



TERRITORIAL

November 2012

"Helping People Experience Heavenly Joy"

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

THANKSGIVING FOR A BRIGHT STATE OF HOPE

By Nathan Gladish

There is very little information about the first American Thanksgiving in 1621, but one thing is clear - it came after a lot of personal trauma. The 52 surviving colonists had experienced a year of disease, hunger, and diminishing hopes. In spite of their challenges, one participant reported that the harvest was cause for rejoicing, and they took time for entertainment and feasting.

Life can be so difficult. There are so many challenges with frustration and disappointment. As I write this, a major hurricane threatens the US eastern seaboard. The upcoming national election has many people very worried about what might happen to the state of the union. And in individual's lives of people I know, there are some serious health challenges that make for tough going.

One thing I am sure from my theological perspective - God does not will anyone's suffering. The Lord is lovingly wise and wisely loving, and longs for everyone to experience as much joy as possible. Of course bad things happen over which we have no control, but the Lord is constantly leading each person to deal with our traumas in as healthy a way as possible.

My experience has also taught me how resilient the human spirit is. I have seen a remarkable amount of thanksgiving by people who have suffered. The two responses seem to walk together.

When I first volunteered as a chaplain in a San Diego hospital, I imagined that the work might be depressing. When accident victims were brought into the triage unit for emergency care, I was there with the doctors, patients and caregivers. I was one of the first people to talk to the family in the waiting room. Of course there was anxiety and sadness, but I was surprised by how much relief and thankfulness there was, too. I saw cancer patients in their final weeks and days of earthly life. Yes, there was misery. There was also appreciation. I visited comatose patients in ICU and their families, as well as many other patients with less serious challenges. People grieved, but they also found silver linings.

Instead of being depressed, I was inspired. I found that people and their families undergoing trauma and their families, more often than not, tend to find a lot for which to be thankful. People get reflective. We recall past blessings. We think optimistically about the future. People of many faiths show gratefulness to God for the good things in their lives.

The teachings of our Church give us perspective on the trials we face. They emphasize that the Lord does not allow anything, "not even the least thing," to occur unless some good can come of it (Secrets of Heaven §6574). They show that no matter how bad things get, as long as we allow ourselves to be led by the Lord, "more often than not we are brought into a bright state of hope and the comfort this brings" (Secrets of Heaven §8165).

This Thanksgiving, in spite of the difficulties of life, I pray that we can each find ways to be grateful for the goodness and truth we receive from the Lord. May your celebration be blessed with a bright state of hope.

CARE FOR YOUR CHURCH DAY
Saturday, November 17, 9 am to noon

Come one, come all and lend a helping hand. Come for just an hour or for the whole time! The focus of our attention will be preparing the grounds for our Path to Bethlehem event. There is weeding, trimming, raking and general clean-up to do. Some lights also need replacing. We may set up the manger scene.



THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH CORNER: GIVING THANKS FOR GIFTS FROM THE HEART

By Glenn Alden

When I think about the people who have touched me and changed the course of my life, two teachers spring to mind. The first was a young woman who taught me to read. I was slow to learn reading, very slow. In the fifth grade this teacher turned my life around. She had a love of books, and a love of her students. Every day she would read us stories. I remember being captivated by the stories she read, and the way she brought them to life for me. She didn't give up on me. She worked with me after school every day, teaching me a system of reading called phonics. By the end of that year I was reading above grade level. I thanked her once, when I became an adult. She seemed surprised. I don't think she felt that she had done anything special. I knew by then that she had made all the difference in my life.

The second teacher was a wood shop instructor in a big public high school. He taught me respect for tools. He taught me the beauty of wood, and many skills for taking a piece of wood and transforming it into something beautiful, or useful or both. But there is one thing that he taught me that wasn't in any of his lesson plans, and he never knew he had done it. It was a lesson of the heart, and it took many years for me to learn what it meant and why it was so important.

One day close to Christmas, at the end of the class, he took a moment to share something that he had been working on. It was a woodcut Christmas card. He had made cards for his friends and family by carving a picture on a block of wood,

and then printed the image on cardstock. Inside the card were words taken from the Bible, the words of the Christmas Story.

