



PINNACLE VISTAS

The Newsletter for Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale, Ariz. • April 2008

PINNACLE YOUTH BREAK GROUND FOR THE NEW YOUTH BUILDING



On Palm Sunday, we broke ground for the new Youth Building. Middle and high school youth turned out to help with the ceremony. The building project will result in much needed space for the ever-growing youth population in our church.

To complete this project, we are only \$150,000 short in pledges. As we begin construction, we ask that you consider a pledge to help build and support the faith of our youth for years to come. Pledge cards are available in the office and in the Narthex.

INSIDE...

PASTOR'S LETTER What's a Deacon, and what do they do? **PAGE 2**

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS PPC to help another Katrina-ravaged family. **PAGE 7**

WHAT IS A DEACON AND WHAT DO THEY DO AT PINNACLE?

If you didn't grow up in the Presbyterian Church, you may wonder about some of the strange words we use at times. *Deacon* is one of those words. It is a word found in the Greek New Testament: *diakonein*, which means "to serve."

Our Presbyterian Book of Order says that, "The office of Deacon as set forth in scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. It is the duty of Deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith."

A few years ago at Pinnacle, we increased the size of the Board of Deacons from 12 to 32 people. One of the reasons for doing this was because we have grown so fast as a congregation and we wanted to do a better job of caring for and reaching out to you, the members the church.

It is important that the ministers reach out and know people in the church, but we need help doing this! We are a "priesthood of all believers."

To this end, we divided the members of the church into CARE Community Networks. In other words, each Deacon has a small group of members that they reach out to on occasion.

This means that if you have been ill, lost a loved one, are celebrating a baptism or birth, or some other life situation occurs (if we know about it) a Deacon will contact you.

If you are new to the church, a Deacon will contact you as a way of welcoming you and helping you find your way in the life of the church. Sometimes Deacons will just write a note or an e-mail inviting you to an event at the church.



Rev. Mac Schafer,
interim pastor

Please see **LETTER** on page 4

JUST COFFEE HAS ARRIVED

One-pound bags of aromatic Just Coffee in regular and decaf whole bean and ground will be available on the West Terrace each Sunday in April.

Just Coffee is \$10 per pound, or three pounds for \$25.



VISTA DEL CAMINO NEEDS FOOD DONATIONS

Your donations of non-perishable foods for Vista Del Camino are always appreciated.

Pinnacle will be collecting those items plus personal care items on Sunday, April 27, for our monthly food drive.

Vista del Camino is also looking for volunteers to work in the food bank.

If interested, please call Pat in the Vista del Camino office at 480.312.2323 or Barbara Gust at 480.315.1701.

SERVE THE HUNGRY AT ANDRE HOUSE

Please join PPC members in assisting Andre House with their mission of hospitality for the homeless as they daily provide approximately 600 meals, six days a week.

For April, we need volunteers for Tuesday, April 8; Thursday, April 10; and Sunday, April 27. To volunteer or to ask questions about donations please contact Lila Kleinkopf at 480.893.3646 or lkleinkopf@cox.net.

SUMMER DONATIONS As summer approaches and temperatures increase, the needs for donated items for the homeless change.

Please see **MISSIONS** on page 4

VOLUNTEER

Monday, April 7

Mission Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 8

Andre House
Knit Wits

Thursday, April 10

Andre House

Sunday, April 27

Andre House
Vista del Camino Food Drive

LETTER From page 2

CARE Community Networks is a way for us to connect with you and let you know the church is present in your life through relationships!

But Deacons do so much more: They coordinate hospitality on the West Terrace every Sunday morning. The ushers and greeters are coordinated through the Deacons. If someone is sick, the Deacons' run "Soul Food" to provide meals. All the ministries associated with Vista del Camino (Adopt A Family, Monthly Food Drives, and Back To School Backpack Drives) are run through the Deacons. Communion, Fall Roundup, Memorial Service Refreshments, the Prayer Chain, Fellowship Events, the Blood Drive and New Members classes all get coordinated through the Deacons.

