
July 2009

Bell Tower

Flagstaff Federated Community Church
United Methodist ♦ Presbyterian USA ♦ Community

Memorial Day Campout



The Memorial Day Campout was a blast!!! Throughout the weekend, about thirty people enjoyed the beauty of Whitehorse Lake. The rain didn't stop us from hiking to the Secret Canyon Overlook, riding bikes, canoeing on the lake, (unsuccessful) fishing, and riding the zip line. The children had a lot of fun playing with their church friends. We dined on Dutch oven desserts, giant cinnamon rolls, and other fine campout cooking. It was a wonderful time.

*Everyone can start planning now for next year's campout...May 21-24, 2010.
We will return to the favorite Federated campsite...Chavez Crossing in Sedona.
Hope to see you there!*

(Pastor Jed's by-line is on vacation this month.)

The Aramaic Way: An Experiential Workshop

Sunday, July 27, 1-3 pm

What Is Aramaic? "Aramaic" is an ancient language deeply rooted in the Middle East, and the native tongue of Yeshu - Jesus - and his family, friends and followers. In this experiential session we'll explore the actual words Yeshu used in his native Aramaic - letting the rich and multilayered language open the way to a deeper, more profound, intensely personal understanding of Yeshu's spiritual wisdom and its meaning for our own lives today. We'll also share chant, meditation, and the ancient practice of "body prayer" to experience what it was like to pray in the time of Yeshu. Facilitator: Maryn Boess, Maryn@AramaicWay.com; www.AramaicWay.com.

Mark your calendars

Tending the Soul

a day apart; district-wide retreat

Saturday, September 19 (with overnight option on the 18th)

Join Karen Appleby at Camp Civitan Camp in Williams for the day.

Come together with others in our district to retreat for rest,
be warmed in fellowship, and filled by the Spirit.

Details and registration will be available in the next Bell Tower
and in the church office.



BUTTERFLIES

The butterfly is a wonderful symbol of resurrection, new life and our spiritual journey. The children will be watching the stages from caterpillar to butterfly happen before their eyes for the next couple weeks. Then in mid-July, depending on when they hatch, we will have a butterfly release in the newly planted garden in front of the church.

WATCH THE BULLETIN in the coming weeks for information on programs related to giving to the Federated Church Foundation!

OUTREACH & SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY TEAM

Though we just celebrated graduation from the area high schools, we are thinking of our adopted schools, Christensen and South Beaver and hope to once again provide school supplies for these schools. We would also like to provide some supplies for Leupp School this year. We hope those of you buying for your own children will buy an extra set for these low income schools. We will accept school supplies (notebooks, crayons, pens, pencils, rulers, markers, and miscellaneous supplies) or cash. You can give cash or checks to Carmen Johnson or Deb Gaither. We will find the bargains and buy them for you.

Please have supplies in the church office by August 16th.

Women's Ministry Events

Federated Community Church offers a variety of events for the purpose of nurturing and strengthening the women of the church. It is the goal of Women's Ministry that each woman would find a place "To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the

words of understanding; to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice,
and judgment, and equity."

Proverbs 1:1-3 (King James Version)

Seasonal Events:

Women's Adult Sunday School Class- Coming this fall

Women's Retreat- November 7 & 8th

Holiday Luncheon- December 10th

Women's Sunday- First Sunday in June

Summer Luncheon- Second Thursday in June

Special Worship- TBA

Service Projects/Mission Work- TBA

Monthly Activities:

Naomi Circle- Fellowship and Study; 2nd Thursday, 1:30 pm

Ladies of the Round Table- Fellowship at Cracker Barrel; 1st Wed, 7 am

Christian Women's Perspectives- Study; 2nd & 4th Wed, 12pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry- Fellowship, Creativity, and Service; 4th Thurs, 10 am

PB & J- Service and Fellowship; each Friday, 9am

Finding Calm in the Chaos

Flagstaff Federated Community Church's 2009 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday November 7th – Sunday November 8th

(We will leave Flagstaff on Saturday 8:00 a.m. and return Sunday before dinner time.)

at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale



OUR THEME WILL RELATE TO COPING WITH STRESS IN THE MIDST OF THE CHAOS OF LIFE.

For a couple years now, evaluations from past women's retreats have requested we look at the stresses in life and how to cope with them from a Christian perspective. We will do that this year by sharing in a Bible study on particular, related scripture and then choosing from the many spiritual places of our retreat center for personal reflection and response.

Session Topics: Practical Application, Physical Application, Spiritual Application
Come share in the study, the fellowship of our church women and the gift of retreat.

Leader: Karen Appleby

COST AND PAYMENTS

\$130 per woman (room, meals, leadership, supplies)

Rooms are double occupancy

(every effort will be made for those requesting single rooms, but there would be a higher cost)

Location will be at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale

Our meeting space will be there also in the Tekakwitha meeting room.

Other noteworthy spaces we will have the option of experiencing are the different chapels, the prayer paths and labyrinth, the Swing, the Healing garden and desert shelters.

There is also a swimming pool for those that want to relax in the water.

Space is limited... so register early!

Registration with \$65 down will secure your place. Register as soon as possible since space is limited.

Second payment of \$65 is due by October 1st. Checks payable to the church and turned in to Karen Appleby.

