



# Red Mountain Matters

MAY, 2010

VOLUME 29

NO. 5



## In the News

Arizona. What are *your* views about immigration? How much do you know about United States immigration history and policies? What are the root causes of migration? And is there such a thing as a “Christian view” of immigration?

As I was pondering these questions, I discovered a very helpful and well-balanced organization called Christians for Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CCIR). CCIR is a broad-based and theologically diverse coalition of Christian churches, denominations and organizations, which includes prominent leaders from mainline, evangelical and pentecostal traditions.

The stated goal of CCIR is to: “work together to see fair and humane immigration reform enacted in Congress because we share a set of common moral and theological principles that compel us to love, care for, and seek justice for the stranger among us.” CCIR is committed to fostering civil dialogue on immigration, and calls for an end to unproductive, divisive and fear-driven rhetoric. Because of this, CCIR opposes Arizona’s SB 1070 as it believes it does nothing to further immigration reform, does not deal with the causes of the issues behind illegal immigration, and is a divisive law.

### The shared principles of CCIR are:

- 1.) We believe all people, regardless of national origin or citizenship status, are made in the *image of God* and deserve to be treated with dignity and respect (**Genesis 1:27**).
- 2.) We believe there is an undeniable responsibility to love and show compassion for the stranger among us (“*When the alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The aliens who reside with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God*” **Leviticus 19:33-34**).
- 3.) We believe that immigrants are our neighbors, both literally and figuratively, and we are to love our neighbors as ourselves and show mercy to neighbors in need

Well, Arizona is certainly in the news. With the governor’s recent signature of the very controversial immigration bill, SB 1070, the whole nation is talking about

(*The parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37*).

4.) We believe in the rule of law (“*Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; pay taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due*” **Romans 13:1,7**). However, we also believe that we are to oppose unjust laws and systems that harm and oppress people made in God’s image, especially the vulnerable (“*Ah, you who write oppressive statutes, to turn aside the needy from justice. . . For this God’s anger has not turned away; his hand is outstretched still*” **Isaiah 10:1,4**).

As you think about your own personal response to immigration and immigrants, and the complicated issues of secure national borders vs. compassion for neighbors in need, I invite you to think about the situation of your own relatives who first came to this country and why they came. 1.) If you are of Native American ancestry, congratulations: you have the only true “right” to our land. 2.) If your relatives came to this country from anywhere else anytime before 1924, there was no process for immigration. All were welcome. (*except for the Chinese after 1882*) Anyone could come and could apply for naturalized citizenship after residency of a few years. 3.) If your relatives were brought to this country as slaves from Africa, in 1870 a law was passed allowing African-Americans to apply for naturalized citizenship. 4.) If your relatives came to this country after 1924, they had to apply for an immigration visa in their home country. The *Immigration Act of 1924* established a quota system for immigration from European countries (with the express purpose of limiting the number of Italian and Eastern European immigrants) and banned immigrants from Asia. It did not address immigration from Mexico or Latin America, except to require immigrants to first obtain an immigration visa from their home country.

*The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 (under which we still stand)* abolished the system of country of origin quotas, and instead, put a cap on the total number of immigrants allowed annually. In 1990, the cap was increased to 700,000 annually, and that is our current law. The law allows for immigration if the immigrant meets one of three categories: A.) Has an immediate family member who is a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident and the family member petitions on the immigrant’s behalf; B) Qualifies for one of the very (*continued on page 2*)



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specific needed employment categories (such as a technical worker) and the employer petitions on the immigrant's behalf; C) Is from a country that historically has had almost no immigration to the United States. If, let's say, a person from Mexico, or Nigeria, or the Philippines, wants to emigrate to the U.S. and does not have a relative here, or does not qualify for one of the needed employment categories that still has openings, he or she is not able to legally emigrate here. Period. While this law certainly made some sense when it was written, it has led to our current dilemma. People from all over the world want to come to the U.S., and, until very recently, could easily find employers who would hire them even if they didn't meet immigration requirements. Of our current illegal immigrants, 45% simply overstayed a student or tourist visa; 55% entered the country without a valid visa. I invite you to thoughtfully, carefully, and most of all, prayerfully, consider your response to our current immigration crisis.

*See you in worship,*

\*\*\*\*\*



***MEDITATIONS FROM***  
***PASTOR DOT...***

***"Loaves and Fishes"***

***But he said to them, "You give them something to eat."***

Pastor Mary brought back a Communion chalice and plate or paten from the Holy Land. The design is a replica of a loaves and fishes mosaic in a church located on the site where Jesus fed the five thousand with five loaves and two fish. The image got me wondering about this early Christian community and what they might have been like.

I recently began reading a book titled *Loaves and Fishes* by Dorothy Day. The book recounts her efforts and those of the Catholic Worker movement hospitality houses and community farms to put the love of Christ into action on a daily basis. Living in voluntary poverty, they gave whatever they could to help the poor and any in need. One of her observations is that the people serving were human beings with human frailties and faults. Although our culture often associates faith and service with helping us feel good, there may be times when that is not the case. Perhaps it is precisely in the moments that we are stretched or challenged by service or circumstances that even more than in the feel good moments, our faith is most being refined.

When it has been difficult to see solutions, even disciples have had questions. Where in our world might we see fear that the crowds are too great? Where do we hear some clamoring for the people to be sent away for fear that there will not be enough? How will we house the homeless, care for the sick, welcome the foreigner, find jobs, or feed the hungry when we don't have enough for ourselves?