He talked about why he had chosen those words. His gentle love of the story, and of his family and friends surprised me. It was something I had never felt from someone who was not in my family, especially someone outside of the church I had been raised in. Something about this gift that he had made touched me very deeply. In the years to come I would remember the man, and the feeling of goodness that I experienced in him. In time I came to realize that through him, God was teaching me lessons about the goodness in all people. He was teaching me that I can and often do find real spirituality, love and wisdom, in people from many different backgrounds and religions.

Neither of these teachers knew the impact they had made on my life. They were just doing their jobs. They were being themselves. But God was also using them. I think that they each had something to give, not because of their training or skill, though they certainly had these, but because of the love they had for others.

What do we have to give one another? As a young man I wanted to do something great or profound. I wanted to change the world. Today, I hope that I can be moved by the love of good things, as my teachers were moved. Today, I hope that love can be in me, as it was in them. Today, I hope that the love will do its work through me without my pride or contempt of others getting in the way, and that I will have the humility to stand aside and let God make me a gift to someone else.

PATH TO BETHLEHEM PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY!

Our annual Christmas live nativity, the Path to Bethlehem, is December 1st, coming up fast on the heels of our Thanksgiving celebration.

Already there is a lot of energy and excitement going into the plans for this very special event we put on for our community. It is only possible thanks to so many people in our congregation coming together to make it happen! If you would like to be a part of our team, we need performers, greeters, guides, singers, and parking attendants.

Anyone who is in the cast should plan to attend the rehearsal Thursday night, November 29, at 6:00 pm. We will be holding the costume fittings after church on Sunday November 18 and Sunday November 25.

For general information contact the office at Sunrise Chapel, 520-298-1245. If you wish to participate please call Billie Baty 520-298-2995.

(And thanks, Billie! We all appreciate your energetic and affirmative attention to detail!)

REACHING OUT TO SERVE OTHERS

The Stewardship Committee has taken on a new task related to an important item in Sunrise Chapel's strategic plans. The new task is to help get more people involved and organized in reaching out to serve the needs of others who are looking for what the New Church offers. Please read this call from one committee member's perspective and consider how you would like to help. Contact Ken Lee, Chairman of the Stewardship Committee or me - Nathan

OUTREACH: A Process

By Michael Brown
Member of the Sunrise Chapel
Stewardship Committee

There is a yearning among peoples, a yearning for a spiritual connection that gives meaning to our lives.

That connection is the one between the natural world of time and space and the spiritual world of the eternal state of being.

Clouds of illusion keep us here on earth from seeing clearly that there are the two worlds of nature and spirit.

We are told in the Secrets of Heaven that the connection between the two worlds is essential for the existence of both worlds. That connection is maintained by there being a church on earth where God is acknowledged as the Creator of all and where the people of that church love and serve others as much as they love and serve themselves.

It is not enough to believe; there must also be action. We take action by reaching out. There are people looking for, waiting for, even yearning for the message.

Our part in the Process:

- First and foremost, each one of us must do our own spiritual work. Reading and thinking about the Word of God is essential.
- Personal, word-of-mouth contact is the most important and effective means of promotion and invitation. Sharing our own spiritual experiences will be the most authentic way to reach out to people.
- We can analyze what are the spiritual needs of people in these troubled times we live in; we can ask people, "What are you looking for? What are you interested in?" Millions of people buy books with titles like "Ninety Minutes in Heaven" or "My Near Death Experience." Is life after death (of the body) the way to go, or are there other concerns that people want answers to?
- Offer more programs here in Tucson: reach out to local churches, place books wherever books can be sold, create an on-line blog, have more events at Sunrise Chapel, and so on.

We are but servants in this process. We are called to action. What part will you play?

WOMEN'S GROUP - Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 2:30 pm

Topics for our November meetings:

November 1: Providence

How does the Lord operate in our everyday lives? We will be taking a few topics from the little book REFLECTIONS ON PROVIDENCE, by Frank Rose

November 15: Gratitude

Come share a story of Thanksgiving or Gratitude. We will talk about the power that being grateful and thankful can have in our lives.



TERRITORIAL CHRISTMAS GREETING

In our December issue of the Territorial, it is our tradition to include a page of Christmas Greetings from friends to our readership. If you would like your name on the Christmas Greeting just call Sunrise Chapel and ask that your name be included, or sign your name on the sheet located in the foyer of the Chapel.

There is NO CHARGE, but donations are gladly accepted toward the cost of the special paper, printing and mailing.



