

Plumbline

ORANGEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 2022

Pastor Page's Pastor's Page

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is ramping up our work in response to the war in Ukraine. You faithful members of the Presbyterian Church have already given over \$5 million in contributions targeted at the disaster in Ukraine. As I am the co-chair of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, I thought I would tell you a little about this work.

It's kind of hard to go from zero to \$5 million in a short time! How do we do it? PDA always works with partners. In areas where disasters are common (Think Texas, Louisiana and Haiti for hurricanes; California for wildfires), we already have the partners. When a new type of disaster arises, like the war in Ukraine, finding those partners is a little harder.

Part of what we do between disasters (as if such a time ever exists) is to seek relationships with appropriate organizations all over the world. The Presbyterian Church is in correspondence with other churches all over the world, and so we have relationships with organizations like the Hungarian Reformed Church and the Lutheran World Federation. We participate in the ACT alliance, which is a global faith-based coalition doing humanitarian work all over the world and which has members in more than 120 countries. We work in cooperation with International Orthodox Charities, which brings together Orthodox Christian Communities all over the world.

One of the first things we do is issue "solidarity" grants to appropriate partners. So far, these grants have ranged from \$10 - \$35K, which in some regards is small potatoes, but the advantage of these grants is that they go out with no applications and hence can get money moving quickly. These agencies have been invited and will receive assistance in applying for longer-term grants, which can range in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The ACT Alliance and Church World Service have put out coordinated appeals for member organizations doing work mostly with the 4 million refugees and 6.5 million internally displaced people. We have made large grants to these appeals which go to organizations already vetted by these international agencies.

This is how we have been meeting immediate needs – people who need food and shelter and advocacy now. Longer-term needs are our primary mission. Even if the war ended next week, there will be people who need housing for 6 months – 3 years. Eventually, we will become involved in rebuilding Ukraine. Work is underway to find those partners as we speak.



Thank you for your generous support for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. If you would like to make a gift, you can visit www.pda.pcusa.org or simply give to Orangewood either online or with a check and designating PDA.

Ken

SAGES

Orangewood's senior fellowship group, the SAGES, held their regular monthly luncheon in Page Hall on Tuesday, April 12. A delicious meal was provided by "head chef" Phebe Packer, and her assistants Joan Fenton, Sandy Snyder, B Van Mantgem and Bernale Wright. The main course of a chicken, rice and broccoli casserole, with kale salad, served with butter and rolls, was followed by strawberry shortcake topped with whipped cream for dessert. Table centerpieces were from Jeanne Matt, with each place having favors of paper flowers and Easter candy in colorful cups. The favors were from Lois Manning's collection (by way of Jeanne Matt) and Easter candies were provided by Bernale Wright. Get Well cards were signed by attending members for Jeanne, who is recovering from a recent automobile accident. Guests to our event included Sharon Watkin (guest of Jerry Eddy), Bill Espergrew (guest of John Hayes), Rev. Tom Voight of Emmanuel Church, (guest of Lori Page), and Rev. Paul Moser (guest of Brenda Moser). Our entertainment was provided by member Mr. Jerry Eddy, who gave a talk entitled "*The Future of Space: What is a Space Elevator?*" Jerry's talk included slides and the status of the space elevator project, and was very interesting to our group. Jerry is a Ph.D. and is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the International Space Elevator Consortium. Our next meeting, to be held on our regular Tuesday, May 10, at 11:30 am, will be the last luncheon meeting until we return in the fall. Our meal is scheduled to be prepared and served by the "Men of Orangewood," so be sure to mark your calendar now to enjoy this SAGES event.



Invitation for Small Groups

Small groups will begin again at Orangewood the week of May 1. Pastor Page will provide thoughts and questions about each week's sermon for the groups to use in their discussion. Several people have stepped forward to be facilitators and group meetings will be held all through the week at various times of day. As we emerge from the pandemic, we especially need to share with each other and we hope you will join a group. You'll be glad you did!! Sign-up sheets are on the patio.

