



# Thunderbird West Congregational News

September/October 2009

Joshua Greenwalt Right Guard and Kicker



Joshua Greenwalt is playing tackle football for the second year. His team is the Tribesmen. Josh's position is right guard and kicker. He has been very excited to start playing again. Games are held on Saturdays and the game schedule should be out in the next two weeks. Last year his team ended the season with 4 wins out of the 10 games. This year they will play 13 games and the team is looking very strong and hoping for an awesome season. Wanda and Jared attended a couple of games last season and had a great time. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Pastor's Corner

I lost a good friend recently. Genevieve passed away after having the good fortune of living 96 productive years. For the past 17 years, Vicki and I have been fortunate to have known her. Gigi, as we called her, will always occupy a permanent spot in my heart. I was always happy to see her at the family gatherings and when talking to her, was convinced she was naturally reflecting the love and character of Christ in her life.

Gigi made an enormous effort to let everybody know that she was on a journey in this life and believed that even though it was very possible that many times we might feel pain and loneliness, it was to be expected because this is not our home and we are only passing through. Having experienced some great difficulties in her life, she overcame them and lived a life full of joy and service to others.

In her way, Gigi made a difference in my life and by her example, helped me to learn the importance of beginning each day with thanksgiving. I believe the good advice in Ephesians 5:19-20 would have been very important to her. "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

We are coming to the end of the long hot summer and I'm anxious to see all of our winter resident's return. It seems like just yesterday we said goodbye to them, however the summer months go by very fast. I would like to thank all of you who have offered their time and talents to keep Thunderbird West moving forward. Sharon Davids, Carol Nicholls and Dan Edwards made sure that we've had great classes to attend on Sunday Morning. The phone calls and visits have been made and the cards are going out. Services have been very enjoyable and inspirational.

As friends I believe we desire to lift each other up to God for the blessings that we are told God wants to give us. We want this for each other. It is not just a simple optimism that prevails at Thunderbird West, but rather the knowledge that God is present in the words said. It is in those moments when we care for and love each other that we truly come to understand the presence of God reaching out to us. It is in sharing the pleasure and pain that we draw close to each other and come to know in new ways the love of God.

Mike Alexander

### Presiding Elder:

**Mike Alexander**  
623-556-5084

### Counselors:

**Judy Bradish**  
602-938-6029

**Dan Edwards**  
623-975-2450

**Jared Ingram**  
623-974-3099

### Sustained Duties

#### Financial/Book Steward

**Carrol McCans**  
623-975-8317

#### Historian:

**Ruth Anderson**  
623-561-0135

#### Recorder:

**Vicki Alexander**  
623-556-5084

### Congregation

#### Secretary

**Eldora Engebretson**  
623-566-9299

### Commissioners:

#### Christian Education:

**Carol Nicholls**  
623-551-0032

#### Communication:

#### Bulletin & Newsletter

**Eldora Engebretson**

#### Facilities:

**Phil Dachenhausen**  
623-974-8589

**Eldora Engebretson**

#### Fellowship:

#### Leadership & Outreach:

**Bob Ballew**  
623-584-9835

#### Pastoral Care:

**Diane Sloan**  
623-561-0135

#### Worship:

**Madelyn Edwards**  
623-975-2450

**Wanda Ingram**  
623-914-3099

#### Youth:

**Donna Greenwalt**  
602-536-3204

## Choir

Thank you so much for all of your support over the last 6 months! I have truly enjoyed helping the wonderful singers of our choir prepare to minister to everyone over the last half year. As the weather cools off, many of our regular singers will once again be “home” to sing with us. If you are not part of our “regular” group, we’d love to have you join us and become part of our regular group. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:15pm at the church. Be checking the weekly bulletin for our first rehearsals.

