



Sunrise Chapel

“Helping People Experience Heavenly Joy through Spiritual Growth”

8421 E. Wrightstown Road • Tucson, AZ 85715 • 520-298-1245 • SunriseChapel.org

TERRITORIAL

January 2013

Feelings and Healing

By Nathan Gladish

Along with many others across the country, I was stunned and overwhelmed by the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut. As a principal of three small elementary schools for twenty years, I have always been mindful of the safety of the children and staff. What happened at Sandy Hook is every principal's worst nightmare. It is so, so sad to hear about that sphere of safety being broken. So sad for people to experience such a devastating loss of innocent life. And of course, this is a haunting reminder of other senseless acts of violence, such as the shootings in Tucson just two years ago on January 8, 2011.

When asked by the media, many of those interviewed in Newtown, Connecticut responded, "There are no words." Words cannot adequately express or explain the depth or breadth of emotions that come up because of such a horrible experience. We might use a single word to convey a host of emotions, such as "sad," or "mad," or "bad." But feelings are so much bigger and more significant than any description we might try to give them. Talking about our feelings certainly can help, but I often find more comfort, at least in the beginning, simply by sensing each other's love and compassion.

Just as a picture is often worth a thousand words, seeing someone's love in their eyes or in an act of kindness does wonders even without additional verbal explanation.



When I am in grief or suffering, often what I need more than instruction is simply to be in a supportive sphere of love and goodwill. In fact, more than anything else, that is what also brings the presence of the Lord. I find comfort in this idea as it is expressed in Secrets of Heaven #904 - ***“The Lord's presence with us first becomes possible when we love our neighbor. Within love is the Lord, and so far as we have love, the Lord is present.”***

For all who are affected by this tragedy and others like it, my prayers are especially for improving and strengthening the love in our relationships in order to find healing. I believe it is the spiritual dimension of our relationships - with the Lord, with His Word and with each other - that brings meaning to our human lives. It is also this spiritual dimension that especially helps us get through traumas, because it survives the worst calamities, even death. And it is this spiritual dimension that builds a healing community on various levels of society, from the family unit to the local neighborhood and beyond.

I love Sunrise Chapel's core purpose and core values because they emphasize these possibilities. The more we can work on fulfilling our purpose of "helping people experience heavenly joy through spiritual growth," the more of a positive influence we will have on our own lives and the lives of each community in which we have a role.

Sermon Series on Healing Continues

On the first three Sundays in January we will continue the theme of healing miracles Jesus performed. Each one relates to an aspect of spiritual growth in our everyday lives.

- January 6 - Healing from faith-arrogance
- January 13 - Healing from lack of joy
- January 20 - Healing from fear

THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH CORNER: Christmas is over. The packages have been opened.

By Betsy Gladish

What did you give yourself for Christmas? What was in the package marked "To you, from you"? It might be the gift of healthy eating in 2013. Or maybe it is a promise to stimulate your brain in the New Year. It is natural to take care of our body and mind but what about a commitment to take better care of our spirit? What are you doing for your spirit this year?

Just like our physical and mental health, our spiritual health does not grow without our constant vigilance. We must implement a plan to build our "spiritual muscle" so it will be strong when we need it, and available to us every moment.

How do we do this? One way is to involve ourselves in Sunrise Chapel's Journey Program. It begins in February and will focus on the Biblical story of Joseph and The Path of Integrity. This beautiful story will carry us forward on our spiritual path. Together we will learn what the Lord wants from us. The story is filled with vital tools that can be applied daily toward a happier, healthier New Year.

God's gift to us is our life. What we do with it is our gift to God. So please open this powerful package. It has your name on it.



COFFEEHOUSE COMING SOON!

January 12, 2013 at 7:00 pm in Friendship Hall

The Sunrise Chapel Journey Team for 2013 is happy to present a Coffeehouse for your enjoyment!

The topic for our annual spiritual growth program, known as The Journey Program, is the Biblical story of Joseph and the Path of Integrity.

Come learn more about it in a warm coffeehouse setting in Friendship Hall. Enjoy a variety of musical entertainment, great coffee and refreshments.

Thank You and a New Year Wish

As I write this, Christmas is still a few days ahead and the New Year is right around the corner. One of the disciples said to Jesus, when he witnessed His transfiguration, "It is good for us to be here!" Élise and I also feel it is good to be here to witness the Lord working in the lives of everyone associated with Sunrise Chapel. As we look back on the past year, we are especially grateful for all the people who serve for the health and growth of the church in such a variety of ways. Your devotion and support are wonderful. Thank you one and all! Thank you young and old! We wish you the Lord's blessings in the coming year, and we look forward to working with you more.

