

The Bell Tower

News from The Church
at Litchfield Park
October 2010



INSIDE

Pastors' Columns

Uniting our focus,
what's on your list?

...

Missions Project

Undie Sunday
begins Oct. 10

...

Homeward Bound

Pamela Martin
shares her story

...

Lessons Learned

Coffee with
the Professor

Jean Mulquin Follows Her Heart into Prison Ministry

Church office manager Jean Mulquin recently resigned after working at our church for eight years. Jean began work as a part-time receptionist, working to “pay off my new car,” she said. “Now,” she says, “I need a new car again!”

For years now, Jean has worked in her spare time for Katie Souza’s Expected End Ministries, which is dedicated to serving those who are behind bars. She and her husband John have dedicated weekends and evenings to all aspects of this ministry. They have also used vacation time to travel to various places as the organization conducts services all over the country. Jean has long dreamed of being able to work full-time for the ministry and recently was given that opportunity.

“Losing a person of Jean’s caliber would normally be a negative thing,



Jean Mulquin

but for a couple of things. To be sure, we will miss her godly presence and expertise in the office,” Pastor Dale

Continued on Page 9

The Church at Litchfield Park • 300 N. Old Litchfield Rd • Litchfield Park AZ 85340
Phone 623-935-3411 • Fax 623-935-0560
Email: info@churchatlitchfieldpark.org • Web: www.churchatlitchfieldpark.org
Chris Martin, Editor 623-979-8503 chrismartinaz@cox.net
Jennifer Knox, Designer 309-838-4523 jafrenchy@gmail.com



SENIOR PASTOR'S CORNER:

Strategic Planning: Uniting Our Focus

Rev. Dale L. Hopely Jr., Senior Pastor

Members of the church board, council, and congregation are embarking on a strategic planning process under the leadership of our Long Range Planning Chair, Mary Lueck. The last time we did a strategic plan was more than seven years ago. According to the experts, organizations should go through the process every three to five years. Although a little overdue, I think this is a good time in the life of our church to engage the process.

When some people hear the term “strategic plan,” they roll their eyes. The process can be cumbersome and boring and in the end, the findings are often buried in a drawer or put on a shelf to collect dust. My hope, however, is that this process will be a good one for the board, council, and membership, creating and a useful tool to help us move forward together.

I believe that it is worth the effort to take the time to think about what we do, why we do it, and where we are going. Although the direction for our church has been set by our history, it is good to be reminded about where we have come from and what ground we have traversed in our past so that we can follow the trajectory of the path to the future. It is also good to look at the demographics of those around us, those who



Photo by Michael Jordan

have visited over the last few years, those who have joined, and most importantly, who our current membership is so that we can serve them better.

The goal is not to come up with a new slogan or use the process as an excuse to embark on some premeditated plan. The goal is to be able to unite the focus of our staff, board members, committee chairs and membership on what is most important and how we can be most effective. Ultimately, we are asking the question, “How

do we live out being a house of prayer for all people in this time and place?”

Questions like this get me excited because they remind me of what is most important and why I feel so blessed to be part of this great church. I hope this type of question excites you too and even encourages you to get involved.

God bless you,
Pastor Dale



EXECUTIVE PASTOR'S SPOT:

The List

Rev. James Butler, Executive Pastor

The Bible is a book of many lists—from the creation account, the genealogies, to laws for living. As part of our Tuesday morning study of Genesis, we discussed the Fall of Man and the “Seven Deadly Sins.” The Bible’s lists act like the supports and spans of a suspension bridge, extending across the canyons of time. I asked class members to bring their favorite positive lists for living with a purpose.

Leanne Walgren:

*Live with kindness to others.
Live by trying to be nonjudgmental
Live with a joyful spirit
Live with gratitude for life and the abundance of good things in my life and friendships and family.*

Barbara Herwick:

*Integrity
Honesty
Sense of Humor
Ambition
Empathy
Generosity
Positive attitude
Good work ethic
Kindness
Courage*

Jane Way shared her four-page long weekly “to do list,” on which the unfinished business carries to the next week. I like to use multi-colored computerized notes, putting an



SOURCE: SXC.HU

“x” by completed tasks and arrange ideas by color and importance.

