

Please Mark Your Calendars

Women's Advent Brunch
Saturday, November 21, 2009
Fellowship Hall

A new and creative way to present the
Christmas story

Ready To Give A Helping Hand?

We meet in the Social Hall on the
third Wednesday of each month.
The meetings start at 9:00 a.m.
and end around 11:30 a.m. We
enjoy fellowship while we make
quilt squares and the quilts. No
sewing skills are needed. Everyone
is welcome to share our fellowship,
help with quilts and enjoy
goodies. Our next meeting will be
Wednesday, October 21st and again
on Wednesday, November 18th. We
hope to see you there.

The next *Channel* deadline will be
Friday, October 9th at 12:00 p.m.

Please e-mail your articles to:
ben@christchurchumtucson.org

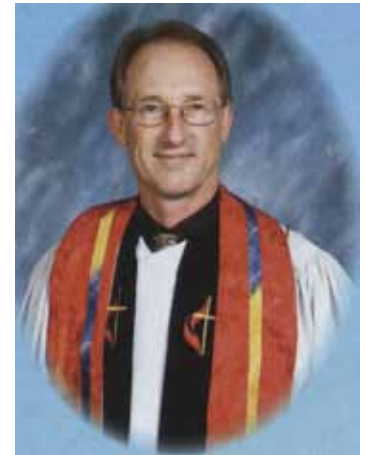
The *Channel* is available online!

Should you wish to save the church
some money and also save paper, please
e-mail Ben to receive the *Channel* via
e-mail.

Pastor's Pen

Pastor's Pen,

Fall is officially here and the changes have begun. Ben Hill is soon on his way to Colorado where they really do have seasons and Valerie Hammons is stepping into his shoes. Valerie's training begins this week. In Methodism here in Arizona, it means that it is almost time for our annual stewardship program, budget setting, nominations and (almost too soon to think about) our Church Conference. We arrive breathlessly at Christmas and slide into the New Year. It is hard to think about all that when its still 94* outside and might top 98* over the weekend but it is all coming and we are getting ready for it.



As we are saying "Hello" to the Fall, we are also saying goodbye to some long time supporters of our church. Two Saturdays ago we did a Memorial service for Bill Lersch and this past weekend we said goodbye to Lillian Deo and Bo Venaas. If I don't go in my sleep, I would like to go the way Bo did. According to those who were with him, he left this earth with a smile on his face saying, "Boy, O Boy, O Boy!". He saw his reward on the other side. Jesus was waiting for him.

The Bible teaches, that for believers, when we die we close our eyes in this world and immediately wake up on the other side. We go from here to the very presence of Christ. (Hebrews 9:27-28) This scripture says, "We die once and then there is the judgment." For believers that judgment is "Well done good and faithful servant." Some like Bo seem to go over conscious and what gift his going has been for all of us. He saw, and sees now, what we only see through the eyes of faith and Bo let us know the joy of what he saw.

On Wednesday nights I teach a class called "Heaven, Better By Far". It was written by a United Methodist pastor who has a Doctorate in New Testament studies. I am working off what many would call his teaching notes, so when I need to, I call him up in Ohio and ask him what he meant. He is often out with his chickens (yes, in his retirement he raises chickens just like the recent "America's Got Talent" winner), but he comes to the phone and I get a graduate seminar in New Testament theology of life after death. That is what the class is about. Eventually we will look at the end times. We still have room for you if you, would like to come down. Dinner is at six with the classes starting at 6:30pm. (And Pastor Ernie has room in his class too!)

I look forward to seeing you Sunday as we celebrate the One who gives us life and gives us life eternally.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Fred

Recently we received a bequest for the upkeep of our Memorial Garden. It was over \$21,000.00. When we receive bequests designated for a certain ministry or area, we are bound to keep them for that purpose. This gift will allow for the upkeep of the Memorial Garden for years to come. When planning your will remember your church for your gift will keep on giving for years after you are gone.

