

# Plumbline

Orangewood Presbyterian Church

October 2022

## Pastor Page's Pastor's Page

About seventeen years after the death of Christ, Paul preached the gospel to some Gentiles and Jews in Corinth and a church was born. Corinth was a commercial hub, which meant that it was far more diverse ethnically, religiously, politically, and culturally than most towns in the ancient world. What do you get when you have that much diversity? Conflict! Paul's church in Corinth had conflict. Conflict is not necessarily bad – it's all in how you handle it. 1 Corinthians is about practical theology. It is less systematic than, say Romans, but far more pragmatic.

We live in the most diverse country in the history of the world. What do we get from it? Conflict! Conflict is not necessarily bad. It can refine us into better people, or it can devolve into squabbles and even hatred. We can use some of the practical theology from 1 Corinthians.

Join me on Thursday evenings at 7 pm on Zoom for a Bible Study on 1 Corinthians. We will start on Thursday, October 6. See you there!

## From the Archives - - - 4 (Sanctuary)

1963 Capital Campaign "Toward Christian Maturity and Service" a new Sanctuary building. An unusual concave roof is being constructed atop the new Orangewood Presbyterian Church building at 7321 N. Tenth St. Tempe architect T. S. Montgomery designed the church that is being built by the E. J. Wasielewski Construction Company.

The circular building with a diameter of 116 feet will have a chapel, administrative offices, and a sanctuary seating 150. The cost is approximately \$250,000. The building is scheduled for completion in August 1964.

Twenty-four concave wood arches each 73 feet long help form the roof of the new Orangewood Presbyterian Church building. The arches are made of glue-laminated Douglas fir each weighing 3,300 pounds. The arches rest at the eaves on concrete columns and beams and sweep up to a point that will be topped by a steeple. Timber Structures Inc. of Phoenix is providing the arches that will be exposed inside the building.

A total of 142,000 board feet of lumber will be used in the roof. The roof will be completed with 2 by 4's side by side. The walls of the structure between the concrete columns are of slump block. In designing the roof with its imaginative use of wood, Montgomery said part of his choosing the concave shape was to blend it with the mountains to the east of the structure.

The pulpit is at the true center of the new building to signify that God is at the center of our lives.

(Edited from Arizona Republic, May 1964 by REW)

More ..... <https://www.dropbox.com/s/1769ic9taiwgg9y/From%20the%20Archives%20-%20-%20-%204%20%28Sanctuary%29.mp4?dl=0>

Bob Wells

## Join in Celebrating Our October Birthdays

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

October 2:	Debra Kaup	October:16	John Sullivan
October 4:	Susan Hoeft	October 19:	John Hayes
October 5:	Greg Harris	October 25:	Helen Hopkins
October 7:	Homer Deen	October 26:	Carol Khazai
October 7	Becky Cederquist	October 28:	Ken Page
October 8:	Jan Upson	October 29:	Doug Hall
October 12:	Judy Passalaqua		
October 14:	Doris Lawson		
October 14:	Miffie Seideman		



## SAGES

Orangewood's senior fellowship group, our **SAGES**, will be holding our first luncheon meeting of the season. Mark your calendar now for Tuesday, October 11, and we gather in Page Hall no earlier than 11:15 am. Cost remains \$4.00/person. Your committee asks that if anyone would like to help set up the table place settings, and arrive at 10:15 am, please call Bob Orf at 602-549-4346, or respond by email to [robertorf@cox.net](mailto:robertorf@cox.net). It would be much appreciated! If you have not been contacted about your participation for the luncheon, please call the church office so that we will have an accurate count for our meal. Also, should you need transportation, please let the office know. It will be a great time to visit and get ready for a brand new SAGES season!

## **All Church Annual Meeting Are We at a Crossroads?**

Orangewood's Annual Meeting and lunch will take place on Sunday, October 16, at 11:45 in Page Hall. We invite and encourage everyone who is a member of Orangewood to take part in this important meeting. Fried chicken and biscuits will be provided by our Hospitality Council. You are asked to bring a side dish or a dessert to share.

The bottom line is just this: We need you! Every one of you. The pandemic has greatly affected OPC as it has most churches and non-profits. Church attendance is a habit that many of us have taken for granted in the past, but no longer. We stand at the crossroads. How will we go forward? Many of us are aging and less able to do what we once did with enthusiasm. Younger and middle-aged folks in our congregation have not returned post-pandemic. We have never needed you more. We pray you will respond with your presence.

Will the emphasis on mission be able to continue or will we lose what has been so important to our vision and Orangewood's identity? Our committees need new members. We need elders and people who are willing to serve as a deacon. We need new participants to help at Nourish Phoenix, the breakfasts for the homeless with Grace Lutheran Church, to pray for those in need, to assist with On-campus events, to plan for the future, and so much more.

To assist in guiding us, we will distribute a survey at the Annual Meeting, so you can tell us what type of events you would like to see continue at Orangewood. What new activities would you attend or otherwise support? This survey will be anonymous, unless you wish to provide your name with your comments.

We care about you all and your life in the Spirit. We miss so many of you who are vital to our future.

