

Da Lay Speak!

January, 2011



All God's People in
All Places,
And in
All Times,
Are Called to Love
And to Serve.



Ministry of the Laity

*"Behold, all things have
become new."*
—2 Cor. 5:17

Hola y bienvenido to New Year 2011!.....hope your recent holidays joyous and full of blessings....what does Baby New Year have for us this month?.....no Roster changes yet...some "On Da Road" updates....Conference Center training fires up again.....and what else?.....

DA ROSTER

Megakudos to Cris Scofus for handling the preaching chores a few days ago. I tend to short-change my gifts to some extent (i.e., I'm my own worst critic), but the words I heard from Cris really spoke to me and will cause me to really be thankful for what I have and what I do. I will continue to pray that God will help me do what I do better and better.

No changes to report so far. Jerz will be next, followed by Bill. There is a 5th Sunday this month; no word from Padre Pat on a day off as of press time, so stand by to stand by.

ON DA ROAD

January 16: Diz in Lovelock @ Grace/St. Francis

Also this month: Linda & Lenny at The Villas (retirement home); Joyce and Colleen at Kairos LLCC

Please let your editor know ahead of time when you go "On Da Road" so I can tell others. Gracias!

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Conference Center (W. Sacramento)

"Hermeneutics" Saturday, January 29, 0900-1600, UMC Conference Center, 1276 Halyard Drive, W. Sacramento, CA, 9-4. Cost \$25.

Pre-Registration is required for all classes. Some classes require homework prep before attending. Contact Delta District, Attention Cindy Buna, deltadist@calnevumc.org. Cost includes materials, books, refreshments and lunch.

Nevada-Sierra District (that's ours):

Nuttin' on the schedule as yet.

Have you completed at least one class within the past 3-years to retain your certification?

BIBLE READING INTROS (CONTINUED)

From "Lessons of the Church Year" by Frederick Houk Borsch

Another possible use of these introductions is for private reflection before reading or listening to the lessons in church. Although obviously no substitute for the scriptures, the prefaces may help to provide insight and overall comprehension. In similar ways groups engaged in Bible study might find guidance from the introductions. Other groups could use introductions to find biblical passages the class wishes to study or which may be appropriate to the theme of a particular meeting or conference.

Personally (author), I have discovered all kinds of new understandings by working through these passages, not only Sunday by Sunday in a single cycle, but also by reviewing all the lessons for a particular day from the three cycles. Readers may find it an aid for their own meditations to contemplate the many themes set out in all the introductions for, as an example, Trinity Sunday while reflecting on God's love and presence as Creator, Redeemer and sanctifying Spirit. (Continued).

ET CETERA

A reminder to check the Holy Clipboards from time to time and see where your gifts and talents can be used in service. Especially check the Sign-up Sheet for Reader, Children's Storytime, Usher, Communion Server, etc., and work some time in any of these areas that lead you.

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER (FROM THE JOYFUL NOISELETTER)

Here's a New Year's resolution, courtesy of Annie Johnson Flint via *Gleanings*:

**"I won't look back; God knows the fruitless efforts, the wasted hours, the sinning, the regrets;
I'll leave them all with Him, who blots the record, and mercifully forgives and forgets.
I won't look forward; God sees all the future, the road that, short or long, will lead me home,
And He will face with me its every trial and bear with me the burdens that may come.
But I'll look up into the face of Jesus, for there my heart can rest, my fears stilled;
And there is joy and love, and light for darkness, and perfect peace, and every hope fulfilled."**

And a New Year's Benediction from Rev. Brian Cavanaugh:

"Grant us, O Lord: the hope to envision new dreams; the strength to rise above our limitations, our fears and whatever holds us down; the courage to stand on our own, to stretch our imagination and to experience being fully human, fully alive; the faith to live our lives in your image and likeness. Guide us, O Lord, this New Year, every way, every day. Amen."



"So, Pastor Sims, your ulcer cleared up after my collection agency stopped calling you?"

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"I don't see why He couldn't have given you one already assembled."

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See ya Sunday!
Diz