



# Thunderbird West Congregational News

Paris & Heather Featherstone



Many people in the congregation do not know Paris; he is our congregation's silent behind the scenes miracle worker. We appreciate the support he gives to Heather in her ministry and works in the church.

When we wanted a website for Thunderbird West Congregation Heather and Paris were quick to respond. Paris not only created the website he also taught Vicki Alexander & Eldora Engebretson how to update the site. His patience in teaching us to work with the website were wonderful.

Paris has attended some of our small group gatherings and has gotten to know some of our members. He has a great sense of humor.

When Diane Sloane wanted to use several U Tube video shorts in a service Paris and Heather were able to quickly change the format so that they could run on any computer. They did in five minutes what Diane and Scott had worked on for several hours. It is these behind the scene gifts that so many are unaware have been done by the Featherstones that make many of our services very special.

They both have a love of music that has added much to our services too. Heather's work with the choir, playing piano and scheduling the pianists is also appreciated.

Thank you both for being a part of our congregation.

## Pastor's Corner

As your pastor for 2009, I have tried to understand more deeply how pastoral care ministry can make a difference in our lives - what it is in our relationships that make a difference in your life. While talking with many of our members about how we are fulfilling our mission, a common theme that surfaces is the strength of friendship and the compassionate caring they have experienced. The Thunderbird West Congregation is doing a good job of fulfilling the promise we made to each other that someone will be calling or visiting its members on an ongoing basis. It's important that we do this because many have told me that knowing they are a part of a supportive religious community makes them feel better and encourages them to be more involved in the support of the congregation.

We have a busy fall season planned. There are many opportunities available for you to help share in and support the activities of our congregation. I would like to thank all of you who have worked so hard to make the worship services so enjoyable. These worship experiences are why we come to church on Sunday and why we want to keep coming back.

Dulcy has started a class to help us understand the conditions of church membership that will be considered at World Conference next spring. It is important that as many of us as possible attend this class. The Mission Center Fall Conference will be held at Thunderbird West on Saturday, November 14. We have a congregational budget meeting scheduled for Sunday November 22. The Live Nativity will take place on Saturday, December 12 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed. The Village Voices will be with us on Sunday, December 13 after the worship service and potluck. Again this year, on December 20 after the Worship Service, the youth are having their soup and pie fundraiser.

Yes, it's going to be a fun and busy fall season at Thunderbird West. For me, the only true expression of the church on earth is found in the life of the local congregation. The closeness of our church family provides the opportunity for the most fulfilling experience we can have as Christians. We not only can use the gifts we have been given, we can become gifts for each other. It's possible to help each other eliminate those characteristics of our human nature that separate us from each other and from God while our Christian love for each other will continue to grow. I hope and pray that all of you have a happy holiday season.

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**  
623-975-2924

#### 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

## Pastoral Care Note

This Summer I did one class session on resources for seniors. I went over resources to help with financial concerns when a loved one needs more care and their resources are limited to provide that care. I went over the Government Medicaid program (ALTCS) an Arizona program and the Veterans assistance programs to help vets and widows of veterans who need help at home or have a very low income. I discussed Senior Hud housing, assisted living, small group homes and large senior retirement communities with nursing home options too. You will find a resource book put out buy the Area Agency on Aging on the glass table in the social hall, please fill free to take one. I can bring in more if needed. I put many resources on the bulletin board in the social hall too. Please feel free to call me anytime if you have any question I might not have the answer directly myself but I can get an answer for you or direct you where to call. As a social worker at Glencroft Care Center it would be my pleasure if you would utilize my experience to benefit our seniors at Thunderbird West.

Diane Sloan

## Community Outreach

Watch for Muriel's sign-up sheets in November to volunteer to help man the Salvation Army's Angel Christmas Tree, which is held annually in November/December at Arrowhead Shopping Center. Our congregation will be responsible for a designated number of days (hours) in late November and early December. This has proven to be a very receptive project, supported generously by the shopping public at the mall.