On my list for our church:

*Create “The Bridge”—a unified Christian education program—built like a suspension bridge:
CHILDREN’S MINISTRY—Nursery through 5th Grade.
YOUTH MINISTRY—Confirmation-Youth Group.
ADULTHOOD—Young Adult-Singles.
MARRIAGE—Adult-Family-Single Again.
SENIOR LIVING—Retirement and Golden Years.*

While we continue our search for Children’s Ministry and Youth Directors, I asked the leaders of

the Nursery, Children and Youth areas to form three-to-five member teams to deal not only with their own area, but to work together in staffing and planning effective ministry for our children and youth. If you have served in our Children or Youth areas, take a moment and make a list of your “favorite moments” and “must haves” and send me a copy. This will help us as we create standards of ministry for each age group and help the future Children and Youth Director(s) as he or she shepherds our children and youth.

What’s on your list?

Pastor Jim

New Members on August 22



Judy Hilt has been visiting our church for a while and already made many friends before joining on August 22. She retired from accounting and has been married for 54 years. She enjoys art, sewing, and gardening, but her real enjoyment came from all the hunting and fishing trips she and her husband used to take. They have two adult children and four grandchildren.



Kent and Elaine Schallenberger joined our church family on August 22. Kent is self-employed in sales and marketing. He has been involved with Boy Scouts as a youth and as an adult leader, and is an Eagle Scout himself. He enjoys sailing. Elaine is retired from real estate and enjoys reading. Together they consider themselves Ex Patriots because of all the places they have lived and visited in the world. They have two adult sons and an adult daughter.



Marie Wakefield was welcomed into membership on August 22. Marie is Elaine's mother and is retired from AT&T. She enjoys cooking and traveling. The highlight of her life has been her many travels to other interesting places.



Photo by Michael Jordan

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, October 17th 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.

Oct. 3: Communion Sunday

Rev. Dale L. Hopely, Jr.

Oct. 10: Rev. Dale L. Hopely, Jr.

Oct. 17: Rev. Jim Butler

Oct. 24: Rev. Dale L. Hopely, Jr.

Oct. 31: Rev. Dale L. Hopely, Jr.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

Date	8:00	9:15	10:30	Total
Aug. 1	82	158	126	366
Aug. 8	84	142	129	355
Aug. 15	120	189	131	440
Aug. 22	67	165	138	370
Aug. 29	79	171	147	397



ON A MISSION

Several interesting events will be taking place in the coming months. Something's Brewing Sunday... will continue on the second Sunday of each month with a special guest representing those organizations and events which CLP supports.

Undie Sunday begins on Something's Brewing Sunday..., October 10. This drive for undies and socks for adults and children supports a need of the Aqua Fria Food and Clothing Bank. Last year's drive was a big success. Socks and underwear donations along with monetary donations from our CLP members supplied the Center's needs for both adults and children through this past spring. Sheila Porter, the chair for the 2010-11 drive, plans for an equally successful event. Sheila will be our special guest on Sunday, October 10.

November is the month for the **Christmas Tree Angels**. The planning for this project will be chaired by Tammy Urban, who has successfully chaired this project for the last few years, along with her daughter Cassie and other volunteers. Tammy and the volunteers have done an extraordinary job of making this project a big success. Tammy will be our special Something's Brewing... guest on Sunday, November 14. This special annual project has been very popular with our church members. It is through the generosity of so many that children who may not ordinarily have a Christmas are blessed with one because of the Christmas Tree Angels.

December 12, **Something's Brewing Sunday** will host Bob Solis, founder of Open Arms



Corine Raygoza, Community Development Coordinator, and Deb Fahey, New Life Community Representative, greeted worshipers in the breezeway.

