

Desert Hills

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Quail Notes

JULY 2013

Celebrating Grace, Making Disciples, Making a Difference

Christmas in July: Let's Decorate the Tree!

It's July again, and that means "Christmas-time" at Desert Hills! We have the opportunity once again to have fun and **Make a Difference** by decorating the tall tree standing in the fellowship hall during July. Global Missions and Social Concerns Committees are co-sponsors of this event. Each Good Gift you "buy" helps the needy in our Green Valley/Sahuarita community or around the world. Some of the options are milk for the Food Bank, malaria nets, clean water, or animals for families overseas who struggle to keep their children healthy and fed.

Please look for the tree in the fellowship hall, buy a gift, and put your ornament on the tree. Gifts will be available to purchase July 20-21, and 27-28 after each worship service. Please make your check out to Desert Hills Lutheran Church, and write "water," "goat," etc. in the memo section. Let's cover the tree with ornaments representing these Good Gifts! *(Continued on page 7.)*



Greetings
Friends and Members of
Desert Hills Lutheran Church

Welcome to the monsoon month of July. Soon the humidity will begin to rise here in southern Arizona and the rains will come. I love the month but have to be more careful riding the cycle; the weather can turn ugly in the afternoons. At Desert Hills we continue to celebrate grace every weekend with our four services.

Attendance is lower in the summers but not the energy. Hopefully soon we will have some good news to announce on the capital campaign for the organ. We'll keep you posted and if you have made a pledge, thank you very much. Bible Fellowship continues on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. We will be looking at selected parts of the Gospels using a new book by one of my favorite Bible scholars, Kenneth Bailey, called Jesus through Mediterranean Eyes. On July 25 I'll start the summer round of New Member Classes. And during the month Julie and I will steal away for some short vacation days off.

For those of you up in the north, I'm hoping the weather is giving you lots of time outside. Down here we enjoy the coolness of mornings and evenings and then lay low during mid-day. For those away, I hope you have found a place of worship. Bring ideas back from your time there. In the meantime we will continue to celebrate God's grace, make disciples (starting with ourselves), and making a difference.

*Blessings to you all,
Pastor Martin*



Grace Notes

by Director of Music Ministry Judy Starr

Some people have never seen a handbell up close. They are made of brass and the center clapper may be rotated to make a bright or less bright sound. Players wear gloves while playing to protect the bells from the oils of the hands. Each bell has a pitch of its own such as A or A flat. The bells are laid out in the same order as a piano keyboard. The first tuned handbells were developed by brothers Robert and William Cor in Aldbourne, Wiltshire,

A Little Help for the Altar Guild

If you're available to help the Altar Guild at the 5:00 p.m. or 11:00 a.m. service, please contact Beth Johnson at 399-0911.



A big welcome to the youth bell choir, Lord of the Ringers, via our newly formed Music Academy for students in grades 6–12, under the direction of Stephanie Kaufman.

Movie and Hot Dogs!

On Saturday, August 17, at 2:00 p.m., the Fellowship Committee will be showing the film *Secretariat*, followed by hot dogs, chips, and a drink. There will be a free will offering to help defray the cost of the food. Behind every legend lies an impossible dream. Penny Chenery Tweedy and colleagues guide her long-shot but precocious stallion to set, in 1973, the unbeaten record for winning the Triple Crown.

Leaving for the summer? Or have you already left?

Please let the church office know when you're leaving so we can update our records. (Call 520-648-1633, e-mail frontdesk@dhlc.org, or make a note on a *CONNECTION CARD*.) Travel safely and enjoy your summer. We look forward to seeing you when you return!



2150 S. Camino del Sol
Green Valley, AZ 85622-8352
520-648-1633 ■ www.dhlc.org

Worship Times

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
Holy Communion is celebrated the first and third weekends at all services.

Sunday School Classes at 9:30 a.m.
September-May

Office Hours

8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Dr. Martin N. Overson, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Richard Lind, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Karen Nelson, *Summer Visitation Pastor*

Quail Notes newsletter is published monthly.

E-mail articles for consideration for the august edition by August 10 to ldegrassi@dhlc.org.
Limit articles to 300 words or less. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

† Abiding in God's Eternal Care †

Lois Carlson,
who died on June 2. A memorial
service will be held in Iowa
at a future date



Joel Plienis
son of Gayle Plienis, who died on
June 8. A memorial service was held
on June 14 in South Dakota.

