

ORANGEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 2010

PASTOR PAGE'S PASTOR'S PAGE

I attended a seminar on Health Care Reform yesterday. One of the speaker's main premises was that this debate is being largely driven by fear. People are afraid that:

- There will be a government takeover of healthcare
- I might lose my good coverage
- The cost will bankrupt the nation
- We will wind up waiting for surgeries like they do in Canada or England
- Medicare will go belly up

It's hard to refute that fear is playing a big part in this debate on both sides. As I listened yesterday, I was critical in my own mind of fearful people, and so I decided to see what it would take to get in touch with my own fear on the matter.

I have great insurance. That's one of the things that you and the Presbyterian Church do for your pastor. I was surprised by how quickly I became fearful when I imagined "What if health care reform takes away my insurance?" Whoa!! I need that insurance! I'm a heart attack survivor – who else is going to insure me? Then I imagined, in our current health care system, having no insurance and a kid who needs a major operation. We all know people that are in this boat. I'd be afraid real quick if it was my kid, and no money to give them the best of care. It didn't take me long to become fearful about this issue. I'm afraid of a change to my health care coverage, and at the same time I'm afraid that our nation will settle for the mess we have currently.

Then the speaker read to us a Scripture passage: **"God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline."** (2 Timothy 1:7)

As people of faith, we know what to do with our fears. When we are afraid to stay the same and afraid to change as well, we will not become paralyzed with fear. God has given us a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

Power! We have levels of power to effect change that are unprecedented in the history of humanity. We have a representative democracy with relatively low levels of corruption. We have freedom of speech and expression. We have unheard of wealth. We are better educated than anyone ever. We can get health reform right!

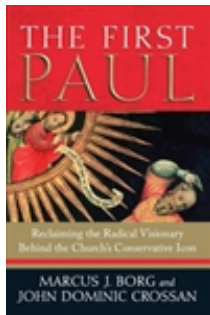
Love! The love we have been given by God requires us to use the power God has given, not for our own gain, not to protect the piece of the pie we already have, but to perform deeds of compassion and justice for the poor, the oppressed, and the down-trodden.

Self-discipline! This will require self-discipline. Health Care abilities are so advanced that tough decisions will need to be made about what we cover. Do we pay for a heart transplant for an 80 year old, or do we provide pre-natal care to 3,000 mothers with the same money? These are tough decisions and they will require self-discipline.

With a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline, we can do this. I'm not endorsing a particular health care reform, but I am stepping out to say that what we have now is not working. Americans now spend 16.6% of our Gross Domestic Product on health care, and it is expected to rise to 21% in the next decade.¹ In 2007 even before the recession began, 19% of Arizonans and 17% of Americans didn't have health insurance.² Many of our nation's poor use emergency rooms as their only health care. This is the most expensive place to receive healthcare and we are footing the bill. We are the only industrialized nation in the world that doesn't have universal health care.³

We can do better. I'm sure we won't get a perfect bill, but we must work together (Democrats and Republicans) to get something done. An imperfect bill can be tweaked as we go along. This is a watershed moment in American justice. Let's not be so afraid that we let it pass.

Ken



PAUL STUDY CONTINUES THROUGH FEBRUARY

A study of the Apostle Paul meets on Sundays in Room 8 at 9:00 am. The class, lasting six weeks, will be taught by Suzanne Painter and Paul Moser. Our study book is *The First Paul* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan (please purchase your own book. his class is for you if you don't know much about Paul, are not sure what to think of him, or want to decide whether he is appealing or appalling.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY PREVIEW FEBRUARY 7

CLASS BEGINS FEBRUARY 21

The popular class, Financial Peace University, will begin once again on Sunday, February 21. It is a 13-week course (we won't meet on Easter) and will be held from noon to 2:00 pm on Sunday afternoons in the Banner Room. Pastor Ken has talked about the merits of this program and many in the congregation have taken this course and have found that they were given the chance to approach the subject of personal finances in a new and positive way. Spouses can communicate more with each other about their family finances and singles have a plan to keep their finances in control. The class is taught by DVD, but the class interaction after the DVD really makes the difference. We don't ask personal financial questions nor make any investing pitches.