You are also asked to watch for information re. bringing frozen turkeys to church prior to Thanksgiving Day, to benefit the many needy families who rely on organizations such as the Valley View Community Food Bank, in Youngtown, AZ, for food supplements. Judging by our current economic situation, there will be a greater need for turkeys, etc. Bob Ballew will be responsible for making sure there will be in sufficient large cooler boxes at the church, in which the frozen birds will be transported.

Please continue to sign up on the sheets in the foyer to designate which activities, etc. you are willing to help with. The Live Christmas Nativity to be held outside the Thunderbird West Church building in December. Donna Greenwalt and Scott Sloan are heading up this Christmas activity which will be a great community outreach endeavor.

The annual Halloween Rest Stop was held October 31st which provided a resting place for children and parents to stop by for refreshments, candy, a picture taken, and use of our restroom facilities. This was introduced to our congregation by Clyde and Lee Swick as a good Outreach endeavor, several years ago. Carla & Kyle Brittan, thank you for your help, including the donated homemade cookies, candy, and juice, etc.

Eilene Speer & Muriel Talcott,  
Community Outreach Commissioners

## ARIZONA SCHOOL CHOICE TRUST

By Dan Edwards

As some of you know, I became a board member of the Arizona School Choice Trust (ASCT) in early 2009. ASCT was founded in 1993 with a mission to provide hope and opportunity for low income families by awarding scholarships to enable their children to attend private elementary and secondary schools (K-12) throughout the state of Arizona.

This year we awarded more than 1,200 scholarships to children who qualify for the free and reduced school lunch program to attend private schools throughout the state. Aside from helping kids from low income families receive a high quality education; for contributors who pay Arizona state income taxes, all donations are 100% cost free up to \$500 for individual filers and \$1,000 for joint filers through Arizona's dollar-for-dollar tax credit. You don't even have to itemize your tax return, and there are no complicated forms to fill out.

Not only are the children from low income Arizona families, who primarily come from failing schools, given the opportunity to receive a superior private education; the state saves an average of \$9,707 per child by no longer having them in public schools for giving up an average of \$4,000 in income tax credits.

It is important to note that ASCT is not affiliated with any religious organization. It is open to all children of limited financial means to attend any private school their families choose, whether secular or religious.

There is currently a long waiting list of students who we were not able to grant scholarships. Your gift will help children from low income families obtain quality private educations.

I will place brochures and contribution forms on the glass bookshelf across from the kitchen at the church. I would also be happy to talk to anyone about ASCT.



Dan Edwards



Arizona School Choice Trust Board Members

## What do these words have in Common?

See if you can figure out what these words have in common.

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 1 Banana  | 5 Revive |
| 2 Dresser | 6 Uneven |
| 3 Grammar | 7 Assess |
| 4 Potato  |          |

Are you peeking or have you already given up?

Give it another try. Look at each word carefully. Answer on page 9

## 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

## From the Mouth of Babes

While I sat in the reception area of my doctor's office, a woman rolled an elderly man in a wheelchair into the room. As she went to the receptionist's desk, the man sat there, alone and silent. Just as I was thinking I should make small talk with him, a little boy slipped off his mother's lap and walked over to the wheelchair. Placing his hand on the man's, he said, 'I know how you feel. My mom makes me ride in the stroller too.'

# LIVE NATIVITY

**Free**

**Free**

Community of Christ  
5035 W Paradise Lane  
Glendale, AZ  
December 12, 2009  
5pm—8pm



Hot  
Chocolate  
Coffee  
Hot cider

Donkey  
Rides

Santa and Mrs. Claus  
With Elves!!  
Pictures with Santa

Carolers  
Traditional and  
Contemporary Christmas  
Music

Raffles  
4 wall hangings  
Funds will be donated  
to  
Outreach International  
Youth camps and Spec  
Audio/visual fund  
Attendance not required

Craft and bake sale  
funds are used to  
support the youth  
program.

