

February 2009

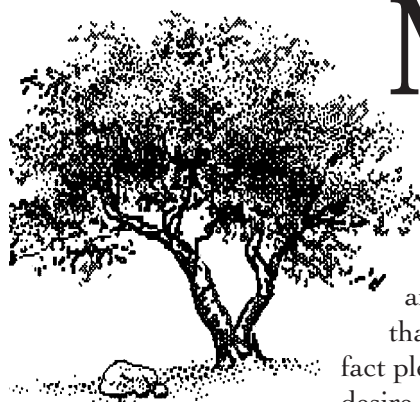
Epiphany to Lent

This month we conclude the season of Epiphany in which we reflect on the revelation of "God with us" and our call to proclaim and invite all into that glorious relationship. In this regard I share with you for **memorization** the following awesome quote:

"With our faces reflecting like mirrors
the brightness of the Lord,
we all grow brighter and brighter
as we are turned into the image that we reflect;
this is the work of the Lord who is Spirit."
2 Corinthians 3:18

Beginning Wednesday, February 25 (Ash Wednesday), we enter into Lent, a time of penitence and reflection on our need and God's response in Jesus. I share with you the prayer to the right which might serve us well to **memorize** as well.

Ciao,
Pastor Craig Geiger



My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Thomas Merton
-Thoughts in Solitude

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Worship

Our mid-week Lenten themes and worship will call us to a "still" place where we might hear the Word. The theme is "The Return of the Prodigal Son — a story of Homecoming."

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, February 25, will be a traditional communion service with the imposition of ashes as participants come forward to receive communion at the altar. Worship at 11:30 a.m. (soup lunch follows) or 7 p.m. (soup supper at 6 p.m.).

Wednesdays in Lent

Worship on subsequent Wednesdays will be at 11:30 a.m. (followed by a light lunch) and 7 p.m. (preceded by a 6 p.m. child and adult friendly meal). The worship experiences will last 30 minutes. We will use as our order of worship a style drawn from the ecumenical Taizé community in France. Pastor Craig will lead the meditative and relaxed liturgical style with staff sharing in the various meditations and teachings.

Call Committee

The Call Committee continues to interview two outstanding individuals. Further interviews with these individuals will take place next month. Your patience, understanding and prayers are appreciated.

Sincerely,
Darrell Wadas
Call Committee Chair

February 1

**9:45 a.m., Gangsei Hall
Open Forum on the Budget**

February 8

**9:45 a.m., Gangsei Hall
Congregation
and Foundation
Annual Meeting**



Join Us for a Great Ministry Opportunity!

Floral ministry support is now available! Special events are often best recognized with flowers on our church altar or gracing our sanctuary. If your family wishes to celebrate a special day such as a birthday, anniversary, academic graduation, career milestone, special thanks remembrance for those serving in our Armed Forces, or any other family event, consider a donation for a floral piece for Sunday services. Traditional bouquets are \$50 per bouquet (two are available for placement on the altar), or consider a designated single flower to signify your family's special day. Sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or call the church office. Thanks for sharing your special event with members and friends of Prince of Peace.

Rally in the Valley XIV

February 16, 17

**La Casa de Cristo Lutheran Church
Scottsdale**

**Register online at
www.lutheranseniors.org**

Centennial Singers Concert

February 5, 7 p.m.

The Centennial Singers from Augsburg College, consisting of men from various walks of life who have been drawn together by their love of singing, will be in concert at Prince of Peace on February 5th at 7 p.m. The group was formed in 1993 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first gospel quartet from Augsburg College to sing in Norway. The Singers have presented concerts in Norway twice, Florida, and most recently are presenting a series of 10 concerts in the Southwestern United States, including their concert at Prince of Peace.

The music for the 2008-09 concert season includes spirituals, familiar hymns and gospel songs, selections from the classical repertoire, and a barbershop tune or two.

THE MESSENGER is printed monthly for the members and friends of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the purpose of informing them of the upcoming events of the month, for sharing good news about our members and for sharing the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through word and action.

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Dr. Lou Accola, Pastor of Spiritual
Formation and Pastoral Care
480/373-9488

Jessica Wernau, Youth & Family Intern
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Assistant Preschool Director
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Marge Mayes, *Messenger* Editor
602/840-7715, mtmayes@cox.net

Pastor Jeff & Mary Johnson
Missionaries to Guam

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Brad Hartman, President; Laurel Edgar, President-Elect; Teri Traaen, Vice-President & Personnel; Rick McGinley, Treasurer; Karen Johnson, Secretary; Gail Andrews, Doug Beischel, Andrew Sandstrom, Ellen Schoeneman, Brian Stevens, members-at-large; Tracy Wadas, Preschool Rep

E-mail: office@aplaceofgrace.org
Please see the website for
individual staff e-mail addresses.