It's an inspiring and informational class. Visit the table display on the patio after services or contact Dirk or Jeannie Oosterwyk. There will be a Preview Class on February 7 in the Banner Room where you can sign up and get more information.

¹ http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalHealthExpendData/25_NHE_Fact_Sheet.asp.

² <http://www.usnews.com/blogs/erbe/2009/08/20/what-is-the-actual-number-of-americans-without-health-insurance.html>.

³ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_health_care.

ORANGEWOOD FRIENDSHIP GARDEN – FEBRUARY 6 and 20

There will be another workshop on February 6 and planting is scheduled to begin February 20. If you have not yet applied for a plot, please contact the office for the forms. Remember the compost pile. Put all your 'stuff' in the far west bin or near it.

ROCKY POINT TRIP – FEBRUARY 13

A team of workers from OPC and Palo Cristi will head to Rocky Point on February 13. Please include these people and this special home-building project in your prayers. Thanks to all who support us in this work. Call Jackie Collier if you wish to help with food donations.

FAMILY PROMISE – WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14

The next host opportunity for OPC is the week of February 14 at Palo Cristi. A sign-up sheet is on the patio.

BLANKET SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 28

Money is collected February 28 for Church World Services who provide blankets and other items to help those in need. Watch the bulletin for more details.

HONDURAS TRIP – RETURNING FEBRUARY 1

The team will be returning from Honduras February 1. Lots of donated items that were collected were taken including vitamins, clothing, toothbrushes, school supplies, and tools. Many thanks to all who helped collect the items. And thanks to Marian Lusby's help and training, it is hoped the women will learn to crochet tote bags using recycled plastic bags. Bernale is planning to record women's stories and Phebe has written a nutritional workshop to educate on vitamins and vegetables. Pat Kirk (from Colorado) is fully bilingual and assists with these sessions. There are many other projects planned and we hope you will all plan to attend the 'what we did' sessions when they return. Those from OPC include: Dennis Daniel, Tully Fletcher, Joy Lawson, Frank Leonard, Dirk Oosterwyk, Phebe Packer, Nathalie Rennell, and Bernale Wright.

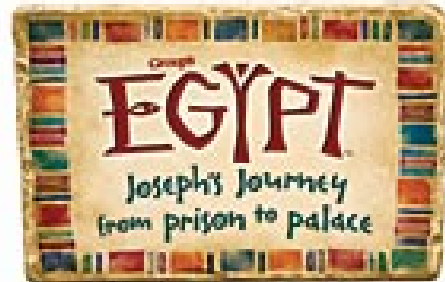
YOUTH MISSIONS



The youth will be collecting money for the Souper Bowl of Caring on **February 7** in and around both services. Don't know the teams yet, but should be fun! Then on **February 16**, the youth will host a Pancake Supper to raise funds for their summer mission trip. They will take part in a 30-Hour Famine Event to benefit World Vision on **February 26-27**.

PLAN AHEAD FOR EGYPT!

We're gearing up for VBS coming this summer in early June. *Egypt - Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace* is the theme this year. It's all about becoming part of history as we see, hear, touch, and even taste what it was like to live in Egypt in Bible times. Everyone can find a place to shine in this program and we need leaders of all ages and talents - mid and senior highs included! Watch your bulletin and *Plumblin'* for further information on this special VBS. A link will be on website soon where families and staff will be able to register.



PIECEMAKERS

OK. All those small projects are done at your house. So come help the Piecemakers cut, sew, and press a quilt for Arizona Blankets 4 Kids. They will meet on **February 2 and 16** at 9:30 am in the Seminar Room. You are welcome to join at any time. They could use your help!

PAGE TURNERS

The discussion this month on Wednesday, **February 3**, at 1:30 pm in the Banner Room will be on *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by M. A. Shaffer and A Barrows. Potatoe Peel Pie? Makes me want to read it. . .how about you? You're welcome to join the discussion led by Wilma Edwards.

HORIZON BIBLE STUDY

The Horizon Bible Study *Joshua: A Journey of Faith* continues on Wednesday, **February 10**, at 1:30 pm in Room 8 and again on Monday, **February 22**, at 7:00 pm in Room 8. Both groups are now on lesson 6. You are invited to attend either session. Contact Judy Beach or Lori Morris for more information.