Home for Children, as our guest. He will be sharing information about Open Arms and its children. He has many stories to tell about the special children who are growing up in the Open Arms' "family." Also, on this date, at 4:00 pm, at the Wigwam, the Phoenix Boys' Choir will perform an annual benefit for the Open Arms Home for Children. It is a free event. Attendees may make a donation if they choose to do so. Everyone is invited to attend this holiday concert by the talented Phoenix Boys' Choir.

There are some exciting events scheduled between now and the end of the year. Please mark your calendars and join the CLP members in participating in them.

*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*



Deb Fahey handed out bags of information about the New Life Center, along with wish lists of needed items.

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



Homeward Bound Executive

Every family needs a place to call home. Homeward Bound is a transitional housing program for homeless and domestic violence families with children in metropolitan Phoenix. Giving a hand up and not a handout, its mission is to assist families in achieving economic independence and secure safe, affordable housing. Homeward Bound also seeks to break multi-generational cycles of homelessness and domestic violence.

Homeward Bound was founded in 1990 by a grassroots committee of community activists. Beginning with one family and one home, Homeward Bound now owns and operates 162 housing units, which house as many as 595 people, more than 400 of whom are children.

Dr. Pamela Martin has been a guiding influence at Homeward Bound since 1991. She shares how her personal commitment to make a difference in the lives of the women and children came about.

What does Homeward Bound’s mission mean to you personally?

I grew up in a large, loving, multi-generational military family. I felt nurtured and safe despite moving to a new city and school approximately every three years. I learned the importance of home as a haven, the critical role of family of origin and the benefits of extended family of choice. As a young child I realized my gift was service. My first volunteer experience was as a fourth grader when a classmate’s home burned down and they lost everything. I went



Photo courtesy of Homeward Bound



If you would like more information about Homeward Bound, visit www.hbphx.org. To inquire about volunteer opportunities, contact Volunteer Services at 602-374-8758, or email m.rhoda@hbphx.org.

door-to-door, with my mother driving along beside me, collecting money, food and clothing. I don’t recall the quantity or quality of items I collected, but that feeling of being able to make a difference was imprinted in my soul and set the course of my life.

How did you first become involved with Homeward Bound?

My husband and I relocated to Phoenix in late 1991 for his work.

At that time, Homeward Bound was just forming. The agency’s founder, Peter Bidstrup, founder of Doubletree Hotels, was serving as President of the Board of Directors and President of Homeward Bound. I was hired to design and implement a social services program, hire a staff, get to know the community, and to build a foundation of support as I transitioned into the Executive Director role in the following year.

Have you held other positions in similar organizations?

I’ve held three Executive Director positions since 1980—all three were agencies which focused on women and girls—two in Florida and one in California. Prior to 1980, I was a full-time volunteer and community activist in the Denver area.

How are families referred to Homeward Bound?

Families are referred by schools, churches, employers, government agencies, and now, more and more often, former clients who share their success story with a friend or co-worker who is in need of our services.

How do you measure success in assisting families?

Homeward Bound measures success as:

- Recognizing and working to achieve a healthy character.
- Employment and education adequate to sustain market housing.
- Addressing barriers to maintaining employment including child-care and transportation.

Director, Dr. Pamela Martin

- Practicing healthy living habits including remaining drug and alcohol abuse free.
- Learning to effectively budget limited resources.
- Reducing debt and establishing good credit.
- Establishing checking and savings accounts.
- \$1,500 to move to market housing.
- \$5,000 to move toward home ownership.
- Addressing medical, dental, legal, and mental health issues.
- Developing a core of healthy personal relationships.
- Practicing patterns of effective parenting.
- Being motivated to be responsible for yourself and your children.

How can we help with Homeward Bound's program as individuals? As a group?