### **Mission Notes**

- Honduras Trip: Great working with the 2 other churches. Having the 3 youth along was a highlight and is a motivation to perhaps do a summer trip.
- Backpacks: 35 elementary, 45 middle and 20 high-school backpacks distributed at OPC in the second and OAF Service. They were gratefully received.
- Grace Lutheran Pancake Breakfast – 8/21 breakfast had 4 youth and 8 adult OPC volunteers next breakfast 10/16.
- Rocky Point – Christina Suarez asked if 10 or so from OPC could join a group going to Rocky Point Nov. 3-6 to try out One Mission's home building program. One Mission cost is about \$310 per participant including food and tools.  
Oct. 2, World Communion Sunday will have the Peace Making Offering - 25% goes to PCUSA, 50% goes to World Mission Advocating Justice and Peace and 25% will go to Strong Hearts Native Helpline, which provides culturally appropriate support for Native Americans experiencing domestic violence.
- The following allocations were approved for the remaining funds in the 2021-2022 budget:
  - ◇ Youth. Feed My Starving Children \$700
  - ◇ Grace Lutheran (Breakfast) \$350
  - ◇ OAF Family Support \$1,250
  - ◇ Rocky Point - One Mission \$3,100\* \* Subject to Christina's confirmation for 10 people
  - ◇ Phoenix Rescue and AZ Faith Network to split all money collected in the water ministry
  - ◇ Honduras Building Project (a collective between 3 churches) \$2,000
  - ◇ Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \$1,000
  - ◇ Nourish Phoenix \$ 475
  - ◇ Review and approval of estimated 2022-2023 mission budget.

## **ESL Classes (English as a second language)**

The first ten-week session of ESL classes culminated with the presentation of certificates of completion at the OAF worship service on September 18. Congregation members clapped and cheered as each certificate was awarded. We were pleased that Glen and Peggy Gray, the instructors from the Arizona Language Institute, were able to join in for the presentations.

The money remaining from the Presbytery grant that funded the classes will be used for a second session for these same students beginning in mid to late October. Orangewood will pursue additional grant funding so that classes can be offered in 2023.

Between the two sessions, Orangewood folks are conducting weekly study halls so the students can review and practice topics that were introduced previously. We thank Becky Cederquist, Barbara Digges, Carol Khazai, and Phebe Packer for leading the study halls. If you're interested in helping out with the ESL classes, please contact any of the aforementioned individuals.



## **Bridge players**

All Bridge players are invited to join other Presbyterians as we play one Sunday afternoon a month at homes from October until May. To start the season the first afternoon will be at Jeanne Matt's home. If you are interested in playing or in simply being a substitute when there is a need, please contact Jeanne at [jmatt2222@aol.com](mailto:jmatt2222@aol.com) or 602-216-9844.

## **An invitation from the Presbyterian Women of Orangewood**

The Presbyterian Women of Orangewood are hosting a morning of discovery on Saturday, October 15 at 10:30 am in Page Hall. We will be focusing on "Who Are We?" by exploring what it means to be a part of the inclusive, caring Presbyterian denomination. The morning will start with sweet rolls and then move through the connectional Presbyterian denomination, our membership in Orangewood, PC (USA) membership and finally "Who We Are!" as we make plans for our meetings, our tours and our focus for the next nine months. All women who worship at Orangewood are invited.

## Three Congregations Set Out on Fellowship Road

Three congregations share the campus at 7321 North 10<sup>th</sup> Street:  
the original Orangewood Presbyterian Church congregation (OPC);  
the Orangewood African Fellowship (OAF);  
and the Nile Community Church of Arizona (NCCA).

Some members of the OAF and NCCA are also members of the original Orangewood Presbyterian Church. Both the OAF and the NCCA are within the care of OPC - the OAF as a related congregation and the NCCA as a new worshipping community of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon.



Orangewood Presbyterian Church was founded in 1953. The first church service, called an "Organizing Service", was held on December 13, 1953, at the Richard Simis School. Leonard L. Patterson was the pastor. Since then Orangewood has grown and then decreased in size again. OPC's members are from all over the United States and some were born in Canada, Europe, and Central America.

The Orangewood African Fellowship was established under the auspices of Orangewood Presbyterian Church in 2015, and has grown to over 200 members. Some members of the OAF are also members of Orangewood Presbyterian Church. Members of the African Fellowship are refugees from Burundi, DR Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Many of them spent years in refugee camps before coming to the United States. New members arrive on an ongoing basis. Most members live in West Phoenix as part of a larger refugee community.

The Nile Community Church of Arizona was established as a new worshipping community of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon in 2021 and now is home to more than 65 congregants. Orangewood Presbyterian Church serves in a "mentor" role as the church gets established. Most members of the Nile Community Church of Arizona are members of the Nuer Tribe in South Sudan. Some arrived in Arizona after spending years in refugee camps in Ethiopia and then going to Minnesota as refugees. Christians of the Nuer Tribe in the United States remain connected with each other through the Nuer Christian Mission Network of North America, a non-profit that holds two large reunions a year.

It is fitting that the final hymn on the first service at Orangewood Presbyterian Church was "The Church's One Foundation" as the campus now includes three very different congregations, but all with the founding principle of Jesus Christ at the center.

Come find out more about the people of these congregations at the Fellowship Road display on the patio each Sunday.

## Honduras Update

The group of three churches that took part in the August trip have formed an informal partnership to do projects together in the future. The group has held two organizational meetings so far and are working together on a new project in San Juan Planes, a small community in the municipality of Trinidad. The church from South Dakota will lead a work team there in January and Orangewood members can join this team. The trip is scheduled for January 7-15, 2023. Orangewood is investigating a possible trip to work on a new project in Dolce Nombre in the summer of 2023.

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

**October**

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

**2022**

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Director of Children & Youth	Samantha Burkhart
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