Canned food donation box  
to support  
Valley View Community  
Food bank

Attendance is not required

**DONNA GREENWALT: 623-363-2970**

**DATE: 11/15/09**

# Poster making day

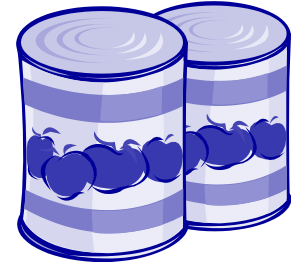
***Calling all Colorers!***

**Posters need to be made for  
Dec 12, 2009**

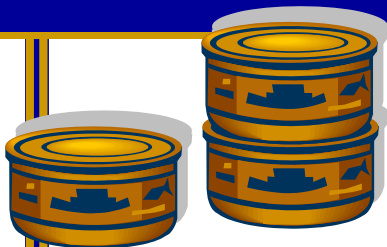
**If you would like to participate  
please call Donna or just show up.  
There are several that need to be  
done to help direct our community  
guests to the various activities for  
this event.**

**Location - fellowship hall**

**TIME: 12:30/LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**



# Canned Food Drive



**After church services the youth will be going around the neighborhood collecting canned goods for the Valley View Community Food bank and handing out flyers for the live nativity, Dec 12th. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome to join us.**



## What do these words have in Common?

### Answer:

*In all of the words listed, if you take the first letter, place it at the end of the word, and then spell the word backwards, it will be the same word.*

Question on page 5

## Editors Note



This year's Veterans Day Service honors not only our veterans, but the family and friends of those who serve.

In honor of our veterans I wanted to share the following information. Many of our Veterans do not realize they now have the privilege of saluting even when they are not in uniform.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) today praised the passage by unanimous consent of his bill (S.1877) clarifying U.S. law to allow veterans and servicemen not in uniform to salute the flag. Current law (US Code Title 4, Chapter 1) states that veterans and servicemen not in uniform should place their hand over their heart without clarifying whether they can or should salute the flag. "The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service," Senator Inhofe said.

"Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform." Unfortunately, current U.S. law leaves confusion as to whether veterans and service members out of uniform can or should salute the flag. My legislation will clarify this regulation, allowing veterans and servicemen alike to salute the flag, whether they are in uniform or not.

"I look forward to seeing those who have served saluting proudly at baseball games, parades, and formal events. I believe this is an appropriate way to honor and recognize the 25 million veterans in the United States who have served in the military and remain as role models to others citizens. Those who are currently serving or have served in the military have earned this right, and their recognition will be an inspiration to others."

This Bill was passed 25 July 2007.

God bless America  
Eldora Engebretson

## All in a Day's Work

Just before I was deployed to Iraq, I sat my eight-year-old son down and broke the news to him. 'I'm going to be away for a long time,' I told him. 'I'm going to Iraq.' 'Why?' he asked. 'Don't you know there's a war going on over there?'

## **Bible and the Old Wicker Coal Basket**

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him in any way he could.

One day the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?" The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this old wicker coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again. This time the boy ran faster, but again the old wicker basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was "impossible to carry water in a basket," and he went to get a bucket instead. The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!"

"So you think it is useless?" The old man said, "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old wicker coal basket, it was clean. "Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."

That is the work of God in our lives - to change us from the inside out and to slowly transform us into the image of His son. Moral of the wicker basket story: Take time to read a portion of God's word each day; it will affect you for good even if you don't retain a word.

## **Welcome Archie & Betty Nunn.**

Betty and Archie recently moved from Montana to Sun City. They attended TBW for the first time on 11 Oct where they attended the Worship Service as well at the Congregational Business Meeting. Beth and Larry Richardson have known the Nunns for many years..

Betty holds the office of Deacon. Archie is a Superannuated High Priest.

We are really pleased to have them make Thunderbird West their home congregation.

Welcome, Betty & Archie!

## **SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING?**

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right.

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

**Arizona Mission Center Weekly Update, October 14, 2009**  
**From Mike Hoffman**

*You are called to create pathways in the world for peace in Christ to be relationally and culturally incarnate. The hope of Zion is realized when the vision of Christ is embodied in communities of generosity, justice, and peacefulness. Above all else, strive to be faithful to Christ's vision of the peaceable Kingdom of God on earth. Courageously challenge cultural, political, and religious trends that are contrary to the reconciling and restoring purposes of God. Pursue peace. —Doctrine & Covenants 162:3a-b, from the Prayer for Peace*

**Greetings!**

This week, we continue to look at the Enduring Principles, specifically the Worth of All Persons. This can be a challenging concept. There is so much prejudice and hatred in our world. We must examine our own lives and become more aware of our own shortcomings.