THE MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP

PRAY DAILY † WORSHIP WEEKLY † READ THE BIBLE
GROW IN RELATIONSHIPS † GIVE GENEROUSLY † SERVE OTHERS

Adult Course Offerings

Sunday Adult Forum

Every Sunday at 10 a.m. (normally in Room 11/12 unless otherwise noted)

In February, the Adult Forum will look at Lenten disciplines, including The Book of Faith initiative. Sprinkled throughout will be a continuation of Pastor Craig's "favorite things."

Wednesday Bible Study

The Wednesday Bible Study continues at 9:30 a.m. in Room 11/12 with a study of the Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes. The class is led by Pastor Lou Accola. Join this growing group for Bible study with discussion and engaging fellowship!

Journey to the Heart: Small Group Ministry



Small groups are meeting and lives are being changed! Many small groups that began in the fall are gathering again to share God's Word, discuss real life issues and continue to care for one another. It was a great beginning for Prince of Peace's small group ministry "Journey to the Heart."

We are offering five new groups starting in February...

- ▼ **Bible Study and Balancing Your Diet**, with Judi Paffenbarger
- ▼ **Parenting Spiritually Healthy Kids**, with Karen Crofton
- ▼ **Grief Group**, with the Kauffmans
- ▼ **Couple Service Group**, with Jojo Concepcion
- ▼ **Movie Discussion Group**, with Laurie Peterson

If you would like to be a part of a small group, call Connie Rose-Kamprath (480/298-4379) or Bonnie Rockwood (602/821-7089).

Regular Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Sunday School and
Coffee Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Adult Forum
10:45 a.m. Celebration Worship

Highlights of Sunday Worship in February

February 1

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Pastor Craig Geiger, preaching

February 8

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Pastor Craig Geiger, preaching

February 15

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
Pastor Lou Accola, preaching

February 22

Transfiguration of Our Lord
Connie Rose-Kamprath, AIM, preaching

February 25

Ash Wednesday

Worship at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
with Imposition of Ashes
Pastor Craig Geiger, preaching

Spiritual Fitness/Confirmation Continues

The entire family is invited to Prince of Peace's Spiritual Fitness Nights on February 8 and 22, concluding on March 1. Join us now and build up your heart and spiritual muscles.

5-5:30 p.m. **Family meal** in Gangsei Hall
5:30-6 p.m. **Youth-led worship** in the sanctuary
6-7 p.m.

- **Confirmation Classes** for grades 6-8
- **Activities for elementary-age kids**
- **Class for all adults, not just Confirmation parents.** "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat," led by Pastor Lou Accola in Room 13/14. The class will help you discover the skills of "water-walking," how to discern God's call, transcend fear, and trust God.

Childcare is available from 4:45 to 7 p.m. in Room 1 of the Preschool.

Council Report for February

The Council met twice in January to review financial reports for 2008 and finish the 2009 budget which will be presented to the congregation for approval at the annual meeting on February 8 at 9:45 a.m. There will be an open forum on the budget between services on February 1. Please pick up a copy of the Annual Report and come with your questions on February 1.

The 2009 budget shows a marked decrease in anticipated giving and accompanying spending cuts. With utility and other costs rising and a desire to maintain and grow all of our ministry programs, the Council has made some very difficult budget decisions. Unfortunately, our staff members have borne the brunt of the cuts, which include eliminated staff positions, extra work imposed upon existing staff with no additional compensation, cutbacks in work schedules and pay, and outright salary reductions. We recognize that not everyone will agree with the choices made by your Council but the current financial realities have left few options. Past experience has taught us that a realistic and obtainable budget is important for the long-term financial health and stability of our congregation, and will strengthen our foundation for future growth.

Please trust that the leaders you elected to serve on Council and make these difficult decisions have

fully considered every option, have discussed alternatives in a frank and open dialogue, and are presenting an obtainable budget for 2009 that best serves our congregation as a whole. Work on the budget began in October 2008 and was unanimously passed by all members present at the Council meeting on January 20, 2009.