There are so many ways to help, both as individuals and as a group. There are ongoing opportunities to:

- Refer families in need to the agency.
- Financially sponsor a child in the program for \$1,000 annually.
- Financially sponsor a family in the program for \$5,000 annually.
- Host a table (no cost) at our annual Step Forward Breakfast which encourages guests to take advantage of the Arizona tax credit program which benefits agencies which provide services to working poor families.
- Serve as a Family Advocate — working hand-in-hand with the case manager and as a mentor to a family.
- Participate in our annual Baby Drive—collecting diapers, wipes,

formula and emergency funds.

- Help paint and rehabilitate an agency housing unit.
- Host a food drive to collect: peanut butter, jelly, tuna, fruit, fruit juice, pasta, canned soups.
- Provide gift cards for use by the agency to help clients meet emergency needs—Target, Fry's.
- Provide backpacks for back-to-school, sponsor a family at Thanksgiving or Christmas.
- Rock a baby in our Kids Corner Learning Center located on the campus of The Thunderbirds Family Village.

What is the most challenging aspect of your job? The most rewarding?

The most challenging aspect of my job is to ensure that our budget is met, that we are good stewards of funds and that each client is given our fullest attention. I also feel a moral obligation to train and nurture the next generation of employees, as well as interns, so that they may continue the mission of the agency and serve the greater community when my generation is retired.

The most rewarding aspect of my work is my humble belief that in some small way I do make a difference. My resiliency comes as a result of always being mindful of my administrative obligations but that our work is really about children and their families—I want to see their faces and know their stories. Reward and resiliency, as this is demanding work, also comes from focusing on the success of the families who we daily see grow and prosper

with the tools provided them by the programs and services of the agency.

What is your educational and professional background?

Though trained as a psychologist, my calling has been the designing and implementing of programs and services which change lives and offer a new tomorrow to some of our communities' most fragile families. I also believe that it is my job to share the message that funding Homeward Bound is a social investment in people and in our community. Client success is social capital!

Would you tell us a little about your family?

I am from a close-knit family with a culture of service to others, hard work and strong faith. My father served our country as a military man for 32 years, including two wars. My mother was always involved in community service. I have two brothers—one works for the UN, primarily in Africa, and one is a police officer who has won local and state awards for his work with domestic violence. I have a sister who is a dentist and provides thousands of dollars of pro bono dental care to women who are victims of domestic violence. My youngest sister works in mental health.

My husband, whom I met in 1971, is a retired Navy officer and OB/GYN. I have two sons and three grandchildren who live in Phoenix.

Interview by Chris Martin

Historian Needs Your Help

I'm back from the summer and ready to get started. I ran this request before summer with no takers. I'm hoping that now we are into the fall you have more time on your hands, because this task is huge and it would go so much faster and better with help. The job is really many smaller jobs and I know you can help me in some way.

1. All I have is questions; if you have the answers call me at 623-935-1117:

- Do you have a picture of **Fay Siedel**?
- When was the fountain in the front of the church changed from the original **Chambers fountain** with the fence around it to the one we have now?
- Do you have a picture of the **Noah's Ark** that was in the nursery play area?
- Do you know the story about the building of **Zieske Hall**? I have no pictures or information.

2. Better yet, I'd love to just sit and talk with you and create an oral history. We could get a small



group of your friends together, look at old pictures and talk about the events of the church. There is much to talk about: **WCSF, the thrift shop, PAX, men's fellowship, the 1981 kitchen/Fireside Room renovation, Christmas, Easter and the sunrise services, mission work, the music programs, and the multitudes of socials.** I could circle the church in pictures of socials and potlucks!

3. This is the big one. My goal is to create packages that have a document that describes an event, a tradition, a pastor, etc., that will be archived along with supporting photos, newspaper articles, oral histories and the such. There are lots of tasks that go along with this goal. Would you be interested in helping with:

- The genealogy of the pastors and charter members
- Obtaining oral histories from the church members and/or transcribing the history
- Writing short documents describing events, traditions, people, etc.
- Framing the original pictures of the church and creating a display

As you can see there is something for everyone. So think long and hard, "How can I help?"—then call me at 623-935-1117.