Montlure Work Camp May 13-15

Orangewood is the host of the Montlure work camp. We need you! Lots of jobs for every skill level are planned.

This summer, the Montlure camps will be held at Camp Raymond near Williams due to delays in reopening our facility near Greer, AZ by the Forest Service. The USFS has decided to perform an environmental impact study before granting our use permit.

In the interim we still have a great many projects to complete before we will be ready to host large groups at the camps. Right now the maximum number of people we can host at Montlure for the work camp weekend is 24. So here is the 411:

- Our food will be prepared by Chef Ken of the renowned Page family
- We plan on driving the Orangewood 15-person van with youth and adults
- We have bunks for 24, more room for your camper/RV (no hookups)
- Arrive in time for dinner Friday night and leave after lunch on Sunday. It's ok to have another schedule. If you have conflicts just let us know.
- The cost is \$20 per person. Drop off your payment to Pam in the church office and put "Montlure work camp 2022" in the memo line. Your donation will help pay for materials and expenses.
- Register online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0548A5A92BA4FE3-montlure5>
- Bring: Sleeping bag or sheets/blanket, pillow, work shoes/clothes, hat, water bottle, suntan lotion, and gloves, and pack your best smile to share.
- Questions? Sign-up to help by calling or emailing Brent Upson at 602-550-9935 or bwupson@gmail.com. Deadline is May 8 for letting us know.
- Where? Montlure camp, Greer AZ
- Projects to help with:
 - Cleaning out cabins and the barn
 - Roofing two small buildings
 - Clearing dirt/debris from the sewer line
 - Assemble bunk beds for camp this summer at Raymond
 - Rodent barriers to keep our buildings clean and enjoyable



I hope you can join us as to help rebuild our camp. Our kids need our help!
Brent Upson
Montlure work camp organizer

Presbyterian Women's Spring Luncheon

"Hats Off to Volunteers" is the theme of Orangewood Presbyterian Women's Luncheon on Saturday, May 14 in Page Hall. Starting at 11:30 with a salad/dessert potluck, the program will include highlighting a few of the special volunteers in the congregation, gathering the Birthday Offering, and a mini-concert with renowned soloist Yenni Valentine to top off the day.

The Birthday Offering is one of two annual PW offerings and in 2021 it helped to fund projects as diverse as a gymnasium in Georgia and a hospital in Malawi.

Everyone who worships on the Orangewood campus is invited. Reservations may be made on the patio in May or by calling the church office at 602-944-1408.

Vacation Bible School

Hi everybody! This is Sammi popping back in to remind you again about VBS! This year's VBS will take place at the church from June 6-10 and is open to all 5-10 year-olds. Come join us for games, crafts, snacks, music, and more! The Theme this year is Deep Sea Dive and we'll be studying how to take our faith in Christ deeper.

Want to join in on the fun but not in the VBS age range? Sign up to be a volunteer! Feel free to let us know if you'd like to volunteer in a specific area, such as leading crafts, or if you'd like to be a general leader plugged in wherever we need you! A special thank-you in advance to all who are willing to jump in and serve their church family in this way!



This piece is a Shakespearean/English Sonnet that Brady Putzke wrote for Good Friday and read at the Tenebrae Service. The 14-line form is composed of 3 alternately rhyming quatrains and a final couplet in iambic pentameter. The speaker is the apostle Peter.

Petros: A Good Friday Sonnet

The crowing cock recounts my vow to him
And his rebuke, my heart pierced to its root
By eyes divine. With Jacob's fate now grim,
Cold fear did grip my soul and render mute
My loyalty that I had pledged before,
When bread he broke and wine he poured to seal
The Cov'nant new. The oath which I had sworn,
The Christ to whom my feeble frame did kneel,
Now both are broken as the bread he served.
The crowd did ask me thrice to name my Lord,
Yet I denied him, thus my life preserved.
I fled from him who still my soul adored.
And when I saw him hanged upon the tree,
My King, my friend - I wished that it were me.

Session Highlights from April 19 Meeting

Motion approved to replace the failed AC unit in room 6 in the amount of \$5,960 from Facilities maintenance budget.

