

Sept. 5: Communion Sunday

Rev. Dale L. Hopely, Jr.

Sept. 12: Dr. Bruce N. Merton

Sept. 19: Rev. Jim Butler

Sept. 26: Rev. Dale L. Hopely, Jr.

## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

Date	8:00	9:15	10:30	Total
July 4	64	157	82	303
June 13	73	187	114	374
June 20	89	141	87	317
June 27	76	200	119	395

# Deacons: The Ones Who Serve

The deacon's mission statement is: "The deacons assist the pastors in performing the services and rites of the church and strengthening a close, caring relationship among our family of faith." The meaning of the word deacon is "one who serves."

The desire of the deacons is to be of service to church members and visitors to nurture a close relationship between the individual families and individuals that are part of the church family.

Some of the ways the deacons do this are listed below:

- Serving communion once a month in all church services.
- Assisting with communion at La Loma Care center and home visits once a month with one of

the pastors.

- Ushering in all services each week either with other deacons or other members of the congregation that have expressed an interest in helping.

- Serving as ushers and helping with the guest book at memorial services at the church.

- Distributing floral arrangements to special needs members either to their home or care facility after Sunday services or memorial services if the families do not want to take.

- Sending letters of encouragement or sympathy to members of the church family at appropriate times.

- Welcoming visitors before and after services and helping them

with any questions they have about different programs at the church.

- Contacting new members and welcoming them to The Church at Litchfield Park and helping them assimilate into the church family.

The position of deacon is elected by the congregation from members that have been part of The Church at Litchfield Park for a minimum of one year. The names for new deacons are suggested to the nominating committee from the current deacon committee of people they feel are willing to participate in a "servant's role" wherever needed in the congregation.

Brenda Morgan  
*Deacons Chairman*  
[brendaaz27@cox.net](mailto:brendaaz27@cox.net)

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## Fantastic Entertainment and Fellowship — and You're Invited!

Two completely different fellowship events are coming up soon that you won't want to miss: Faith and Family Night with the Arizona Diamondbacks on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, and "3 Redneck Tenors Broadway Bound" on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Faith and Family Night** features a baseball game with the Los Angeles Dodgers at Chase Field, followed by a concert starring Christian musical artist Jeremy Camp. First pitch is at 6:40 p.m.; baseline level tickets cost \$23 each. Tickets must be purchased in advance, no later than September 5<sup>th</sup>, and will be available in the breezeway Sunday mornings or in the church office. This event is open to anyone, and is being promoted for our youth group as well.



**"3 Redneck Tenors: Broadway Bound"** invites you to meet Billy Bob, Billy Joe and Billy Billee as they mix NASCAR with

show tunes and light beer with the lights of the Great White Way in an all new adventure. You'll want to join three of opera's renowned cousins as they stampede their way through Broadway's greatest hits after landing smack-dab in the middle of Times Square... trailer and all! It's the Blue Collar Comedy Tour meets Forbidden Broadway in this hilarious roof-raising, redneck take on Broadway's best! This show is Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Phoenix Theatre. Tickets are in the first tier, and will cost \$46 each. Watch for more information soon!

Rob Gimbl  
*Chair, Fellowship Committee*  
[gimbl@aol.com](mailto:gimbl@aol.com) 623-466-9216



# Bob Solis, Founder of Open Arms

## **Can you briefly describe how Open Arms helps children in South Africa?**

Open Arms Home for Children exists to provide a loving home to children orphaned by the AIDS pandemic in South Africa. We aim to meet all of the developmental needs of the children in our care, including the physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs of the children. Most of all, we provide a loving family to children who have lost their parents and have no where else to go.

## **What drew you to start Open Arms?**

In 2005, my wife and I and our five children went on our own to South Africa to work in an orphanage. We wanted our own kids to see how life is in a third world country. When we witnessed the devastation of HIV/AIDS and saw how many orphans were in need, we felt called to do something about it. We had been saving to pay off our house for more than 20 years and after a lot of thought and prayer, we decided to use that money to buy a farm in South Africa that would serve as a home for orphaned kids. It has been a wonderful adventure and God has blessed it in many ways since the first child arrived in 2006.

## **What are some of your goals for Open Arms?**

Our goals are many, but none is more important than raising the children to be good people who know the love of the God who created them. We try to instill the values of respect, hard work and service in a faith-based environ-

ment. Our service model is to raise the children to adulthood, sending them out to college or the workforce just like a family in the States does. Our ultimate goal is that the children we raise become productive members and leaders in their own culture and society.