I'll take those funny stories for the archives!!!

Meredeth Stucky
Church Historian

GOOD TIMES FELLOWSHIP

The senior's group is planning a second **Packing for the Troops** event on Friday, November 19, that will take place in Souers Hall. As last year, we will be partnering with Luke Air Force Base and asking the congregation to donate goods for our men and women in service. We had a tremendous turnout last year and we hope to meet that goal again this year. There will be more information in the coming weeks in the church bulletins. A grateful thank you to all who participate in this event.

Mary Meese
623-935-2136

Family Barbecue A-Comin'

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, November 7, from 3:30-7:30 p.m. Iron your best jeans and dust off your boots, grab your bandanas and cowboy hats - we're havin' a barbecue and square dance! There will be plenty of good food by Burn't Biscuit Cookout Company, square dancing, and special blow-up fun for the kids. This fall fellowship event will be held on the church grounds. Sign-up sheets will be available in the breeze-



way Sundays. There will be a charge for this event, so watch for more information!

Rob Gimbl
Chair, Fellowship Committee
gimbl@aol.com
623-466-9216

Jean Mulquin to work in prison ministry

Continued from Page 1

Hopely said. "The second reason that Jean's departure is not necessarily negative is that Brenda Morgan has agreed to take over for Jean. Brenda, like Jean, began as a part-time administrative assistant about three years ago. Brenda has extensive experience in accounting and payroll. Additionally, Brenda learned most of the aspects of the office manager position and filled in for Jean when Jean was away. Suffice it to say, we are certainly not taking a step backwards as Brenda takes the helm."

According to Pastor Dale, when Jean took over as office manager at CLP two and a half years ago, there was a need for a thorough revamping of our church financial system as well as the need to "clean up," literally and figuratively, several areas that had been neglected for years. Jean was the perfect person for this as she took great pride in working with our then-treasurer and current board president, Dianna Morrow, to revamp our entire accounting system and redo most of our office contracts. Jean has walked into a similar situation in the ministry position in Mari-

copa. Her skills at rebuilding and revamping the office systems that she learned here, are the very skills she is using in her new position.

"We are so thankful for the energy and effort that Jean invested in making our church more efficient. We should be proud of the fact that the responsibilities that Jean was given here are now being used to serve another partner in the kingdom of God," Pastor Dale said. "We are grateful for the gift of Brenda as well and know that she will take over where Jean left off to make our church even better!"

WCSF Seeks New Board Members

Being a member of the WCSF Executive Board is a wonderful opportunity for you to use your gifts and talents to help us expand our women's programs. Elections are in December for the 2011 year and the following open positions are both one year terms.

Recording Secretary:

- Accurately records the business of all meetings of the Executive Board and General Meetings including motions and votes.
- Prepares a copy for each board member for review at the next meeting.
- Assists with annual goal setting and end-of-year report.
- Assists with other board activities as applicable.

Member-at-Large:

- Act as the link between WCSF and the women of the church

who do not attend a circle meeting.

- Assists with annual goal setting and end-of-year report.
- Assists with other board activities as applicable.

WCSF Executive Board meets the first Thursday of the month from 4:30 to 5:30 in the Fireside Room. We are a planning Board with goals of a lecture series, cooking classes, a spring retreat and more. Please consider this invitation. If we knew who you were and that you might be interested, we'd ask you personally! It's only one hour a month, for one year (off in the summer) and a great way to meet other women of the church. If you'd like to volunteer or have questions, call Meredith Stucky, 623-935-1117 or mstucky@qwest.net.



Thrift Shop Opens, Needs Donations

The Thrift Shop is back in business after our summer break. We always seem to get a lot of clothes so what we need most right now is furniture, kitchen items, and jewelry.

The best way to donate is to call Monica Sproull at 623-935-2656 or Millie Ezell at 623-935-3953 and set up a drop-off time, please never leave items outside the doors.