Family News

Sunday School SCHEDULE

October 11th - Children's Sabbath. (NO Sunday school or children's church). Family/Kid friendly services

October 24th - Setup for Halloween/Fall Festival (Volunteers needed)

October 25th - Halloween Fall Festival (5:30 - 7:00)

December 13th - Children's Pageant

December 19th - A Night in Bethlehem

CCUM Stimulus Package

November 7th 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

In the Fellowship Hall

We have begun collecting gently used clothing and children's toys and books. We are accepting items from newborns to adults (professional wear). We will accept items that are gently used---clothing you would be happy to have your children wear. Duffy School principal, Mr. Overstreet and Duffy's school representative, Becky Glad, are very excited about Duffy participating in this project to help families in this time of financial stress. They will be collecting items at Duffy school. Janice Redding, Director of CCUM Pre-school, will invite preschool families to participate and will have a container in the pre-school office for items. We have 3 containers in the Resource Room where items can be placed for pick up. Please start going through your closets and see if you have something to contribute. Invite your friends and neighbors to participate. Everyone is invited to come and take what they can use on Saturday, November 7th 9a.m.-12:00. You do not have to give in order to choose items at the Boutique. Everything is FREE. If you would like to help with sorting, mending, laundering, etc. please contact Gretchen Lofgren, Betty Clapp, Sally West, Debbie Haddock, Sue Gemoets or Judy Obert. Thank You.



Chili's Gives Back Tuesday's

Members of CCUM can help our church financially when they dine at Chili's on E. Broadway and Rosemont on Tuesday's. Just present your CCUM I.D. card and Chili's will donate 10% of your total bill to the church.

The program started on Tuesday, September 22, 2009. I.D. cards are available at the church office. Once you pick up your card, dine at Chili's on a Tuesday, show your card to the server, and your tab will be marked to indicate that CCUM is to receive a 10% donation. Depending on how many participate, checks will be mailed to the church either once a month or quarterly.

For more information contact Betty Clapp at the office, or Berta Riley, 829-7651 or bertariley@aol.com.

Come and hear beautiful music... CCUM Classic Concert Series

- Sunday, October 25, 2009 Arizona Choir and Symphonic Choir
Bruce Chamberlain & Elizabeth Schauer, Conductors
3:00 in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, November 22, 2009 Thanksgiving Music Presentation
CCUM Chancel Choir and Bell Choir
During the 10:30 service
- Sunday, December 20, 2009 Christmas Music Presentation
CCUM Chancel Choir and Bell Choir
During the 10:30 service
- Sunday, January 31st, 2010 30 Year Anniversary Organ Recital 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary - Janet Tolman,
Organist
- Sunday, February 28, 2010 Tucson Chamber Artists - Eric Holton, Conductor 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary
Presenting: Bach Jesu, Meine Freude and Faure Requiem
\$30 premium, \$20 general, \$10 college students, free for K-12 students
- Wednesday, March 10, 2010 Hymns of America:
Contemporary Settings of Early American Hymns
Jennifer Wortman, Conductor
7:00 pm in the Sanctuary
- Wednesday, May 19, 2010 CCUM Chancel Choir & Palo Verde HS Concert Choir
Catalina Foothills High School Concert Chorale Anthony Bernarducci, Conductor
7:00 in the Sanctuary

CCUM 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH CONCERT SERIES After the 10:30 Service in the Sanctuary

Featured Artist:

OCTOBER 18TH – Leslie Naradickian, Clarinet
NOVEMBER 15TH – Gregory Helseth, Horn

MEET YOUR MUSIC MINISTERS

Director of Music Ministries Anthony Bernarducci

Anthony Bernarducci received his Bachelor of Music Degree from Westminster Choir College in his home state of New Jersey. He served for many years at Our Lady of Consolation Church as a pianist. He served as the Music Director of Pilgrim Covenant Church before moving to Arizona. While working on his master's degree he served at St. Francis De Sales as the Associate Music Director as a pianist and vocalist and as the director of the Youth and Teen Choirs. In 2007 he received his Masters Degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Arizona. After working two years at Sahuaro High School, he has recently been appointed the director of choral music at Catalina Foothills High School as well as the Director of Music Ministries at Christ Church United Methodist. He resides with his wife, Breanna, in Tucson Arizona.