## **What is Open Arm's immediate needs?**

Right now, we have two immediate major needs. The first is to buy a good used van for about \$12,000 to get our kids to doctor's appointments, after-school activities and the like. The second, and more important need, is to build a dining and kitchen facility that will accommodate 70 children and ten staff for three meals a day. Right now we are cooking for 40 kids and 10 staff members in a kitchen that would resemble the size of a kitchen in an average house in Litchfield Park. It's not easy! The local childcare authorities have told us we cannot expand beyond 40 kids (our current number) without this facility. The cost of the facility is \$350,000 and we are beginning to seek gifts to build it.

## **How do you find the strength to keep up with a full-time job and run an orphanage in South Africa?**

Thankfully, God gave me two gifts that help in that regard. First, He gave me a lot of energy at birth! Thankfully, I am a person who likes to stay busy and has the stamina to do so. Second, God has planted this mission in our hearts and we feel passionate about it. Although it is increasingly feels like a full-time job itself, the work

is really important and we know that if we lack strength, the rest will definitely come from above — and it has!

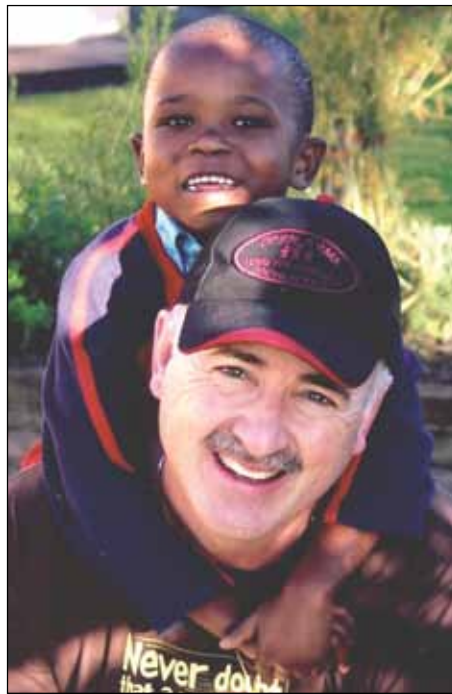
## **What sorts of projects do volunteers participate in when in South Africa?**

Our volunteers really do one thing only — interact with the children. This includes tutoring, helping with homework, working in our on-site preschool, singing songs, playing soccer, reading to kids and just hanging out. We have staff that takes care of the cleaning, diapers, cooking and other chores, so we just ask our volunteers to spend intensive time with the kids. They don't seem to mind!

## **How can we help Open Arms?**

The Church at Litchfield Park has literally been a godsend to the children at Open Arms. The ladies in Circle 2 have knitted scarves, purchased bicycles, bought rocking chairs and done a host of other activities to fill needs that arise. We are also grateful that the Missions Committee is sponsoring Sifundo, a six year old boy. Several members of the congregation are donors on their own and we also know that many prayers have been offered up since we opened our doors. We could not be more thankful of this support. If members are looking to get involved, sometimes we need help assembling mailings.

We also have an annual fundraiser at the Wigwam Resort on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. with the Grammy-Award winning Phoenix Boys Choir. The event is free and open to the public and we take up



Top left: Volunteers and Open Arms children play in the “World Cup” games in South Africa. Bottom left: Two of Open Arms’ children. Middle: Bob Solis and CLP’s “adopted” child, Sinfundo. Top right: Four of the houses built at Open Arms. Bottom right: Four of the Open Arms children play football. PHOTO PROVIDED BY OPEN ARMS.

a free-will offering for Open Arms at intermission. We would love to have a big turnout from The Church at Litchfield Park and all are welcome. We will get details to you as we get closer to December.

In addition, often we have a wish list of small items that need to be purchased and members could help by looking at that wish list at [www.openarmshome.com](http://www.openarmshome.com) under “donate.” Lastly, we have a program called “Open Arms Angels” where churches and individuals donate \$100.00 per month to take care of the needs of one child. This is what the Missions Committee is already doing, but we could use more Angels as we’ve just added eight new children this year.

**Where else have you traveled to promote Open Arms?**

In the States, we try to raise money through house parties. A donor or volunteer will invite 20-40 friends to their home and

Sallie and I go to tell the story of the Home and plight of children in South Africa. We have done these in Phoenix, Minneapolis, Chicago, Austin, Seattle, Spokane, Boise and Milwaukee. We would welcome the opportunity to do some locally if members of the congregation would like to host a gathering. In addition, in the summer of 2008 I walked 750 miles across South Africa to promote the home and raise money for four new cottages. It was a great adventure but next time I plan to take the bus! (a blog of the walk can still be found at [www.alongwalk.org](http://www.alongwalk.org)).