On the next two pages are pictures of the Deacons. We hope this helps you know who your Deacon is.

All the ministries mentioned above need Deacons AND members of the church to help them run smoothly. I invite you to get involved in some of these ministries.

And remember that what is behind being a Deacon is not "more program," but the things of God: hospitality, welcome, care, assimilation, fellowship, justice, love of neighbor, communication and listening!

The Peace of Christ be with you,

— Mac

MISSIONS From page 3

Summer needs include sun screen, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, large bottles of shampoo, razors, phone cards, men's underwear (especially sizes 30-40), women's underwear (especially large sizes), and athletic socks.

The Mission Committee is designating Sunday, April 20, as Undie Sunday.

The Andre House tubs will be in the Narthex, at the top of the stairs by the nursery and near the choir entrance to collect the above items for Andre House.

MEET YOUR DEACONS



Andrea Terhune
Moderator



Jane Barber
Vista del Camino



Virginia Belt
New Connections



Carol Bower
Greeters



Wendy Brown
7:30 Service
Hospitality



Barbara Clark
Assimilation



Linda Coughenour
Food Drive



Amy Dahlby
Sunday
Hospitality



Meredith Downing
Cong. Life



Molly Edwards
Congregational
Life



Barbara Gust
Food Drive



Beth Heisler
Communion



Jessie Lampkin
Youth Deacon



Tom LeClaire
Special Hospitality



Lauren Leinweber
Youth Deacon



Irene O'Hare
Memorials & New
Connections

MEET YOUR DEACONS (CONTINUED)



Jim Paisley
CARE



Kris Paisley
Assimilation



Jan Premo
Assimilation



Bob Purkey
Ushers



Russ Sopeland
Ushers & Blood Drive



Marilyn Sorenson
CARE



Susan Stanton
Card Ministry



Jim Stull
Blood Drive



Estelle Wade
Communion



Krista Walker
Soul Food



Jim Watson
Greeters & Blood Drive



Stephanie Webster
CARE

DEACONS NOT PICTURED:

Ted Weis, Vista del Camino,

Christine Hobbi, Visioning Committee

Jenafer Forrest, Congregational Life

Ian Lisk, Sunday Hospitality



Sarah Zamora
Fall Round-up

DID YOU KNOW?

2,070 people attended this year's Easter services.

This was the largest attended Sunday in Pinnacle's 18-year history.

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS PROJECT: 2008

“While I'll always remember your hearts... the pictures help me remember (you and your church) who helped us get our lives back.”

That's from a “thank you” message from Laura Ward whose family home in New Orleans our mission team roofed and sided last December.



Thanks to the generosity of Presbyterian congregations, including ours, and the Project Homecoming staff of the

Presbytery of South Louisiana, over 300 homes of elderly, disabled and low-income families have been rehabilitated. But the job is not finished.

Pinnacle has again decided to assist one family, the Aidoo family, to complete the rehab of their Hurricane Katrina-damaged home and allow them to spend Christmas 2008 in it. The floodwaters of Katrina inundated their house and forced them to evacuate to Katy, Texas, near Houston.

Before the storm, George and his wife, Yvonne, worked full time in New Orleans. Now, Yvonne works full time in Katy, where 11-year-old son, George Jr., goes to school. George Sr. works temporary positions so he can travel back and forth to New Orleans to work on their house.

Although the home was insured, the company that held the mortgage used the insurance proceeds to “force pay-off” their loan, leaving the family with no funds to rebuild. The Project Homecoming construction manager estimates it will cost \$28,000 to rehabilitate the house.

Pinnacle will hold a Special Offering on Sunday, April 13, to get the Aidoo family home by Christmas. The Mission Committee asks every family and individual in our congregation to prayerfully consider making a gift to the project through the church. Members can also send a contribution to the church office marked “Home for Christmas” Project.