As I re-read the story of the feeding of the five thousand, I was surprised to remember that the first disciples actually begged Jesus to send the people away, yet Jesus equipped these very disciples, with all their fears and failings, to help bring about the miracle of feeding so many. ***"They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over."*** ***Luke 9:17***

May we remember our Lord Jesus who did not give in to fear and send the people away, but empowered his disciples to meet the needs of those around them. As we continue to move through the Easter season, in times of triumph and times of trial, may we experience the power of Christ's call and resurrection, equipping us to do more than we can ask, think, or even imagine for the glory of God. Amen.

***Grace and Peace,***

*Theme for Eastertide*  
**ABUNDANT LIFE:  
BECOMING THE PERSON YOU  
WERE MEANT TO BE**  
*Services at 7:45, 9:00 & 10:30 am*

**May 2 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

**Acts 9:1-20** *The conversion of Paul on the road to Damascus. The important question of conversion is: What happens next?*

**May 9 MOTHER'S DAY**

**Acts 16:9-15** *The story of Lydia, the first Christian leader in Europe. The early church grew because of faithful men and women.*

**May 16 HONORING GRADUATES**

**Acts 16:16-34** *The story of Paul and Silas in prison. After driving out a spirit of divination, Paul and Silas are thrown in prison, but the doors are opened.*

**May 23 PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**John 14:25-27; Acts 2:1-4, 10:34-48** *The Spirit of God always seems to push us beyond our 'comfort level.' God's grace is inclusive.*

**GUEST PREACHER: DR. LARRY NORRIS**

***"Are You Rubbing Shoulders With The Wrong People?"***

**May 30 YOUTH SUNDAY**

**FINDING FAITH** *Through scripture, testimony, interviews, skits, music, and a very interactive "cast," the youth will share about the meaning of faith.*

**Confirmation Class**



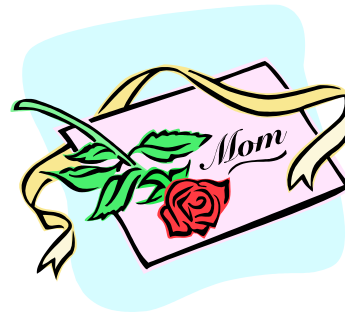
**CONFIRMATION  
SERVICE  
SUNDAY, MAY 2**

Confirmation will be part of the 10:30 am worship service on **Sunday, May 2**. These young people have completed

their studies and will be confirmed that morning:

**Britton Benson, Zackary Bossung, Jacob Franklin, Nick Pulizzano, and Marissa Shubert.**

Please keep these young Confirmands and their families in your prayers.



**MOTHER'S DAY  
SUNDAY, MAY 9**

Mother's Day at RMUMC will be a special worship time with our children. E.D.G.E. Nights SPK children will share

special music--singing, ringing, and moving--as well as a special SPK video to say "Thanks!" to all the moms and grand-moms. A special Children's Moment will also be part of the worship service.

An Open House will be held in the SPK Rooms 206 and 207 following the services so that you can see craft, science and art projects (including an original mural) created by the children. And in Madsen Hall, a special Mother's Day Reception will be held. Cake, fruit salad, and beverages will be served, along with fellowship and cheer. Don't miss this day of celebrating mothers and the Christian home.



We will have a very special day on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23**. In addition to Dr. Larry Norris preaching (our chance to hear him preach before he is appointed as senior pastor at Central UMC in Phoenix on July 1<sup>st</sup>), we will celebrate Gospel Music Sunday! A special ensemble of musicians from all three services will be leading us, and all of our congregational and special music this Sunday will be "gospel style." Invite friends, wear red, and join us on Pentecost as we celebrate the birthday of the Christian church.

**SUMMER CHOIR KICK-OFF**

Do you love music? Do you love to sing God's praise through a variety of musical styles? Do you need a relaxing, refreshing, fun oasis in the middle of your hectic weekly schedule?

On **Wednesday, June 2**, the Choir will kick-off its summer schedule with a potluck supper in Madsen Hall at **6:00 pm** and rehearsal in the Choir Room at **6:45 pm**. Perhaps now is the time for you to consider joining or rejoining the choir for the summer! The choir sings an anthem each Sunday morning for the **9:00 am Worship Service** and rehearses on **Wednesdays from 6:45 to 8:15 pm** through the summer.

Come to the potluck and check us out! We are also planning some special summer events that you will not want to miss! E-mail Debbie Hollenbach, Director, at [dhollenbach@azwildblue.com](mailto:dhollenbach@azwildblue.com) for more information.

**VACATION BIBLE**  
**SCHOOL—2010**  
**June 14—18**  
**"Galactic Blast!"**



**Galactic Blast** is a cosmic adventure praising God! It is an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition that teaches us that our strength and might come from God. VBS will begin each evening with a light supper at **5:30 pm** in Madsen Hall and will end at **8:00 pm**. Look for further information and registration to begin soon. VBS director is Marsha Lehman. She is currently recruiting volunteers. Let her know that you can help! Or call the church office.



Following our final E.D.G.E. Night on **May 12**, E.D.G.E. will be on a partial hiatus for the summer. You are encouraged to take advantage of the outstanding **VBS "Galactic Blast"** (see above) by attending or

helping and/or to take advantage of the wonderful summer camps offered through the United Methodist Church Camp at Mingus Mountain (see below). There will be two **E.D.G.E. Nights Summer Special Events** in July and August. Watch for dates and details!



**SUMMER CAMPS--**  
**REGISTER NOW!**

Schedules and registration for summer camping ministries through the Desert Southwest Conference are available at [www.mingusmountaincamp.org](http://www.mingusmountaincamp.org).