Sincerely, Nathan and Élise



WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Élise Gladish

After taking a break for the holidays, it will be nice to get back together in the new year with some great discussions. Several women are excited to recommend reading the book "Proof of Heaven - A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife," by Eben Alexander. The teachings of our church have a lot to say about the afterlife and our journey in getting there. We will take up this topic for the month of January. We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 2:30 in the Library. All women are warmly welcome to attend.

A New Year - Time for a New Directory!

Judi Hudnall has generously offered to update our Sunrise Chapel phone and address directory! If you have a copy of the most recent edition (hot PINK), PLEASE CHECK YOUR LISTING and let us know if it is correct or not. You can email Judi at judihud@gmail.com or contact the church office 520-298-1245.





NEWS NOTES

By Billie Baty

Congratulations!

Congratulations and a huge thank you to all those who helped make this year's Path to Bethlehem another wonderful success!!! We especially thank those in our sister congregation from Phoenix for lending their talents to this wonderful production. Also, to Guy Atchley, co-anchor for KGUN channel 9 news, for his awesome photography of the event. You can find these beautiful photos on <http://www.kgun9.com/features/guyatchley/181881011.html#96194031> Here is the website for anyone who would like to purchase prints www.azphotoguy.smugmug.com. It took 90 people to have this year's most successful ever Path to Bethlehem. Take a look at the abridged program located elsewhere in this issue.

Congratulations to Kevin and Christine Morey on the baptism of their twins Zachary and Clayton born on November 9. The baptism officiated by both Revs. Nathan Gladish and Frank Rose took place as part of the regular Sunrise Chapel church service on Sunday December 2, 2012. It was such a delight to witness this beautiful ceremony with this sweet family and two precious little ones. Just the night before, we were honored to have Zachary and Clayton take turns being our baby Jesus in our Path to Bethlehem.

Congratulations to Mike and Maureen Barnett on the birth of their son, Connor, on December 6!

Congratulations to Tinsley Milliron on her engagement to Aaron Whyde. They plan to be married in April. Many of us remember Tinsley when she, along with Kelly (Waddell) Woofenden, were both young teenagers. They were our reliable and loyal nursery attendants for several years.

Congratulations to Stephanie Liu on her performance of the Sugar Plum Fairy in the Tucson Regional Ballet Company's production of the Southwest Nutcracker!

Visits

Valerie Thim traveled to Carlsbad, California where she spent Thanksgiving with friends. She was also able to take an additional week there for an enjoyable visit.

Bob and Pat Maginel will spend their Christmas with both sons and their families. How nice for them to be together at one time.

The Milliron family is looking forward to having daughter Brandy and friend Richard Brandon from Winston, NC home for Christmas.

Trish Wann is looking forward to holiday visits from her brother Trenton and wife Barbara from New Mexico, and nephew Brian and wife Debi from Texas. Trish recently lost her little dog Ebby, and is now starting to look at adoption. She says the house is just too lonely, and a new dog will not replace her dear sweet Ebby, but can bring joy back into the house.

Hospital

We are pleased to report that Louise Rose, who underwent heart bypass surgery on November 13, is doing well and on track with her recovery. Although she has had a few challenges, she has been a model for healing with that kind of surgery.

We are glad to see that George Reynolds is also doing well with his recovery from knee surgery he had on November 19th. It was great to see him able to be back at church on December 9th.

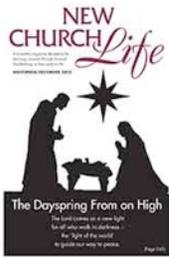
Due to some health issues Vern and Carolyn Wehr's arrival in Tucson this winter will be delayed. Carolyn is optimistic that they will be out here eventually. We continue to keep Vern in our hearts and prayers.

Good wishes!

Our longtime friend Merritt Coffin, now living in Indiana sends his love and blessings for Christmas and the New Year to all of us at Sunrise Chapel. Merritt and wife Betty were part of our congregation for many years. After Betty passed away and Merritt's health started to decline, he moved back to Indiana where he is surrounded by loving family and friends.

An Invitation to a Celebration of Sylvia Lehne's Life. Sunday, January 13, 2013 @ 12:45 pm in the Chapel.

Sylvia Lehne passed into the spiritual world on October 11, 2012. A memorial service was held in Glenview, IL in November. On January 13, we will have an informal gathering at Sunrise Chapel to share our memories of Sylvia's life.



A Remnant in a New 'Flood Time'

By Michael A. Brown

A Letter to the Editors of New Church Life.