OVERCOMING A BAD HABIT

A new and better habit can overcome a bad habit in three weeks, this according to Dr. Aileen Ludington. We seem to be creatures of habit. For example, habit tells us to always put our shoe on either the right or left foot first. We probably choose what foot to shoe first many years ago. This is a habit, but not a bad one. Let us talk about how we can change a bad habit to a good one.

Dr. Ludington says that the “brain is the headquarters for what goes on in our lives.” Habits are formed when we do the same thing over and over again. It is similar to what happens when, over time, people walk over the lawn in the same place day after day. Eventually a path is worn which is visible for all to see.

This happens in the brain. When we do the same thing over and over again there is a path, or groove formed in the brain. Bad habits never go away so what we must do is to form a good habit that is stronger than the bad one. When we do this, the bad habit no longer controls our action. The good habit takes over.

If you have a bad habit you want to change, remember it will take time and effort to form a new and better habit. Start with only one bad habit at a time.

Every Sunday morning I write a check made out to Christ Church United Methodist. This has become a habit with me so I no longer forget my tithe.

Let me say a word about tithing, or giving ten percent of our gross income. My wife and I are thinking of including the church in our estate. We will have to see our lawyer to have this done. If you would like to include the church in your estate, your lawyer can do this for you.

In closing, I find Psalms 119:11 helps me keep in the right relationship with God. “I have laid up thy word in my heart that I might not sin against thee.” (RSV) Memorizing Scripture is a good habit that works.

Taken From : “Take Charge of your Health” p 119-122

Stephen Ministry Moment

Stephen Ministry of Christ Church will be hosting a one hour presentation on Domestic/Elder Abuse on Monday, October 19, 2009, in the Social Hall at 7:00 p.m. The presentation will be given by Emerge Center against Domestic Abuse.

Please plan on joining us for this most informative presentation. It will last approximately one hour. Juice and cookies will be served following the presentation.

Coming in October!

CCUM Finance Committee and Better Business Bureau are presenting four courses that can help you survive and thrive in this economy.

Wednesday, October 7, 2009 - 6:30pm - ***How to Balance your Checkbook***

Wednesday, October 14, 2009 - 6:30pm - ***How to be a Smart Consumer***

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 - 6:30pm - ***How to Handle Debt***

Wednesday, October 28, 2009 - 6:30pm - ***How to Buy a Car***

These courses are 1 to 1.5 hours long and open to the community so get the word out to your friends, neighbors and anyone else that needs a little financial guidance. This coincides with the Wednesday night bible study so a meal & child care will be offered. More information on each course will be coming your way.

Happy Birthday To All Of Our Members
Celebrating Their Birthday From
October 6th - October 20th!

Suzanne Cornell
October 6th

Conner Brown
October 7th

Joyce Morris
October 7th

Michael Davis
October 8th

Paden Hall
October 8th

Ryan Wilson
October 9th

Gene Baker
October 9th

Kacey Obert
October 9th

Teddy Burris
October 10th

Ashley Mellgren
October 10th

Judith Crowell
October 10th

Barbara Parkinson
October 12th

Shay Stark-Lane
October 13th

Nathan Syers
October 13th

Sara Jean Byers
October 13th

Hayley Gray
October 14th

Jennifer Livermon
October 17th

Karen Messmore
October 17th

Kalyn Washburn
October 18th

HAPPY 11TH ANNIVERSARY
FOOD FOR LIFE

Many years ago, the Southern Arizona Aids Foundation established "Food for Life" for the purpose of preparing meals, free of charge, to be delivered daily by volunteers to HIV/Aids patients. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church volunteered the use of their kitchen to accomplish this. About 12 years ago, some of our church members, including Bill Polk, Peggy & Karl Pfordte, began to help deliver these meals.

Eleven years ago, in September of 1998, SAAF expanded "Food for Life" by recruiting 13 churches to provide desserts to be delivered along with the meals. With the unanimous approval of Ad Council, CCUM became one of these 13 churches.