Early registration ends on **May 14** so be sure to do it now! Brochures are available in the church office. Our own

**Pastor Dot will be the dean of Super Camp II** listed below. Volunteers are also encouraged to apply!

**May 31 -- June 4: Camp Hope** -- For developmentally disabled adults

**June 7 -- 12: Senior High Camp** -- For campers entering grades 10-12 and graduating seniors

**June 14 -- 19: Elementary Camp** -- For campers entering grades 3-6

**June 28 -- July 3: Super Camp** -- For campers entering grades 3-9

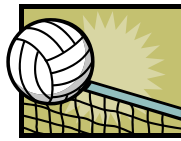
**July 5 -- 10: Junior High Camp** -- For campers entering grades 7-9

**July 12 -- 17: Super Camp II** -- For campers entering grades 3-9 (with Pastor Dot)

Can you give a campership for a young person who wants to go to camp? You can give any amount by marking the check or envelope "youth campership". Call Pastor Dot in the church office if you have any questions about camperships or registration.

**ADULT VOLLEYBALL**

Our church is organizing a recreational adult volleyball team that will play other church teams throughout the summer months. Games are scheduled to begin in early June. Please contact Pastor Dot at the church office by **May 15** to join the fun!



**JR. AND SR. HIGH**  
**YOUTH**

The junior and senior high youth groups are planning mission trips for this summer. You can be a sponsor for a youth who may wish to participate,

but does not have the available funds. Giving a sponsorship through the church, you can help a child who would not be able to participate without it. A gift of any amount will be greatly appreciated. Be sure to mark your check or envelope "Youth Mission Trips". In the fall the youth will host a dinner to honor those who give sponsorships. You will be invited to a dinner prepared by the youth (and/or their parents!) and sit with the youth. They will share their experiences in the mission field. Being a sponsor has great rewards--not only to the youth, but also to their sponsor!

**UMYF MAY EVENTS**

The United Methodist Youth Fellowship will meet on Sunday evenings from **5:00 – 7:00 pm** in May, except on **Mother's Day, May 9**. The group will be preparing for **Youth Sunday on May 30** and it is important for all youth who want to participate in Youth Sunday to be present at Youth Group. Graduating high school seniors will be honored during worship on **Sunday, May 16**.



**INTERGENERATIONAL FAMILY CAMP**

**SEPTEMBER 24-26**

**MINGUS MOUNTAIN**

Show us your interest now in attending the intergenerational family camp taking place this fall. The weekend will include two nights lodging in group cabins and five meals. Cost is yet to be determined, but will be family-friendly. Contact Pastor Dot at the church office and let her know now of your interest.



**TIP FOR MAY --**  
**BICYCLE RIDING IS**  
**EXCELLENT**  
**EXERCISE**

*Submitted by Lois Wing*

Warm, wonderful weather is here and it is time to bring out the bike. Bicycle riding is an excellent form of exercise for young and old. Riding a bike is especially advantageous for the dedicated, passionate, determined runner to develop activities that facilitate cross training. Bike riding is the answer to many exercise questions.

Before rushing out, it is very important to be aware of a few safety issues related to safe travel on a bike.

- The best protection for the head is an approved bike helmet that fits properly.
- The bicycle should be equipped with reflectors, headlights, brakes and a bell or horn. Use a rear view mirror for added safety.
- Always ride on the RIGHT side of the road. Cars will see you better and it is the law.
- Use caution in wet weather, the road surface will be slippery and dangerous.
- When approaching a busy intersection get off the bike and walk the bike across the intersection when the light is green or when the WALK SIGNAL is flashing.
- Remember, the pedestrian has the right of way.
- Inspect your bike regularly for proper tire pressure and wear and tear.

Enjoy the relaxing and beneficial effects of riding a bike. Cycling is a good time to just enjoy nature and wheel away all the worries and stresses of the day.

**MISSION TO AGUA PRIETA**

*Submitted by Donna Kohlhase*

Our Mission Committee has been involved with our two sister Methodist churches in Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico, for some time. We have come to know these people as our own church family. On **Mother's Day, May 9**, we will share their story and photos. You will hear where they have been, what they have done to support themselves, and how YOU can help shape their future with your financial assistance.

**GRADUATES RECOGNIZED**

On **Sunday, May 16**, graduates from colleges and high schools will be recognized during the morning worship services. If you or someone you know is graduating, please provide the name, school and future plans to Cris in the church office by **Wednesday, May 5**. Also, all graduates are asked to send pictures and a paragraph of your accomplishments/honors to Rocky Fransen at [fransen.rocky@mayo.edu](mailto:fransen.rocky@mayo.edu).

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**YOUNG FAMILY GET-TOGETHER**

Pastor Mary and Sarah Downin are hosting a fun event for young children and their families on **Saturday, May 1, at 10:00 am**. We will gather at the home of Pastor Mary Bullis, 1847 North Raven and walk less than a block to Falcon Hill Park for playtime and refreshments.

**ORGAN STOP PIZZA**

Join the Classics (the RMUMC adult group) at Organ Stop Pizza, 1149 E. Southern Ave., on **Saturday, May 1, at 5:30 pm** for an evening of delicious pizza, thrilling music and lots of fun. Summer activities for the Classics are a potluck on **June 12** at the Mason's home, and in July the group will attend the Hale Theater's production of "Annie, Get Your Gun!" Contact is Sue Killebrew.

**LUNCHESES FOR THE MEN'S SHELTER**

On **Wednesday, May 5, at 9:00 am** the Missions Committee will assemble lunches for the East Valley Men's Shelter. Donations of bread, lunch meat, cheese, cookies, apples and oranges, peanut butter, jelly or jam are needed to make this project a success. Please bring to the church office prior to that day. Monetary donations are also accepted. This is an on-going outreach project on the first Wednesday of each month. Contact Marsha Lehman.



All are invited to help clean up the campus of our church on **Saturday, May 8, from 7:00 am until noon**. Several chores need to be attended to, some repairs need to be made, weeds need to be removed and a problem with the sprinkler system has been discovered. Refreshments will be served. Come and "join the party".