The area I live in has a contractor do the landscaping and maintenance. The people work hard physically. I try to acknowledge them when I see them working. Of the dozen or so workers I've come across, all but one has been a different race than me. I wonder sometimes if others don't see them. I try to say hi or at least smile at them — to make sure they know I see them. I also try to greet each young person or child. Sometimes I think they look like they don't want to be spoken to, but in most cases I at least smile and nod. It depends on their age.

While these efforts are important and might seem small, there are bigger ways to make a difference in recognizing the worth of all persons. At Mission Center conference and World Conference we will consider legislation to allow ministers in the Community of Christ to conduct marriage ceremonies for our brothers and sisters who are gay and lesbian in states and nations where it is legal. One resolution will have us consider the ordination of our brothers and sisters who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered. While these discussions might be difficult for some, it is important that we have them and consider what it means when we say that one of our enduring principles is the "Worth of All Persons." First and foremost, people who are different from us *are people*. They are someone's brother, sister, aunt, uncle, mother, father, cousin or friend. We must work toward not putting people in boxes, not placing labels on them. The peace of Jesus Christ calls us to work on behalf of all those who are marginalized. We must work at seeing them as God sees them.

Thanks to the Thunderbird West congregation for last weekend's warm welcome. This coming weekend Nancy and I will be sharing the Show Low congregation.

**Announcements**

The Mission Center Council (Pastors and CFOs) will meet beginning at 10 a.m., this Saturday, October 17. The council has several items on the agenda including review of the 2010 proposed budget, a review of proposed legislation for World Conference, and a workshop on "Zero-Based Budget" that ties mission to money. The meeting will be over by 4 p.m. Contact Mike Hoffman or Diana Hansen for more information.

Mission Center Conference will be at 10 a.m., Saturday, November 14, at the Thunderbird West congregation. The address is 5035 West Paradise Lane, Glendale. The theme will be "Discern and Pursue," based on Doctrine and Covenants 163:11a-b. The conference will include a lunch provided by the youth of the mission center as a fund raiser for Spectacular and a meeting of the Aaronic Ministers (over lunch). The agenda will include sustaining of leadership, teams, and boards, receiving reports, consideration of the 2010 budget, and

consideration of the proposed legislation G-1 through G-5 as passed by the Thunderbird West congregation. We would ask for your prayerful preparation and discernment for the conference between now and November 14, if you do not plan on attending.

Oblation Aid Supports Relief in the Philippines. Find out how your generosity helps others around the world.

Check out the Community of Christ young adult news.

## The Fall Youth Retreat

Noon, October 24 through Noon, October 25 at the Phoenix Central congregation.

### What is it?

A youth retreat designed for youth in 4th through 12th grade. It's a follow up from the youth camping season. Youth will come together in their appropriate age groups and learn about peace, have some fun, and enjoy a campfire at night.

### Where is it?

It is to be held at the Phoenix Central Congregation of the Community of Christ. 4224 N Indian School Rd., Phoenix, AZ

### When is it?

Youth can come and go as needed according to their schedules, but it begins at noon on October 24 and ends at noon on October 25. Yes, it's an overnighner.

### What to Bring?

Since it's an overnighner, youth are to bring a change of clothes and toiletries. They also need a sleeping bag. And they need to bring \$10 for meals.

Contact:

Don Welch with questions: 480-200-6560 or [dwelch@cofchrist.org](mailto:dwelch@cofchrist.org)

## Mission Center Calendar

### November

- 7-8 Ken & Sue McLaughlin at Phoenix Central
- 14 Mission Center Conference  
10 a.m. at Thunderbird West

### **AZ Mission Center Contacts**

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

Dave Nii, Apostolic Assistant  
West Central Field  
303.870.2589; [dnii@cofchrist.org](mailto:dnii@cofchrist.org)

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;  
[diana@thetucsonhansens.com](mailto:diana@thetucsonhansens.com)