**Tell us a little about your family.**

My wife Sallie is the heart and soul of our family. She is the greatest mother and wife in the world and no one hugs the kids at Open Arms tighter than she does. We have a blended family that consists of three children we had ourselves and two that we brought into our family 15 years ago. Our five kids

are our greatest blessing and we’re proud of every one of them. They all grew up in Litchfield Park and attended Agua Fria High School. They’ve all been to Open Arms and help us in whatever way they can. In addition, we have a huge local extended family that has lived in the area since the 1930s. Many of our ancestors and relatives worked in the camps in Litchfield Park for Goodyear Farms.

**What do you like to do for fun?**

I’m a sports fan and so relaxing for me usually involves sports. Our son Sammy, 21, was recently drafted in the second round by the Washington Nationals as a left-handed pitcher. So, our favorite hobby lately has been following his baseball career. We hope to see him pitch one day in the Major Leagues. He grew up playing Little League right here in Litchfield Park.

*Interview by Jennifer Knox*

# YOUTH NEWS

CLP youth had a great time at their **summer swim party** on Sunday evening, August 8<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Tom and Jill Rosztoczy, and assisted by Monica Sproull, Lori Corgan, Youth Director Eric Schultz and Rev. Jim Butler

Steven Jordan, Morgan Rosztoczy, Alex Hatch, Jessica Sproull, Madi Rosztoczy, Eric Schultz, Gabe Corgan, Eric Stucky and William Jordan are in the group photo, and Eric Schultz went for a cannonball!

Pastor Jim, Eric and church custodian Alberto Hernandez have installed a **new ceiling mounted projector in the main room of the Watt House**. Funds were taken from the youth ministry budget. This is a great aid for curriculum, as well as fellowship events.

**“Cinema and Theology: A Discussion of Film and Faith”** is the new study topic for Wednesday night youth group gatherings. This series is open to both students and parents, and will begin on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 p.m. in the Watt House.

**Youth Bible Study** has begun in the Fireside Room from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons.



*Steven Jordan, Morgan Rosztoczy, Alex Hatch, Jessica Sproull, Madi Rosztoczy, Eric Schultz, Gabe Corgan, Eric Stucky and William Jordan at the summer swim party*

See Eric for more information.

**D-Backs Youth Faith and Family Night** is September 24<sup>th</sup>, with a 6:40 p.m. game at Chase Field between the Diamondbacks and the LA Dodgers. It will be followed by a musical concert by Christian artist Jeremy Camp. This event is also being promoted

by the CLP Fellowship Committee and is open to anyone in the church. Watch for sign-up sheets on the breezeway and more information to follow.

Eric Schultz  
Youth Director

[eschultz@churchatlitchfieldpark.org](mailto:eschultz@churchatlitchfieldpark.org)

## 4C Kids Choir

Our first fall meeting for the Community Christian Children's Choir will be on Wednesday, September 8 from 5:15-6:00 p.m. in the choir room.

This will be a get-acquainted and parent information meeting. 4C is open to children in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade from our church and the community. For further information, call Sue Kujawski at 623-935-5195.

## Good Times Senior Fellowship

This is a notice for fellow seniors!

I just want to let you know that soon it will be time for our fall get-together to make plans for our upcoming season of fun events. A date to put on your calendar is Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. at Mary and Dick Meese's home, 585 Pajaro

Lane, Litchfield Park.

Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share and your good ideas. There will be more information to follow. Singles are very welcome to join us.

Mary Meese  
623-935-2136

# Dr. Merton to visit CLP on September 12

*Continued from Page 1*

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the LORD Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to our God always for the grace of God that has been given in Christ Jesus to you; your Pastor, my dear brother in ministry and fellow Trustee on the Board of the I.C.C.C.; and my dear friend and mentor, Jud.

<sup>5</sup> I know of your history, ministry and service and that you have been enriched and strengthened by Jesus in speech, knowledge and action for the great Gospel of the LORD — the Gospel of radically inclusive grace for all!

<sup>6</sup> Our God is eternally full of faith in us; love and grace for us! We are privileged to be part of the fellowship of his Son and our Savior, Jesus. Let us, in the bond of this God given privilege, seek to live lives thankful for our inclusion in God's grace and committed to the reflection of Jesus' word and action in the world of which we are a part.

## **Chapter Two**

**1** Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to welcome me along with Jill, my spouse and co-minister in faith, to share in the experience of worship with you on Sunday, September 12 in the year of our LORD, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> On that Sunday I will rejoice in the opportunity, provided by your Pastor, to bring you a message based on the Word of God as recorded in another epistle, *First Corinthians 1:10-17* and in the Gospel of *Luke 10:25-28*.