We began with 7 bakers covering one week 4 times a year. With each of the 13 churches covering 4 weeks, the full year was covered. Now we have 21 of our 45 bakers & 7 bundlers covering 3 weeks for each of 6 commitment dates, as well as our Christmas gift to our HIV/Aids patients in December.

If you would like to show that you do care & would like to participate in this ministry, please call Peggy Pfordte for more details at 885-3955. At that time, you will be asked how often you would like to bake or bundle. You will not be expected to bake for every commitment date, unless you want to.

Thanks to all who have made these 11 years so successful. May we continue growing for many years to come.

Peggy Pfordte, Coordinator



Dear Friends,

Thank you for the prayers, cards and meals you brought in when I had surgery. I was overwhelmed with the cards and felt your prayers before, during and after surgery. The meals were wonderful and I even got some new recipes! John especially enjoyed the meals brought in so he didn't have to cook!

Special thanks to Sue Gemoets for her article on Holy determination, and to Pastor Fred who came early to pray with us.

I am doing just great and am even back to light exercise.

God is good all the time and all the time, God is good!

~~ **Blessings to you, Jane Neve**

Time has flown and I have not been able to catch up. I'm very remiss in that, I have not thanked all the people who sent cards, called and prayed for me when I had my back surgery, knee replacement and Pneumonia. As I was going into the OR, Pastors Fred and Alicia were there along with my daughter Wendy. I rode into the OR prep room floating on prayers each time. It is amazing to be able to feel the power of prayer in this situation, but I did. As I was healing I could allow the healing to take place as the prayers were covering me with love. I am so thankful to be a member of this caring Church
~~ **Joan Swenson-Hitz**

We are so blessed to have such a loving church family. Thank you for all the cards and phone calls, some of which I did not have the strength to accept. Your prayers have brought both healing and comfort. I am improved and stronger but would appreciate your continuing to remember Jay and I in prayer. ~ **Gratefully, Maylene Wain**

NEW PHOTOS ON DISPLAY

Sharon Stites has a number of new photos now on display in the Chapel. If you would like to have any of them, please take the ones you want and make a donation to the Fine Arts Fund through the church office. All of these photos have been made while Harold and Sharon enjoy "Friday-soff", exploring back roads mostly in Southern Arizona. If you want to know more about any of the places pictured, just ask them (748-7772). Harold and Sharon are not always in agreement about what constitutes a "road"; but there is NO disagreement about the beauty of God's creations in our amazing world!



Accommodation Needed ~ Can You Help??

My parents would like to visit from New York sometime in October and need a place to stay. They are retired and would like to come visit their grandchildren. They need the basics: a room to sleep in and somewhere to cook and eat. They are willing to make financial arrangements with someone directly - They are Shelley and David Seccombe- they can be reached at (212) 989-4451, or by e mail at shelleyseccombe@earthlink.net. Thank You, Claudia Bol

Notes From Your Lay Leader

While reading a devotional book, "Breakfast with God", I found a devotion titled "Lord of the Dance". I will admit I never paid much attention to the hymn "Lord of the Dance". I looked in my old hymn book and it is not there but did find reference to it being in the hymnal dated 1989. The writer, (name not given), tells us that through the Scriptures there are many, many references to dancing. The children of Israel danced after they crossed the Red Sea, King David danced, the father of the prodigal son prepared a feast and danced when his son returned. These are just a few. We have an opportunity to dance each day and celebrate what life has for us. Jesus is Lord of the Dance. I wish I had room to print the entire hymn for you to read but I don't. I'll pick what I believe are some of the key phrases—"I came down from heaven and danced on the earth. At Bethlehem I had my birth. I danced for the fishermanthey came to me and the dance went on." The hymn goes on through the ages and stages of Jesus life. "I am the life that will never ever die...I'll live in you if you'll live in me....I am the Lord of the Dance said he." The last couple of lines state, "And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he." The author closes with these words, "Dancing is one way we can celebrate God in worship and joy. When we start each day with Jesus we are His partner in the dance of life." Do you have your dancing shoes on? Let's dance!!!!

