



The Chino Valley Chimes

June 2016



Happening this month:

- June 1 ~ Men's Prayer Breakfast
- June 1 ~ UMW Lunch
- June 6-10 ~ VBS at Grace Baptist
- June 11 ~ Missions Chicken Dinner
- June 14 ~ Missions No-host Lunch
- June 14 ~ Aroma's Pizza
- June 15 ~ Finance Committee
- June 16-19 ~ Desert Southwest Annual Conference

- ◇ **Staff Meeting—Mondays, 8-9am**
- ◇ **Adult Study—on vacation until fall**
- ◇ **Choir Rehearsals—on vacation until fall**

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Conference Mission Project

Approximately one out of every nine youth in foster care are aging out of the system. This represents hundreds of young adults throughout the communities in Arizona, Nevada, and California. These youth have very few resources and few support systems. While there are organizations that are helping, one area where there is no support is move-in costs like filling the pantry with groceries for the first time. This year's Annual Conference mission project is to fill these empty pantries with food.

You are invited to participate by buying \$25 gift cards from local grocery stores and supplying a favorite recipe with each gift card. Young adults aging out of the foster care system moving into their first homes will have their pantries filled with the UMC's love and perhaps their first dinner will include that favorite recipe. We will work with foster care organizations to set up delivery in our local communities.

Pray for the young people that are aging out of foster care. Pray for the facilities that are supporting them in their journey to become self sufficient. Then give to help stock their pantries.

Gift cards and recipes need to be turned in to the church office by June 15. You can also place your cards and recipes in the offering plate.

Missions Dinner



The Missions Committee will hold a chicken dinner fund raising event on Saturday, June 11. The menu will feature baked chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, and rolls; with cake and pie for dessert.

The donations received for the dinner will be donated to Northland Cares, an organization that provides help for individuals with HIV and AIDS.

From the Pastor



How can God forgive me when I keep on sinning? Perhaps it's not so difficult to consider that God is willing to forgive us the first time we sin. Especially if we learn from those mistakes and vow never to commit that same sin again. But what about after we have repented, after we have promised never to repeat that disgrace (that kind of lie, that lustful look, that frivolous purchase when we can't afford it, that situation we keep putting ourselves in that compromises our principles), but instead of learning from our mistakes, we go and do them again...and again...and again? Can God forgive us after so many repeat offenses? Or perhaps even more importantly – will he forgive us of those sins too?

The question is a good one. It's the very same question that the Apostle Paul wrestles with as he penned the words of the text. Paul acknowledges that he daily has the opportunity to do good in the

eyes of God – in fact he wants to do good in the eyes of God because he is thankful that God brought him to believe in Jesus as his Savior. But in shame and disapproval the Apostle makes this startling remark, “*I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do*” (Romans 5:15). Paul is confessing that many times he is confronted with circumstances where he knows exactly what the right, God-pleasing thing to say or do would be – but then he's startled when he does something different than what he wanted to do or says something other than what he wanted to say. What's worse is that this scenario plays itself over and over again in his life.

In fact Paul says he's even more confused when the situations arise where he can see the harmful effects that wrong actions would bring on his life but he does them anyway. It's like a drug addict who knows that another puff or injection will only further destroy him – but he gets high regardless. Because Paul recognizes that these sinful actions will be harmful, he in fact affirms the truth that God's law is good and right because it is put in place to keep him from hurt and pain. Since these sinful actions run contrary to his true desire he pinpoints the cause of the problem when he says, “*I know that good does not live in me, that is, in my human nature. For even though the desire to do good is in me, I am not able to do it.*” (Romans 7:18) Since it is his sin that is causing him all these problems, even as a Christian, then it also follows that Paul is in need of forgiveness even as a Christian. Since sin is first and foremost a crime against God, then it follows that the Apostle Paul is in desperate need of forgiveness that only God can offer.

Who of us is any different? We too must admit that we are daily guilty of sin – even when we know better, even when we want to do better. That's an important reminder for us, especially as Christians, because it keeps us from becoming self-righteous, filled with arrogant pride about our goodness. Since as Christians we are still sinners, we are still in need of the forgiveness that only God can offer us. Before we can really understand God's forgiveness we must understand our own sinfulness.

