

PLUMBLINE

Orangewood Presbyterian Church

July 2021

Pastor Page's Pastor's Page

While I usually write about spiritual matters, today I write to you as the chair of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. As you know, extreme heatwaves have become more common in recent years. We Arizonans are somewhat nonchalant about heat, but there is a very real danger for which we need to prepare. Experts say it's a matter of **WHEN** not if we have an extreme heatwave combined with a large-scale blackout.

Preparation can be the difference between life and death for you and for your neighbors whom you might be able to help. There are basically three ways for us to deal with an extreme heatwave/blackout:

We can bug out, leave town, skedaddle, head north.

Where will you go? Do you have a place up north? Can you join someone?

Fill your gas tank before a heatwave. Gas pumps may not work, and lots of people will be heading north, so it may take way longer than usual.

Have emergency supplies ready to go including plenty of water and food for the trip. You may sit on the 17 for a long time.

Don't forget supplies/water for your pets.

We can shelter in place.

Keep your windows closed.

Close your blinds and curtains.

Drink plenty of water.

Use cold showers or your pool often to keep your body temperature down.

Keep your fridge closed. Food can stay cold for up to 2 days if you leave it closed.

This means you will want to have non-perishable food to eat.

FEMA recommends keeping a 3 day emergency supply of food and water.

The ultimate way to survive a heatwave/blackout is to have a whole house generator that will run your AC unit. Many solar systems will not power your house in a blackout.

We can go to an established emergency shelter.

Local governments and the Red Cross will set up such shelters, but there will not be enough room for the whole population.

Better to rely on the above solutions and leave emergency shelters for those with less resources or poorer health.

No matter what solution you choose there are a few more things to remember. You will need to charge your mobile phone to keep up with emergency updates and keep in touch with loved ones. The simplest way to do this is to use your car, but having a supplemental battery (which you keep charged), having a hand crank charger, or a small solar panel charger are also great solutions. Have flashlights with working batteries and a battery powered radio.

Finally, remember your neighbors, especially if you have elderly or disabled neighbors. Give them a call or stop in to make sure they are okay. When you are putting emergency supplies together, consider storing extra so that you can help others. Helping our neighbors brings me back to a spiritual matter after all.



Honduras Update

The new school year has begun in Honduras and our scholarships are at work helping students in both Trinidad and Copan. The photo shows a boy in Trinidad receiving his funds from committee member Kenia, who the OPC team has met on many occasions. This boy is just one of a large group to receive support this semester. Thanks to all who contribute to this important program.



Knot Just Knitters

OPC's group of dedicated knitters has started meeting again on the 3rd Monday and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. At present the group is meeting in Room 11. Join us and if you want to learn to knit or crochet we have wonderful teachers! The photo shows the many items that were created at home during the pandemic – sweaters, blankets, and many hats! The items will be sent to World Vision for distribution to children around the world.



Mission on the Move

The Mission Committee continues to explore the new programs being offered at some of our community partners such as Nourish Phoenix (formerly known as ICM). We will report back on the tour we are taking on June 28. Also in the planning stage is a tour of the Neighborhood Medical Clinic on Fillmore Street.

Summer is the time for registering for the Angel Tree program that will take place in November/December. This year we have new program coordinators: Leeann Spangler and her daughter Addi Case will be joined by Katy Griep and a group of "empty nesters" to plan and implement this year's project. Many thanks to these volunteers and to everyone who will help provide gifts to 40 children.

Volunteer Opportunity

Want an easy job on Sundays?

Become a scribe for the pastor! This is probably the easiest job there is. You get to stand next to Pastor Ken after the service for about 20 minutes and take notes for him. He will let you know if he needs you to write something down. Those of us who have done this in the past find that most Sundays there's nothing to write and you get to talk to the folks leaving the church. Many hands make light work, so if you're interested, talk to Becky Cederquist (623-363-4509). We'll work out a schedule that works for you.

PW Spring Luncheon

OPC's spring luncheon on May 22 was very well attended and offered delicious food and wonderful fellowship. Jeanne Matt assembled a talented group of readers for glimpses into lives of 5 women in scripture. We enjoyed readings by Rachel Zemer, Salima Lavi, Cathy Witte, Gloria Olsen, and Jackie Collier. \$465.65 was donated for the Birthday Offering, which supports mission projects of the PC/USA PW.



Save the Date for PW

OPC's Presbyterian Women will hold their first meeting of the fall on Saturday, September 18. The new Horizons Bible Study will begin in October. This year's study explores the stories of women mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus given in the first chapter of Matthew. The study will begin with family trees and the importance of family stories in establishing our identities. A concurrent study will be held with the African Fellowship women's group, highlighting the cultural implications of the stories of women such as Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Mary. Please contact phebepacker@gmail.com if you are interested in the Horizons study and want to purchase a workbook.

