



# The Covenant

Community Church of Buckeye  
"To serve God and community that all may  
be one"

March/April  
2017

## From the Pastor's Desk

We are now coming into the most important times of the Christian year; Lent and Easter. To me, Easter is the highlight of the Christian year because it is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead that gave birth to Christianity. We wouldn't celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas if it weren't for the events of Easter. During Holy Week, we will remember the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and then celebrate how God glorified Jesus by raising him from the dead after three days.

Lent is the 40-day period of repentance and renewal that precede Easter. It begins with Ash Wednesday, which is March 1 this year. The 40 days does not count the Sundays, because the Sundays during Lent are considered "little Easters." Lent is a period of time that allows us to recall the Easter story and absorb its meaning.

Observing Lent prepares us to celebrate Easter more fully through penitential practices, repentance, resolution, and participation. Penitential practices refers to practices of self-denial. Some people fast during this time. Others modify the fast by giving up a type of food they especially like. Others give up doing something they like during Lent. Whatever it is, the purpose is to help the person focus and understand the full meaning of Easter.

Repentance is, of course, confessing our sin and turning away from it. It is changing something in how we live our life. Resolution is making a commitment to develop more Christian habits and attitudes. Participation is to take part in the services and events of the Lenten season to renew and strengthen our faith. Whatever you do to observe Lent this year, I pray you have a glorious Easter season and that Christ becomes even more real to you through your Easter experience this year.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Bob



### **The Community Church of Buckeye**

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Buckeye, AZ 85326-1024

Bob Lind, Pastor

Adult Sunday School --8:30 a.m.

Worship & Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

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**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**Julie DeFelice - President**

History Lesson: On March 23, 1869, 8 women gathered at Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston, Mass., and organized the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society. Those women raised money to send a doctor, Clara Swain, and a teacher, Isabella Thoburn, to India as missionaries to serve the women of that nation. That was the beginning of the United Methodist Women.

Back to the present: Our annual fund raiser was held on February 18<sup>th</sup>; and thanks to all who helped (either physically, financially or by attending), it was a success! Our entertainment was Magician Randy Bonnell and music by Chaplin John and Amy Shumaker with Derek Couch. Our handmade quilt (made by Kathy Erickson) was won by Carol Marten. Our basket drawings were won by: Cheryl Bongiovionne (Birds), Tom Godfrey (Chocolate), Carol Hinkle (Coffee), Steve Schroeder (Fun & Games), and Kim Melton (Kitchen).

Our UMW monthly meetings have been changed to the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Our next meeting will be March 6<sup>th</sup>. Hope you can attend.

**United Methodist Men**

**James Gray – President**

Our church’s annual rummage sale is March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and our men will be selling donuts and coffee and a hotdog lunch each day.

We also participate in a cleanup on Miller Road in coordination with the City of Buckeye. This is done on a quarterly basis. The next “trash patrol” will occur on Saturday, March 18. Vests and “trash pickers” are provided, but bring gloves for the larger items.

The UMM meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 8:00 a.m. at the church office for an informal breakfast and business meeting. All men are welcome!

The happiest of people don’t necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

**March Birthdays**

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Marian Grimm (Jim Adams’ sister)
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Julianna Lind
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Scott Lowe
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Joseph Lopez
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Jo Jones
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Clifton (Hank) Newberry

**March Anniversaries**

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Hank & Donna Newberry
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Raul & Stacey Lopez
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Chad & Melanie Kreikemeier

**April Birthdays**

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Armida Rohrback
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Ellen Bolen (Hardesty)  
Ashley Godfrey
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Barbara Williams
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Andy Lind
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Patrick Shanahan  
Angelina Lind
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Dan Lind
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Jared Lind
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Grace Lind
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Glory Jane Shanahan

**April Anniversaries**

- 15<sup>th</sup> – Lynn & Dawn Akin
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Bob & Wendy Swanson

**Save Your Ink Jet Printer Cartridges**

Our inkjet printer cartridge collection program is working well. We are working with a company that pays us to send them our used cartridges so they can recycle them. The cartridges they want must have a printhead on them; that is they must have the metal copper strip on the outside. Cartridges that qualify are made by Lexmark, HP, Dell, some Canon models, and some Sharp models, so please bring your empty cartridges to church. Talk to your neighbors and collect their empty cartridges, too. There is a collection box on the sign-up table in the church.

