

Congregational Church of the Valley

your community Congregational Church

Newsletter

September 2011



*"And above all these put on love,
which binds everything together
in perfect harmony."*

Colossians 3:14

Our Covenant

We covenant with the Lord and one with another and do acknowledge our faith in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior and take for our rule of life His own words: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and with all thy strength; and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

With the event of September 11, 2001, 9-11 takes on a very new meaning. American soil has seen so little war over the past 150 years (Pearl Harbor being the exception) that we take our safety for granted.

Ten years have gone by since that day. We are less innocent, but our hopes are high for a world where people respect each other, honoring each others beliefs and where freedoms reign.

All that we as Christians have ever wanted for ourselves and our neighbors on this planet is that we are all free to enjoy our relationship with God. Freedom of religion is a very Christian concept. We do not believe in compulsive, forced religion.

9-11 reminds all of us that religion can destroy – or they can build for a better society and world.

Let us as Christians be those who are found to be loving to all those around us.

God Bless You Greatly,

Pastor Lafe

ON THE HORIZON

Plymouth Guild meeting on Saturday, September 10th, at 9:00 a.m. All ladies of the church are welcome.

Bake Sale on Sunday, September 11th. Remember to bring some change with you so you can purchase some goodies. This is the first bake sale following the summer hiatus for the Plymouth Guild.

Monday Night Bible Study starts on Monday, September 12th at 7:00.

Board of Trustees and Deaconesses meet on Thursday, September 15th at 7:00.

Installation of Pastor Lafe and a Potluck Dinner following the morning service on Sunday, September 18th. Please see the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Plan to join us for some fun fellowship.

Monday Night Bible Study Returns! Beginning on September 12th our Monday Night Bible Study will start up, led by Pastor Lafe. Come join us.

Saturday, October 15th an Appreciation Dinner for Pastor Lyle and Carole will be held. The Palmers have volunteered to make their wonderful spaghetti dinner with all the trimmings. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!

Church Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00 p.m.

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MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Our Monday Night Bible Study will start up on September 12th. The study on servanthood by Gale Erwin, a Bible Teacher Humorist, will be shown by video each time and then followed by a discussion led by Pastor Lafe. Gayle Erwin was Pastor Lafe's professor in bible college. This is a very interesting study. Please plan to join us and bring your Bible.

PLYMOUTH GUILD

Our August Guild meeting was held at the Church on the 13th. We will be resuming our Bake Sales starting on Sunday, September 11th. If you have a special request, please contact one of the ladies of the Guild. We appreciate your patronage!

We are in need of donations for our Thrift Store. The proceeds have contributed to our missions. What does not sell here, will be sold at our annual Rummage Sale. The sale is scheduled for Saturday, November 19th.

At our annual Spaghetti Dinner in January, the Guild would again like to have a silent auction. If you have any larger items, we would appreciate your donation. The donations of jewelry, bedding and a rug, among other items, for our last silent auction generated a lot of interest.

September's mission will be the Chandler Food Bank. The food bank weighed our last food donation in early August. We donated 69 pounds of food! Let's challenge ourselves to beat that number this next time. Many children in Arizona are going hungry according to the news. We must not forget them!

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, September 10th at 9:00 a.m. All ladies of the Church are welcome!

Cindy Palmer
President

KATHLEEN'S KORNER

*We would like to wish a **Happy Birthday** to all members and friends celebrating their birthdays this September:*

<i>Alice Carmichael</i>	<i>Sept. 9th</i>	<i>Kelly Phuong</i>	<i>Sept. 12th</i>
<i>Tap Phuong</i>	<i>Sept. 9th</i>	<i>Andrew & Emily Schossow</i>	<i>Sept. 18th</i>
<i>Natalie Orcutt</i>	<i>Sept. 10th</i>	<i>Elizabeth Petroff</i>	<i>Sept. 28th</i>
<i>Callie Matchett</i>	<i>Sept. 12th</i>		

Please remember John Porter, Audrey Robinson and Betty Wilson in your prayers. Please call me at the church office if you would like me to mention you or a family member for a prayer request in the next church newsletter. We need to pray for each other.