Attendance, March 2022:

OPC Sunday Online Worship Services: Weekly average 180.

OPC Sunday In-Person Worship Services: Weekly average 93.

African Fellowship Sunday Online Worship Services: Weekly average 317.

African Fellowship Sunday In-Person Worship Services: Weekly average 137.

Treasurer's Report

Member Income, year to date: \$272,000

Total Income: \$329,610

Expenses, year to date: \$318,500

Net: \$11,110

Worship (Elizabeth Reifsnider) Highlighted Holy Week events. Railing to be installed in chancel. New lights installed. Set goals to improve 10:30 service music blending. Plan 4 joint services per year.

Session requested that Worship Committee take responsibility for banners to be displayed outside the church for Easter, Christmas, and other events.

African Fellowship (Joseph Lavi) All is going well. Working to maintain cleanliness of campus.

Planning to go to May 13 camp. Recently 5 families joined church. Planning baptisms for June, possibly 6 people. Improvements in financial accounting. May 22 joint worship service proposed, including fund raiser following service (African feast).

Congregational Life (Bernale Wright): SAGES went well. Some in SAGES leadership roles stepping down. Small Groups starting May 1. Sign-ups starting this Sunday.

Facilities (Brent Upson) Good progress on solar project. Roofs completed. Terry Frost painted trim. Page Hall panels have been installed. Next project is to replace bathroom flooring in Sanctuary restrooms. Will also make ADA improvements.

Personnel (David Rathman). Completed 2021 Pastor evaluation.

Children and Youth (Ken Page reported): VBS June 6-10; Montlure mission trip; August youth camp

Nominating Committee (Gloria Olsen): Committee working on positions for next year. 3 people on the committee have agreed to extend their terms. Will be sending essay on difference between committee chairs and elders. It is difficult to find people who will chair committees. We may consider electing "elder at large" without committee chair responsibility.

Finance/Stewardship (Pete Ladigo): Session approved the Review of Financial Statements and Bank and Investment Accounts recently conducted by Pete Ladigo. He found all reports accurate and up to date. Kudos to Bob Wells for well-structured and maintained financial system. Investment mix is appropriate. Stewardship campaign begins on April 24.

Stewardship Sunday is May 15.

Joint Planning Committee continues to meet. Report will be published separately.

Next Session Meeting: Tuesday, May 17 at 6:30 pm.

Our May Birthdays

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

Lori Page	May 1	Catherine Sickafoose	May 18
Phil Case	May 4	B Van Mantgem	May 19
David Griep	May 4	Brenda Moser	May 20
Lois Pearch	May 7	Ann Lindamood Fischer	May 21
Jeanne Matt	May 9	Glenn Campbell	May 22
Leeann Spangler	May 17	Gloria Olsen	May 23
Travis Kroodsm	May 17	Glenn Tansley	May 26
Sienna Case	May 17	Emmy Widener	May 29
Sophia Allen	May 17		

Easter: The Great Fifty Days

Dr. Stookey introduces Easter with a startling statement. " 'Easter' is an ambiguous and unfortunate term. The ambiguity resides in its double meaning: (1) the period of eight Sundays, comprising fifty days, often called as a unit 'the Great Fifty Days'; (2) the opening day of this period, better called 'Easter Day' than 'Easter', in order to distinguish it from the first meaning. The second meaning is what comes into the minds of most people *{including many members of the Worship Committee}* when they hear the term 'Easter', but the first meaning is more ample and accurate, and the one that Christian people need to be taught to embrace. *For the explosive force of the resurrection of the Lord is too vast to be contained within a celebration of one day.*"

Note: The previous sentence is underlined for this Plumblin copy, thereby emphasizing Dr. Stookey's sentence, because the resurrection of the Lord is a most important theme of his book we are studying. Jesus' resurrection has impacted the whole Christian calendar. The importance of the resurrection has been reinforced for those who participated in Pastor Page's recent class on the book of Acts. There we learned that the explosive expansion of the early Christian church was mainly caused by Jesus' resurrection.