If you are a planner/presider for any of the upcoming services, please remember the choir loves to sing. Don’t be afraid to ask us! We will sing anything you want or I can work with you to choose music for us to sing. There are only two requests (that I know of): the first is that you give us at least 3-4 weeks to prepare (it takes that long to learn “new” music, plus an extra week to get the music ordered if it doesn’t come from a hymnal) and the second request I’ve had as choir director is to try to avoid the choir singing on the first Sunday of the month. This pulls too many people from other duties they could be performing on that Sunday. If you want special music on Communion Sunday, please visit with Connie Denton as she is the music director and is in charge of organizing small groups or solos for services.

If at any point you have questions about music, please contact either me or Connie, we are both happy to answer questions.

Now, I change my hat to the piano scheduler: I try very hard to consider the themes, planner/presiders, special services and who is available to play on any particular Sunday when I am scheduling the pianist for our services. I just wanted to remind all of our most excellent planners that all of us are busy people and the sooner you get your list of hymns to the designated pianist the more meaningful the ministry can be from the pianist. Practice takes time and even those who have played piano for many years, still need time to practice. I try to make sure every pianist and planner/presider gets an email from me at least a month in advance with the information they need to plan effectively. If you have any special requests for a particular pianist, please let me know well in advance so I can make the necessary arrangements.

And I leave you with a few words of wisdom from Jan Kraybill, Principal Organist and Director of Music at World Church Headquarters in Independence, MO,

“Worship music is, on its surface, a performance. However, worship music fails if it is *only* a performance—because it should be so much more! As music leaders, our congregations are simultaneously our audience (listening to us at times) and our fellow musicians (singing with us at times). If we are willing servants, our music can be a way for congregations to experience the divine presence of God. What an awesome privilege we have, and what an awesome responsibility.

Excellence in worship has more to do with focus than perfection. We should certainly strive for musical perfection, but our focus should always be on God. If our congregations perceive the focus is on the music or the musician ... the great voice, the beautiful clothes, the killer sound system, the grand instrument, the flashy technique, the cool graphics, the eye-catching light show, the thunderous applause, or even our own nervousness ... then even if we have “succeeded” musically, we have failed to reach excellence in our worship of God.”

Let us all strive to reach excellence in our worship of God!

-Heather Featherstone, Choir Director/Pianist Scheduler

## Attention all Singers and Musicians!

Nov. 22nd, the weekend before Thanksgiving, will be filled with wonderful music. We need YOU to make this possible. Let me know if you will be in town for this service. We will need about four rehearsals before the 22nd. We need people for: Duets, Trios, Quartets, and Solos I'll be calling you soon to plan the music. I'll be selecting, PRAISE music, Thanksgiving songs, and Spiritual songs. Looking forward to this wonderful Uplifting service

Prayerfully,  
Connie Denton Music Director

## Youth News

The youth group will be doing a project on December 12, 2009 and would like this to be a congregational outreach project. We are planning a live nativity. In the fellowship hall there are signup sheets and the youth is asking that you help in an area that are your talent and as you are able. There are MANY areas that will need to be filled, so if you don't see something please see Donna Greenwalt or Scott Sloan.

Donations will be accepted and GREATLY appreciated. The following are a few:

- Toilet paper rolls – this is for a gift to be handed out by Santa. Please save/bring yours to Donna. The last day to bring these will be November 22<sup>nd</sup>. I would like to have about 200.
- Hot chocolate mix, canister size, not packets.
- Coffee, creamer, etc – would like to not deplete all the kitchen supply without replacing it.
- Craft items – I have some supplies if anyone needs things or can put together small kits of things to assemble. These items would need to be delivered by Nov 29th
- Baked goods – please coordinate this with Donna. I can also have cookie dough made if anyone would be able to just bake. These items would need to be delivered by Dec 6<sup>th</sup> or during that week.

Communication will be frequent during the planning stages and closer to the event I will be confirming all available assistance.

We are looking forward to a wonderful experience!

For any additions questions please contact Donna Greenwalt 623-363-2970

## Look Fear in the Face

“You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every great experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, ‘I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.’ You must do the thing you think you cannot do.”