For those of you who attended our last potluck and remember the great enchiladas, I have the recipe from Tina Pinson, a friend of Pastor Lafe and Lori (she sang the special that day with her husband). Here it is:

<i>1 large can refried beans</i>	<i>chopped onions</i>	<i>grated cheese</i>
<i>1 can diced chilies (mild)</i>	<i>large pkg of flour tortillas</i>	<i>chopped tomato (opt.)</i>
<i>1 lb hamburger</i>	<i>2 cans Stokelys green chilies</i>	

Saute onions and hamburger. Mix both with beans and 1 can of diced chilies. Stuff tortillas with mixture, adding grated cheese and chopped tomatoes, if desired. Lay stuffed tortillas in pan, pour both cans of green chilies over, sprinkle with more cheese and bake until warm.

If you have any announcement or item you wish to appear in the October Newsletter, please have it in my in-box in the church office no later than Sunday, September 25th. Thanks!

CHURCH OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Officers:

Moderator: Paul Petroff (480)634-7124

Church Clerk: Betty Caruthers (480)898-9586

Treasurer: Denise Thomas (480)899-5769

Financial Secretary: Kathleen Trenam (480)814-9066

Church Secretary: Kathleen Trenam

Organist and Director of Music: Ruth Knight (480)816-3650

Trustee Board:

Chr., Cal Thomas (480)899-5769

Tap Phuong (480)633-7804

Glen Palmer (480)632-9259

Jim Slagle (Ad Hoc) (480)497-1169

Deacon/Deaconess Board:

Joyce Newman (480) 895-7949

ChaCha Tabor (480) 963-6944

Judy Bowles (480) 857-6259

Board of Education:

Kelly Phuong (480)633-7804

Nancy Miller (480)706-5074

Barbara Tran (480)703-6596

Plymouth Guild:

President, Cindy Palmer (480)632-2959

Vice Pres., Bonnie Revis (480)814-7040

Sec'y, Kathleen Trenam (480)814-9066

Treasurer, Joyce Newman (480)895-7949

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AUGUST 2011 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Total income \$2,947.90

Total expenses \$7,619.45 (does not
include new flooring/carpet)

SERMON TOPIC AND HYMNS

Sept. 4, 2011

Communion Sunday

Message: "Work Is Good!"

Scripture: Genesis 2: 8-20

Hymns: "Onward Christian Soldiers"

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

"Who Is on the Lord's Side?"

"Rise Up, O Men of God"

"Jesus, I Come"

Sept. 11, 2011

Message: "Cling to Good"

Scripture: Romans 12: 9-18

Hymns: "We Gather Together"

"America, the Beautiful"

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Sept. 18, 2011

Installation of Pastor Murray & Friendship Sunday

Messages: Rev. Lyle Schossow to the Church

Rev. Ed White to the Pastor

Rev. Lafe Murray

Scripture: II Timothy 2: 1-9

Hymns: "How Firm a Foundation"

"To God Be the Glory"

"The Church's One Foundation"

"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Sept. 25, 2011

Message: "Devoted to One Another"

Scripture: John 15: 9-13

Hymns: "Sometimes Alleluia"

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

"My Tribute"

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT

Someone, feeling spiritually unfed, wrote a letter to a newspaper, saying that after some 30 years of attending church, he couldn't remember one sermon. The letter writer said he'd probably wasted his time, and preachers were wasting theirs, as well.

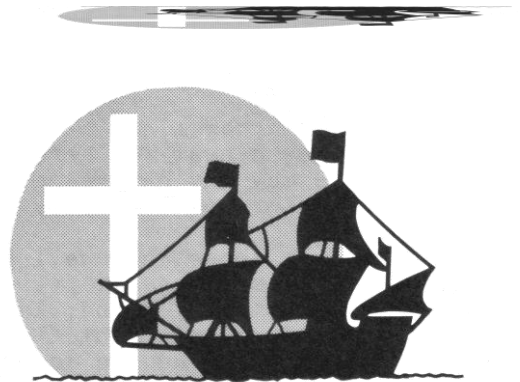
A few days later, someone else wrote a rebuttal. This writer said he'd been married for 30 years but couldn't recall the entire menu of any one of the thousands of meals his wife had fixed. Yet he knew those meals were nourishing and gave him strength to do his work. He also said that without eating those meals, his body would have been long dead. Without going to worship, he added, he'd be spiritually dead, too.

Congregational Church of the Valley

your community congregational church

Pastor: Lafe Murray

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