

# Plumbline

ORANGEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2021



## Reunion Picnic

The weather was sunny and somewhat warm as OPC and the African Fellowship gathered for a picnic on April 11. Jikhara Williams created a fun Hawaiian theme on the patio, complete with pineapple-filled table centerpieces and grass skirts transforming the food tables. Speaking of food – Dennis Daniel grilled hot dogs and the serving tables were laden with a great quantity of delicious food – both North American favorites and traditional African dishes. People lingered in conversation as they enjoyed the spring air and the opportunity to visit in person.



## Mission Committee

**Financial Review.** The committee reviewed all the items not yet spent in the 2020 budget and unanimously approved payments to all except three, which await further discussion and updates. Mission Committee is preparing for the end of the budget cycle in September and will have a special meeting on Monday, May 24 to determine the 2022 budget proposal. Other financial decisions included:

- \$610 in Souper Bowl of Caring donations to be spent by the youth as part of a mission trip to Feed My Starving Children
- \$315 from donations and \$700 from undesignated budget funds to make hygiene kits
- \$250 from undesignated funds to support the evangelism of Women of Hope ministry of TWR
- \$555 in OPC Can Nourish (formerly Bags for ICM) donations used for Safeway purchases  
Note: if additional funds are received for any of these recipients they will be distributed along with the amounts listed above.

### Status Reports and Actions Taken

- Tohono O’odham Project: Removed from consideration due to lack of response.
- First Light Fellowship Support. The Mission Committee will invite them to visit to tell about their ministry.
- Asylum Seekers’ Hygiene Kits: Phebe Packer will prepare a budgetary proposal for an ongoing program.
- Hungarian Ministries International: Joe Miller will report at our May meeting.
- Grace Lutheran: We will continue to provide sandwiches the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. We will start recruiting additional volunteers for this project. Christina Suarez will write an article for the Plumblin about the Mission Committee “field trip” to see the services provided by Grace Lutheran to the homeless in downtown Phoenix. Christina Suarez to discuss needs with Pastor Sarah.
- Desert Mission: is still not having volunteers work in the food bank.
- Rocky Point: Christina Suarez reported they are hopeful we will be able to have a mission trip in November, with adjustments made for the COVID “new normal.”
- OPC Can Nourish Phoenix (Formerly Bags for ICM): Had a very successful food drive and donation drive on Easter. (See photo of Gigi Griep loading the purchases in Leeann Spangler’s car at Safeway)
- Pentecost Offering: The committee will share suggestions for organizations to receive the local portion of the Pentecost Offering and we will vote by email.



**Committee members** Ron Carmichael, Bernale Wright, Phebe Packer, Gene Nix, Christina Suarez, Leeann Spangler and new member Travis Clendard

## SAGES

Orangewood’s SAGES fellowship group has been looking forward to the time when we might again hold our monthly luncheon in Page Hall. We recently conducted a survey and found that many are ready to enjoy our get-together again! We will meet on Tuesday, May 11, at 11:30 am, and lunch will be served at noon. This will be our last meeting until we begin again in October, after our summer break. Mark your calendars now, and plan to join us for this socially-distanced event! The cost of the luncheon will be \$4.00/person, and please let the office know should you need transportation.

## Meet new Elder David Rathman

David was born in Kentucky, but raised in Decatur, Georgia, an Atlanta suburb. (Coincidentally, Dennis Daniel was born and raised in the Decatur area, and Tully Fletcher went to Columbia Seminary in Decatur - small world!) "I come from a big family of 6 boys - bless my mom's heart!" says David. He attended Chapel Woods Presbyterian Church in the Atlanta area in his early childhood. He fondly remembers the church pot lucks, special services of the Church Seasons, camps, and youth groups. His father was a professor at Morris Brown University, an HBC (Historically Black College).

When his dad retired, the family moved west to Flagstaff, AZ, then later to Phoenix. He has now lived in AZ for 41 years - half in Flagstaff, half in Phoenix. David worked and raised three kids in Flagstaff. He moved here just before Y2K in October 1999, and he and wife Sandy have called Phoenix "home" ever since. He went to DeVry University and finished raising his youngest child in Phoenix. "I've worked in the grocery business most of my life, experience which helped with the recent Navajo Project work," says David. After being in grocery, he worked for Vanguard, but is now semi-retired.

"My children live back east, so I love traveling and visiting my four grandkids." he adds. "I love the outdoors and camping. During COVID, I escaped and discovered lots of new Arizona places, during Covid, and have enjoyed being able to watch Ken's sermon anywhere - one time sitting next to the Verde River."



He discovered Orangewood Presbyterian church in 2013. "The first day I came to Orangewood, it rained. When I arrived, I remember helping Fred and Suzanne Norling scramble wet into Page Hall. Orangewood felt right and I have enjoyed the potlucks and our camaraderie in Christ." People know David for his true servant's heart, and he says, "I enjoyed visiting and caring for people as a Deacon at Orangewood; I like to be of service to my church. I've assisted with the sound in worship, and had planned to learn ringing the bells from Chuck, until COVID changed plans. Building many homes in Mexico has taught me about our great youth and sharing the good word to those who share our faith and desires but have a different language and customs. I feel my lifelong love of Jesus and my service in the church have prepared me well for the office of Elder."