The next time you find your courage tested to the limit, remember that you are probably stronger than you think. Remember that with you, your friends, your family and your God all working together, you have nothing to fear.

## Birthday Celebration for Merilee DuFault

Open invitation to attend Merilee DuFault's 60th birthday party.

Saturday 24 October at Thunderbird West church, 4-8 pm

Enjoy a light meal, picture slide show, visiting with her family, church friends and clients

Music and dancing optional

Formal or casual dress...no gifts...no cash

MUST return an in attendance post card ask Merilee for one

## Quadruple Bypass Surgery for Don Stockton

Prior to surgery, Don told the staff that he wanted to go golfing. His surgery went well. He went into surgery around nine in the morning and Betty and her daughter were able to see him around 2:00 p.m. He was still in recovery, and resting comfortably. Betty had lots of support and people with her. After the surgery the doctor's report was very encouraging.

Don transferred to Rehab on the twelfth of August where he is doing very well.

The Thunderbird West Congregation is anxious for Betty and Don to return to the Valley for a visit and is sending good thoughts and prayers their way.



## Take my Son

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art.

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands.

He said, 'Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly... He often talked about you, and your love for art.' The young man held out this package. 'I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this.'

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. 'Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift.'

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and

On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. 'We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?'

There was silence... Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, 'We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one.' But the auctioneer persisted. 'Will somebody bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?'

Another voice angrily 'We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Gogh's, the Rembrandts. Get on with the Real bids!'

But still the auctioneer continued. 'The son! The son! Who'll take the son?'

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. 'I'll give \$10 for the painting...' Being a poor man, it was all he could afford.

'We have \$10, who will bid \$20?'

'Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters.'

The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections.

The auctioneer pounded the gavel. 'Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10.00'

A man sitting on the second row shouted, 'Now let's get on with the collection!' 'What about the paintings?'

'I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will... I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings.

The man who took the son gets everything!'

God gave His son 2,000 years ago to die on the cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is: 'The son, the son, who'll take the son?'

Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything.

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, WHO SO EVER BELIEVETH, SHALL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE...THAT'S LOVE

God Bless

## **Arizona Mission Center Life in the Desert**

It intrigues me how we humans can adapt to our environment. Moving to Arizona—and specifically the Sonoran desert—has opened my eyes to all kinds of things. Everything is different from where I have lived before. The trees, the flowering bushes, even the birds are different. My cooking has changed. I find myself including chilies in almost everything. There is a peace that comes in rising early and walking in the desert—the coolness of the morning quickly gives way to the sun and the heat. It is no wonder that monks in the third century in Egypt moved to the desert (becoming known as “Desert Fathers”) to focus on their discipleship formation. They were imitating Jesus’ fasting in the desert as a way of more closely focusing on God and away from those distractions of earthly life. With so many people living around me in my desert experience, it is in community that my discipleship is expressed. My sense is that my desert neighbors are looking for community not isolation. My hope is that I might be a living and witnessing example of that community, a community we call Zion, and that I can share the peace of Jesus Christ wherever I am. Oh yes, and not be distracted.

Grace and peace, Mike Hoffman *Mission Center President*

### ***Women’s Retreat Set for Later This Month***

Think of it . . . no driving kids anywhere, no cooking, and chocolate! The annual women’s retreat will be September 18-20 at Whispering Pines Campgrounds. The weekend includes scripture study, free time, yoga for weight loss (bring a towel or mat), Crazy BINGO (bring a few wrapped elephant gifts for this). The cost is \$60. E-mail Andy Cole with questions and to register at [wadcole1@cox.net](mailto:wadcole1@cox.net).

### ***Register to Serve as Conference Delegate***

We have been notified by Faye Cooper, World Church Recorder, that we will have 32 delegates and 32 alternate assigned to the Arizona Mission Center for World Conference. If you would like be considered for serving as a delegate, please submit your name to Mike Hoffman, Mission Center President. Delegates will be elected at the Mission Center conference, November 14, at Thunderbird West congregation.