Pinnacle also is planning to send another mission team to New Orleans the week of Oct. 5 to work on the Aidoo house or another house.

An informational meeting will be held at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 20, in the Fellowship Hall, Room 1.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

B-I-N-G-O!

Come join the fun at our first annual All Church Bingo Night on Friday, April 18, from 6:30-8 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Bring a prize for our prize table (re-gifting is encouraged). Kids and adult prizes are welcome.

We'll share popcorn and drinks and lots of fun and fellowship.

Please let Shelly Core know if you plan to attend at score@pinnaclepres.org or 480.585.9448 x209.



VBS AND THE POWER OF JESUS

Vacation Bible School discovers Jesus' miraculous power. Join us June 2-6 from 9 a.m.-noon for Power Lab.

Registration and volunteer forms may be found on Pinnacle's Web site, www.pinnaclepres.org, under Children information.

Please contact Shelly Core if you have any questions at score@pinnaclepres.org.

CLUB 46 WRAPS UP YEAR WITH CLIMBING AND CHOCOLATE

Our final event will be held April 27 at AZ on the Rocks. Please meet at the church at 2:30 p.m. and we will carpool to the indoor climbing facility, then return to Fellowship Hall for dinner and a chocolate fondue dessert.

All climbers must have a parent complete a permission slip. *No exceptions.* You can get a form at www.azontherocks.com/forms.shtml#kidsteens. All nine initial boxes must be completed.

Groups are limited to 25 climbers. Admission is \$12 plus \$5 for gear rental plus tax.

Please contact Shelly Core if you plan to attend or have any questions at score@pinnaclepres.org or 480.585.9448 x209.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISMS

Brooke Elaina Davis, child of **Carol and Wallace Davis**

Marshall Conner Lasater, child of **Kirsten and Lance Lasater**

SYMPATHY

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

Kay and Dean Wetzel on the death of Kay's mother, **Ruth Barnhouse**

Ann Bowers and family on the death of her husband, **Don Bowers**

Marlene Sawottke on the death of her brother, **Ric Stoehrman**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

COMING IN APRIL CHURCH SCHOOL...

Look at what the Spring has in store for Church School:

■ **Three- and 4-year-olds** explore God's word, and His desire for us to be kind and tell everyone about the Lord. Our young ones will learn that we can help others learn about God with the words we say, with our kind actions, by taking care of God's house, and sharing God's word.

■ **Kindergarteners** explore more about what God wants from us... that God calls us to worship him only, God calls us to follow him, God calls us to obey him, and God calls us to help others.

■ **1st-4th Graders** are learning about the appearances of the Holy Spirit in different ways. They will be cooking in the kitchen, listening to storytelling, and improvising from the Bible.

■ **5th and 6th Graders** continue their journey in the Old Testament, focusing on the writings of wisdom, especially Proverbs, the story of Job, and how the Northern Kingdom and Southern Kingdom came to be.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLUB WED!

Please note our final Club Wed! gathering will be on April 30 for a special dinner celebration.

■ **Lamb Brigade** will be learning about our relationship with God – how God is a helper, we don't need to be afraid, to hear the word of God and obey, and to learn to obey God.

■ **Lion Pride** will be focused on Pentecost, how Peter and John heal, and learn of Saul's life changing experience on the road to Damascus.

■ **Questers** will be continuing their exploration of joy by looking at David's life - when he fights a big giant, when he wants to be king, in his prayer of thanksgiving, and when he shows kindness to others.

PUT ON YOUR TARTAN (OR OTHER TRADITIONAL CLOTHING) AND JOIN US

Pinnacle will have a Kirkin' o' the Tartans worship service at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday, May 4.

In Scotland, the events leading to the Proscription Act of 1746 made it illegal to wear or even display the tartan, much less play the bagpipes or sing Highland songs.