Dr. Stookey continues with another startling statement. "'Easter' is an unfortunate term because apart from popular associations, it has no obvious Christian meaning, but may be a variation of 'Æstre' or 'Eastre', a Teutonic goddess of springtime and hence fertility. The word may relate well to those secondary indicators of the season: sunrise, eggs (obvious signs of fertility), and – in the northern temperate zone – the tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths of early spring. But 'Easter' as a name fails to say anything about Jesus Christ and is possibly a remnant of a polytheistic nature cult. The best to be said is (and this is an obvious rationalization) that by the power of the resurrection Christ has fulfilled and displaced the longing for the life that the goddess of springtime once represented."

Dr. Stookey continues. "The more venerable term for the resurrection observance is 'Pasch,' from the Greek word we translate as 'Passover.' While 'Pasch' may at first seem odd and esoteric, the English-speaking church would do well to recover it, and indeed already knows it in its adjectival form. Paul refers to Christ as our 'paschal lamb' (1 Cor. 5:7 ^{RSV and NRSV}), and several hymns use 'Paschal', particularly those for Easter Day and the Eucharist."

Dr. Stookey concludes his introduction of Easter. "Consider then that 'every Easter {season} is a great Sunday,' a time, in effect, to reflect more deeply and with a greater degree of sustained concentration upon what the church affirms weekly about the work of God in our midst. Easter, in effect, puts Sunday under the magnifying glass – but only when Easter itself is seen as a season, not simply as a single day.

That Easter should be considered a season is emphasized by the names of the six Sundays between Easter Sunday (April 17, 2022) and Pentecost Sunday (June 6, 2022). They are the 2nd Sunday of Easter, 3rd Sunday of Easter, etc., and not the 2nd Sunday after Easter, 3rd Sunday after Easter, etc.. On each of these Sundays there will be a short announcement in the Sunday bulletin, which will comment on the continuation of the Easter season.

Worship Committee



Fellowship Road Opening for New Activity

Orangewood has always been a congregation that likes to socialize, but opportunities to share and get to know each other better were limited for the last two + years. We have also been limited in how we can get to know members of the Orangewood African Fellowship. That's why Fellowship Road is opening, offering new and renewed ways to learn about each other and build our communications.

At the beginning of June you can pick up a "passport" on the patio and begin your travels. Stops along the road will be developed over the next few months and will include subjects such as Geography, History, Storytelling, African Great Lakes Information (ethnic groups, country facts, colonialism and decolonization, conflicts, and more), Food, Music and Dance, Recreation and Games, and Language. As a first activity on the patio, you will be invited to locate your place of birth on large maps of the world. You may be surprised to find out new things about each other!

Each person can walk on the road at their own pace, accessing information in a variety of ways – printed, videos, workshops, and group gatherings. Right now we are recruiting tour guides to help explain what's available. We'll show you around in more detail so you can help others. We hope you will join us in this new adventure!
– Phebe Packer, Carol Khazai, Barbara Digges



Facilities update—New Roofs! Solar Install Progress! New AC Unit!

We have been busy with several new projects and the continued maintenance of our beautiful campus. Joe Miller and Bob Wells continue to update our AV equipment for Page Hall and the Sanctuary. Bob Jensen has been repairing our doors and locks in Page Hall and the preschool. Terry Frost painted our new fascia on the North Education Building after it needed to be replaced when we reroofed that building.

Our solar installation project has completed new roofs where solar is being installed, all panels for Page Hall are complete (picture above), all the electronics have arrived in town and the last two roofs and electronics will be installed the week of May 2. The permit to connect to the APS grid has been submitted and we await approval.

We had one more AC unit repaired for the North Education Building after it failed this April.

We have a real estate attorney drafting up our new deed to separate the manse from the rest of our campus. This will allow us to set a separate water meter for the manse and then put it on the market.

Your facilities team: Brent, Bob, Bob, Joe, Greg and Terry.