**JOIN THE RED MOUNTAIN CRAFTERS**

We are well on our way planning for the 2010 Holiday Boutique to be held on **November 6**. Craft sessions are being held from **7:00 – 9:00 pm** on the first and third Thursday of each month at Penny Gumser's home. The group will meet on **May 6 and May 20** this month. If you like to do crafts, come and join us for fun and fellowship. We are always looking for new ideas for holiday craft items. For more details or directions, contact Penny at [pennygum@cox.net](mailto:pennygum@cox.net).



**MEET THE NEWEST**  
**MEMBERS OF**  
**OUR CHURCH**  
*(joining April 25  
and May 2, 2010)*

**Sean Graczyk** was born and raised in Arizona. He works as a custom car painter at Painter Squeeg's Kustoms. Sean says that he has just begun a very powerful and enlightening spiritual formation and looks forward to continuing the growth of his spiritual life here at RMUMC. He was baptized and joined by Affirmation of Faith.

**Anita Hadley** came to Arizona six years ago. She first started attending Red Mountain at the invitation of her neighbor, Lu Dutcher. She is retired from the Kansas School System where she worked in Special Education for 37 years. Anita joins us by Affirmation of Faith.

**Ken and Mary Hershner** have lived in Mesa for 23 years. They have two children and three grandchildren. They love to play tennis, dance, and travel to see grandchildren. Ken adds that he just wants to smile and have fun. Ken is a construction manager for LSW Contractors and Mary is a project manager in the IT department at Iridium Communications. They transferred their membership from St. Matthew UMC in Mesa.

**Nathan and Amy Hinze** met in the youth group at Tempe First UMC, from which they both transferred their membership. Nathan grew up at Tempe First and was very active there. He works for Plastics Engineering as a Machinist. Amy is an ICU nurse at Banner Gateway Medical Center. In May, she will receive her degree as a Nurse Practitioner. Amy's mother, Melanie Callahan, and sister and brother-in-law, Sarah and James Downin, are members at RMUMC.

**Terry Johnson** moved to Arizona from Minnesota 20 years ago. He recently retired as a substitute teacher with Mesa Public Schools. He worked in Saudi Arabia for 10 years. Terry joined us by Affirmation of Faith and is engaged to Carol Lee.

**Carol Lee** grew up a Lutheran in Minot, North Dakota, and then lived in Minnesota for 35 years. She became a DFL – a defrosted Lutheran – and moved to Mesa 13 years ago. She works part time at Best Buy. Carol is engaged to Terry Johnson, and transferred her membership from Love of Christ Lutheran in Mesa.

**Larry Lininger** is originally from the Pittsburgh area and is a die-hard Steelers fan. He loves to cook, bake pies, make stained glass art, and is an avid golfer. He recently moved to Arizona, transferring his membership from First UMC in Fremont, California. Larry is deeply involved with our music program, singing with the choir and the praise band, ringing in the handbell choir, and playing bass guitar with the Western Band.

**Rod Livdahl** is a former Lutheran from Minne-snow -ta, where his father was a Lutheran pastor. He loves beautiful Arizona. He has two sons living in Chandler, and his parents live two miles away during the winter months. Rod is engaged to Marsha Rodgers.

**Marsha Rodgers** moved to Mesa from Abilene, Texas. She is a certified caregiver and works at Sterling House, an assisted living community. She is engaged to Rod Livdahl, and they both transferred their membership from St. James United Methodist in Abilene, Texas.

**Doug and Ruth Schram** have lived in Mesa for 28 years. Doug is a small engine mechanic, working for Carlson Systems. His hobbies include fishing and reel repair. Ruth is a computer programmer, working for Banner Health. She enjoys working in her garden and just being outdoors. Doug and Ruth's daughter and son-in-law Betsy and Corey Colburn are RMUMC members. They transferred membership from Grace UMC in Mesa.

**Penny Serpa** has lived in Arizona for five years and works at Neiman Marcus. Her parents Jerry and Barb Pendergrass are members. Penny says she is honored to become a member and to be so welcomed here. She joins us by Affirmation of Faith.

**Keep up with your church--**

**Visit Our Web Site at  
[www.RMUMC.COM](http://www.RMUMC.COM)**

- **View the church calendar**
- **Read the church newsletter**
- **Find a class or study group**
- **Link to the Daily Devotional**
- **Become a fan on Facebook**
- **Follow us on Twitter**
- **Sign up for weekly e-news**

**JUSTICE MINISTRIES**

**Job Path Applications**

*(Submitted by Gene Barnes)*

Last month at our Workforce Development meeting on April 26, three families from our congregation submitted *Adult Job Training Interest Forms*. If you know of anyone in our congregation, your family or your acquaintances who are unemployed, under-employed, or actively looking for a better job and need retraining or new skill training, please contact Gene or Karen Spencer-Barnes by email at [kspencerbarnes@gmail.com](mailto:kspencerbarnes@gmail.com) or [genebarnes@yahoo.com](mailto:genebarnes@yahoo.com).



*hil Hartley, Treasurer*



The end of March marks the end of the first quarter of the year. It's a good time to reflect and decide if we need to make any major changes to our financial plans. As I analyze the figures below, I would say that things are about as expected. I think April will be a big month for us as it will include the Easter giving, though we also will experience extra expenses with Easter bulletins, mailings and the BBQ and Music festival held April 11. Many studies and activities are winding down now as our winter visitors are leaving before the summer heat arrives. However, this doesn't mean that the church can greatly reduce its costs of operation. In fact, many of the costs like energy bills go up during the summer. The summer heat also takes its toll on the buildings and furnishings so that repair bills are not uncommon. My point is that our bills do not go down significantly during the summer months. Therefore, we really need to keep our estimates of giving up to date. One of the easiest ways for us to do this is to sign up for electronic giving. Talk to Jennifer Ruttmann about this convenient service.