Library News

Look for our latest featured author Liz Curtis Higgs and her inspirational books. Liz is the author of 30 books, with more than 4.5 million copies in print. In her best-selling *Bad Girls of the Bible* series, Liz breathes new life into ancient tales about the most infamous—and intriguing—women in history, from Jezebel to Mary Magdalene. The library is located at the west end of the fellowship hall. The library committee selects a featured author every few months. If you know of an author that would be a welcome addition to our library please call Gail Brendemuehl at 398-5703.



Footloose Singles

The group will meet for lunch at San Ignacio Grill, 4201 S. Camino Del Sol, after the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, July 14. Meet in the church office area to car pool, or go directly to the restaurant. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall so we know how many to make the reservation for. All singles are welcome!

Save the Date!

For those waiting for another trip to the Gaslight Theater, the Footloose Singles group will go to a production of *Frankenstein* on October 27 for the matinee at 3:00 p.m.



GLOBAL MISSION

Cleaning out Closets This Summer?

The Global Mission Team is collecting items for Newborn Kits that will be shipped to developing countries by Global Health Ministries, a Lutheran organization in Minnesota, committed to supporting medical teams in saving lives. Pregnant women are encouraged to deliver their babies in a hospital for the well-being of mother and infant. As an incentive, they are promised a Newborn Kit, consisting of a knitted hat, a bar of soap, a washcloth and towel, a receiving blanket and a square of sheeting on which they will deliver. Desert Hills Lutheran has been so generous in this project! As of June 2, we have received 51 adorable hats, 10 bars of soap, 10 receiving blankets, 32 washcloths, and 6 pairs of booties. The soap and washcloths are important, but so is a towel to dry the baby. If you find a great sale on towels or sheets, or have some gently used ones in your linen closet that you no longer need, please put them on the collection shelf in the hallway outside the kitchen identified as "Newborn Kits."

Meet Our New Missionaries

On the Global Mission Prayer Wall in the hallway of the fellowship hall are photos of our two new ELCA missionary couples, The Rev. Chad and Natalie Rimmer and the Rev. Lancelot and Kwena Themba. In Senegal, Pastor Chad participates in the church's growing programs for theological education and development, sharing in the unique experience of Christian/Muslim relations through the interfaith center in Dakar. Pastor Lancelot serves as the ELCA representative for West Africa, responsible for companion relationships in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Ghana. He also serves as a resource for theological education, interfaith relations, and evangelism.

DHLC has committed to supporting these missionaries, as well as others on our Prayer Wall, financially and prayerfully. When asked what to pray for, missionaries typically respond that they ask for prayer for their effectiveness in ministry, a loving spirit, and personal and spiritual safety. Take time to pray for our missionaries daily.

Foundation Corner

For many churches, stewardship takes place in the fall of the year, with focused sermons, pledge cards, etc. In actuality, stewardship is a continuous, on-going activity in the church (witness our most recent capital appeal for building expansion, the current organ-fund campaign, and our weekly offerings).

The Bible addresses the issue of giving in a variety of ways. Strong's Concordance of the Bible (1989 edit.) lists 139 verses containing the word 'money'. Tithing, treasure, and sacrifice are listed 53, 37, and 205 times, respectively.

Jesus spoke directly to his followers, and through scripture, continues to speak to us today regarding our money and other possessions. As we continue in our giving, the following verses (you can look them up!) serve as Biblical reminders:
Mark 10:20-22; 12:41-44;
Mathew 25:14-19; Luke 12:16-21; 33-34.

The Board of Directors of the DHLC Foundation invites each of us to prayerfully consider a gift to the Foundation in your stewardship planning.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

365-Day Challenges

The parking lot at Safeway might be empty this time of year, but the parking lot at the Food Bank is full all year long. For those with inadequate resources to feed their families hunger is a 365-day challenge.

Area agencies like the Food Bank—and Valley Assistance Services, Friends in Deed, Crossroads Mission, Amado Youth Center, and many, more—need those of us who call this community home to step forward and make a difference. We are fortunate to have winter visitors pitch in November through April, but this time of year is it up to us to keep the torch of love and concern burning brightly.