We couldn't agree more, David - welcome to Orangewood's Session!

## Join in Celebrating Our May Birthdays

*Wish them a happy birthday with a card, email, phone call or prayer.*

- May 1 Lori Page
- May 4 Phil Case, David Griep
- May 7 Lois Pearch, Jack Shepherd
- May 9 Jeanne Matt, Ian Dunlop
- May 12 Donna Irambona
- May 17 Leeann Spangler, Travis Kroodsma, Sienna Case
- May 18 Catherine Sickafoose
- May 19 B Van Mantgem
- May 20 Brenda Moser
- May 21 Ann Lindamood
- May 22 Glenn Campbell
- May 23 Gloria Olsen
- May 26 Glenn Tansley
- May 29 Barbara Rozema, Emmy Widener
- May 30 Joy Smith



## **Congregational Life**

Life is returning to Orangewood! Thankfully, it never really left. It just changed in response to the Pandemic. It is wonderful to be in community again and perhaps, for a time, we will hold it more dear. We appreciated the treats on the patio Easter Sunday, and folks really lingered to chat and catch up with friends. The picnic, the following Sunday, was a joint venture with the African fellowship. Thanks be to Jikhara for all her hard work on music and table décor and to our cooks, set-up and clean-up crews. A fun time was had by all.

In May we are looking forward to hosting a lunch for our older adults (SAGES), as well as a luncheon for all of our Presbyterian Women, both of which you can read about in detail elsewhere in this publication.

We really encourage everyone who is part of OPC to join a Small Group. Small groups are designed to be your personal support system within our congregation. In them, you can share more deeply and support one another. Leadership is easy. One is simply responsible for reminders about meeting times and places, and for keeping discussion running smoothly. Pastor Ken usually provides discussion questions. We meet as Small Groups in the Spring after Easter and in the Fall ending before the holiday season for periods of an hour weekly for 8 to 10 weeks. Small groups can meet at church by arranging space with Pam or even by Zoom. We need leaders as well as participants. Sign up on the church website today! Start enjoying deeper community!

Last year we were in the process of making arrangements for a new photo directory when the Pandemic hit. Pam, in making attempts to restart that, has found that all such companies have now closed. All is not lost, however, as we are looking to online options. We have reserved the week of Oct. 10-17 for our new directory photographs. Watch for further details in the Fall.

We are always looking for folks who might enjoy joining us as part of our planning team or as volunteers to help out at events as part of the Hospitality team. We have a lot of fun and always welcome fresh ideas and more hands to share the workload. Talk to Bernale Wright or Jackie Collier about the possibilities.

Look for announcements about a Summer Ice Cream Event on Saturday, July and more adult Study Opportunities to come! Blessings and Peace, Your Congregational Life Team

## **Need for Greeters**

Remember the 'Before' times, when we had a couple of Greeters in the Narthex each Sunday? Well, as we reopen in-person worship, we would like to rebuild a team of Greeters, even though that will look different than before. Also, as we open up ministry opportunities to anyone who feels called to contribute in a particular way, we would like to extend an invitation to be on our team of Greeters - you don't have to be a Deacon, or even an OPC member. Also, we will structure the Greeting Team so that you may volunteer on a schedule that works best for you.

Being a Greeter is easy! Just show up 15 minutes early, wear your name tag, and say "hello!" to everyone who enters. And, being a Greeter is an especially good way to get to know the faces in our congregation. We will have an organizational meeting on May 16 after church. Or, call Hedy Martin at 602-789-9624 if you are interested in participating on this team."

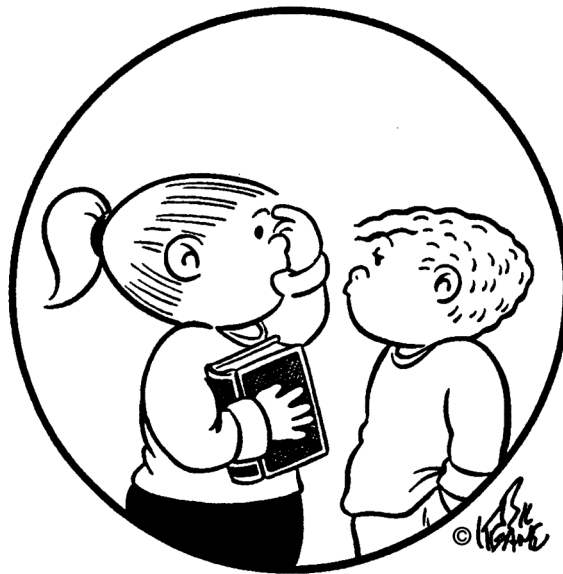
## Road Trip!