The Lord didn’t do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

**Pray For Our Sister Churches**

The churches of the Central-West District of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference are encouraged to pray for each other throughout the year.

In the month of **March** please pray for these churches:

- Christ Community UMC, Avondale
- City Square UMF, Phoenix
- Community Church of Buckeye

In the month of **April** please keep these churches in your prayers:

- Dove of the Desert UMC, Glendale
- Epworth UMC, Phoenix
- Nuevo Pacto, Phoenix (Epworth UMC)
- Faith UMC, Phoenix

**Donations Needed for All-Faith Food Bank**

We help support the All-Faith food bank on a monthly basis. Donations are accepted at any time, but we especially look for donations the first Sunday of each month. This was supported quite well when we first started, but donations have dropped off over time. The problem is that the need for food for people in our community never ends. Below you will see a list of the types of food the food bank would like to have us donate.

In addition to the items listed below we also collect egg cartons for a dozen eggs. The food bank receives eggs in bulk crates and packs them in the cartons for distribution, so they are in constant need of your used cartons. You can also donate cash by making a check out to All-Faith Food Bank and putting it in the offering plate on Sunday morning. We will make sure it gets delivered to them quickly.

We thank you for your support of this ministry. It is a wonderful way for us to serve our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate. If you have any questions or would like to help out in a special way, contact **Marilyn Taylor**, the coordinator for this effort.

Foods Needed: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Meat, Canned Beans, Dried Beans, Juice, Boxed Pasta, Cereal, Rice and Hygiene Products.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE SCHEDULED**

There will be a brief service for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 1. This service marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It will be held at 6:30 p.m.

**Bring a Friend to Church**

It is widely said that the best form of evangelism is word of mouth. A person is more apt to come to church if they have been personally invited by someone they know. We would like to instill a culture of inviting people to attend our church, so we have started a program of Invite a Friend to Church Sunday once each quarter. The next official observance of this will be Sunday, April 3, 2017.

Invite one of your friends, neighbors, or family members to attend church with you on that day. Maybe you can invite them out or over to your house for lunch after the service and make more of an event out of it. Of course, it should be a habit to invite others to church every week. Chances are whomever you invite will not say "yes" the first time you invite them, but don't get discouraged. It often takes about a dozen invitations before someone accepts. We have a great church and a great congregation here, so we need to let everyone know about it. Let's try to fill up the sanctuary on April 3.

**Next Miller Road Trash Pick up March 18**

Once each quarter a team of people from our church picks up trash along Miller Road between Southern and Broadway. Our church sponsors this section of road, and there are signs posted to let everyone know that we do this. We start early in the morning and it usually only takes about an hour. Please call **Scott Lowe** if you would like to help.

Life isn't about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain!

### **Items for Recycling**

Thanks everyone for bringing cans and clear plastic bottles for recycling. The church is raising some good money from this program, but we have found there are some items the local recyclers do not accept. They do not want aluminum foil or tin cans, so only bring cans for drinks and put all others (such as cans for vegetables) in your own recycle bin at home. In Items of plastic, they do not want the clear plastic wrapping like that for cakes and cookies and other such items nor plastic milk containers. So please put those in your recycle bin at home and only bring things like water containers.

### **How to Reach New People**

**Harold Warsop, Gary Taylor, and Pastor**

**Bob** recently attended a workshop on How to Reach New People. The workshop was very enjoyable, eye-opening, and informative. The basic message was that the ways churches, including our church, have gone about trying to get new members up to now really only amounts to "waiting for people to come." That model did work to a certain degree 50 years ago, but does not work now.