- Let's fill the Food Bank donation boxes in the lobby to the brim with non-perishables the first weekend of the month, and add monetary contributions to the offering basket so perishables can be purchased. Kids without access to school lunches in the summer will thank you. Call Debby at 625-5252 to volunteer your help with distribution and shelving.
- People need transportation to doctor's appointments whether it is summer or winter. In a community with no public transportation, Friends in Deed tries to fill the gap with volunteers like us—give them a call, 625-1150.
- Utility bills and rent don't go down in the summer just because the snowbirds have gone north. Valley Assistance services needs volunteers to help families learn to budget so they can keep a roof over their heads. Call Sandy at 625-5966 to lend a hand. And help DHLC gather toys and books for the children of the stressed families VAS serves. A collection box is in the narthex the third week of each month.
- Crossroads Mission in Nogales, AZ, depends on teams of DHLC volunteers to prepare lunch for their needy guests. We've promised to help almost every Friday year-round. September and October have numerous opportunities to help. Find out why our volunteers rave about this experience. Call DHLC summer coordinator Joyce Nielsen, 625-3132.
- This summer is garden time at the Amado Youth Center. DHLC volunteers Kayleen LeMaster and Peggy Bowker are helping the children learn how plant, tend, and harvest a kitchen garden in the raised beds built by volunteers. It is a win-win for all involved . . . and we definitely need more DHLC people involved with gardening, woodworking, reading, sewing, arts and crafts, and more. Give Kayleen a call at 399-0653.

With Thankful Hearts

We still can't express our gratitude to Paula, Gerald, and their team for coordinating and conducting our estate sale. We are delighted and blessed with the results. Thank you very much. — Ron and Sharon Linnertz

Thank you very much for your card remembering Jerry. He will be laid to rest at 11:00 in the Fort Snelling Cemetery on June 17. I sincerely thank you for your caring thought. — Deloris Paulson

What a pleasant surprise to receive a beautiful bouquet of flowers with a wonderful message, and to have a very nice visit with Flo Stendahl, the messenger! It's great to be a part of such a loving, caring congregation! Tony died about two months ago and this gift was a very thoughtful gesture. — Lois Sostarich



The children at Amado Youth Center are decorating paver stepping stones to place around their new vegetable garden.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Luncheon, Monday, July 8, 11:30 a.m.

The menu will be hamburgers on the grill with condiments, coleslaw, and dessert. Following the lunch, Dr. Virginia Juettner, Superintendent of the Continental School District, will be our speaker. To reserve a spot, fill out a *CONNECTION CARD* from the church pews or contact the church office by Wednesday before the luncheon. There will be a \$5.00 donation at the door.

Gather Bible Study Event, September 14, 2013

Rt. Rev. Kay Ward will be the featured speaker when she comes to Grace Lutheran Church in Phoenix to give an introduction to the Bible Study Series she has written for *Gather* magazine. *Gather* is the magazine for Woman of the ELCA and Rev. Ward is the author of the nine-month Bible Study, "In Good Company: Stories of Biblical Woman." Rev. Ward was the first woman to be chosen as bishop in the Moravian church's 550-year history. She was ordained in 1979 and consecrated bishop in 1998. She lives in a log cabin in central Wisconsin with her husband. They have four children and three grandchildren. The cost for this all-day event (9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) will be \$25.00, which includes lunch. The registration form can be found on the Grand Canyon Women of the ELCA website. Go to www.grandcanyonwomen.org for all the details. Some women will be driving to Phoenix on the Friday evening before.

Women's Retreat January 3-5, 2014

This retreat will be held at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Paradise Valley, AZ. The title of the retreat is "Renew a Right Spirit Within me." More details coming soon!

Looking Ahead: The 9th Triennial Gathering in Charlotte, N.C., July 24-27, 2014

An information booklet, complete with all the activities, speakers, and lodging will be mailed out this summer. If you do not receive a booklet, contact Suki Kisling at 702-493-7436.

Buzzings from the Bee and Boutique Banter

After a well-deserved month off, the Sewing Bee is back at work every Wednesday morning from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon in the fellowship hall.