NEWS NOTES

By Louise Rose and Billie Baty

We were happy to see DOROTHY JEFFRIES back in church recently but alas, it was only for a brief time. She has sold her condo and her son, FRANK, came to take her back home to the Northwest. She says that she will not be able to return for the winters, but hopefully we will see her occasionally for visits! We have enjoyed having you as part of our congregation, Dorothy.

To cheer us up MICKEY and SHARON ZOYETZ and ART and JANET LEE are back from Canada. Janet and Art are very grateful for all the prayers and good wishes from the Sunrise Chapel congregation that surrounded them as they left last spring. We love it when our winter residents come back to us.

ARLENE ANDREWS celebrated her 93rd birthday recently. Her daughter, APRIL, and husband TERRY STEWART came to help celebrate. The congregation had a chance to sing happy birthday to her and give her some well-earned hugs.

BOB MAGINEL'S MOTHER was visiting and we were happy to welcome her to the church service.

Last month NATHAN went to San Diego to do a wedding, and a few weeks later the parents of the bride, ROBIN and SUSAN KENDIG stopped in at Sunrise Chapel. (They are former parishioners of Nathan in Oak Arbor, Michigan) Maybe they wanted to check out what Nathan is up to nowadays. They seem to like what they saw.

While Nathan was away, reverend MARK PERRY came to preach in his place. Thank you, Mark!

CONFER'S sister-in-law, LEANNE, visited from California over the weekend of October 20. It was lovely to meet her.

LAUREN GRAFFAM is now on the Old Pueblo gymnastics team. They have begun practicing for competitions in February. Congratulations and good luck.

STEVE and BETSY GLADISH returned from a great trip to Italy. Unfortunately Steve injured his knee while they were there and is not able to run and hike as he loves to do. Soon after they returned they flew to Bryn Athyn Pennsylvania, where Betsy attended her 50th class reunion.

FRANK and LOUISE ROSE also traveled to Bryn Athyn where Louise was part of her 65th reunion. While they were there Frank had an opening of his watercolor show at Orchard Art Works. The show was a big hit.

LINDA WADDELL from Truth or Consequences, New Mexico is here in anticipation of the birth of twins into her family. Her daughter CHRISTINE MOREY and husband KEVIN, are expecting twins very soon, and Grandma Linda will be there to help. We have enjoyed hearing Kevin singing solos in church and we hope for more, although we know he will be a very busy father.

INVITATION TO CRAFT SHOW

Rose Leach and Candee Condray welcome everyone to a "This and That Craft Show" Saturday, Nov. 24 from 9 am - 3 pm at 4216 E Seneca St., Tucson. Come and have some fun!

OKTOBERFEST PARTY, Oct. 27

The OKTOBERFEST Party at Sunrise Chapel was great fun. As we arrived the versatile musician was playing German flavored music. Little SADIE ALMOND in her pretty dress was dancing and dancing around the floor, much to the delight of her grandparents, TOM and JUDI HUDNALL, from Flagstaff, as well as all the rest of us. ÉLISE GLADISH and BETSY GLADISH were the hostesses. Costumes were optional. Frank and Louise Rose came disguised as a Russian Mafia and his yellow-haired Swedish Doll. Others came in October colors. Lauren Graffam wore her beautiful gymnastics outfit.

After a delicious German meal, at a festively decorated table, our brains were stretched by a quiz about Germany, and a guessing game. Prizes were awarded. We all left with happy smiles and gratitude for an evening of fun, friends and fellowship.

New Church Journey.org

ADVANCING YOUR SPIRITUAL PATH

NEW CHURCH JOURNEY PROGRAM

"The Path of Integrity" - Starting February 3, 2013

Each year since its inception, Sunrise Chapel has participated in the Journey Program, a spiritual growth program. We experience great community and fellowship as we work on our own spiritual growth. At Sunrise Chapel we love The Journey! For seven weeks, participants will be invited to become a community of people committed to working together to become more honest with themselves and each other, to be kinder, more compassionate, and to pursue their dreams.

What kind of person do you want to be? Explore the story of Joseph, and learn to live with integrity as you explore your higher calling.

At times, we all find ourselves wandering off the path of integrity. We know this because we feel stuck, or have a hard time hearing our inner voice. We may obsess about outward things like the shape of our bodies, or the items we possess. We may laugh when we mean to cry, say yes when we mean no, refuse to look at our mistakes, or give "love" with lots of strings attached. So how do we step back on track? How do we become empowered, joyful and clear of purpose? Explore the Biblical story of Joseph and his brothers, and discover the meaning it has for you on your own journey. The story of Joseph reminds us that even when our dreams have been thrown in a pit, that those dreams can be revived, and can show us the way to our own path of integrity.