**General Ministries Fund**

	<u>March '10</u>	<u>March '09</u>	<u>Total to date '10</u>	<u>Total to date '09</u>
INCOME:	\$ 43,981	\$ 62,813	\$143,612	\$147,078
EXPENSES:	\$ 47,221	\$ 48,203	\$145,946	\$151,845
CHANGE:	\$- 3,240	\$ 14,610	\$- 2,334	\$- 4,767

We have been holding steady on the Mortgage Fund. In general, we do not have enough estimates of giving to cover the monthly mortgage bills, but every once in a while somebody comes in with a check and says we can use it where needed. This is how we sometimes keep this fund from getting too far negative.

**Mortgage Fund**

	<u>March '10</u>	
Received:	\$ 12,165	Fund Balance: (\$4,473)
Dispersed:		
Interest:	\$ 5,580	Total Mortgage
Principal:	\$ 7,690	Principal: \$1,111,074
Monthly Mortgage:	\$ 13,270	
Shortage	\$ 1,105	

We had a wonderful Easter season with record attendance and many new faces at all of the services. I think our reputation as a very warm and caring congregation is spreading following the BBQ/Festival. Let us continue to invite our family and friends who might be looking for a place to grow spiritually.



**WAY BEYOND STEWARDSHIP**

*Submitted by Marilyn Husted,  
Co-chairperson of  
Stewardship Committee*

*Stewardship can bring rewards far beyond using your time, talent, and financial resources. Here's an inspiring story of one of our members who is a testimony to finding and growing in faith through actions. (Note: This is the first of a series of articles in answer to "How has the church changed your life?")*

"I had completely lost my faith. After suffering five miscarriages, I no longer believed in God." This is how **Blair Moses** described the beginning of her journey which resulted in turning her life over to Christ.

It started with the Moses' adoption of a twelve-day old baby, Nicole. Three months later on Palm Sunday, Nicole was baptized at our church where Blair's husband, Jim, had been attending regularly. At first, Blair said, she made herself go to church (because "that's what good parents do") and to the Adult Sunday School class. The discussions of how God works in our lives helped her to very gradually start believing again.

Opportunities for involvement in the church started to appear. A chance to use her musical talent arose and soon people started telling Blair how much her singing meant to them. She became a part of the Disciple Bible Study class and this in-depth study of the Bible led her to appreciate the history of the Old Testament and how it led into the coming of Christ.

Before long, Blair became a leader of the Adult Sunday School, then a leader of Disciple Bible Study, and eventually a teacher of the Senior High Sunday School. Her music ministry continued to inspire members and guests.

Blair explained that it was not just by attending worship services, but by participating in various church groups and activities that her faith grew and led her to turning her life over to Christ.

Blair is now embarked on the beginning of a new journey in her life, one that she believes is a gift from God. Nearly three years ago she began studies at the ASU Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. She has performed extremely well, academically and in leadership roles, and will graduate this May with a law degree. She was awarded a \$19,000 scholarship from the law school's Alumni Association for her final year of law school and will begin work this fall at the Polsinelli Shughart law firm in Phoenix.

"I put my life and law school totally in God's hands," Blair said, "and he has been with me all the way."



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

(Articles submitted by Sue Killebrew)

### **OUR PURPOSE**

The organized unit of United Methodist Women is a community of women whose **PURPOSE** is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

### **UMW UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday, May 1 – 9:00 am** – Executive Meeting

### **SUNSHINE WOMEN RETURNS**



Mark your calendars now for these four fun and exciting events coming this summer for all women of the church. Each evening, a potluck salad dinner will be served at **5:45 pm**, followed by a special guests from our congregation who will share stories of their lives. You will

not want to miss these special evenings to socialize with others and to learn from these people:

#### **Thursday, June 10 – “Look Again”**

**Lisa Knowles**, an Interior Designer and owner of Lisa Knowles’ Design Group and "Change Your Space", will give a review of interior design meant just for **YOU**. “What are my needs, my wishes, my dreams?” Lisa will also talk about current trends in design today.

#### **Thursday, July 15 – Joys and Concerns of pet care**

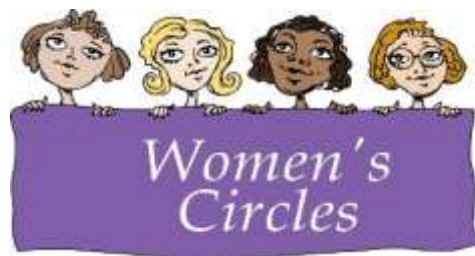
**Ann Griffin**, a Veterinarian, will be sharing stories about some of the experiences and encounters she has had as she spends her days with our pets.

#### **Thursday, August 5 – People Places and Things**

**Carolyn Ball and Bobbi Heppe** have spent many years living and teaching overseas. Some of their homes include Okinawa, Switzerland, Cuba, Israel, Turkey and Spain. They will share their experiences living among these cultures and others.