Time off was put to good use individually with "homework" preparing sewn and craft items. We have only four more months before November 9 to create our handmade goods for the annual Fall Boutique Sale. This event donates 100% of profits to nearby charities. We are counting on our congregation and friends to make this effort a success by offering their handiwork. Wood working, kitchen items, linens, baby gifts, quilts, greeting cards, needlework, and holiday decorations as well as gourmet baked goods, jams, and preserves are the most popular sellers.

Please participate in this wonderful project and experience the joy of making a difference.

As Americans live longer we are confronted as a retirement community to address issues and situations that you and I cannot turn our heads from, to discuss and plan for. As we become aware of some of these aging changes, some tend to isolate themselves from family and friends and/or deny they are having some challenging predicaments living independently. The most common challenges are a significant change in health from a stroke with mobility issues, eyesight, and memory loss.

- If you have suffered a stroke, have mobility issues, have eyesight concerns, or memory loss the next challenge is “DRIVING”. Giving up the car keys can feel like the end of independence. Unfortunately there are many drivers that are seriously impaired in their ability to drive, which puts everyone at risk. We often depend on one another, a friend or neighbor to help us, but they may also have some medical challenges and/or are not available to help. So, where do we go from here?
- Re-evaluate your driving skills – drifting out of your lane, finding other drivers honk their horns at you, having trouble remembering where you left your car, frequent near misses or minor fender bender accidents (dents and scratches that point to parking troubles), slower reaction times, driving at night, tickets for moving violations, and impairment in cognitive ability related to certain medications.
- Take a refresher driving class.
- Contact AAA and AARP to have a no-cost CarFit check. CarFit checkup events have trained technicians and health professionals ensure that drivers “fit” their vehicle properly for maximum comfort and safety. (Adjusting the seat for driving, mirrors or steering wheels). Some modifications and evaluations help the driver feel more secure, but also create an awareness to establish a plan toward giving up those car keys.
- Talk with family and friends to look for alternative transportation (see below).
- Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance, wisdom, strength, and courage, and reflect on your deepest values and the worst-case scenario—a fatal crash that can leave someone or you disabled or dead.
- Give up those car keys.

Anna Tometzak, RN, Parish Nurse

“...even to your old age I am he, even when you turn gray I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save”

Isaiah 46:4

Resources

www.seniordriving.aaa.com/
www.car-fit.org/

Friends in Deed

(Please call at least 48 hours and up to 14 days in advance)
 520-625-4424
 M-F from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Arizona Senior Transport

520-573-6221

Arizona SunShuttle

www.suntran.com/
 (520) 792-9222

MEN’S MINISTRY

After taking the month of June off for a summer break, **Men’s Bible Study** will resume on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. beginning on July 11. This study is open to all men as we continue reviewing Paul’s letter to the Romans in Chapter 8.

Men’s Fellowship Breakfast will take place on July 25 at 8:30am in the fellowship hall. The featured Speaker will be Bob Philips, Executive Director of the Santa Cruz Community Foundation. Please sign up by e-mailing frontdesk@dhlc.org, calling the office at 648-1633, or placing a note on the back of the pew CONNECTION CARD.

Men@Work, a group of working men under the age of 65 will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month (July 9 and 23) at 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we plan our future summer and early fall agendas.

Milk: \$10 provides approximately three gallons of milk to Green Valley Food Bank for children in our area. Desert Hills Lutheran is a leading contributor to the Food Bank fund, which supplies fresh milk and eggs for the needy in our community.



Malaria Nets: \$10 buys a net that can save the life of a person in a malaria-prone area. To most of us in the United States, mosquitoes are nothing more than a nuisance. But in many countries in Africa, just one bite from an infected mosquito could transmit malaria and lead to death. A bed net treated with long-lasting insecticide helps ensure that children are protected from this life-threatening disease as they sleep.

Clean Water: \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100 shares help provide safe drinking water for some of the 1.2 billion people who do not have access.



Chicks: \$10 buys 10 chicks to provide a family with a plentiful supply of eggs, and an ongoing supply of nutrition.



Pig: \$30 buys a pig for a family to help break the cycle of poverty.



Goat: \$50 provides a goat for a needy family; goats are hardy and provide nutritious milk.



Fish Farm: \$250 builds and stocks a community fish farm, providing protein-rich food for many families.