BREAKFAST OUT BUNCH

The breakfast is on **February 17** (Ash Wednesday). Watch your bulletin for place and maybe a special time to meet. Be sure to let Wilma Edwards (602-942-1083) know you can come. There will be a noon Ash Wednesday service for those who would like to attend. Bring your neighbor and join the preparation for the Lenten season.

SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR THE WOMEN IN OUR CONGREGATION

On Wednesday, **February 24**, come to Page Hall at 1:30 pm for a special program celebrating the *Well and Wonderful* in each of you. Watch your bulletin for more details.

Everyone is invited to a picnic on the patio on Sunday, March 7 at 11:45 am. Bring your folding chairs and a dish (salad or desert) to share. Hospitality Council will furnish hot dogs, beans, and lemonade. There will be games and a fun surprise or two.



S.A.G.E.S.

(Senior Adults Gaining Enrichment Socially)

Tuesday, February 9 – Page Hall

10:30 – Blood Pressure Check

11:30 – Lunch – Soup provided. Bring your own sandwich, or if you don't have any way to prepare one, a PB&J will be available.

12:15 – Video from Annual Meeting and some table games.

\$4.00 for all this . . . so bring a friend.

Let the church office know you're coming!

THEATER LUNCH BUNCH



On February 4, the Theater Lunch Bunch will be attending a play titled *Trailblazing Sadie* at the Herberger Theater. Contact Mary Turkal (602-265-0425) for information and reservations. This production put on by Grey Matters is a story of Sadie Alexander who was the first black woman admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar. As a lawyer and economist, she served a gamut of roles both politically and in her community. Her career was devoted to advancing the well being and quality of life for every one with whom she came into contact. This one-act, one-woman piece depicts a day in the life of Sadie who was unfaltering in her devotion and loyalty to her race, her family, and her love of life. Laurissa Brewington authored the script.

IS NOW YOUR TIME????



Need help with getting rid of the pounds you might have gained over the holidays? Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) at Orangewood will have an Open House on February 23, 9:30 am to 11:00 am, in the Banner Room. Anyone interested in a free visit may come and find out more. This Chapter has several Orangewood members. The group has 5 men and about 25 women who support each other in their efforts to take off and keep off pounds sensibly. For more information you can contact Jo Ann Wood at 602-277-1524.



youth PAGE

A confirmation class will be starting soon. It will be open to 8th grade and above. Watch the bulletins for details and talk to Tully if you would like to be a part of this exciting faith journey as you become a member of the church.

February 7	Super Bowl of Caring Sunday At both Worship Services then watch game in Fireside Room later in the day	
February 12-15	Mission Trip to Rocky Point return Monday evening	leave at 5 pm
February 16	Mardi Gras Pancake Supper Cook, decorate, clean-up, and earn \$\$ for Summer Mission Trip!	5 to 8 pm
February 26-27	30-Hour Famine Lock-in	begins 6 pm

An open letter to the congregation,

I just hosted the Youth Christmas Party with 17 Mid and Senior Highs, and yes, I survived. I don't know if you all know the wonderful group of young people this church is blessed with. I think nearly everyone came and politely thanked me. I hope their parents know how wonderful these youth really are.

We do have a need I would like to share. That is some adult help to be their teachers and sponsors. We have a group of about six dedicated adults who meet with them week after week and they are supported by our Associate Pastor who interacts with both the adult and youth.

I feel we need a few more people to come to the aid of these youth, so it is not so much an every week responsibility for those six. They need a few people to help with the Sunday School to give the teachers a break as well as some help on Sunday evening to keep the ages separate so we don't lose our older youth. And this should not have to be one of the parents, as the youth need a different voice at this time of their lives. Parents get to teach and nurture daily. This could be some of you who came to know Jesus via your Sunday School Class or Youth Group. Is it payback time for you? Are there some adults who have not gotten involved yet and don't know how God wants them to serve? You don't have the time? Ask how much time it would cost you. You don't want to make a commitment? Didn't Jesus make a commitment for us?

I so remember when I was in High School Youth Group, a pastor speaking that "these are the leaders of our church tomorrow." After watching our children share in the program a few weeks ago, and participating with these youth this week. . . again, "these are the leaders of our church tomorrow." It is time to step up and help them. Do we want a congregation of nice older people or do we want the youth there also to take over and keep the church growing? The choice is truly yours.