#### **Thursday, August 26 – U.S. Marine Corps**

**Bettie Lerdall** served in the Marines during World War II and has a fascinating story to tell.



Circle groups will go on a summer hiatus for the months of June, July and August. Instead, they will meet as “Sunshine Women”. Check out the schedule for their meetings listed on this page. Circles are small groups that are a part of the Red Mountain UMC local unit which is a part of the greater UMW National unit. *\*Call the church office for information on how to become part of the local unit and join a circle. All circles welcome any women to join the groups at any time!*

### **MAY CIRCLE MEETINGS**

**Faith Circle: Tuesday, May 11 -- 6:00 p.m. –**

*Hostess: Sonja Coffelt*

*(Chairpersons Lynn Martin and Barb Miller)*

**Grace Circle: Tuesday, May 11 -- 6:30 pm – Rooms**

*203/204 -- Hostess: Lori Blankenship*

*(Chairperson Sue Killebrew)*

**Irene Circle: Wednesday, May 19 – 9:30 am –**

*Lunch Out (Chairperson Betty Rose)*

**Hope Circle: Thursday, May 20 – 9:15 am – Madsen**

*Hall -- Hostess: Ramona Summers*

*(Chairperson Myra Moir)*

**Rebecca Circle: Thursday, May 20 – 11:30 am –**

*Lunch Out (Chairperson Verna Berndt)*

**Doves Circle: Thursday, May 20 -- 1:00 pm –**

*Hostess: Janet Crippen*

*(Chairperson Janet Crippen)*

### **RED MOUNTAIN COOKBOOKS**

Thanks to **Lynn Martin** for all her time, effort, and efficiency in gathering, organizing and printing the more than 300 recipes that are included in our new cookbook. **Thanks, Lynn for a job well done!** If you would like to purchase a copy of this special cookbook, filled with recipes by our own church family for \$12, call the church office at 480-981-3833.

### **ABOUT OUR READING PROGRAM**

When you choose a book to read from the UMW reading cart, please be sure to “sign out” the book by writing your name on the enclosed card. Please, take only **ONE BOOK** at a time and return it in a timely manner so that others may enjoy reading it also. The books for the reading program focus on enhancing and growing in spirituality, concerns for social action and community, and missions, all of which are integral parts of the purpose of United Methodist Women. The reading cart is located in Madsen Hall.



## **WOMEN OF SERVICE**

The UMW theme for this year is “Women of Service”. The focus this month is on one woman who has been instrumental in her service to United Methodist Women and/or Red Mountain UMC, *Elaine Troyer*. She has a story to tell of faith and active involvement:

For me, United Methodist Women has been a very important part of my Christian commitment. My first encounter with UMW was at age 25, when I was not yet a United Methodist! I had been personally invited by a friend to visit her circle group. Immediately, I found a niche for myself in this rewarding, mission-oriented group. From that point on, I got involved in all phases of the organization including unit president (a total of 18 years--off and on). I then served my tenure (eight years each) for the District and the Conference and also four years on the Denver Regional UMW Committee.

Some of the mountaintop experiences I have had as a member of UMW were attending the Assemblies which are held once each quadrennium. These gatherings of women, usually 10,000 to 12,000 strong, give one the insight of how many women have a strong commitment to the organization. The United Methodist Women’s organization is known to help women accomplish their capabilities through excellent training experiences. If one is willing to be a part of the team, there are so many leadership events available to become the best you can be in your specialized area, and I was fortunate to have had many of those experiences.

We as UMW members need to “toot our horns” and be proud of who we are, because we are the largest organized group within the general church and we have urgent work to do by turning faith, hope and love into action for women, children and youth around the world. We do this through our pledge to mission and, combined with other UMW women around the world, we support our programs with a “tish” under twenty million dollars a year.

I became a member of the Rebecca Circle here at Red Mountain UMC by a personal invitation of a member. I have served as Chairperson of my circle and have been a part of the unit’s Executive Team, serving four years as Program Resources person and recently completing four years as Membership Nurture Outreach.

When asked about involvement with my North Dakota home church—well, when you are a part of a church with less than 300 members and have been a member there for 42 years, there isn’t much you haven’t done! I have been a part of Missions, Stewardship, Finance,

Worship, and Staff-Parish Committees. I have served on three building addition committees, chaired Administrative Council under four different pastors, taught Sunday School classes, Bible School, Sidewalk Sunday School, Bridal-Funeral Committee (28 years), and Annual Conference delegate. I’ve sung in the choir, helped with Junior Choir, the Altar Committee and I’ve even helped with janitorial duties when each family took their turn doing the weekly cleaning! You see, we had a tight budget for a number of years up north! I served on the Dakotas Conference Board of Pensions for six years, and am currently serving as a Lay Equalization Member to Annual Conference for my District. The only commitment I currently hold in my local church is being a member of our Endowment Committee and just recently I received an e-mail that we were given a gift which will put us at just under one million dollars! God is amazing!

My husband Jim and I have been married for fifty-five years on April 23, 2010. We have one son Steve, who is a CPA and Equity Partner in a large accounting firm. His wife Renae is an Occupational Therapist and they have one son, Adam, a fully-accredited Actuary at age 23, and a daughter Kaeley Jo, a junior at the University of Minnesota in Moorhead, majoring in Graphic Arts and Health Education.

## **UMW SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS**

A part of the UMW mission is to be supportive of social action projects. Our unit has chosen these two projects to support this year. We appreciate your help!

**CAMPBELL’S SOUP LABELS:** Our unit collects Campbell’s soup labels and these other participating labels: Franco-American, Swanson, Spaghettios, V8 beverages, Prego, and Pepperidge Farm. Labels are given to the Wesley Community Center in Phoenix. Look for the giant soup can on the patio and in Madsen Hall on Sunday mornings.

**OLD TENNIS SHOES:** Look for the collection container on the patio each Sunday for those old and tired out **TENNIS SHOES (ONLY)** which are then delivered to the drop site in Tempe to support the Nike Shoe Recycling project. This project makes running tracks for schools and athletic facilities. Please support this project by keeping your shoes out of the trash bin and landfills and having them recycled in an earth-friendly way!

**HOPE CIRCLE PROJECT:** Please inform the church office of the APO addresses for any servicemen or women in our congregation or who may be friends of our congregation. Hope Circle will be collecting items and sending care boxes to them. Thanks for your help.