I am sorry to report that due to work commitments and related issues, Rick McGinley has stepped down from his role as congregation Treasurer and Council member following the annual meeting and effective February 8, 2009. Pursuant to our constitution and bylaws, the Council has elected Jeff Jorgenson to serve as Treasurer until the next scheduled election.

The Council has identified the following individuals to serve on the Nominating Committee, which is tasked with identifying and recruiting congregation members to serve in elected positions on the Council and Preschool Board. The following names will be presented for congregation approval at the annual meeting: Brad Hartman (outgoing President), Karen Johnson (outgoing Secretary), Fred Moore, Cathy Nugent, Beth Pachman, and Ron Swanson.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Council, staff, and ministry leaders as we move into 2009 with the hope and promise of good things to come.

Brad Hartman, Council President

Be Bold, Be Strong

For the month of February, the Worship Planning Committee has chosen a theme: Be Bold, Be Strong, for the Lord Thy God is with Thee. The songs we will sing during worship should remind us all to be strong in the Lord. Let us continue to humble ourselves in the presence of the Lord — let the joy of the Lord be our strength. In Nehemiah 8:10, Nehemiah said, "...*this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.*"

Our worship to God must be authentic. Let us not worry about the anxieties in our midst, rather, let us continue to trust in the Lord. In Jeremiah 29:11, the Lord declares: "*For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*"

As we approach the Lenten season, and as we continue to grow strong in the Lord, let us reflect on the holiness of the Lord and focus on the Lenten theme from Psalms 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God."

He is our God and we can put our trust and our hope in Him. Amen!

*Jojo Concepcion
Director of Music and
Equipping Ministries*

Did You Notice Something Different?

by Lynne McGinley

I have been the Director of the adult choir at Prince of Peace for a year. One of the first things I proposed was changing the name of the choir. Yes, last year was the 50th anniversary of the church and the name "Senior Choir" had been in place that long. But I felt it limited new people from joining. What and who are the seniors — seniors in high school or seniors in life? I am neither.

So for the last few months we, the choir members, tossed around names and ideas. It took awhile, but we decided on "Voices of Praise" ... which is what we are all about. We invite others to join us on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. for rehearsals.



Karen Crofton, Laurie Peterson and Earl Fuchs offer water to the runners in the Rock'n Roll Marathon. Prince of Peace's water station was a success again this year!

Elderberries' New Meeting Place

February 11

The Elderberries will now meet at U.S. Egg, 3238 N. Scottsdale Rd. on the second Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome to this time of good food and great conversation with friends. What a way to get better acquainted!

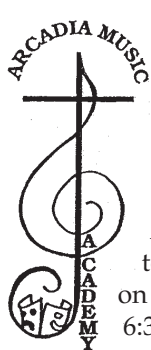
Cooking and Art Class for Children

A cooking and art class for children ages 4-14 is being offered Sundays from 12 to 2 p.m. at Prince of Peace. Call Jana Peterson, 480/326-2927, for information on dates, fees and availability.

Fresh New Greeting Cards



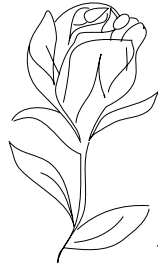
Get your greeting cards from the rack inside the door of Gangsei Hall at the low price of \$2 each or 3 for \$5. They are especially created by the Elderberries with a Prince of Peace logo on the back. Valentine's Day is coming soon!



Arcadia Music Academy

The Arcadia Music Academy invites you to their next recital on Monday, February 2, 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Roses to...



◆ **Laurel Edgar and Myrna Edgar** for chairing Altar Guild in January.

◆ **Dennis Schaff, Verne Schoeneman and D.K. Harrison** for repairing the doors at the front of the church.

◆ **Laura Van Klaveren** for completing the Rock 'n Roll Marathon and **Lisa Harney** for completing the half-marathon.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (with silent auction)

Tuesday, Feb. 24
5-7 p.m., Gangsei Hall

All-you-can-eat pancakes, apple sauce, sausages, coffee and orange juice! Tickets, \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12, will be available on Sundays and in the office during February. Proceeds will go toward the youth trip to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering this summer.

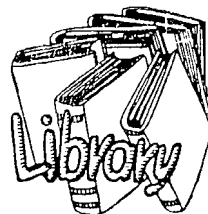
Canaan in the Desert Outing

Wednesday, February 18

On February 18, the Wednesday Bible Study group and interested friends, accompanied by Pastor Lou, will visit the Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary, Evangelical Lutheran nuns from Germany (40th St. and Shea). Following a walk through the Stations of the Cross, Pastor Lou will lead a worship service in the prayer garden chapel. Donations of money or food for the Sisters are suggested.