By Phebe Packer

Bernale Wright and I looked forward to our overnight trip to Bisbee for weeks and we were not disappointed! We made the 3<sup>1/2</sup> hour drive to the southeast corner of Arizona on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We explored the shops in Bisbee on Saturday afternoon, saw the perfect car for Dennis Daniel (see photo), and spent the night at a charming bed & breakfast called the Schoolhouse Inn. It is a (somewhat) renovated school from the early 1900's and we stayed in the "Arithmetic Room". On Palm Sunday we worshipped at the historic Presbyterian Church that stands next to the famous Copper Queen. This church was nearing closure but the congregation found ways to keep it open and it is now a small but vibrant partner of the church in Douglas. We were amazed to find a 37-pipe organ and tons of beautiful mahogany in this little church. A beautiful experience all around!



## THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Conscience is e-mail your head gets from God."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

## Session April Meeting

Heard the Treasurer report that for the current fiscal year income and expenses are aligned. The Treasurer is asking input from committees as we begin work on the FY 2022 budget.

Learned from Dennis Daniel that the formation of care teams is going well, including starting a new team to recruit greeters for worship services.

Heard from the Worship Committee which requested guidance from the Reopening Team in order to plan ahead. A generous gift has been received to upgrade A/V equipment, and training of volunteers is ongoing.

Heard from Joseph Lavi that the African Fellowship is planning additional new member classes and is working with Finance to prepare a budget. Upcoming PW events will include women from this group.

Heard that Congregational Life is planning a July 3 ice cream social. The Committee urges all members to join a small group and announced there will be a SAGES luncheon on May 11.

Learned from Mission Committee that it visited the downtown tent city and is working with Grace Lutheran as they re-start projects. The grocery drive for Nourish Phoenix was very successful!

Heard from Facilities Committee that the office areas are being re-carpeted. The Committee reminds everyone who uses the van that a trip log must be completed each time the van is used.

Heard that the primary focus of Christian Education Committee is Vacation Bible School.

Heard from Finance & Stewardship that the stewardship campaign will continue through April. Session discussed options for the Manse, but will await further study and specific recommendations at a later meeting.

Notes: The Multicultural Task Force has become the Multicultural Liaison Team, which will include OPC and African Fellowship members and will work to resolve problems AND emphasize building relationships between the two groups. The Communications Team is planning a workshop for OPC leaders to be held in June.

***Thanks to Brent Upson for acting as Moderator Pro-Tem!***

## Easter at Orangewood

It was so wonderful to have Easter in-person once again. After the weather turned hot we moved our service indoors at the last minute. It was so great to be together. Here are a few pictures of the kids and our decorations. Jikhara loves to make special decorations for our events. It is her gift and we love her fresh ideas. The bunny bites were definitely a hit. Thanks Jikhara.



## Presbyterian Women

### Page Turners

YOU are invited to come to the first get-together of a new monthly book discussion circle on Wednesday, April 28 at 10:30 am in Room 11. This first session will include discussing the book "Peace Like a River" by Leif Enger. The story is told by an 11 year old boy who shares his take on his miracle prone Father, his author sister and his fugitive brother. Titles for future months; selections will be chosen. Everyone is invited to add a bit of reading to our calendars. The meetings will be the last Wednesday of each month.

### PW Bible Study Circle

The final lesson of the current series is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5 at 1:00 in Room 11. Lesson 9 explores "God's promise that one day there will be no crying, no more death, no more tears, no more lament." Jeanne Matt is the discussion facilitator.

### Spring Luncheon

Presbyterian Women are hosting a potluck luncheon for EVERY WOMAN who worships on our campus and their friends and daughters on Saturday, May 22 at 11:30 in Page Hall. Reservations need to be made to ensure seating for everyone.

### Bulletin Board

Always check the bulletin board outside the kitchen in Page Hall for current happenings.



### Spring Gathering



Every Woman who worships at Orangewood on Saturday, May 22 at 11:30 am in Page Hall.

Bring a salad or dessert to share. You can sign up on the Patio in May.

Include friends and family when you sign up.



**Orangewood Presbyterian Church**  
**7321 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85020**

**May**

**[www.orangewood.info](http://www.orangewood.info)**

**2021**

**Orangewood Staff**

Pastor	The Rev. Kenneth G. Page
Director of Music	Dr. Charles N. Sedgwick
Band Leader	Brady Putzke
Children & Youth	Jikhara Williams
Office & Facilities Manager	Pam White
Set-Up Assistants	Dylan Swartz

**Plumblin Volunteers**

Editor	Pam White & Phebe Packer
Proofer	Mary Jane Gregory
Mailer	Jackie Collier

**Orangewood Session 2021**

Phebe Packer	Clerk of Session
Ron Carmichael	Mission
Carol Hunter	Children & Youth
Nelly Kanyange	African Fellowship
Pete Ladigo	Finance Committee
Joseph Lavi	African Fellowship
Gloria Olsen	Nominating Committee
David Rathman	Personnel
Elizabeth Reifsnider	Worship
Brent Upson	Facilities
Bernale Wright	Congregational Life
Luci Sherwood	Co-Clerk

Orangewood Presbyterian Church  
602-944-1508

Website: [www.orangewood.church](http://www.orangewood.church)

Email: [pam.white.opc@gmail.com](mailto:pam.white.opc@gmail.com)

**The deadline for the June Plumblin is May 17.**