As we look for God's forgiveness in answer to our sinfulness, it's imperative that the Holy Spirit would repeat this universal truth, namely that there is nothing we have done nor that we can do to earn God's forgiveness.

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As we grow to understand our ongoing need for God's forgiveness, we will also grow in our understanding of who we are as Christians.

According to his inner being Paul delights in God's law. That's the heart of faith talking. But he also concedes that there is something else still at work inside of him. It's Paul's evil side, the nature he was born with, the one that is hostile to God, the law of sin that is capable of the most heinous sins. This evil nature wants to corrupt everything good that God is accomplishing within Paul. If we're no longer bothered by the fact that we continue to sin so long as we are in the flesh, then we will know that our sinful nature has won out. But so long as the battle continues and the Spirit of God is at war inside of me against my sinful nature, I can rest assured that God's forgiveness is mine.

How can I be so sure? I can be sure that God continues to forgive me as I grow in understanding my Savior. My Savior is the same Savior who reached out to Paul and offered him forgiveness. How did Jesus do that? Jesus did that by condemning the sinful nature of Paul. That's exactly what Jesus was doing when He said to Paul, the persecutor of the church on the way to Damascus, "*Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?*" (Acts 9:4)

Satan will spread out all of our sins before us. He wants to convince us that there's no hope – that Jesus couldn't possibly forgive us for all of the sinful things we've done. You see, he wants us to believe that there's no hope for us so that as a result, there will no reason left not to satisfy every sinful and every immoral desire. That's why we give thanks that God continues to crush the temptations of the devil and the inclinations of our flesh. He drowns those desires as he terrifies our flesh with the eternal consequences of sin through the preaching of his law. Then, in his grace, continually raises up the new person of faith who is strengthened through that universal, timeless gospel truth – that the blood of his Son, Jesus Christ, cleanses us from all our sins too.

So when we are troubled by the question, "Does God forgive me when I keep on sinning?" Understand this about God's forgiveness: we are in desperate need of it because we sin daily. He offers it to us to strengthen us in the war that is being waged for control of our souls. He gives it to you with no strings attached because of what your Savior has done for you. "Thanks be to God," for he shall rescue us from these bodies of death so that we might live with him eternally.

Now, you probably already know that I will be gone on vacation from June 1st-15th (in Spokane, Washington) and then I will go directly to Annual Conference in Glendale and be there from June 15th-19th. I will be back in the office on Monday June 20th. Please call the office and talk to Sue Piper, our most capable Office Administrator, who will be happy to answer your questions or lead you to the person that can help you if you are in need of most anything.

Peace and grace,
Pastor Mike



Through this man
forgiveness of sins
is proclaimed to you...

Acts 13:38

Notes from the Lay Leader



This is one of those months of soul searching for me to come up with some thoughts to share with you. It finally struck me when I was looking through the lectionary for June. The scriptures lead to a topics of hospitality and inclusion.

We as a congregation are pretty good at showing hospitality to ourselves, but can we improve our hospitality to our visitors. We do not generally have a great influx of visitors to the Desert Southwest during this time of the year. It becomes warm and when the snow flies in other parts of the country, folks tend to come and see us. Maybe we could practice saying hello to each other more, and practice our hospitality now, so that when more folks come we will be prepared. We want everyone to feel a sense of inclusion in our family of Christ.

One of the sections of our services that I really like is when our Pastor reads the "blue slips." It is the time

when we as a community of Christ listen to each other and hear the joys and concerns of each other. It is important to continue to use simple words such as, "I would appreciate the community saying a prayer for me." It means a lot and God does listen when something good happens. And good things do happen all of the time.

Our Annual Conference will be happening this month and the Pastor and your Lay Leaders will be attending. We would appreciate your prayers so that we will learn and come back with new perspectives for the coming year. Remember the parable that Christ used about the branches and the vines to get his point across. The root system and the vines that need to be correctly trimmed is the theme for this year's Conference.

See you in church and say "hello." "HELLO to all."

Roger



UMW NEWS

We will meet on Wed., June 1st for our Birthday Luncheon & gift exchange,

We will not meet in July, August, or September.