<sup>3</sup> I pray for the inspiration and instruction of God's Holy Spirit as I prepare to declare the Word

of God. It is my hope that this message would lead us to ministry and service that reflects Jesus' radical love of God and neighbor.

<sup>4</sup> The message I will bring might be called: "*Clearly Communicated: Our Identity, Our Purpose, Our Mission!*"

## **Chapter Three**

**1** I joyfully and thankfully consider my call, as apostle and minister, to be the same as your call. The call of God's Spirit falls equally on all.

<sup>2</sup> That call is rooted in the commands of Jesus to love God and love our neighbor.

<sup>3</sup> While we share a common call, our lives are individually shaped and prepared so that we might prove to be worthy of our calling.

<sup>4</sup> The shaping and preparation of my life is ongoing and evolutionary. I sense this to be the truth and reality in the Litchfield Church.

<sup>5</sup> We are, together, in the process of becoming, more and more, intentional and full lovers of God and neighbor as commanded by Jesus.

<sup>6</sup> My shaping and preparation was rooted in a relationship with parents that loved me unconditionally, introduced me to the fellowship of the church, and the amazing grace of God in Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> Further shaping and preparation took place in several institutions of learning and challenge. These included churches in the denominational traditions of Presbyterians, Disciples of Christ, and United Church of Christ as well as relationships with the non-denominational churches of the I.C.C.C.

<sup>8</sup> Significant challenge and continued learning was experienced

at Emory University, Florida Atlantic University, the University of Kentucky and Lexington Theological Seminary.

<sup>9</sup> These experiences have yielded several degrees but, more importantly, they have led to a life rooted in the grace of God and an insatiable hunger for learning ways to love more deeply, powerfully and inclusively.

<sup>10</sup> My shaping and preparation continue through family relationships with my spouse, four children and seven grand children; the joy of serving as Pastor of Peace Community Church in Fort Myers, Florida; and the fulfilling experiences that come from involvement in several ministries and services in the larger church and the community I live in.

<sup>12</sup> Even as I come to you, I wish to know of your shaping and preparation.

<sup>11</sup> I am, with you, running the race with perseverance until that day when, in the name of Jesus, every knee in heaven, on earth and under the earth will bend and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is LORD, to the glory of God the Father.

## **Chapter Four**

**1** Even as we anticipate our coming together, let us hold fast to our faith. Let us keep alert to the unfolding call of Jesus in our lives. May we be strong and courageous in doing the ministry of God's radical grace and let all that we do be done in love!

<sup>2</sup> Until the day of our meeting, I hold you in thought and prayer even as I rejoice in being already with you in the bond of God's grace and love through Jesus, our Christ.



# ON A MISSION

The Mission Committee members hope that you have weathered the summer heat without any difficulty. Those of you fortunate enough to leave the heat behind, we welcome you back home. For everyone, we hope that your summer was a pleasant one, and that time was available to enjoy your families and dear friends.

The Committee is looking forward to our September meeting and the fall. In spite of a short summer break for meetings, activities and needs have not stopped as you will note in the updates below.

**Aqua Fria Food and Clothing Bank** — Many folks who would not normally frequent a food and clothing bank for their needs have been seen and served this year at Aqua Fria. The economy's difficulties, which have caused loss of jobs and foreclosures, have taken its toll on many of the citizens in our community. As a result, the needs especially for the food side of the Bank have increased. There is a dire need for canned goods, such as all kinds of vegetables, beans (even dried ones), soups, tomatoes, etc. There is also a need for dairy products, such as butter, milk, eggs, cottage cheese, and cheese and size 4 diapers are also a part of the Bank's needs list. If you wish to contribute any of these items, you may do so by dropping them off at the church office or in the boxes at the entrance to all services on Sunday mornings. If you wish to provide some of the needed dairy products, please take them directly to the Bank located at 405 East Harrison Drive in Avondale.

The drive for school uniforms was very successful. Two uni-



forms each were provided for 450 children. Last year 400 received uniforms. The increase of fifty children this year was an exceptional accomplishment. Rev. Alvarez asked to have the following note to you included in this article: "Aqua Fria Food and Clothing Bank would like to thank you. Without your generosity, support and compassion we would not have been able to provide two uniforms per child for 450 students to begin the 2010-11 school year."