For members and friends of DHLC who are not in Green Valley in July, you are invited to take part in the "Christmas in July" fun! An ornament will be put on the tree for each gift you purchase. Just fill out the form below and send with a check for the corresponding amount made out to DHLC.

Desert Hills Lutheran Church, Attn: Christmas in July
2150 S. Camino del Sol, Green Valley, AZ 85614

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

I/we would like to give the gift of: _____

Enclosed find a check for: \$ _____

Your gift is tax-deductible. Thank you!

***"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."
Matthew 25:35***

Congregation Council Meeting Minutes May 21, 2013

Present: Pastor Overson, Don Brown, bb Haywood, Betty Colongione, Janice Mounce, Jane Brunckhorst

On Phone: Pastor Lind and Dick Gardner
Staff: David Thatcher
Not Present: Kelly Elliott

Don Brown, president, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Pastor Overson led the Council in an opening reading from a book by Pastor Herbert Chilstrom entitled "Praying for Peace."

Treasurer's Report: David Thatcher reported that the Capital Appeal is strong and there are no major changes in the Organ Fund. Eight families have committed \$65,000 to the organ fund. Promotional and commitment materials will be sent to the congregation the first weekend of June.

Secretary's Report: President Don Brown thanked Dick Gardner for his two-year commitment as Secretary. Betty Colongione tentatively committed to taking Council notes.

Pastor's Report: Each Council member received a "discussion set of questions" for the Council's upcoming retreat in November. Each Council member will critique the questions, take three items for discussion at the next council meeting from the four categories, and add other points if not listed.

The Council reviewed the dashboard.

Discussion items: Motion m/s/p to make a gift of \$1,000 to each of two new congregations to be welcomed at the 2013 Grand Canyon Synod Assembly June 14-15, 2013. Iglesia Luterana Via Nueva, Phoenix, AZ, and Maricopa Lutheran, Maricopa AZ. Funds from the Blethen account will be used. (continued on p. 8)

Council Meeting Minutes from p. 7

President Don Brown and Pastor Martin Overson will attend the Assembly meeting.

Inserts to the bulletins have been received from the Lutheran Disaster Response for financial assistance to the Moore, Oklahoma tornado disaster.

Council liaison assignments postponed to our next meeting.

Staff/Council joint retreat: Invitation to Council members to attend the staff retreat on June 20 at Grill on the Green from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Invitation to Council members to attend the Willow Creek Global Leadership Summit at Pantano Church, Tucson, on August 8 and 9. DHLC staff plan to attend and Council members have been invited to participate.

The Council elected the following officers: Don Brown, President; Jane Brunckhorst, Vice-President; Betty Colongione, Secretary; and Ron Smeltzer, Treasurer.

The Council authorized the following as signers on the church accounts: Don Brown, President; Jane Brunckhorst, Vice-President; Betty Colongione, Secretary; Ron Smeltzer, Treasurer and David Thatcher, Administrator.

Decision to set a new time for Council meetings to be determined when all members are present. Meeting closed with a prayer for bb's upcoming hip surgery and the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council meeting will be at 5:00 p.m. on June 11, 2013.

Betty Colongione, Secretary

Congregation Council Meeting Minutes June 11, 2013

Present: Pastor Overson, Don Brown, Betty Colongione, Janice Mounce, Jane Brunckhorst, Kelly Elliott, Ron Smeltzer

On Phone: Pastor Lind, Dick Gardner

Not Present: bb Haywood, David Thatcher

Don Brown, President, called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m

Treasurer's Report: Ron reported capital appeal contributions on target. Received buy-out from Blethen in the amount of \$376,000.00. \$300,000.00 prepaid to principal on mortgage and \$76,000.00 to Benevolence Ministries Funding.

Secretary's Report: May, 2013 minutes m/s/p as amended.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported information from our Communications Coordinator that during the month of May we had 131 first-time visitors; 114 visitors returned for the second time.

Action Items: Motion to allocate on a monthly basis the sum of \$1,000.00 (\$800 designated for local funding and \$200 for non-local funding) representing the 20% benevolence portion of the Blethen buy-out was tabled until July meeting.

Discussion Items: Council calendar was presented and discussed. Detailed discussion followed on Goals and Objectives for Council 2013-14.

Committee Reports: none

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer. Next meeting, July 23, 2013. Betty Colongione, Secretary

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