



EFOCUS

Weekly Missive

This is Good Friday

(Article originally published in March/April issue of *Pinnacle Vistas*)

In *A Grace Disguised*, Gerald Sittser describes his personal journey through the heart of darkness after watching his wife, his four-year old daughter and his mother die in a car accident. He tells of a dream he had shortly after the funeral in which he ran frantically west toward the setting sun. He could not catch it, of course, and soon found himself standing in the twilight. He was filled with the darkness of despair as he glanced over his shoulder to the east and saw a vast and terrifying darkness closing in on him. Sittser told his sister about the dream. She listened, and after remaining silent for a time said, "Gerald, the quickest way to reach the sun is not to chase after it in the West, but to plunge into the darkness and through the darkness until one encounters the rising sun. Don't go west, Gerald, go east."



[Continue reading](#)

May God richly bless you in this week's journey to the cross and beyond. Through our struggles, as Easter people, we know of the joy that lies ahead. Peace and sustenance to you from your Presbytery staff!



Applications Being Accepted for Montlure

Montlure Summer staff and volunteer applications are open for 2019! Applications can be found at Montlure.CampBrainStaff.com

Register for Overnight and Traveling Day Camps at Montlure.CampBrainRegistration.com

Overnight Camps:

Senior High: June 2-7

Junior High: June 23-28

Juniors: July 7 -11

Day Camps:

Phoenix/Orangewood Presbyterian : June 3-8

Phx East Valley/Gilbert Presbyterian: June 10-14

Casa Grande/First Presbyterian: June 17-21

Green Valley/Valley Presbyterian: June 24-28

Tucson/Christ Presbyterian Church: June 24-28

More to announce, soon!

More details at: Montlure.org

SAVE THE DATE!

PW SYNOD OF SOUTHWEST GATHERING



[Click here for registration form](#)



To help PCUSA pastors address the growing financial challenges to ministry, the Board of Pensions has developed Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations. This initiative, designed to help ministers and congregations work together for financial stability, provides education and financial resources. This program combines pastor and congregational leader education with grants up to \$10,000 to qualifying pastors.

[Click here for a brochure with more info](#)

Attention East Valley Churches!

A free service is available through Aurora Behavioral Healthcare System in the following areas:

- Adult & Adolescent Inpatient Behavioral Health & Detox
- Adult Chemical Dependency Inpatient Treatment
- Adult Mental Health & Chemical Dependency Partial Hospitalization
- Mental Health & Chemical Dependency Intensive Outpatient Services
- Decades Older Adult Program for 55+
- Uniformed Services Track
- Specialized Needs Unit



If your congregation would be interested in receiving more information about how you can take advantage of this free program, contact Hilary Cummings of the Tempe Prevention Coalition at Hilary_Cummings@tempe.gov

New Minimum Effective Salary Approved by Grand Canyon Commission on Ministry

The COM approved a motion setting the Minimum Effective Salary (salary plus housing) at \$52,000 effective February 1, 2019. This motion applies to all new calls and all revisions of the terms of call for a teaching elder. This new minimum effective salary will apply to all calls effective January 1, 2020. A church may request an exception through COM if it is unable to meet the \$52,000 minimum salary.

[Read more](#)



Please keep these people in your prayers:

Eric Ledermann and the University congregation as he begins his sabbatical.

Upcoming Events and other Resources

To access information below, click on text that is underlined!

MAY

- 4- [East Valley PW Bible Study Overview](#)
- 11- [West Valley PW Bible Study Overview](#)
- 21- AZ Faith Network Annual Meeting

OCTOBER

4-6 PWS Fall Gathering

Presbytery calendar

THIS WEEK'S PCUSA NEWS

Board of Pensions- [Board Bulletin](#)

[Presbyterians Today](#)

MONTLURE DATES AND REGISTRATION

ACTIVE SHOOTER PLAN FOR CHURCHES

Passion Play trip with Pinnacle- Contact Michael Hegeman (mhegeman@pinnaclepres.org) for a brochure or additional information.

Take a Look! Several new Job postings to explore! Feel free to share with friends!

JOBS and **GOOD**S- New items!

Visit our website

STAY CONNECTED



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