### ***Enduring Principles Series Begins***

The *Enduring Principles Commentary Series* began in August in the Herald and e-Herald. The *Enduring Principles* are at the heart of how we express ourselves. When they become the descriptors of our behaviors—rather than mere ideals—we truly will become the Community of Christ God is calling us to be. Check out the first of the articles in the series: “Trinity: God Is Love,” by Don Compier, and “Grace and Generosity,” by David Brock. These materials are also available at <http://www.cofchrist.org/enduringprinciples/>. These would make great study materials for individuals, small groups, or church school classes.

To have mission centered wide news or announcements included in this bulletin, please submit them to Mike Hoffman, at [mhoffman@cofchrist.org](mailto:mhoffman@cofchrist.org).

## **World Conference Convenes April 2010**

You are invited to World Conference, April 10-17, 2010. The “We Share” theme will focus us on what we share with one another as members and participants in Community of Christ and our call and commitment to share our witness, ministries, sacraments, resources, and message with the world. We will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the 1860 conference, where Joseph Smith III accepted his prophetic calling, and explore guidance from the First Presidency regarding conditions of membership. Join in that discernment process now using resources at [www.CofChrist.org/CofM](http://www.CofChrist.org/CofM). Come to International Headquarters to participate in worship, discernment, and decisions for our future. Watch [www.CofChrist.org/wc2010](http://www.CofChrist.org/wc2010) for more.

## **Peace Colloquy Explores Women’s Issues**

The Peace Colloquy will take place October 23–25, at the Temple in Independence, Missouri. Keynotes and workshops will focus on “Justice for Women, Dignity for All,” worldwide women’s issues. Contact Jeanette Hicks at [jhicks@CofChrist.org](mailto:jhicks@CofChrist.org) or ext. 2224 with questions. The 2009 Peace Colloquy will include a youth retreat, children’s programs, a day of prayer and workshops. More details are available at [www.cofchrist.org/peacecolloquy/2009](http://www.cofchrist.org/peacecolloquy/2009). Darfur native and peace advocate Halima Bashir, M.D., will be honored with the Community of Christ International Peace Award. The ceremony will open the Peace Colloquy at 7:30 p.m. October 23. This event is free and open to all. Join us at the Temple or via live webcast. Read an Andrew Bolton’s interview with Halima in the September *Herald*.

*The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD is the maker of them all. Those who are generous are blessed, or they share their bread with the poor. —Proverbs 22:2, 9 NRSV*

## **CALENDAR**

### **September**

6 Theme: All Are Made by God, World Hunger Emphasis Day  
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Mark 7:24-37  
7 Labor Day – Church Offices Closed  
13 Theme: Lose Your Life for Jesus; Mark 8:27-38  
Youth Commission Meeting, Noon, at Phoenix Central  
18-20 Women’s Retreat at Whispering Pines  
20 Theme: Plant Peace, Heritage Day; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a  
27 Theme: Speak Boldly; Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

### **October**

4 Theme: Receive the Kingdom; Mark 10:2-16  
9-10 Graceland University Homecoming  
11 Theme: Let God Be Your Ruler; Hebrews 4:12-16,  
Mark 10:17-31  
17 Mission Center Council Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Phoenix Central  
18 Theme: Become a Servant, Children’s Sabbath  
Mark 10:35-45  
23-25 Peace Colloquy at the Temple, Independence, MO  
25 Theme: What Do You Want? Mark 10:46-52  
31 High Priest Class at Tucson

### **Arizona Mission Center**

#### **Leadership Contacts**

Dale Luffman, Apostle, West Central Field  
800.825.2806. ext. 3028;  
[dluffman@cofchrist.org](mailto:dluffman@cofchrist.org)

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Mike Hoffman, Mission Center President  
502.303.8808 (new number coming  
soon); [mhoffman@cofchrist.org](mailto:mhoffman@cofchrist.org)