Sale dates are Saturday, October 2 and Thursday, October 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Work days are Wednesdays, preceding from 8:30-11:00 a.m.

NOTES OF THANKS:

I would like to thank the church for awarding me one of the church scholarships, and for the OfficeMax gift card. I would also like to thank the Juniors and their parents for the Senior Breakfast they provided.
C.J. Sproull

(C.J. has begun his freshman year at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, where he is majoring in landscape architecture. See photo on right)

We wanted to drop a quick note to say that we are settled in Oregon and enjoying the beautiful weather. We also wanted to thank everyone for your friendship and love you've shown our family over the years, especially our daughters. From Chris in the nursery, Scott and Gwynn, Monica Sproull, the Hopelys and more. We will miss you all and our home is yours. **Love, Matt, Heather, Hailey and Summer Smith**

Thank you so much for the nice story that you did on Open Arms. I am so grateful for all



C.J. Sproull at the Kansas state line. He is entering his freshman year at Kansas State University and will study landscape architecture.

that the Church at Litchfield Park has done for us. You have been such a blessing to us and we appreciate it more than you know.
With gratitude, Bob Solis

Thank you for all of your thoughts, prayers and visits. May God bless each and every one. Again, thank you.
Barbara Parastino

Cooking Classes for Women Resume

Bring your favorite COOL appetizer to share, along with the recipe, to Souers Hall Monday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. We also plan to have dessert "demo" stations.

This is an organizational gathering for those interested in a monthly cooking class, complete with tastings! We will be planning classes/events from November

2010 through May 2011. The last time we met we talked about having individuals sign up to plan a month's topic and demonstration. Don't panic—we have some ideas and people in mind, they just have to be asked and provide help with the arrangements

See you then!

Meredeth Stucky

Second Annual Piano Concert

Church organist/pianist Mona McCash has scheduled the Second Annual Piano Concert for 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 21. The concert celebrates the wonderful sound of our Bosendorfer Grand Piano in the Sanctuary. Contact Mona if you would like to perform. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a wide variety of music.

Coffee with the Professor

A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups—porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain, some expensive, some exquisite—telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

When all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor said: “If you noticed, all the nice looking expensive cups were taken up, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups. And then you be-



SOURCE: SXC.HU

gan eyeing each other’s cups. Now consider this: Life is the coffee; the jobs, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain Life, and the type of cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of Life we live. Sometimes, by concentrating only

on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us.”

God brews the coffee, not the cup. Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Enjoy the coffee...and leave the rest to God.

Source: *dailykindness.net*

Men’s Fellowship

A new season for Men’s Fellowship will begin Tuesday, October 5th, in Souers Hall. As always, the grills will be hot at 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite meat to cook and we will supply side, salad, and drinks. Sign up in the breezeway. Our guest speaker will be Ed Catlett with M&I Bank. His presentation is “Get the Facts about Identity Theft.”

Double Take: A New Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room for an hour of reflection on the appointed scripture for the previous Sunday. We hope this “double take” will enhance your Sunday morning worship experience. Facilitated by Jane Way, this is an opportunity to spend some time in study and connect with friends or meet new ones. If you are looking for



SOURCE: SXC.HU

a new “small group” at the church, this is a great place to be. Bring your Bible, your coffee and your curiosity.



Wednesday Night Program

FAMILY DINNER 6:00 P.M. SOUERS HALL

October 6

Spaghetti and Meatballs,
Rolls, Salad and Ice Cream

October 13

Fish & Chips,
Slaw, Rolls, Jello and Cookies

October 20

Lasagna, Salad, Rolls and Dessert

October 27

Hot Dogs, Macaroni & Cheese,
Fruit Salad, Cake

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

G.O. Kids:

Return to Moose Mountain: Room 6

Youth Group: Grades 6-12, Watt House

Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Adult Bible Study: Fireside Room



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

Non Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
PERMIT NO 2
Litchfield Park
AZ 85340