New Church Life is a bimonthly magazine devoted to the teachings revealed through Emanuel Swedenborg, as they apply to life. The following piece is in the November/December 2012 issue. The whole magazine is available online at www.newchurchlife.org

The June/July 2012 issue of New Church Life featured articles by John Frost and the Rev. Derrick Lumdsen challenging readers to make the workings of the General Church of the New Jerusalem, Inc., more relevant to the culture of our day. A primary focus of concern has been lack of growth in the General Church, especially among the younger generations in the United States.

From my perspective, we members of the General Church are part of a remnant new church, one of many such churches in the long line of new church organizations from the time of Noah and the flood. Secrets of Heaven #628 tells us; "A glimmering of truth on the rational plane and a trace of goodness on the earthly plane did remain to the people called 'Noah,' and for this reason they were capable of rebirth." (New Century Edition)

Our love for the teachings of the revealed internal sense of the inspired Bible is strong. Many wonderful people have given of themselves to bring the good news to the modern world. We remnant survivors are doing our best to keep the connection between the spiritual and natural worlds.

For more than 100 years, members of the Academy of the New Church, Inc., and the General Church of the New Jerusalem, Inc., have been faithful to the doctrines of the new revelation of the internal sense of the inspired Bible.

Like any human organization(s), we appear to have passed our high point and are in a slow decline. The lack of growth in memberships of new men and women, and the falling away from the Church by younger members are testimony to the passing of the "Old" General Church organizations. And this is also occurring among all the older, traditional organized churches. New ways are needed to meet the spiritual needs of younger generations. What are the spiritual needs of young people today?

Today, on earth, we live in another "flood time" where secular and materialistic concerns create darkness and confusion that can block the spiritual light that is ever present to all. As the members of the General Church of the New Jerusalem continue to move into their various "tribes," we can be confident that the universal New Church of the revealed internal sense of the inspired Bible is alive and well. A positive development would be a conversation among the various "tribes" about the need for new forms of worship and a new organizational structure to carry out the uses of the New Church.

My personal opinion is that when the world is ready, the message of the Writings will go global, and there will be many New Church organizations in many lands taking many forms.

A REQUEST FOR HELP FROM THE WOMEN'S GUILD

By Kitty Aughey and Jean Ross

The annual Patio Sale is scheduled for April 12 & 13! It has always been a "BIG" event for the Women's Guild and the church. With lots of hard work, it has become the fundraiser for projects such as 2 new stoves, 2 new microwaves, redoing the Bride's room, purchasing and installing the flag pole, painting the kitchen and Friendship Hall, gifts for children at Christmas and on it goes.

This year we need volunteers (men & women) starting in January, to keep the donation sheds organized. The time commitment is approximately 3 hours per week or whatever you can give.

Please call Jean Ross at 429-6045. She will explain the tasks and provide training. Believe it - this entire project is work, but we really do have fun and the church benefits from it!



Feedback on the 2012 Path to Bethlehem

Some testimonials from participants of this year's Path to Bethlehem:

"The outdoor setting is ideal for honoring Christ's birth."

"What a great community effort of giving."

"This is a wonderfully moving way to get in touch with the Christmas story."

"The Christmas Season can't start without the 'Path'."

"Always a fun thing to do to kick off the season —reminds us all the true reason."

"It was perfect! The weather was so warm."

"It's magical! Transports you back in time. It's become our family tradition."

"Beautiful way to start the Christmas season."

"Great as usual. Liked the additional scene."



Caroling in the Community

On Sunday afternoon, December 16, a group of carolers from Sunrise Chapel joined friends of Dawn Graffam's family to sing carols to a very appreciative group of residents of the Villa Hermosa Retirement Home. About two dozen residents sang along.



The Christmas Chancel Decorations

Thank you to Élise Gladish and her helpers for the lovely decorations gracing our chancel throughout December. And thank you to everyone who donated generously to make the decorations possible! The simple beauty added to our celebrations of the Lord's advent.



Christmas Party in Friendship Hall

A big thank you is in order to Nathan and Élise Gladish who hosted a fun and festive Christmas party in Friendship Hall on December 14. Everyone was entertained by beautiful piano music played by various musicians. Others shared beautiful readings, and fun crafts. We all happily sang Christmas Carols and filled up on delightful Christmas goodies.



Food Bank Donation

Thanks to everyone who contributed to make our most recent Food Bank collection a big one! This is an important community service, and you are welcome to bring donations at any time. We always have collection boxes in the kitchen.