**November & December Schedule**

**Nov**

**1 - " Love God, Love Neighbor, Love Self"  
Communion Service**

P/P	Lee Swick
Speaker	Lois Nelson
Pianist	Heather Featherstone
Acting Deacon	Eldora Engebretson
PA	Vicki Alexander
Greeters	Bob & Edie Ballew
Hall Monitor	Dulcy Silverthorn

**8 - " Give Your All"**

P/P	Vicki Alexander, Madelyn Edwards, Eldora Engebretson
Speaker	Veterans Day Program
Pianist	Ruth Anderson
Acting Deacon	Bob Anderson
PA	Tom Bradish
Greeters	Ron & Bonnie League
Hall Monitor	Judi Walton
<b>Jr. Church</b>	None

**14 Mission Center Conference TBW**

**15 - " The Power of Love"**

P/P	Jared Ingram
Speaker	John Walton
Pianist	Brenda Jones
Acting Deacon	Ken & Awilda Thomas
PA	Kyle Brittan
Greeters	Chuck & Joan Lundeen
Hall Monitor	Bonnie League

**22 - "A Time of Thanksgiving"**

P/P	Dan & Madelyn Edwards
Speaker	Thanksgiving Service
Pianist	Ruth Anderson
Acting Deacon	Betty Nunn
PA	Kyle Brittan
Greeter	Ken & Awilda Thomas
Hall Monitor	Dennis or Lois Nelson

**29 - "Redemption Is Near" (Love)**

P/P	Chuck Lundeen
Speaker	Bob Ballew
Pianist	Ann KennedyClark
Acting Deacon	Merilee DuFault
PA	Kyle Brittan
Greeter	Jim Rasmussen
Hall Monitor	Judy Bradish

**Dec**

**6- "Prepare the Way (Hope)"  
Communion Service**

P/P	Heather Featherstone & Beth Richardson
Speaker	Chuck Lundeen
Pianist	Wanda Ingram
Acting Deacon	Judy Bradish
PA	Tom Bradish
Greeters	Clyde & Lee Swick
Hall Monitor	Leonard Speer

**12 - Youth Activity – All Day Saturday**

**13 - "Proclaim the Good News"**

P/P	Mike Alexander
Speaker	Gene Hummel
Pianist	Heather Featherstone
Acting Deacon	Vicki Alexander
PA	Eldora Engebretson
Greeters	Sigurd & Alyce Wingard
Hall Monitor	Ronald League
<b>Jr. Church</b>	Kyle & Carla Brittan

**20 - "The Lord's Word is Fulfilled" (Peace)"**

P/P	Wanda Ingram & Heather Featherstone
Speaker	Christmas Program
Pianist	Mark Bradish
Acting Deacon	Judy Bradish
PA	Tom Bradish
Greeters	Betty Sanderson
Hall Monitor	Betty Sanderson

**Soup & Pie Event by Youth**

**27 - "All Who Heard Were Amazed"**

P/P	Howard Baldwin
Speaker	Dulcy Silverthorn
Pianist	Heather Featherstone
Acting Deacon	Kyle Brittan
PA	Eldora Engebretson
Greeters	Muriel Talcott
Hall Monitor	Ann KennedyClark

**Schedulers**

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

**Abbreviations**

P/P	Planner/Presider
TBA	To Be Announced

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



## Sweet Potato Casserole

### Potato Mixture:

- 3 large eggs
- 5 lbs fresh sweet potatoes or yams, boiled, drained, peeled, mashed (6 cups)
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2/3 cup melted butter or margarine
- 1/3 cup heavy cream
- 1 tsp. Vanilla
- 1/2 tsp. Ground nutmeg and allspice

### Topping:

- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1/3 cup flour
- 1 cup finely chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1/3 cup margarine cut in small pieces

Heat oven to 350°. Grease shallow 2 quart baking dish.

### Potato Mixture:

Beat eggs in large bowl, stir in potatoes until blended. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well. Spread evenly in baking dish.

### Topping:

Mix sugar, flour and nuts. Work in butter until well blended. Sprinkle over potato mixture. Bake 1 hour until topping is brown and bubbling.



Thunderbird West  
5035 West Paradise Ln  
Glendale, Arizona 85306