(A tartan is a woolen cloth woven in one of several patterns of plaid, especially of a design associated with a particular Scottish clan.) Yet, the Scotsfolks remained determined to hold fast to their ancient identities. To that end, an “underground” Kirkin' o' the Tartans would often be held.

The clans would usually walk to their nearest Kirk (church) in an orderly fashion, secretly carrying swatches of the material to be “kirked.” Then, at a time and pre-arranged signal known only to both clergy and parishoners, the clans people would hold their tiny bits, while the presiding minister blessed the cloth in fluent Scottish Gaelic.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) finds its roots in Scotland. It is in the spirit of this tradition that we will have this service.

We invite those with Scottish decent to come dressed in their family plaid with a piece of the tartan to be blessed. In the spirit of our unity in diversity, we also invite people to wear dress of their family country of origin and bring a piece of fabric from their native land to be blessed.

KNIT WITS HELP HOSPITALIZED VETERANS

Thanks to the Knit Wits, hospitalized veterans are now able to operate their Wii machines. They are enjoying the many movies that our congregation so generously donated.

Our next meeting is at 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, in the Fellowship Hall, Room 2. Please join us. Call Mary Brack at 480.502.0118 if you have questions.

LEARN TO KNIT OR CROCHET It's not too late to sign up for knitting or crocheting classes. You need not be a church member. The date and time can be worked out with Dawn Sheaffer. Contact her at 602.370.9287.

PLANNING FOR THE YEARS AHEAD

Bill Bennett, our church attorney, and Rev. Fran Park, Pastoral Associate, will be leading a seminar on Life Event Planning at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 13, in the Chapel Conference Room.

Rev. Park will talk about the Memorial Garden and end-of-life planning. Bennett will cover the following topics: Durable General Power of Attorney, Durable Healthcare Power of Attorney, Living Wills, and how to register directives with the state of Arizona. Time permitting, he would also be able to cover general questions relating to wills, life time gifts and living trusts.

Pinnacle Presbyterian Foundation is pleased to offer our members an opportunity to hear attorney Bill Bennett share some important ideas about Life Event Planning.

MEMORIAL GARDEN VESPER SERVICE IS APRIL 27

Pinnacle will hold a Memorial Garden Vesper Service at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 27, in the Memorial Garden. This vesper service is for friends and families of those interred in the Memorial Garden.

We previously scheduled this service in the fall but postponed it due to repair work in the Memorial Garden. This work has been completed.

Please RSVP with Mary Albrektsen in the church office if you or your family plan to attend this service.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE ON APRIL 12

The fourth annual Blessing of the Animals Service will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 12, on the Green.

In many cases a pet really is a part of the family and plays a significant role in one's well being. This service has been well attended and well received. It's a family event and anyone who has a well-behaved house pet (including reptiles, hamsters, gerbils, birds, bunnies, dogs or cats) may bring their pet on a leash or in a cage.

If you have questions, please contact Marilyn Strohan at 480.588.6109.



JOIN THE FIESTA IN APRIL

It's a Fiesta! Pinnacle's Youth are throwing a party for the whole congregation.

On Friday, April 11, the Youth will be hosting a Mexican dinner for the congregation. The money raised will go to the High School Mission Trip (see below).

Tickets will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 and under. Tickets will be on sale after the service on Sunday, April 6. Or contact Kristin at 480.585.9448 by April 6 to get your tickets.

SPONSOR A YOUTH FOR SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Our High School Youth will be participating in a weeklong mission trip to Hollywood. There they will work at a nonprofit organization that reaches out to the impoverished community located in the downtown area.

This trip will illuminate the poverty that exists within our nation and help the youth understand what they can do to address the very real needs of people who are suffering.

To make this trip happen, we need your help. Each youth that attends is responsible for paying \$300 towards the trip. The total cost per youth is closer to \$600.