Meet in the south parking lot of the church at 9:30 a.m. if you would like to carpool. The group will enjoy lunch at McCormick Ranch Golf Club, 7505 E. McCormick Pkwy., following the service. If you choose not to go to lunch, please arrange your own transportation.

Call June Larson, 480/948-5874, by February 15 for reservations. (The outing is in lieu of the regular Wednesday Bible class.)



Prayer

by Philip Yancy

(author of *What's Amazing about Grace* and *the Jesus I Never Knew*)

Reviewed by Phyllis Terry

Prayer, does it make a difference? This entire book is a thought-provoking experience. You will find yourself putting the book down many times and praying and reading on. God says, "Ask and it will be given, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be open to you." This is God's promise to us, but in His own time.

We pray because we want to thank someone for the beauty and glories of life, and also because we feel small and helpless and sometimes afraid. We pray sometimes for forgiveness and strength, for contact with "The One who Is" and for assurance we are not alone.

I find there are no easy answers, but Yancy inspires us to keep on praying.

Jr. and Sr.High Events

February is a month of love and we at Prince of Peace intend to spread the love this month.

✓ **February 1**

Souper Bowl Collection

The youth will collect coins and change for the ELCA Souper Bowl Sunday. All the change collected will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Bring your coins and help feed those who are suffering hunger.

✓ **February 13-14**

Lock-in

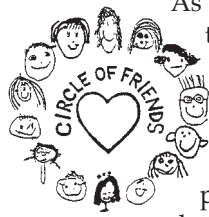
We will have a lock-in at church and a spreading-the-service-project.

✓ **February 24**

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

The youth will have their annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper. Youth: plan to help from 4 to 8 p.m.

The Legacy Continues...



As we start off the new year, our Preschool continues with a tried and true tradition ... the painting of tiles. Tile painting is a fundraiser for the Preschool and has been very successful over the years. Not only does this raise money for the school, but it engages children and families in art and beautifies the Prince of Peace campus. For years our children have been leaving their handprints, shapes, pictures and tributes. Our teachers have also painted tiles over the years, leaving memories of classes gone by and a tribute that our young alumni look at and admire when they visit. Every year this loving tribute is mounted on our walls and has become a fixture, a strong tradition, and a lasting memory. When you are on campus, please take a moment to wander our halls and admire our children's work. We'd love to share them with you!

Fourth Friday

The Preschool now offers a new opportunity for parents to learn more about the school and have questions answered. Each month, Director Chris Thiele will host "Fourth Friday," 8 to 9:30 a.m. in Room 11/12, with coffee and light refreshments and time for her to meet informally with parents.

Thank you to...

... all the youth who cheered on the runners at the Rock 'n Roll Marathon.

... our fantastic shepherds and the teachers who taught the last centers: Gwen Jacobs, Doug Beischel, April Bramini, Cathy Nugent, Rhonda Zollars.

... Nicole Hartman and Kate Behrens for being great substitutes for BLAST.

Share the Joy of Hosting an Exchange Student

Ever thought of sharing your home with a student from another country and culture? The Phoenix-Camelback Rotary Club is looking for two to three host families for the 2009-2010 academic year who would be willing to host an in-bound student attending Arcadia High School. The club provides a small monthly stipend to the family to help with room and board and also provides a small allowance for the student. Last year Steve and Laurel Edgar enjoyed hosting a young woman from Italy; talk with them about what is involved and what they experienced. We usually ask the host family to volunteer to be surrogate parents for the exchange student for about four to six months, depending on how many families sign up. You need not have a child in your home. A private bedroom is required for the exchange student. If you are interested in finding out more about this program, contact Pastor Rick Rouse at rwrouse@comcast.net (Cell: 612/710-7959) or Soni Koskela at sonikoskela@earthlink.net.

"Hang Time"

Our High School Youth Small Group is expanding to a weekly youth group called "Hang Time." We will play a different game every week. All Junior and Senior High youth are welcome. Meet Tuesday nights in Room 18, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Come hang, eat, pray and play games! See you there!

POP's B.L.A.S.T. — Invite Your Friends!