COMMITTEES AND GROUPS



Greetings to all,

Over the past few months, the Finance

committee has been busy transitioning to ACS (church accounting/bookkeeping software) . It has been a big job organizing our records, bills and payroll to fit into ACS. But, it is now working very nicely. We are able to print and customize monthly reports so that we can follow church and committee income, expenses and funds on hand. We need to give thanks to Sue Piper, our Office Administrator, for leading the way.

The church is in the process of moving our banking business from Chase Bank to National Bank of Arizona (NBAZ). NBAZ is closer and will be able to offer better all around service for our church and funds. They also have a safe deposit box where we keep valuable church documents safe.

Our accounts at NBAZ support our two major church funds. They are the "General Fund", which we use to manage the church income, paying of bills, and making payroll; and the "Trustee Funds," which consist of (1) Emergency and Maintenance fund, used to maintain existing facilities and

infrastructure. (2) Trustee Fund, for future Church facilities or major infrastructure improvements. (3) Memorial Fund, which manages funds received from donors.

The Finance committee is now in our annual proposed church budget analysis process. This is where we attempt to estimate our church expenses for 2017 and then determine what amount of funds we will need to keep the church operating in the plus for next year. The budget also has line items for growth, expansion and outreach. We are not happy just making ends meet; we want and need to grow!

As a reminder, members can commit to a giving pledge at any time of the year, not just during our annual stewardship pledge drive. This is your personal commitment to support the church. Forms are available in the Narthex.

After six long years as Financial Secretary, Janet Bailey is stepping down. We all thank Janet for her dedication to serving our church as she has done. Please give her a word of thanks, and a big hug... Jan Mauck will be taking over her duties.

Don't forget our church monthly social gathering and fundraiser at Aroma's Pizza. We gather after 5 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Aroma donates 10% of our bill to the church. We make between \$30 - \$50 each month, plus, we have fun!

Hope we all have a nice June...

Ray Benny,
Finance chairperson



At the May 4 meeting we had the United Way in as a speaker. There were 7 attendees at the meeting.

The next meeting is Jun 1. The speaker will be from the VA Hospital Public Relations office. Again all men are invited to attend and see what the Men's Group is doing.

Birthdays & Anniversaries



BIRTHDAYS

- 6/2 Janet Greer-Warren
- 6/5 Marita Christensen
- 6/12 Heaven Nolan
- 6/18 Maureen DeLaCruz
- 6/18 Janet Mauck
- 6/18 Edith Rieck
- 6/18 George Rist
- 6/18 Barbara Starnes
- 6/19 Marian Stanley
- 6/21 David Jenkins
- 6/25 Marti Hays

ANNIVERSARIES

- 6/15 Michael & Sandra Fox
- 6/22 Laurence & Freedom Nolan



BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Diane Harris
- 7/3 Marian McElhaney
- 7/3 Alice Saunders
- 7/8 Michael Williams
- 7/9 Walter Bill
- 7/10 Sarah O'Neil
- 7/10 Jennifer Phippen
- 7/13 Katherine Reimers
- 7/15 Marjorie Mastin
- 7/16 George Rose
- 7/20 Boston Soza
- 7/25 Barbara Huey
- 7/28 Robert Haslett
- 7/29 Bonnie Hayes

ANNIVERSARIES

- 7/17 Roger & Jan Harlow
- 7/20 Bob & Sally Reese
- 7/29 Ray & Marlys Benny
- 7/29 Kerry & Jennifer Phippen

June Liturgists

2nd Service

- 5 Janet Greer-Warren
- 12 Monte Colucci
- 19 Dave Starnes
- 26 Barb Robinson

June Readers

1st Service

- 5
- 12
- 19
- 26

If you are interested in reading at the 1st service on Sunday, please sign up in the Narthex.

