



Weekly Missive

Pandemic Precautions

Living Faithful but not Fearful



PGC Presbytery Postponed, PdC Still to Be Determined

The presbytery meeting in Tempe, at which J. Herbert Nelson, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, was to preach, has been postponed. I am announcing this to both presbyteries, as folks in de Cristo were also invited to come hear J. Herbert. No date has been set for the Grand Canyon meeting, and no decision has been made yet about the April 25 de Cristo meeting, although conversations will take place as to the advisability of postponing the de Cristo meeting, also.

This postponement of the Grand Canyon meeting is taken in an abundance of caution, as the urgency of getting the consent agenda passed is low and the percentage of attendees in at-risk categories is high. Let's be honest, we skew older for the age of attendees at a presbytery meeting, and there is no reason to put anyone at risk. Further, we want to do our part for public health in making responsible decisions regarding meetings.

Arizona Health Department Webinar for Faith-Based Organizations

There will be a webinar Friday at 10:00 for Faith-based organizations, hosted by the Arizona Department of Health. There are two ways to participate:

By Computer

By Phone

Azgov.webex.com

415-655-0003

Meeting # 800-469-973

Access code: 800-469-973

Password: FA12020 (I am not sure if the digit is the letter "I" or number "1")

I encourage you to participate as you seek to make informed choices and responsible decisions about whether or not to continue Sunday services and, if to continue, best practices for doing so.

Presbytery Committees Via Zoom Teleconferences

Until further notice, Bob Schulz and I are directing all presbytery commissions, committees, and teams in both presbyteries to meet via zoom videoconference. Zoom is videoconference software similar to Skype but easier to use, especially for large groups. For instructions to use Zoom, [CLICK HERE](#). The key information you need to know is that you need to download the free Zoom software on the device you will use (i.e. phone, computer or tablet). You will receive an email inviting you to a zoom meeting. At the time of the meeting, click on the link in the email and your videoconference will begin. The audio mute/unmute and video show/hide buttons are in the bottom left corner of your computer screen. You will be asked to mute your computer/phone/tablet until you speak. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions about using Zoom.

Faithful not Fearful

While the above actions may appear extreme, they are taken in the public interest. What we seem to be learning from S. Korea, Germany, and Italy is that early precautions have a positive impact. We want to be like Germany and S. Korea on this rather than suffer the trials we see in Italy, so we are doing our small part for the sake of our church communities and the larger community.

I am not a doctor, and they didn't have a class on pandemics in seminary. We are all listening to medical professionals, reading their opinions, and doing the best we can. Let's also pray and discuss, discuss and decide, decide and act, act and pray that God Immanuel is with us and will help us be faithful but not fearful as we move through the next few months (and beyond).

With love and praying for discernment for everyone,
Brad Munroe

The presbytery is interested in information about how your congregation is handling the rapid-fire changes brought about by this health crisis. Please forward any pertinent information to pbyclerk@gmail.com

[For this and other missives, click here.](#)

Presbytery meeting is postponed until further notice



ADHS will be hosting a COVID-19 webinar for faith-based and social service organizations on Friday, March 13 from 10-11. The invitation with the call in information is attached. In addition, partners are welcome to submit questions to ADHS in advance through this [form](#), which we can work to address on the call. There will also be a Q&A session available during the call. (See Brad's missive above)



ADHS is developing some specific guidance for partners, which will be published on our website later this week - www.azhealth.gov/coronavirus. The webinar will be recorded and will also be posted on this site.



The Board of Pensions decided effective immediately, COVID-19 testing will be considered preventive and will be reimbursed at 100% of the cost (no copays, no deductible.) This will apply to all three medical plans.

Additionally, for the PPO and EPO, co-pays for Telemedicine will be waived, regardless of diagnosis, through June 30. This does NOT apply to the HDHP plan.

I thought you might want to include this information in your next Presbytery newsletter. Anyone who has questions can call Philadelphia at 800 773-7752.