Received January 2010 from Jo Ann Wood



FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 Lowell Byall | 10 Hazel Judson | 18 James Rasmussen |
| 01 Don Moore | 11 Don Carlson | 20 Ray Bladine Sr |
| 02 Abby Kaup | 11 Libby Ekre | 20 Kathryn Rasmussen |
| 02 Emma Storie | 11 Mary Lynne Mitchell | 21 Peggy Mehagian |
| 02 Dorothy Vandenburg | 11 Phebe Packer | 21 Esther Rabuck |
| 03 Sterling Smith | 11 Donna Reiner | 21 Christin Vandenburg |
| 04 Laurie Miller | 12 Rick Hunter | 22 Bob Jones |
| 05 Jackie Collier | 13 Dean Rennell | 22 Sheeena Kroodsma |
| 06 Bill Holsey | 13 Jo Sharpe | 22 Betty Miller |
| 06 Ernie Workman | 14 Chris Cronk | 24 Molly Lynch |
| 07 Millie Bartlett | 14 Martha Langham | 25 Kaydie Marshall |
| 07 Skyler Smith | 15 Leslie Cronk | 25 Anita Shipley |
| 07 Jim Zemer | 15 Benjamin Walker | 27 Dottie Brewer |
| 08 Russ Seideman | 16 Ellen Corkhill | 27 Eric Hiser |
| 08 Don Upson | 16 Crespin Mendoza | 28 Bryce Cronk |
| 09 Andrew DeBenedetti | 16 Lynda Rychener | 28 Aaron Lawson |



*Jim & Jeanne Matt
February 3, 1957*

*Ed & Marilyn Edwards
February 14, 1954*

*John & Dottie Hayes
February 14, 1993*

Orangewood Staff	Plumblin' Volunteers
Pastor.....The Rev. Kenneth G. Page	<u>Editor</u> : Peggy Hagan
Associate Pastor..... The Rev. Tully M. Fletcher IV	<u>Proof Readers</u> : Beth Wells, Peggy Hagan
Director of MusicDr. Christopher Samuel	<u>Collators</u> : Barbara Denboer, Carol Hullivan, Lois Manning, May Tansley, Agnes Woodworth
Band Leader.....Brady Putzke	<u>Post Office Deliverer</u> : Bill Baker
Director of Christian Education.....Bernale Wright	E-MAIL : office@opc.phxcoxmail.com
Assoc. for Children's Music.....Kathleen Ruhleder	WEBPAGE : www.orangewood.info
Church Administrator.....Peggy Hagan	
Administrative Assistant.....Lori Page	
Set Up Assistant.....Chris Cronk	

The *Plumblin'*, a monthly newsletter of Orangewood Presbyterian Church, contains helpful information for members and friends. If you would like to receive this publication via e-mail (pdf file) contact the office. The deadline for the March issue will be February 10.

Orangewood Presbyterian Church
7321 N. 10th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85020
(602) 944-1508

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February Regular Sunday Worship Service Times: 9:00 and 10:30 am 2010
www.orangewood.info

The first Sunday of each month is designated as Family Worship Sunday. There will be no church school offered for children and youth over 5 years of age in order that they may join us in the worship experience. Children will be involved in leadership of the liturgy. The Mouse House (computer lab) will be open during the 10:30 am worship hour for children who have *already attended* the 9:00 am Worship Service.

February Sermon Titles

- February 7 “10 Things I Learned in Honduras” – Luke 5:1-11
- February 14 “A Sermon From Rocky Point Home-build” – Matthew 7:24-29
- February 17 ASH WEDNESDAY – Services at 12 noon and 7:30 pm
- February 21 African American Sunday – 1 Corinthians 12:12-20
Preacher: Asst. Chief Jeri Williams of the Phoenix Police Department.
- February 28 “Guilt and Confession” – 1 John 1:5-2:2

This year in lent we will be doing a preaching and worship series on “What we can learn from other denominations.” Each week will be a topic like “Guilt and Confession,” that another denomination understands in a way that might teach us something. Some of our worship practices may draw on those of other denominations, so come prepared to do things a little differently. Perhaps the Spirit will speak!