Diana Hansen, Mission Center Financial  
Officer  
520.991.4708;  
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Don Welch, Church Planter/New Vision  
480.200.6560; [dwelch@cofchrist.org](mailto:dwelch@cofchrist.org)

**September & October Schedules for Sunday Morning Worship**

**September**

**6 - "All Are Made by God"**

**Communion Service**

Plan/Preside	Bob & Ruth Anderson
Speaker	Sharon Davids
Pianist	Ruth Anderson
Acting Deacon	Judy Bradish
PA	Tom Bradish
Greeters	Phil & Mary Dachenhausen
Hall Monitor	Brenda Jones

**13 - "Live Your Life for Jesus"**

Plan/Preside	Phil & Mary Dachenhausen
Speaker	Diane Sloan
Pianist	Brenda Jones
Acting Deacon	Kyle Brittan
PA	Eldora Engebretson
Greeters	David Elrod
Hall Monitor	Leonard Speer

**Jr. Church**

**20 - "Heritage Day"**

Plan/Preside	Ruth Anderson/Carrol McCans/ Dan Edwards
Speaker	Testimonies
Pianist	Ruth Anderson
Acting Deacon	Ken & Awilda Thomas
PA	Kyle Brittan
Greeters	Chuck & Connie Denton
Hall Monitor	Judi Walton

**27 - "Proclaim the Message"**

Plan/Preside	Diane Sloan
Speaker	Lee Swick
Pianist	Heather Featherstone
Acting Deacon	Merilee DuFault
PA	Vicki Alexander
Greeter	Carrol McCans
Hall Monitor	Larry or Beth Richardson

**Schedulers**

Worship	Madelyn Edwards & Wanda Ingram
Music	Heather Featherstone
Deacons & PA	Eldora Engebretson
Greeters	Irene Clark
Hall Monitor	Judi Walton

**October**

**4 - "Receive the Kingdom"**

**Communion Service**

Plan/Preside	Dan Edwards
Speaker	Dena Perrine
Pianist	Brenda Jones
Acting Deacon	Vicki Alexander
PA	Eldora Engebretson
Greeters	Bill & Caryl Williams
Hall Monitor	Audrey Birks

**11 - "Let God Be Your Guide"**

Plan/Preside	Mike Alexander
Speaker	Mike Hoffman
Pianist	Heather Featherstone
Acting Deacon	Merilee DuFault
PA	Kyle Brittan
Greeters	Jim & Sarah Walsh
Hall Monitor	Sarah Walsh

**Jr. Church**

**Potluck after Worship Service & Congregational Business Meeting**

**18 - "Become a Servant"**

Plan/Preside	Wanda Ingram
Speaker	Scott Sloan
Pianist	Mark Bradish/Genie Perigo
Acting Deacon	Judy Bradish
PA	Tom Bradish
Greeters	Leonard & Eilene Speers
Hall Monitor	Carrol McCans

**25 - "What Does the Lord Require?"**

Plan/Preside	John and Judi Walton
Speaker	Mike Alexander
Pianist	Wanda Ingram
Acting Deacon	Vicki Alexander
PA	Eldora Engebretson
Greeters	Dan & Madelyn Edwards
Hall Monitor	Lloyd or Leila Bierer

**Junior Church is the 2nd Sunday of each month**

**Abbreviations**

TBA	To Be Announced
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**Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is that little voice at the end of the day that says: "I'll try again tomorrow."**

Anne Humminghake

### Bixby Salad

1	8 oz.	Cream cheese
1	cup	mayo or salad dressing
1	cup	chopped nuts
4 or 5	stalks	celery (chopped fine)
1	cup	canned milk
1	#2 can	crushed pineapple (drained)
1 large or 2 small pkg.		lemon Jell-o dissolved in 1-cup boiling water

**Mixing:**

Soften cream cheese and mix well all ingredients except Jell-o. (Stir like cake)

Dissolve Jell-o and mix in well (sets fast)

Pour into 8x8 pan and refrigerate.

Cut in squares



Community of Christ

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