Lenten Devotional by Brad Munroe



The Christian faith is a communal practice; no one can be an island for we belong to each other. The Christian faith is a family, a holy nation, a royal priesthood, a unified body made of many parts, a Temple—the dwelling place of God—consisting of many bricks. All of these images are plural, for the Christian faith speaks of “all y’all” rather than merely about you and me. Nowhere is this more needed than during Lent, for when we journey to the Cross it is, by

definition, a perilous journey. Join us in this Lenten journey.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPRING GATHERING
with Eugenia Gamble
Author of the PW Bible study- "Love Carved in Stone"



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

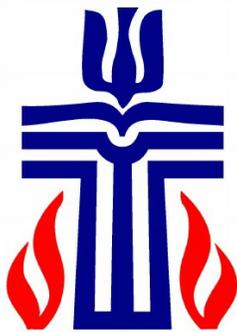
Eugenia A. Gamble is a PC (USA) pastor who has served the church for more than thirty years. She is an author, speaker, preacher, and retreat leader who loves nothing more than to help the Bible come alive in people's lives. In addition to "Love Carved in Stone", Eugenia wrote "Glimpses of Home"; the 1995-1996 PW/Horizons Bible study.

Eugenia is married to Rob Phillips; they live on the central coast of California with their beloved Keeshond, Abigail. Eugenia joined her first PW circle in seminary and says she would not have been able to negotiate life without her sisters.

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church of Sun City
12225 N 103rd Avenue
Sun City, Arizona 85351

WHEN: SATURDAY, March 28, 2020
8:30am to 3:00pm

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)



TRANSFORMING THEOLOGY BEGINS NEW BOOK STUDY

Our monthly theology reflection group will begin a review of two recent books: "The Christian Gospel for Americans; A Systematic Theology", by David Ray Griffin, and "Joy Unspeakable: contemplative practices of the black church", by Barbara Holmes. Both are available through bookstores or Amazon. Griffin wrestles with traditional theological themes in light of the relationship of faith and science, and compares the current reality of American Empire with the Roman Empire of Jesus' day. Holmes explores the communal contemplative practices of African Americans espousing a mystical spirituality that contrasts with Griffin's more rational approach. She offers helpful insights as our society continues to confront systemic racism.

This group is open to all who are interested, ministers and laypersons. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month, 11:30AM to 1:30PM, at the home of David Sholin, 4609 E Sunrise Dr, Phoenix, 85044. We will meet next Wednesday, March 18th. You are invited to join the group even if you don't now have either book. For more information or directions email- al@gepharts.org - or call - 480-251-1985. Al Gephart, pastor emeritus, University Presbyterian Church



36th Annual Older Adult Luncheon announced

The 36th Annual Senior Service Award luncheon will be held at a new venue Thursday, May 21. Desert Palms Presbyterian Church in Sun City West will host this much-loved event. Churches are asked to nominate a "saint" from their congregation to honor for their years of service in the church.

They will be recognized along with others across the presbytery at the luncheon. Churches are then encouraged to honor their nominee in a special way at their own congregation as well.

The luncheon will begin at 11:45 a.m. and conclude around 2 p.m.

Complete an application and return with a check for lunch no later than May 10. See you there!

[CLICK HERE FOR AN APPLICATION](#)

LEST training has been rescheduled for April 13-17 (the week after Easter). Thank you for your understanding and please put the rescheduled LEST on your calendars!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



SELF DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE AIDS GUADALUPE

One Great Hour of Sharing,

One Great Hour of Love!

One Great Hour of Caring

for those whom Jesus Loves!

We've a song to sing to the nations, That the Lord who reigneth above calls us, each one, to break the darkness into dawning of noonday bright. And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth in love and in light.

Fire! Fire! Fire! the call rang out....Guadalupe is on FIRE! Prior to the '70's the fragile houses in Guadalupe burned to the ground in a snap, crackle, split second before fire departnts from near-by communities could help. In 1971, a group of 5 men in Guadalupe decided to develop a fire department.....yet had no funds. They turned to the Guadalupe Presbyterian Church for assistance through the One Great Hour of Sharing SELF-DEVELOPMENT of PEOPLE, writing a proposal for blocks to build a fire house and for training for firefighters. The FIRE was LIT and the funds allocated for blocks...and it was so.