## A DAY APART

Several United Methodist Women recently experienced a wonderfully-educational day on a “Day Apart” tour of the **United Methodist Outreach Ministries’ (UMOM) New Day Center and Wesley Community Center**, two United Methodist-sponsored centers located in Phoenix.

**UMOM** recently moved into their new facilities located across the street from their former building. Much more space has been created for the growing needs of the homeless and low-income families in our area. **UMOM** offers many programs and services which will help families transition into becoming self-sufficient.

**Wesley Community Center** has opened their newly-remodeled health clinic. We were in awe of the bright colors used in the examination rooms and the many changes in the entire health clinic. Now they can offer quality health services to those who are in need.

Touring both of these facilities made us realize the continuous need for volunteers, donations, support and prayers. *(See the following article)*



## WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Monetary scholarship assistance is needed to enable at least 30 of Wesley’s children and youth to attend our annual

eight-week summer program. More and more of the participating families are having difficulty paying the \$20 per week/per child summer costs. None of the families can afford the full cost; however, we do ask that they contribute \$4 per day for the all-day program. WCC's costs include staff wages, two meals and snacks, air conditioning and additional overhead. We would like to provide assistance to these families (especially those with more than one child) by trying to raise \$10 per week per child as a match incentive. For example, a gift for one child for the program would be \$80. The parents would then match that. If you would like to help, please send checks to: Wesley Community Center, 1300 S. Tenth St., Phoenix, AZ 85034-4598. Please earmark: Summer Scholarship Assistance.

### Ongoing needs for WCC:

- **Cooking oil** (any brand) for the food pantry
- **Facial tissue** boxes for the Health Center. A specific size is needed to fit the holders on the walls. The box measures 9 1/2 by 4 3/4 and is 2 1/2 inches tall. **Marcal® Small Steps®** brand, 144 count, found only at Albertsons, is the perfect size to place in the plastic holders in each exam room. (Marcal® is a “green” company – their products are made from recycled paper.) **Puffs Plus Lotion®**, 72 count (only this type) also fits the holders.



## MISSION MOMENTS

*Submitted by Carolyn Ball  
from the Prayer Calendar*

Many people when they come to a religious outreach ministry expect no questions to be asked, but just want to be given what they need.

It’s amazing that with all the clients we serve, about 214 families, that whenever they come, they expect our ministry to have whatever they need. And, you know, I believe they are right. Every time *we* come into the presence of God, doesn’t God always answer our needs? It is because of the love of God in our hearts for all people and our continued support to this ministry that we are able to fill others’ expectations. We celebrate what God is doing here.

*Governor Mays, church and community worker,  
Ogden Friendship House, Ogden, Kansas*

When asked why we help others--with food, cash, physical assistance, championing causes--my answer is “because we can”. John Wesley said we must “do all the good we can, by all the means we can, in all the ways we can, in all the places we can, at all the times we can, to all the people we can, as long as ever we can.” This we try to do.

*Deaconess Ann LePage, First United Methodist  
Church of Los Alamos, Los Alamos, New Mexico*



## WHAT’S NEW AT THE FAIR TRADE TABLE?

The Mission Team brought back a limited supply of coffee from “Café La Colonia”, located in

Agua Prieta, Sonora, where they traveled on a mission trip in April. The cafe was created to provide funding for the ministry of “Fuente de Vida,” Fountain of Life Church. The mission provides spiritual guidance, health care, housing, education and employment to families in the local community. Fair wages for coffee growers enable families to stay together to work their land, thus discouraging their migration. Coffee from Veracruz and Chiapas is known for its smooth taste and excellent aroma because it is grown high in the mountains by growers who have produced coffee for generations. “Café La Colonia” takes pride in roasting only the best beans to produce truly great coffee--and it is 100% organic.

The Mission Committee’s next sale date for these and other products will be **Sunday, May 23**. Stop by the table and take a look at what is offered.



## RECENTLY IN THE HOSPITAL . . . .

**Marcene Myers  
Denny Martinsen  
Jenny Peterson  
Marilyn Carpenter**

**Carolyn Ball  
Jackson Brooks  
Eldon Husted  
Roger Clark  
Dean Richardson  
Dorothy Wolfe  
Alt Klinger  
Jim Callahan  
Pat Wagner  
Clint Berndt**



## Notes from our church family...

Dear Red Mountain Church family,  
Thanks for your prayers, calls and cards during the recent death of my Aunt Madelyn. Also, we would like to thank everyone for their kindness, visits and concern for Carolyn's health. A special thank you to Rev. Mary and Rev. Dot. Blessings to all of you.

**Gene and Carolyn Ball**

I want to thank Pastor Mary and Pastor Dot for their calls and visits while I was in the hospital. Also, thank you, Red Mountain family, for the cards and calls. We are so very blessed to have such a caring church.

**Grace Hinman**

Last month we thanked all who helped with the church directory. As would happen, some names were omitted. Thank you to **Bonnie Smith and Sue Killebrew** for also hosting at the sign-in table. If you had your picture taken, you should have received your free 8 x 10 print. If not, please let us know. The directories will be ready sometime this summer.

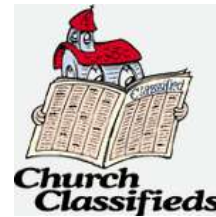
**Barbara Miller and Elaine Troyer, Co-Chairpersons**

### *Please remember...*

When you change your mailing address, your phone number or your e-mail address, please notify the church office. Also, let us know of births, deaths, marriages, hospitalizations or omissions of birthdays or anniversaries. Call the church office at 480-981-3833 so we can keep our database current. Thanks!