WOMEN'S RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

**Return with check made out to the Flagstaff Federated Community Church
for \$65 to Karen Appleby asap as there are limited spaces**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email address:

Transportation

Will you be driving? And, if so, would you be willing to take others?

Do you need transportation?

Other Notes

Dietary restrictions? What?

Do you have a preferred room-mate? If so, please share name.

Other considerations I need to know:

THE ORGAN RESTORATION IS MOVING RIGHT ALONG.

The first phase has been completed and Grahame (our organ technician) is looking forward to working on the second phase which will complete the restoration. Phase I consisted of removing and cleaning all pipes and re-leathering both the swell and choir sections of the organ. Lost pipes were also replaced and repairs to the chimes and windchest were completed. We are anticipating that the second phase contract will be signed, and the remaining sections of the organ will be removed by the end of July with a targeted completion by Christmas. This last phase will consist of cleaning and re-leathering the great and pedal sections, continuing with miscellaneous repairs throughout the organ, and fine tuning of all the components of the instrument.

A big thank you goes out to all of the supporters who have pledge or donated money toward the Vital Organ Campaign. We are close to reaching our financial commitment but we still need your continued support. For those wishing to give to the campaign, there is still time to help with the restoration of this magnificent addition to our worship and church. You will find red Vital Organ donation envelopes and pledge forms in the pew racks. If you have any questions or comments regarding the restoration of the organ, please contact Rebecca Cauthen on the organ bench each Sunday.



PRAYERSHAWL MINISTRY

Wednesday, July 22nd
9:30 – 11:30
Room 14

Come knit and crochet for those in need...
or for your own projects and the
fellowship we share.
We'll even help you learn to knit.



Love and best wishes from
the Diarasouba family.



Bob and Juanita Gillis visited
Nagnon, Michelle, Francis, and
Rita recently.

As seen in "EARTH LETTER"



(THE EARTH MINISTRY NEWS LETTER).

Flagstaff Federated Community Church, Flagstaff, AZ

Over the past thirteen years, Flagstaff Federated Community Church's group Christians for the Earth has grown from the original group of 4 or 5 to over 30 and has been involved in a multitude of creation care activities. Most recently, they signed their congregation up for Interfaith Power & Light's Cool Congregation program, which allows them to calculate Flagstaff Federated's carbon footprint and then begin to reduce it. So far the church has been refit with CFL light bulbs, used weather stripping, a water meter, and digital thermostats. The next step is to replace four heaters for their organ chamber with more energy-efficient models. Christians for the Earth also hopes that they will be able to turn down the thermostat in the sanctuary and enlist the church's Prayer Shawl Ministry to provide shawls in every pew in case people get chilly during worship.

"Hope is a central value of Christians," Sherry Golden says, "As Christians we always have hope, but now there is a real change in attitude. People are beginning to see that caring for the Earth is also a central value of the Christian faith." This sentiment is reflected in the Christians for the Earth motto, "Mindful choices for the environment are spiritual acts." Thanks to their dedication and commitment to caring for God's Creation, Flagstaff Federated Community Church will soon have their very own Greening Congregation banner hanging in their sanctuary.

A STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM UPDATE

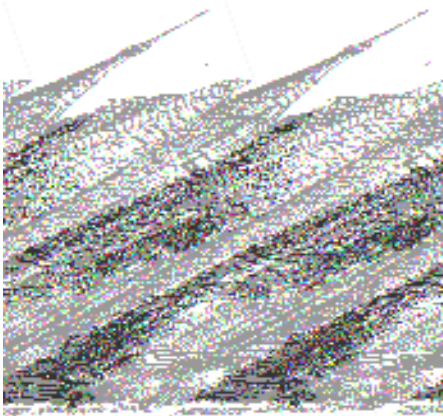
The team has compiled data from the surveys completed by members and individuals from the congregation. Over 60 surveys were returned. We would like to thank all of the participants for taking the time to fill out the surveys and a special thanks to all who attended the small group discussions. The majority surveyed felt that in the spirit of inclusiveness, we should reach out to all people, with perhaps emphasis on young families and youth. Also, it was clear that respondents wanted to keep the worship service times and "styles" as they currently are. The Strategic Planning Team will meet again in August to further study the data and to pursue recommendations for the congregation.

RECYCLING TELEPHONE BOOKS



July 24 will be the last day to bring telephone books to church for the recycling project. On July 25, Saturday, the telephone books will be taken to the recycle center with the help of the Youth and Mick Henry and his truck. The Unitarians are also collecting telephone books and plan to meet with our Youth for a pizza party after delivery to the recycle center! As of June 22, we had about 300 telephone books. With a **goal of 1,000 telephone books** we need to check our homes, workplaces and wherever else we think of and get in more books.

We can do it!!



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Flagstaff Federated Community Church

400 W. Aspen Ave. Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Rev. Jed Schenck
Phone # 774-7383 Fax # 774-7384

Return Service Requested

Please submit articles for the Bell Tower no later than the 15th of the month, preferably by e-mail to:
zzweber@juno.com

Photographs should be accompanied with descriptive text. You also may leave items (including who, what, where, when, why and how) in the Bell Tower basket in the church office. Copy provided in PC Word format is appreciated. THANKS!