We are encouraging members of our congregation to sponsor a youth for the mission



trip. Your sponsorship will not only entail helping fund our trip, but also give you the opportunity to support the youth you sponsor in a spiritual way through prayer and encouragement.

Watch for more details during worship and in the church bulletin. If you are interested in sponsoring one of our youth, please contact Kristin. Your devotion and commitment to these youth will have a lasting impact on their lives and on their faith.

PINNACLE CONCERT SERIES

IT'S SHOWTIME AS THE PINNACLE CONCERT SERIES WRAPS UP SEASON

It's Showtime! Chancel Choir Goes to the Theatre concludes the 2007-08 Pinnacle Concert Series at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 13.

Here is your chance to experience the sounds of Broadway in your own backyard. Join Pinnacle's Chancel Choir members as



they step out of their choir robes and into the spotlight for an afternoon of merry music-making. Be ready to hear your favorite show tunes sung in a way that will put a smile on your face and a song in your heart!

Premium seating tickets are \$30; standard adult tickets, \$20; students, \$5. Proceeds from the concert will fund scholarships for our children and youth to attend choir camp at St. Olaf College this summer.

HELP SENIORS, JOIN FAITH IN ACTION

Beatitudes Center DOAR is a non-profit organization — partnering with more than 150 congregations of various faiths — serving homebound elders and their caregivers, adults with disabilities, grandparents raising grandchildren, and faith communities promoting health and well-being.

As a volunteer, you can serve through the VICaP Faith in Action program. You will match up with a homebound elder or disabled adult on a schedule that fits your needs.

To attend a VICaP orientation or to make a tax-deductible donation, call the DOAR offices at 602.285.0543 for more information.

WELCOME OUR NEW FRIENDS

Say "hello" to our newest members.



Cheryl Clarkin
(not pictured, James)



Mary LaValley



Nan and Sam
Mullen



James Upchurch

JOIN US

NEW CONNECTION CLASS

We'd love to have you join us at Pinnacle, too. Our next New Connection class is at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 27.

VISTAS CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

To make it easy for you to let others know what's going on with your group, there are two ways to submit articles to *Vistas*.

Contribution via the church Web site, www.pinnaclepres.org/vistas/contribute.html, or e-mail to Pinnacle.Vistas@gmail.com.

AMIGOS TO RATE RESTAURANTS

Join old friends and meet new ones in the annual Amigos Restaurant Review on April 20.

This long-standing event will have different restaurants to sample and rate, all located in the Northeast Valley.

Amigos are going to continue the tried and true format of prior years, including the wide open discussion about the restaurants following the dinners. More information will appear in the Sunday bulletin.

STABLE HOUSING FOR ALL: A HOMELESS INITIATIVE

For the many community sectors that collaborated to develop Phoenix's Human Services Campus, a related objective is to serve as a catalyst for other needed solutions to homelessness in Maricopa County.

The creation of HSC has significantly increased access to services for the homeless, yet establishing permanent supportive housing is a viable long-term solution to bringing stability to their lives.

Ending homelessness will require champions like you, volunteers who are willing to drive the mobilization efforts of public and private resources to establish stable affordable housing. The goal is to fund at least 400 units of permanent supportive housing each year for the next 10 years.

The faith-based community goal is \$10 per church member per year. Please contact the church office, at 480.585.9448, to connect with a PPC Mission Steering Committee member. Will you please help?

PPC ON THE WEB



Don't forget to visit us online for the latest information about Pinnacle Presbyterian Church. You'll find calendars, activity listings and photos of events. Also listen to sermons online.

ITUNES PODCAST

Now you can log onto the iTunes Music Store and subscribe to the free PPC Sermon Podcast to have them automatically downloaded to your computer or iPod. Search for "Pinnacle Presbyterian."

VISTAS ONLINE Also, you can download PDF versions of this and previous issues of *Pinnacle Vistas*. Print them or e-mail them to share with your friends and family.

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