*God bless you,  
Rev. Renato E. Alvarez, Director*

**New Life Center** — NLC has been working diligently on its 2010 Brighter Day Luncheon, planned for Friday, November 19th at the Renaissance Hotel and Resort in Glendale. The event is more important than ever. Funding is needed to support Advocates who help families find permanent housing, employment, childcare resources, transportation costs, medical expenses, move-in assistance and other basic needs. Although CLP's annual contributions and contributions from other sources to NLC help to meet these needs, it is far from enough. That is why the Brighter Day Luncheon event is so important, for it is NLC's largest fund raiser.

If you would like to serve as a table captain, please let Kym Thill, Community Development Manager, know by calling 623-932-4404. The lunch is free to guests who attend, and table captains are asked to invite ten of their friends,

family or colleagues to join them at their table to hear the inspiring stories of the women and children rebuilding their lives at NLC. The luncheon is open to both men and women.

**Something's Brewing Sunday...** — Kym Thill, New Life Center's Community Development Director, will be our special guest on September 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Something's Brewing Sunday...in the breezeway. Kym will be introduced at all three services. Please join the Mission Committee members and friends in the breezeway to give Kym a warm welcome, to learn more about New Life Center's commitment to abused women and children, and to give Kym an opportunity to personally thank you for CLP's years of support to NLC.

**God bless each of you for your constant open hearts and unconditional kindness to those who need our help. Thank you and a thank you to those of you who also make time to offer your personal services by volunteering at the various facilities CLP supports. The Mission Committee often receives notes of gratitude regarding CLP's ongoing caring and assistance.**

*The responsibility of the Mission Committee is to be good stewards of funds allocated to it by the CLP. By providing "The gifts of God for the people of God," it is the intent to expand the vision and reflect the spirit of our church and its members.*

**REMEMBER: TOGETHER,  
WE MAKE  
MISSIONS HAPPEN!!**

Jan Rowe  
Chair, Missions Committee  
623-936-6253

# Opening Kids' Hearts to God

KidsOwn Worship is the new fall curriculum for J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Sunday school, starting September 5<sup>th</sup>. J.A.M. is offered at 9:15 and 10:30 a.m. for kids in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, using a children's church format. KidsOwn Worship is all about touching the heart of God, and changing the hearts of kids! Here is how KidsOwn Worship works:

- 13 engaging 30-to 60-minute sessions get kids exploring why God is



worthy of their praise

- A variety of music helps kids praise God
- Easy-to-use resources make leading praise time a snap: CD, NEW sing-along DVD, and lyrics (trans-

parencies and text files)

- Memorable object lessons and activities help kids remember the Point, with Hands-On Point-Makers included for you
- Discussion-starter DVD (new format) gets preschool and elementary kids thinking and talking

*Preschool Sunday school will resume the same day at 9:15 in Classroom 2 with Scott and Gwynn Henline. A preschool class will also be available at 10:30 in the nursery.*

## Chancel Choir Director Update

One of the big changes coming up this fall will be the hiring of a new chancel choir director. A committee has been working since early this year to consider candidates for the position. Because this position is so crucial to our worship identity, I believe all of the members of the committee have taken very seriously the choosing of this individual. We have the luxury of having some extremely well qualified candidates who have expressed interest in the position. We are hoping to have someone chosen this month to begin working with our choir when our church is at full strength after the summer season. I hope some of you folks who enjoy singing but have not yet joined the choir will consider this a great opportunity to do so.

Pastor Dale

## Adult Bible Study Resumes this Month

Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study will resume on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. The study will focus on Genesis followed by the minor prophets: Joel, Micah, Habakkuk, and Haggai. The study will be facilitated by Rev. James Butler and Jane Way.

## Christian One Liners

Don't let your worries get the best of you;  
Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited.  
Until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God,  
But only as advisers.

It is easier to preach ten sermons  
Than it is to live one.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose,  
But mosquitoes come close.

When you get to your wit's end,  
You'll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus,  
Middle of the road, And back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once,  
But temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Quit griping about your church;  
If it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

If a church wants a better pastor,  
It only needs to pray for the one it has.



# Wednesday Night Program

FAMILY DINNER 6:00 P.M. SOUERS HALL

## September 8

Oven Fried Chicken, Slaw, Beans,  
Rolls, Texas Sheet Cake

## September 15

Taco Salad, Beans, Rice, Sherbet

## September 22

Chicken Spaghetti, Salad, Rolls,  
Ice Cream Bars

## September 29

Sub Sandwiches, Chips,  
Watermelon, Cupcakes

PROGRAMS FROM 6:45-7:45 P.M.

G.O. Kids: Journey to Moose Mountain

Youth grades 6-12: Watt House

Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Childcare provided in the Nursery



The Church at Litchfield Park  
300 North Old Litchfield Road  
Litchfield Park AZ 85340

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