There are so many wonderful events and happenings at our church. I encourage you to attend as many as you can, say yes if someone asks you to do something, be thinking about the upcoming stewardship time we are about to enter—where can you help??? Also, the Lay Leadership committee is starting their search for people to be on committees, work areas and maybe, just maybe, you could be a chairperson this coming year. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to support and be part of our great church.

Prayer shawl and quilt ministry has several shawls and quilts at the moment. If there is someone you know who could use a shawl or quilt, please speak with Pastor Fred, a Stephen Minister or myself and we will make sure that special person receives one, as soon as possible. Thanks to all the gals who so faithfully knit, crochet and sew so that people can feel the prayers that are said for them.

Two important events—one on November 21st—the Women's Advent Brunch—more information coming.

The other event taking place on Saturday, December 5th—the annual Jungle Bell 5K/Run/Walk for Arthritis. We have formed a church team. We will be walking to support Andrew Waugaman, a child, and all adults in our congregation so they can benefit from the many services available to them. More information coming in the next Channel.

Get on your dancing shoes, we've got a lot of dancing to do this Fall season!!!

Peace to each one of you, Sue Gemoets

Please include in your personal prayer time, prayers for the laity and Pastors of the following churches:

St James UMC, Tucson
St John's UMC, Tucson
Iglesia Metodista Unida America Latina, Tucson
Neighboring Faith Community: Faith Lutheran Church

We kindly ask for your prayers for the following military personnel and their families:

Jacob Denovchek, Arnold Cuellar and Patrick Stevens in Afghanistan
Rev. Jaimie DeLeon – Southern Iraq
Ben Finch - Iraq

Rev. Brian Osborn - Sierra Vista
All military personnel worldwide

Happy Birthday To All Of Our Members
Celebrating Their Birthday From
October 6th - October 20th!

Melburne Shimniok
October 19th

Paula Jameson
October 20th

Staff Parish is pleased to announce that Valerie Hammons has been hired as the new Administrative Assistant. We believe she is the right person to carry on the position in the highest quality of service. Please take time to welcome Valerie and also to wish Ben Hill good luck in his new endeavors.

Come Jingle with Us. Please plan on being part of the Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis on Saturday, December 5th. We have a church team: Christ Church UM -- Making Tracks. More info on how to register in the next Channel.



The Entertainment Books Are Here!

They are good now thru November 1st, 2010. This year they are \$30.00 with \$6.00 going to the Entertainment Book emergency fund, which is used by the office staff to give people \$5.00 gas vouchers, bus passes and other emergency requests.

Our Three Gifts 2009

Our Stewardship Program for 2009 is the THREE GIFTS. Our gifts being: Frankincense, Myrrh and Gold. Myrrh, represents the theme of service. As faithful Stewards we are called to give to God what is His but also to share with others.

The Stewardship Committee has chosen to do at least 40 Thanksgiving bags with the following contents for a Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner.

Bags will be available for pick up on Sunday, October 25, 2009, and to be returned on Sunday, November 15th; Pledge Sunday.