UP-COMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Gaslight Theatre trip to see "Scrooge"

Saturday November 17 at 8:30 pm

If you are a ticket-holder (for this sold-out event) and would like to meet with the group for dinner beforehand, please contact Elise Gladish for arrangements.

Thanksgiving Outdoor Worship Service

Thursday November 22 at 10:00 am in the outdoor worship area

NOTE: This service is one hour earlier than our regular worship services.



Path to Bethlehem Live Outdoor Nativity

Thursday, November 29

6:00 pm Rehearsal

Saturday, December 1

4:30-5:15 pm Cast Supper

5:45 pm Cast takes position

6-8 pm Presentation

8:10 pm Afterglow Party

Christmas Party

Friday December 14 at 6:30 pm in Friendship Hall
Christmas Music, Caroling, Entertainment and Treats!

Christmas Services

Monday, December 24

- Family service at 7:00 pm (with gifts for the children and holiday refreshments afterwards)
- Candlelight service at 10:00 pm

Tuesday, December 25

- Christmas Day service at 11:00 am

Sunrise Chapel
8421 E Wrightstown Rd
Tucson, AZ 85715
(520) 298.1245
www.sunrisechapel.org

Path to Bethlehem

Live Outdoor Walk-through Nativity
Saturday, December 1st from 6:00 - 8:00pm
Make this your Family Christmas Tradition

You are invited to participate in a special celebration of Christmas with a live, walk-through nativity. A guide will lead you on a 20-minute tour around the grounds of Sunrise Chapel giving you the opportunity to reflect upon the meaning of Christmas as you walk from scene to scene. There will be five scenes. Each will depict some part of the story of the birth of Christ.

- There is no charge for this event. We invite you to bring a non-perishable food item for the Community Food Bank.
- Holiday refreshments will await you in Friendship Hall following the walk.

We hope you will bring your family and friends and make this a wonderful start to the holiday season.

For more information go to sunrisechapel.org or contact the church office at (520) 298-1245





November 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 2:30pm Women's Group 7pm Men's Group	2 10am-3pm Holiday Boutique & Craft Sale	3 10am-3pm Holiday Boutique & Craft Sale
4 11am Worship Service	5 5:30pm Stewardship Mtg 6pm Meditation	6 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	7 3:30pm Foundations Class	8 7pm Men's Group	9	10
11 11am Worship Service	12 6pm Meditation 7pm Journey Leaders Mtg at Gladish's	13 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	14	15 2:30pm Women's Group 7pm Men's Group	16	17 9am-noon Care for Your Church Day 8:30pm Gaslight Theater "Scrooge"
18 11am Worship Service 12:45pm Board Mtg PTB costume fitting	19 6pm Meditation	20 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	21	22 10am Thanksgiving Outdoor Worship Service Light refreshments after	23	24
25 11am Worship Service PTB costume fitting AMC Luncheon	26 6pm Meditation	27 6:30pm Bereavement Support Group	28	29 6pm Path to Bethlehem rehearsal	30	Dec 1 Path to Bethlehem 4:30-5:15pm Cast Supper 5:45 Cast take positions 6-8pm Presentation 8:10 Afterglow Party

AA & AL-ANON

Monday AA 6pm
 Tuesday AA 11am
 Wednesday AL-ANON 9:30am, AA 7:30pm

Thursday AA 6am
 Saturday Men's AA 8am, Women's AA 11am
 Sunday AA 5pm, AA Meditation 7pm

Other Regular Events

Monday & Thursday 9am - Yoga
Tuesday 5:30pm - Self Defense
1st & 3rd Thursday - Global Chant
Friday 6:30pm - Buddhist Meditation



The Territorial of Sunrise Chapel
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FILL A SHOEBOX FOR A NEEDY CHILD

“Operation Christmas Child” starts soon, and boxes will be collected prior to Thanksgiving. Anyone can participate by buying a clear, plastic shoebox size container and filling it with basic toiletries, toys, and drawing materials. Last year, children from Peru received our gifts along with the good news (in their own language) that Jesus loves them. Contact Dawn Graffam for more information on participating.