Basically, we attract new members by creating and developing personal relationships. It comes down to the formula of "make a friend; be a friend; bring a friend to Christ." Each person in the church is charged with doing this. As you talk to friends or introduce yourself to a new neighbor, ask if they are associated with a church. If they are not, invite them to come to your church and check it out. Offer to pick them up and bring them yourself for their first Sunday. The best way to get new people in the church is to invite them personally. Word-of-mouth is the best form of advertising.

In addition, it is important to increase the church's visibility in the community. When possible, have meetings currently held at the church in a public setting. The pastor also needs to spend some office hours out in the public arena and spend less hours in the office. You will be hearing more about this in the near future.

### **The Upper Room**

Our church makes available the *Upper Room* daily devotional booklets for your use. Each booklet covers two months, and both regular and large print editions are available. This does not come without some cost, however. We want you to take a copy and use it. All we ask is that you leave a donation of one dollar for each copy you pick up to help defray the expense. It doesn't cover all of it, but it really helps. There is a little collection box attached to the display rack for this purpose. Thanks.

### **CHURCH POTLUCK**

**MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>**

Our next all church potluck will be right after the morning service on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship of our church family. Everyone is welcome!

### **Rummage Sale**

**March 3 & 4**

Our annual rummage sale will be held Friday (March 3<sup>rd</sup>) and Saturday (March 4<sup>th</sup>). We are accepting donations of any saleable (not broken or in need of repair) items for the sale. Furniture is especially wanted because it sells well and makes the most money for us. **Steve and Leslie Schroeder** are coordinating the sale this year. Contact them to volunteer your services or to donate items. If you need help in getting your donations to the church, call the Schroeders or the church office and arrangements can be made to have your items picked up.

### **BOOKS FOR BABIES**

Our UMW gives a Little Golden Book to go home with newborns at Abrazo Hospital to promote literacy, our church, and as a memorial to Alice Charman. A sticker is placed inside each book stating our church's name and address and says "In Memory of Alice Charman". So far we have donated 104! Thanks for your help in promoting this project.

**THANK YOU! DANKE! GRAZIE! MERCI!  
OBRIGADO! HVALA! THANK YOU**

A big “thanks” goes out to **Sue Marten** who generously donated her baby grand piano to Community Church for use in the sanctuary prior to her move to Yuma, AZ. She served our church as pianist and choir director faithfully for over five years. We all wish her well. She will be greatly missed!

**GoodDining Added to GoodSearch and GoodShop**

Thank you for using GoodSearch as your search engine on the internet. As we continue to use GoodSearch, we will earn even more. GoodSearch pays the money out once each year in December.

Go to goodsearch.com and type in “Community Church of Buckeye” in the box for the charity you wish to support and then click on the VERIFY button. Then for each search you do, the church gets a little over a penny. It really adds up over time.

At the same place, you can click on an area called GoodShop. A large number of retailers, including most major companies, are linked here. If you do any shopping on line, please enter the stores through GoodShop. When you have Community Church of Buckeye entered as your chosen charity, we receive a percentage of whatever you spend as a donation.

You can also now use GoodDining. A percentage of what you spend at participating restaurants will go to our church. It’s a great way to give added support to your church without any extra effort. Tell you friends and relatives and have them support our church in this way, too.

We follow this procedure in buying the church’s office supplies. That adds to the donation our church receives from GoodSearch.

**Recipe for Happiness**

Take: 2 heaping cups of Patience  
1 heartfelt of Love  
2 handfuls of Generosity  
Dash of Laughter  
1 headful of Understanding

Sprinkle: Generously with Kindness

Add: Plenty of Faith and Hope

Mix Well: Spread over a period of a lifetime

Serve: Generously to everyone you meet!

**SUMMER CAMP FOR CHILDREN**

It is time to think about summer camp for the children.

There are two camps planned for elementary grades 3-6 at Mingus Mountain this year. The dates are June 19-23 and June 26-30. A junior high camp for grades 6-9 is scheduled for the same dates.

The senior high camp (grades 9-12) is scheduled for June 5-10.

There will be bus service available to and from the Conference Office for those who register for it early enough.

The cost of the camp is \$250 per child, but the church will try to help out with that cost.

Information brochures are available on the information table at the church.

Remember:

A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks!

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