BLAST Sunday School is learning about Jonathan and David through food, art, movies, and drama. Invite your friends to this incredible Sunday School. Here's the schedule:

1st thru 8th Grade	ART SHACK	POP CINEMA	CAFÉ JESUS	JERUSALEM	GAME CENTER
Feb. 1	5/6	7/8	1/2	3	4
Feb. 8	7/8	1/2	3	4	5/6
Feb. 15	— President's Day Weekend / NO Sunday School —				
Feb. 22	1/2	3	4	5/6	7/8

New Tool Available to Help in Selecting Skilled Nursing Facilities

by Beth Schneider

Placing a loved one in a skilled nursing facility (or nursing home) is one of the most stressful health care decisions families or friends face. Horror stories about poor care, unsafe facilities, and abuse abound. Although nursing homes are the most strictly regulated of all health care institutions, quality issues remain. Now a new tool is available to help evaluate nursing homes.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has offered Nursing Home Compare on its website (www.medicare.gov) for some time. By going to Nursing Home Compare, it was possible to learn about staffing, deficiencies found during the last inspection, and how the facility compared to similar homes. Facilities could be located by name, zip code, county, or state. In mid-December, the CMMS added a new feature when it began rating nursing homes by assigning from one to five stars for quality, staffing, and health inspections, plus an overall score to 16,000 nursing homes throughout the state. The ratings will be updated quarterly. The theory behind the new system is that people select hotels and restaurants based on a star system, so why not nursing homes.

U.S.A. Today analyzed the data released by the CMMS and found

that in 14 states, residents choosing a nursing home randomly have more than a 25 percent chance of picking a nursing home that overall ranks one star. Nationally, 23 percent of homes received a one-star rating for overall performance. In Arizona, 21.8 percent of homes (29) received one star, while 19 (14.3 percent) received five stars.

The CMMS hopes that offering the data in a five-star format will start a national conversation about nursing home quality and encourage nursing homes to improve the quality of care. The quality of care varies greatly in nursing homes because facilities are challenged to recruit, train, and retain staff; they care for the frailest and most vulnerable patients; and they must comply with a host of federal and state regulations while working under the financial constraints imposed by limited government payments. The new rating system is one tool that can help narrow the search for a nursing home, but at least one and preferably several visits to prospective facilities should be made before a final decision is made. Resident advocates recommend that unless there are exceptional circumstances, homes receiving only one or two stars be avoided. For more information go to www.medicare.gov.

From Center DOAR

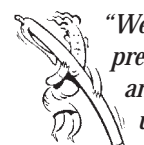
Gifts Beyond the Holidays

Through Beatitudes Center DOAR's VICaP Faith in Action program, a partner of Prince of Peace, you can continue to give a gift all year long to the homebound. That gift, your gift of time, would provide grocery shopping, respite care, minor but vital home repair, visits or calls, your "eyes" to read mail, computer assistance, or driving someone to a medical appointment. You choose the service. Contact 602/274-5022 or visit www.centerdoar.org for more information and upcoming volunteer orientation dates.

Jazz Cabaret

Beatitudes Center DOAR presents Jazz Cabaret on Sunday, March 15, 2 p.m., at the Arizona Biltmore. Jazz Cabaret stars renowned vocalists Margo Reed, Nancy Gee, Delphine Cortez and Sherry Roberson, and includes an auction, food and dessert. Reservations (\$85) are due by March 6. All proceeds will help homebound adults and their caregivers, grandparents raising grandchildren, and congregational health programs. Contact www.centerdoar.org or call 602/274-5022 for donations, sponsor opportunities, and reservations.

Letter we received...



"We'd like to express our appreciation for the cards, prayers and kind thoughts sent our way upon the death of our dad and grandfather; Victor Westphal.

Letters He is a child of God and is now safely home. What a blessing we all have to be members of God's family!

Jeff, Bonnie, Allison and Adrienne Miller

Monthly Attendance and Revenue Report

as of December 31, 2008

	December 2007	December 2008
Worship Attendance		
Monthly Total	2,486*	1,909
Monthly Offering	\$31,430	\$36,485

* December 2007 had five Sundays.