Golden Opportunity

When PageTurners sets the date for its next meeting we will be considering a wonderful offer from the author of an interesting book written by OPC member Mike Widener. He will join us to discuss the book at an upcoming meeting! The book is titled "Fishbein, Ascending" and recounts the experiences of two boys from Kansas as they grow and mature in the 1960's. Mike says, "The novel is uplifting, literally and figuratively." Watch for information about how to purchase the book as well as the date for our "author's session"!

Join in Celebrating Our July Birthdays

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

July 5: Janice Schade
July 8: Beverley Arthur
July 9: Miriam Jacobs
July 11: Charleen Harms
July 12: Lynne Orf, Nancy Young
July 15: Kelly Ramella
July 16: Bob Orf, Ra'Lene Teerink
July 25: Sydney Teerink, Gigi Gripp
July 29: Greg Olander, Yvonne Lewis

Note: If you do not want your birthday published, please contact Phebe phebepacker@gmail.com or call the church office.

Hospitality – Congregational Life

Hospitality – Welcome – is an essential part of the healthy life of our congregation. It is something each one of us can do. It doesn't take special talent to smile, to offer a hand in greeting, to introduce oneself, to show acceptance and God's love to each and all. Orangewood folk are pretty good at this already, but we can always up our game. We can commit to becoming more aware of those around us, especially during worship. Maybe we could sit in a different seat for a week or two and gain a whole new perspective, even some new friends. It's worth a try!

We always welcome anyone who will step up to help in hands-on hospitality. There are opportunities to make coffee. It is a simple process. It is easy to take for granted that somehow coffee and ice water just magically appear on the patio on Sunday morning. It really is not magic unless that is how you refer to Jackie Collier who does the down-and-dirty work most of the time to assure that we are refreshed. Please do not hesitate to contact Jackie or Bernale directly if you would be willing and able to help with hospitality in any way, small or large. You are NEEDED and welcome. Many hands make light work.

Thank You!

Our July 3rd Red, White, and Blue Ice Cream and Fun Night will occur before the Plumline comes out. I would like to give a big THANK YOU to all those who made the evening a success – Rev. Ken Page, Jikhara Williams, Jackie Collier and her crew, all those who decorated and set up and cleaned up and provided rides. I am absolutely certain we all had a wonderful time!
Bernale Wright



**Happy Birthday to
Lorene Roe!
101 years old on
June 24!**



Montlure Work Camp this Summer

We have all been waiting for the Forest Service to deem it safe to reopen our beloved church camp at Greer, Az. The fire that burned part of the camp and surrounding area a decade ago has now returned to natural ground cover. We have much work to do before the first campers can return. Orangewood has volunteered to be part of that restoration of camp buildings and trails.

Our task is to build foundation piers to support the Elk cabin (where I was a camper as a boy) so the cabin can be moved to a new location away from the drainage channel. The dates will be August 20-22. At present, Montlure has sleeping space for 18 people and some room for an RV or trailer. We're looking for a team to dig, rebar and pour concrete piers for the new foundation. The cost will be \$50 each for food, materials and gas. Montlure also requires that any youth under 18 be accompanied by a parent. Laying a new foundation for Elk cabin will really help us achieve the Montlure Phase I milestone and a return to summer camps.

If you have any questions, my cell number 602-550-9935 and my email:

bwupson@gmail.com. They have also provided us a way to sign up:

Please click the Sign-up Genius created for the OPC Montlure work camp August 20-22:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0548A5A92BA4FE3-montlure2>

Jobs for this camp:

- Digging, forming, and pouring concrete foundation pylons for the Elk cabin relocation sight.
- Trail work to repair walkways eroded over the years of closure.
- Helping in the kitchen with meals and cleanup.

Thanks so much for considering this project for your time and talent.

Brent Upson

Montlure project leader

Communications Workshop

Several members of OPC attended a workshop provided by the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Communication team on Monday, June 14. The workshop was open to the entire Presbytery, giving us the opportunity to share questions and information with other churches as we were led through the process of developing a communications plan and learning about social media tools. A small team will now work on an OPC plan, keying on our goals for outreach and connection within our congregation, with the immediate community, and with the wider world. We want to use "lessons learned" during the pandemic and increase our effectiveness in reaching multiple audiences. Stand by for updates on this new endeavor!

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July

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2020

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The *Plumblin*, a monthly newsletter of Orangewood Presbyterian Church, contains helpful information for members and friends. If you would like to receive this publication via e-mail (pdf file), contact the office. Issues may also be found on our website. **The deadline for the August Plumblin is July 19.**