Sewing Together Past and Present

As we celebrate the Self-Development of People, This story comes from Honduras. About 20 years ago a young woman named Angela Isabel Lopez went to live with Gloria and Tim Wheeler in Tegucigalpa so that she could study sewing. She spent a year studying at the Instituto de Formacion Profesional (INFOP), a semiautonomous institution, well-known for vocational training.

Fast forward to 2022. Now Angela lives in the village of Sinai, near Copan Ruinas. This is one of the communities where the OPC mission team has held medical clinics and helped construct houses. In late February of this year, Gloria and Tim accompanied a team from the King of Kings Lutheran Church of Chantilly, Virginia, on a trip to Honduras to initiate sewing circles in the communities of Nueva Estanzuela, Estanzalona, Sinai, and Chonco (all near Copan Ruinas) and also in Trinidad. The Pastor of King of Kings, Lynn Miller, had led her team in obtaining and transporting sewing machines for the circles. And guess who was a principal teacher for the circles – the very same Angela Isabel Lopez who studied in Tegucigalpa and lived with Gloria and Tim all those years ago! These sewing circles enable the women to create items for personal use and also to sell locally. Perhaps as important, the time spent sewing together is a time of fellowship for the women during their busy days.



Sewing Groups in Copan



Pastor Lynn Miller and the Sewing Circle in Trinidad

Mission News

April Mission Highlights

The committee discussed ways to more effectively communicate with our multi-generational congregation.

Lutheran Social Services representatives discussed their work with refugees and asylum seekers; what we should know about each program and what the needs are. We are planning workshops for the congregation.

Grace in the City. Serving Easter morning breakfast. OPC is scheduled for the 3rd Sunday of the month, every other month – next opportunity is in June.

Nourish Phoenix. **All are invited for the 4th Monday of each month. Sign-ups on the patio. Next date is April 25.** Remaining kits from our Advent hygiene project to be donated to Nourish Phoenix.

Orangewood African Fellowship—Youth gathering is planned. Mission budget only for mission and scholarships, not administrative expenses.

Montlure Clean up. May 13,

Desert Mission Food Bank. No longer a viable volunteer option for OPC. Mission Committee is evaluating future relationship.

One Great Hour of Sharing. Easter Collection for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People.

Pentecost Special Offering to go to children in need among asylum seekers through Lutheran Social Services. Note: Lutheran Social Services is no longer an entity of the Lutheran Church but is its own 501 (C)(3) non-profit agency.

Ukraine Support –encourage congregation to donate directly to Presbytery Disaster Fund.

Announcements:

*Church needs kneeler walker

*Ask your dentist for donations of dental care products for our homeless bags or hygiene kits.

*Check out [E-FOCUS](#) to get updates and stories about the work of the Presbyterian church.

Nourish Phoenix Food Drive Success!

Your Mission Committee extends a heartfelt Thank You to everyone who contributed to the recently completed food drive for Nourish Phoenix (formerly ICM). This drive netted 48 bags of nonperishable food and other essential items, and your generous donations will help ease the burden for their clients who are struggling to make ends meet. We have once again shown that Orangewood is a church that genuinely cares about all those in our community!

Habitat For Humanity

OPC has one more build date on DoraAnn's house in the downtown area. You are invited to help on May 21, whatever your level of experience might be (beginner to expert). Please check out the Mission table for more information, or call Dirk or Jeannie Oosterwyk. Thank you!

Two Grants Approved For OPC/OAF

Early this year OPC and the Orangewood African Fellowship collaborated to apply for Presbytery grants to fund two separate projects – and both grants have been approved!! One grant will assist members of the OAF to obtain drivers' licenses through a program conducted in Swahili. These licenses are essential in enabling the members to get to work as well as church. The other grant will support an English as a Second Language (ESL) program for Swahili speakers to be conducted on the OPC campus on Sunday afternoons. The initial program will be for about 25 students and will last for approximately 10 weeks. A new non-Presbyterian grant will be applied for to continue the ESL program into the future. Participants in both programs will pay a nominal registration fee.

Orangewood Presbyterian Church
7321 N. 10th Street
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May

www.orangewood.info

2022

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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 June Plumblin is May 23.**