	2008 Budget Estimate	2008 Actual Revenue
Envelope Offering for year, thru December	\$481,722	\$414,878

Monthly Hospitality Hosts

Families with last names beginning with the letters C and D are scheduled as Hospitality Hosts for February.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Supper Bowl Sunday Worship- 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School- 9:40 am Coffee Fellowship- 9:45 am Open Forum on the Budget- 10 am Joy Ringers- 4 pm 1	Kitchen Clean-up- 9 am Arcadia Music Academy Recital- 6:30 pm Open Gym Night- 6:30 pm 2	MOBILE MEALS DELIVERY February 2-6 Firm Believers- 9 am Library Comm.- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Women's Ministry- 2 pm Hang Time- 6:30 pm Basketball League- 7 pm 3	Bible Study- 9:30 am Staff Meeting- 10:45 am Men's Brown Bag Lunch- 12 pm Senior Choir- 7 pm 4	Firm Believers- 9 am Centennial Singers- 7 pm 5	Sew & Tie- 9 am Praise Band Rehearsal- 10 am 6	Quilters- 9 am 7
Worship- 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School- 9:40 am Coffee Fellowship- 9:45 am Annual Meeting- 10 am Joy Ringers- 4 pm Spiritual Fitness- 5 pm 8	Open Gym Night- 6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm 9	Firm Believers- 9 am Library Comm.- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Preschool Bd.- 6:30 pm Hang Time- 6:30 pm Basketball League- 7 pm Dorcas Circle- 7:15 pm 10	Bible Study- 9:30 am Staff Meeting- 10:45 am Elderberries- 11 a.m. Men's Brown Bag Lunch- 12 pm Worship Committee- 6 pm Senior Choir- 7 pm 11	Firm Believers- 9 am 12	JR./SR HIGH LOCK-IN February 13-14 Sew & Tie- 9 am 13	14
Worship- 8:30 & 10:45 am NO Sunday School Coffee Hour- 9:45 am Adult Forum - 10 am Joy Ringers- 4 pm 15	RALLY IN THE VALLEY February 16-17 Messenger deadline Open Gym Night- 6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm 16	Firm Believers- 9 am Library Comm.- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Personnel Comm.- 6 pm Hang Time- 6:30 pm Church Council- 7 pm Basketball League- 7 pm 17	Canaan in the Desert- 9:30 am Greeting Cards- 10:45 am Staff Meeting- 10:45 am Men's Brown Bag Lunch- 12 pm Naomi Circle- 1 pm Senior Choir- 7 pm 18	Firm Believers- 9 am Preschool Staff- 6:30 pm 19	Sew & Tie- 9 am 20	Quilters- 9 am 21
Worship- 8:30 & 10:45 am Sunday School- 9:40 am Coffee Hour- 9:45 am Adult Forum - 10 am Joy Ringers- 4 pm Spiritual Fitness- 5 pm 22	Open Gym Night- 6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #6- 7 pm 23	Firm Believers- 9 am Library Comm.- 10 am Knitting Group- 1 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper- 5-7 pm 24	ASH WEDNESDAY Bible Study- 9:30 am Greeting Cards- 10:30 am Staff Meeting- 10:45 am Ash Wednesday Worship- 11:30 am Soup Lunch- 12 pm Soup Supper- 6 pm Ash Wednesday Worship- 7 pm 25	Firm Believers- 9 am 26	Fourth Friday (Preschool)- 8 am Sew & Tie- 9 am 27	28

AA meets nightly
5:30-6:30 p.m. in Room 11 / 12
Survivors of Suicide meet the 2nd and
4th Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. in Room 17.

FEBRUARY 2009

Trip to the Navajo Lutheran Mission in Rock Point, Arizona

In mid-January, Phyllis Shilling, Karen Crofton, Jojo Concepcion and Herman Vergara drove to the Navajo Lutheran Mission in Rock Point to deliver the items Prince of Peace had collected before Christmas. The following summary was written by Karen Crofton.

We left church around 8 a.m. and arrived at the school at 2 p.m. We unloaded all the donated items and were met by the principal who took us on a tour of the school. We met teachers and assistants and kids. All the kids were very excited to see us and have their pictures taken.

There is one room for kindergarten, one room for 1st and 2nd grades, one room for 3rd and 4th grades, and one room with 5th and 6th grades. They have a teacher who teaches the Navajo language and culture. They also have a library and computers in each classroom. The principal is working on improving the kids' reading skills and they have made great strides. In addition, they have a small area where parents can work on special projects. The principal also showed us the church.

After that the Executive Director showed us the rest of the campus which includes a thrift store, a medical clinic which will be opening soon, and a food distribution room. There are also small apartments for some of the teachers who are from out of state and the nurse and her family. Volunteers can also stay in these for a nominal fee. They are hoping this summer that a group will resurface their outdoor basketball court. The 5th and 6th grades compete with other schools in basketball and track events.

After the tour we decided to visit Four Corners since we were so close. We arrived with 30 minutes to spare, took some photos, and drove home, arriving at 11 p.m. It was a long journey but very rewarding to see the Navajo Mission.



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