Sunrise Chapel's 9th Annual "Path to Bethlehem"

Held on December 1, 2012

Scene 1 : An Angel Appears to Mary

Mary: Dawn Graffam
Angel Gabriel: Steve Gladish
Singer: Laurel Walsh

Scene 2 : Joseph and Mary Travel to Bethlehem

Mary: Noelle Johannessen
Joseph: Todd Johannessen
Horse: Rio

Scene 3 : Angels Announce Good News to the Shepherds

Shepherd who Speaks: Ken Lee
Shepherd Attending Fire: Mike Villeburn
Shepherd playing flute: Garry Walsh
Shepherds: Matthew Babcock, Beryl Baker, Colton Graffam, Jace Graffam, A.J. Skaggs, Jack Skaggs, Cassidy Synnestevedt, Garrison Synnestevedt, Alana Tidwell
Angel Who Speaks: Dave Synnestevedt
Host of Angels: Joy Almond, Sadie Almond, Sue Babcock, Marina Ebel, Marissa Ebel, Jami Good, Paden Good, Emily Hanzlick, Rebecca Hanzlick, Sadie Morey, Angie Owen, Rachael Owen, Jenny Skaggs, Heather Walsh

Scene 4 : The Manger Scene

Mary: Andrea Pratt
Joseph: Diego Javier Piña-Lopez
Baby Jesus: Clayton Morey, Zachary Morey
Shepherd playing guitar: Victor Odhner
Angel: Lauren Graffam

Scene 5 : Wise Men Visit Mary and the Young Child

Mary: Ashley Walsh
Child: Shawn Morey
Wise Men: Bob Maginel, Bob Youens, Mickey Zoyetz

=====
|| *Thank you to every-*
|| *one who helped*
|| *with this year's*
|| *production of the*
|| *Path to Bethlehem!*
=====

Greeters at Chapel: Betsy Gladish, Nathan Gladish, Beverley Tidwell
Guides: Janet Lee, Maria Marzinsky, Valerie Thim, Anita Tift, Johanna Von Mayr, Kelly Woofenden & Sharon Zoyetz

Greeters in Friendship Hall: Gina Arntz, Billie Baty, Kris Bernardy, Joy Confer, Carol Watson

Event Coordinators: Billie Baty, Nathan Gladish

Narrator: Jack Baty (recorded)

Costume Organizers: Élise Gladish, Trish Wann

Costume Maker: Judi Hudnall

Childcare: Linda Waddell

Chapel Decorations: Élise Gladish

Music in Chapel: Jack Baty

Advertising & Program: Billie Baty, Nathan Gladish, Trish Wann

Donkey (Jingles) Handler: Bryan Almond

Refreshments: Kitty Aughey, Joy Almond, Fran Blaesing, Tom Bell, Jean Ross, Carol Watson

Scene Setup, Lighting & other Preparations: Apple Alan, Bryan Almond,

Joy Almond, Wes Babcock, Steve Gladish, Ken Lee, Diego Javier Piña-Lopez, Frank Rose, Dave Synnestevedt, Dale Villeburn, Mike Villeburn, Lex Waddell

Sound at Scenes: Nathan Gladish

Parking: Apple Alan, Ray Graffam, Steve Tidwell, Lex Waddell

Setup at Roadside: David Gladish, Elise Gladish

Food for Cast: Brenda Evans, Elise Gladish

Organizing of Animals: Glenn Alden, Billie Baty, Ken Lee, Nathan Gladish
Real Life Doll back-up for Manger Scene: Provided by Sandy McGee of Serendipity Nursery

Gift Ornaments: Kris Bernardy, Betsy Gladish, Élise Gladish, Anita Tift, Sunday School Children

Golf Cart: Provided by Fran Blaesing

Golf Cart Driver: Jerry Marzinsky

Transportation of Golf Cart: Kevin Morey

Thank you for providing the animals for this event:
Horse "Rio": Todd & Karen Johannessen
Sheep: Beryl Baker

Donkey "Jingles": Gary & Jonnie Schreiber

Transportation for the sheep: Ken Lee using Karen Kartchner's trailer

"Special Event" road signs: Provided by Ajax Barricade Co.

Special thanks: to Guy Atchley of KGUN 9 News for bringing this special event to the attention of their huge news audience and for his awesome photographs.





The Territorial of Sunrise Chapel
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Friends, I am looking for several people to attend this activity as representatives of Sunrise Chapel in order to soak in the information and inspiration and help develop outreach plans for Sunrise Chapel based on what they learn. We are looking into financial scholarships to help defray expenses. Contact me if you are interested! ~Nathan

IMPACT 365 is a two day outreach event for our denomination that will focus on outreach training for church leaders.

- When? April 18-19, 2013
- Where? The Glenview New Church in Glenview, Illinois
- This year's outreach event will explore the challenges church leaders face when trying to cultivate an inter-generational congregation. With more younger people leaving churches or never having felt part of one, we'll explore the questions about their experiences and serving and engaging these individuals.
- For more information, just Google "Impact 365 Glenview New Church" or click here: <http://www.newchurch.org/materials/programs/leaders/Impact365>