## A BIG THANKS TO . . .

everyone who helped with our 14<sup>th</sup> annual, yet newly-named, **Neighborhood BBQ and Music Festival**. A special thanks to our wonderful musicians, the faithful and tireless kitchen helpers, the Circle members who donated many delicious cupcakes and to everyone else who helped make this event run smoothly and make it such a success. Thank you to the youth who helped to serve the meal and supervise the children's activities. The catered food was delicious and leftover food was donated to Sunshine Acres Children's Home and the EDGE Nights meals. The event was much more than just a great meal and entertainment.



### **WANTED: I-HELP COORDINATOR**

Mesa is currently recruiting a Coordinator for the I-HELP Program which offers housing for the homeless. If you know of anyone interested in the position have them e-mail their resume to Traci Gruenberger at Lutheran Social Services: [tgruenberger@lss-sw.org](mailto:tgruenberger@lss-sw.org). A job description can be obtained in the church office.

### **OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!**

The "Snow Birds" have flown away! Recruitment is suffering. Who will help? Will you? Will you greet our Sunday visitors before the 7:45 am or 9:00 am or 10:30 am Worship Service? Or perhaps you'd rather serve at the Welcome Center or in Madsen Hall to meet first time visitors and offer them the gift of a lovely red mug. Or maybe you can host the Fellowship Coffee Time following the 9:00 service or the Pizza Lunch after the 10:30 service. If you like to drive, you can drive our church van on Sunday for 9:00 worshippers. There are lots of ways you can serve! They're fun! They're easy! They are all an opportunity to serve God! Email Evy Hartley at [ehartleyp@cox.net](mailto:ehartleyp@cox.net) or call Cris in the church office.

### **READ ABOUT E.D.G.E**

Read the wonderful article about our church's EDGE Night ministry which is featured in our Conference's magazine, *Transformation*. The article includes great pictures. View it online at: <http://desertsouthwestconference.org/transformation>.



**BIRTHDAY WISHES TO . . .**

- 1** Tiffany Davis  
Mike McCall  
Spencer McCumber
- 3** Nathan Perez  
Jayden Schroeder
- 5** Betty Perryman  
Robyn Tangeman  
Chris Taylor
- 6** Cole Lehman
- 7** Eric Godfrey  
Hope Preble
- 8** Hayden Taylor  
Jacob Turner  
Dorothy Wolfe
- 10** Billie Gilson  
Dane McCall  
Caitlin Moore  
Susan Roehrig
- 11** Ted Wagner
- 12** Jacob Bossung  
Ramona Ruiz
- 13** Kenny Cummings  
Marie Matejka  
Dawn McNamee
- 14** Timothy Bryan  
Debra Norris  
Nancy Swope
- 15** Paul Martin

# May

- 17** James Boseck  
Michelle O'Neil  
Nick Whittecar
- 18** Paul McKeown  
Mackenzie Ramsey  
Charles Smith  
Stan Stikna
- 20** Katherine Guss  
Elaine Troyer
- 21** Ciera Rose Colburn  
Jacob Jagoda
- 22** Marie Pettegrew  
Betty Simmons-Cunningham
- 23** Holden Bundy  
Teresa Kolton  
Harriett Wright
- 24** Bonita Perry  
Janet Vineyard
- 25** Seema Ferm
- 26** Amanda Huff
- 27** Jeana Ryan  
Melvin Steinle
- 28** Hannah Creaser  
Charley Thompson  
Dana Tramba
- 29** LaVone Bush  
Anita Prinsloo
- 30** Julie French
- 31** Anja Arnold  
Grace Hinman  
Elizabeth Messenger



**CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4** *Mick and Carol Byerley*  
-- 25 years
- 9** *James and Judy Fox*  
-- 45 years
- 13** *John and Fran Rebstock*  
-- 65 years
- 17** *Roger and Earlys Tonkinson*  
-- 47 years
- 19** *Don and Sherry Krakauskas*  
-- 5 years
- 23** *David and Karen Peterson*  
-- 25 years  
*Brian and Diana Schneider*  
-- 7 years
- 24** *Don and Rhonda Ems*  
-- 35 years  
*Mark and Lisa Knowles*  
-- 23 years
- 25** *Jeff and Julie French*  
-- 8 years
- 26** *David and Tyra Horsburgh*  
-- 20 years
- 27** *John and Karla Groenenboom*  
-- 33 years  
*George and Doris Russell*  
-- 49 years  
*Malcolm and Margaret Williams*  
-- 59 years
- 30** *James and Blair Moses*  
-- 29 years

# RED MOUNTAIN MATTERS

A publication of Red Mountain United Methodist Church  
2936 N. Power Road Mesa, AZ 85215-9746

Red Mountain United Methodist Church connects people with God  
in order that they may grow in the Spirit and Love of Christ.

MAY, 2010

VOLUME 29

No. 5

## RMUMC STAFF

Rev. Mary M. Bullis, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Dorothy Saunders-Perez, Associate Pastor  
Peter Gutierrez, Membership/Bookkeeper Specialist  
Cris Bass, Administrative Assistant  
John Durkin, Youth Director  
Debbie Hollenbach, Director of Traditional Music  
and Christian Discipleship Coordinator  
Brock Walters, Contemporary Worship Leader  
Ken Winland, Organist  
Kathy Wooton, Handbell Choirs  
Phyllis Richardson, Children's Choirs Coordinator  
Erin Gray, Preschool Director  
Lloyd and Lorene Hungerford, Custodians  
Frank Moir, Custodian  
Laura Lucas, Nursery Attendant

## WORSHIP TIMES ON SUNDAY:

7:45 a.m. – Coffee House Worship  
(in Madsen Hall)  
9:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship  
10:30 a.m. – Contemporary Worship

## OFFICE CONTACTS:

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## OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY – THURSDAY  
8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
FRIDAY  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm



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