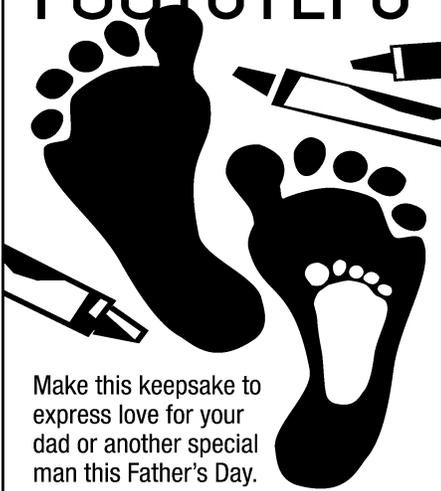
+ Christian Symbols +



Apple

Although Genesis 3 doesn't identify the forbidden fruit eaten by Adam and Eve, it has traditionally been thought of and portrayed as an apple. This may be because in Latin, "apple" and "evil" are the same word (malum). An apple, then, often represents humanity's fall into sin. When Christ is shown holding an apple, however, it symbolizes his conquest over sin and death. "For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22, NIV).

In my
**FATHER'S
 FOOTSTEPS**



Make this keepsake to express love for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint

What you do:

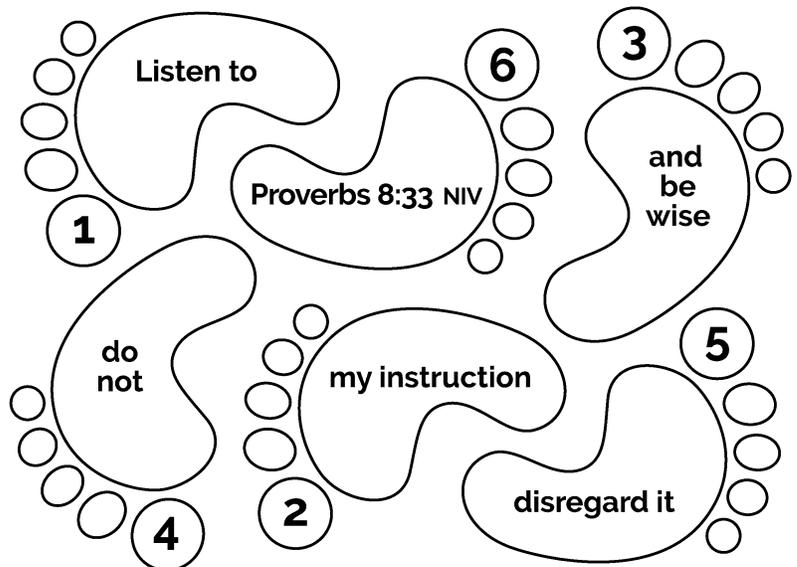
1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same one) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.



**FOLLOW OUR
 FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS**

In the book of Proverbs, a father urges his son to listen to his wisdom, which he received from his heavenly Father.

Directions: Starting at 1, follow the footsteps and write the words in order on the blanks below.



“ _____ ;
 _____ ;
 _____ ”

Of the 66 books in the Protestant Bible, 39 have people's names as titles. Some names indicate the person credited as author — for example, Matthew; others name the book's main character — such as Ruth. How many books are written to the person named in the title?

- A. 2 B. 4 C. 13 D. 21

Answer: (See 1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:4; Philemon 1:1.)



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LESSER KNOWN CHURCH FACTS

SEASON AFTER PENTECOST (ORDINARY TIME)

The Season after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. It may include twenty–three to twenty–eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter; but the first Sunday is always Trinity Sunday, and the

last Sunday is always the Sunday of the Reign of Christ or Christ the King. The season also includes All Saints and Thanksgiving. Although the scripture lessons in the lectionary for this half of the year go in a semi-continuous cycle through books of the Bible rather than follow a theme, the gospel lessons cover Jesus' teaching ministry.

Paraments, stoles, and banners may show a variety of color, texture, and symbols. Regardless of the name given to this season, its basic color is green, symbolizing growth in Christ. White is the customary color for Trinity Sunday, All Saints, and Reign of Christ/Christ the King Sunday. Red is appropriate for homecomings, anniversaries, evangelistic services, consecrations, and civil holidays. The scripture readings or theme for a particular Sunday may suggest colors, textures, or symbols for the visuals used that day. A lesson on children, for example, might suggest using art by children.

Acts of worship are chosen more because they relate to the scripture readings or theme of the particular day than because they fit the season as a whole.