Mesa Community College had a training program and so they went. The "track star" custodian at FRANK SCHOOL was designated to receive calls, RUN to the firehouse and RING the BELL. Uniforms were gathered and off to the fire with

their HAND DRIVEN FIRE HOSE. HURRAH! HURRAH! Training and discipline in learning the 'tricks of the trade', within TWO weeks of classes TWO (2) children were pulled from a burning house. The hand driven fire hose proved inadequate and the fighters were GIVEN an old beer truck which was converted into a WATER TRUCK.

At the conclusion of the training, a manual was written covering fire fighting procedures, safety rules, first aid instructions. Various techniques and procedures were practiced (4 score 4 sure). Classes given in FIRE PREVENTION brought pride to the lives in the community. CELEBRATIONS with FIREMEN sponsoring a Christmas parade and party for the children of Guadalupe; Marcos de Niza High School band played (maybe not 76 trombones yet did have students from Guadalupe community); FLOATS and marchers led by FIRE CHIEF JUAN NIETO, support from the community and gifts for the children. MODERATOR OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH came from New York City TO BE in the parade and "celebrate what can be done through One Great Hour of Sharing: Self Development of People!!!!!! One float CARRIED the BELL from the Guadalupe Presbyterian Church!!!!

By 1974, more donations of equipment had come in. "Professional firefighters" from other communities volunteered to assist GUADALUPE FIREFIGHTERS. When the town was incorporated, funds became available for the latest in fire equipment, and funds to pay for professional firemen....and the 'small band of' community VOLUNTEERS helped and saw that it was good!

SELF DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE through each of our giving helps put out FIRES in many places of our nation. YES, we've a SONG to SING to the NATION.

MONTLURE IS HIRING!

We will keep a link to the list of positions on the Presbytery website under "Jobs"



Please keep these people in your prayers:

A Memorial Service for the Rev. Hipilito Melendez will be held Saturday, March 28th, 2020, at 1:00 pm at Christ Church (Presbyterian). The address is 925 N Sarival Ave, Goodyear AZ 85338.

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

MARCH

14- Presbytery Meeting, University- [REGISTER](#)
28- PWP Spring Gathering, First Sun City- [REGISTER](#)

APRIL

13-17- LEST TRAINING- New dates-[REGISTER](#)
24-27- PCUSA Advocacy Training -[Click here for info](#)

[Leadership Minutes](#)

[Arizona Faith Network Events](#)

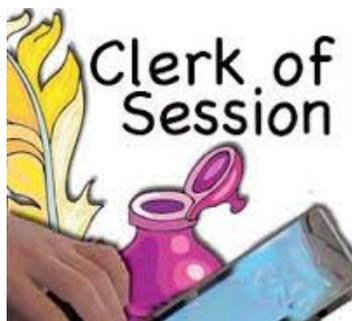
[Presbytery calendar](#)

[THIS WEEK'S PCUSA NEWS](#)

Board of Pensions-[Board Bulletin](#)

[Presbyterians Today- EASTER EDITION](#)

[ACTIVE SHOOTER PLAN FOR CHURCHES](#)



Are you a new Clerk of Session?

Did you know that your session records are supposed to be reviewed each year?

Lucky for you, we offer a Review of Records one hour prior to every Presbytery meeting where you can have that done and ask questions of experienced clerks who are there to help!

Just register for the presbytery meeting and indicate that you are coming to records review. In the meantime, contact Carol

Gerlach of Mesa First (rlgclg6_6@hotmail.com) with any questions and check out the presbytery website for lots of important resources. And, of course, let the presbytery office know you are now the clerk so that you can be on the communications list to get timely updates.

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

[JOBS- New Posting- 1/31](#)

[MARKETPLACE- Chancel Chairs](#)

Visit our website

Presbytery of Grand Canyon | 602-468-3820 | Fax- 602-468-3824 | pbyoffice@gmail.com
www.pbygrandcanyon.org

STAY CONNECTED