MENU/CONTENTS FOR BAG

One or two stuffing packets depending how many in the family

2 Gravy mix packets

5 pound bag of potatoes

Large can of sweet potatoes

2 - 15/16 oz cans of green beans

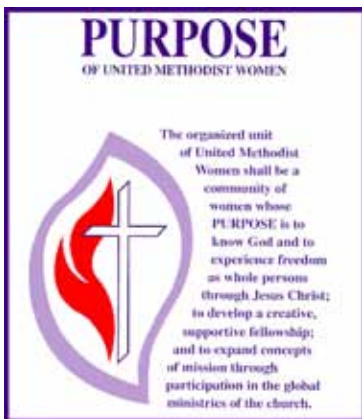
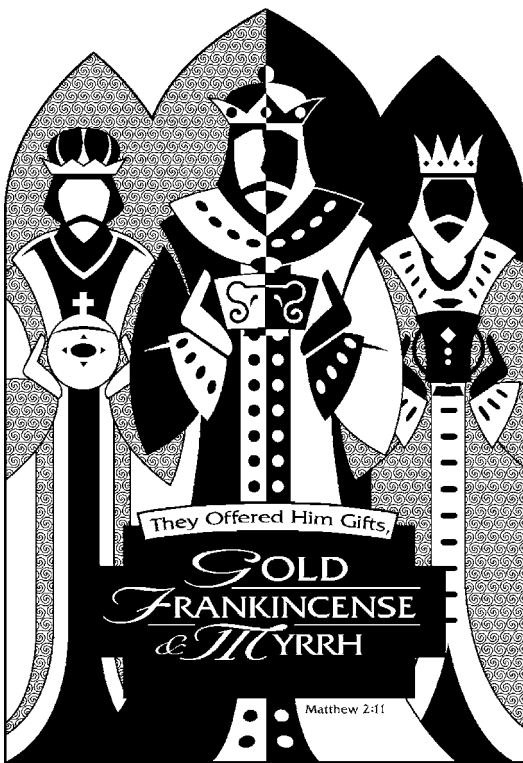
2 - 15/16 oz cans of chicken broth

2 - 15/16 oz cans of corn either cream style or whole

2 - 15/16 oz cans of cranberry sauce

There will also be bags for children. We will be asking families with children and youth or anyone else that would like to fill them with the following items: Gum, Crayons, Kool Aid, Jello and a toy. This is your opportunity to support your child in the gift of giving.

The Committee is requesting monetary donations to go toward purchasing \$15.00 Grocery Certificates which will be given to the recipients to purchase their choice of Meat and Dessert.



UMW News

Mission Team – Wednesday, October 7th at 9:30 am in Social Hall.

District Annual Meeting – Saturday, October 10th at Sierra Vista, UMW.

Unit Meeting – Wednesday, October 14th at 10:00 am in Social Hall. Program: Speaker, Becky Spann, LPN, her experience on a missionary trip to Liberia and working in a clinic there. Lunch arranged by Naomi Circle.

Helping Hands – Wednesday, October 21st, 9:00 am in Social Hall.

Julia & Naomi Circles – Meetings, Wednesday, October 28th – to be announced

Friendship Group

The monthly potluck is on Tuesday, October 13, at 12 noon in the Social Hall. If your last name starts with M – Z please come at 11:30 to help set up. All table service and serving utensils are furnished. Also bring items for the Food Bank.

Scott Blades, Executive Director of TIHAN will be our speaker. His topic: "Misconceptions of HIV/AIDS."

Coming up on Tuesday, October 27 at 12 noon, is a luncheon at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch. Cost is \$17.00 per person (covers meal, drinks, dessert and gratuity). Paid reservations must be made with Acel (326-5064) by Wednesday, October 21st. Everyone is welcome.

The annual Christmas dinner is coming December 8th. Details in the channel, soon.



"A friend loves
AT ALL TIMES."

PROVERBS 17:17, NRSV

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YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO CONTINUE OUR "SHEPHERDING" PROGRAM

Approximately 40 "Shepherds" are needed to do the job! We already have a team of 30 Shepherds tending their "flocks". 10 More would do the trick. The task is simple and so vital, not only to our Pastors but also to Christ Church office.

"Shepherds" have no more than 10 families in their "flock". They make 2 or 3 phone calls per year - in early October, around/or after Christmas and in early May. The phone call is simply to touch basis with each family and find out how they are doing. No requests are made, no solicitation for service or money is made, no asking for anything is done during these calls. - It is simply a phone call to say "Hi" and find out how the family is doing. Training is provided for "Shepherds" and also a folder with their "flock" names and addresses. After the second attempt to reach each family - simple "Thinking of You" cards are provided to put in the mail to each family, if the "Shepherd" chooses to do so.

Please, prayerfully consider being one of our Christ Church Caring "Shepherds" - It provides a critical link between our attendees and those who serve Christ Church in our church office. Please call Sally (298-7109) or the Christ Church Office (327-1116) if you feel this is a place you could help be in ministry for Christ Church. Thanks! Sally