

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CIRCUIT RIDER NEWS

FEBRUARY MARCH 2011

FROM THE PASTOR

PASTOR PAT LEAMY



What Are You Worth?

We live in a culture where we measure personal worth, meaning, and purpose by occupation and employment. And we begin teaching this early in life. Children learn to answer the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Young adults ask, "Who am I?" and, "What am I here for?" For middle adults the question may be, "Am I making a contribution?" For older

adults: "How can I make a difference now?" And the questions might grow less positive, as in, "What do I have to live for?"

The underlying question about worth and purpose is not new. Jesus addressed it in a discussion with his disciples (John 4). He had just had an encounter with a woman at a well. He offered her "living water" to quench her spiritual thirst, that aching for personal worth and purpose. She went away so invigorated and hopeful that she could not keep the story of her change to herself. But just when Jesus had promised quenching of thirst to the woman, his disciples asked him about satisfying hunger. To be fair, they were looking after his welfare when they said, "Rabbi, eat something."

Surely his sustenance and strength came from doing God's will. But he was encouraging his followers then and now to also find their strength and sustenance from doing the will of God. When we begin to focus on the will of God, we seek and begin to find a sense of our eternal worth, purpose, meaning, and strength.

According to Jesus, our ultimate sustenance comes from connecting to God's will for the world as well as to God's will for our own lives. This will is focused on finding ways to love God and love others. We can do this in the midst of joy and suffering, with understanding and mystery, with peace and in spite of our struggles. And God walks with us!!!



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.stpaulsumcreno.com

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CHANGING OUR WORLD

HELPBUILDHOPEHAITI.ORG

We can help build homes for Haiti! A Reno-based national project, Help Build Hope for Haiti, plans to build 5,000 homes within five years to ship to Haiti to be reassembled. The project has scheduled a community-wide home building event on May 21 in Reno. Volunteers pay \$65 each to help fund the project and for

their food, drinks and T-shirts at the event.

A Reno kickoff party is Feb. 4 from 6:30 to 8pm at ArrowCreek golf club. Register online for the kickoff party or to volunteer for the May 21 "build event" at www.helpbuildhopehaiti.org or call 775-737-7506.

FROM THE ARK

COLLEEN PETRINI

MARK YOUR
CALENDARS
FOR
**ARK ART
NIGHT**
MARCH 4TH

Hearts and flowers are in style around the Ark as we teach the children caring and sharing with the arrival of Valentine's Day. The Valentine means "I Love You" and "Will You Be My Friend?" and that's what we will be talking about during this month. February is a time for fantasy too and we can be princes, princesses and even frogs in our imag-

inary and far away places.

Our focus this month will also be on the beauty of the rainforests. Why is it called a rainforest? How is it different from our forest? Who lives there? Can we go to a rainforest? Be prepared for questions, questions, questions! Our artist for the month is Leonardo da Vinci and the children

are busy walking in his footsteps preparing for our Ark Art Night. Their art work will be on display and for sale for our annual fundraiser. Be sure and mark your calendars and plan on attending, Friday, March 4 from 7-8:30. Child care is provided. It's a Silent Auction too so come join the FUN!

WE ARE HERE!

STEVE AND CAROL JOHNSON



To contact us:

The Mission Society
PO Box 922637
Norcross, GA 30010

We are safely in India and have already had several adventures! Opportunities to touch lives in many different ways are available here, many we do not even know of specifically yet but we know they are here!! Our prayer requests are: 1)That we would represent Christ in all that we

say and do in building our new relationships as much as humanly possible. 2)That we would learn patience in a culture that makes "manana" look fast. 3)That we would embrace the culture without too much culture shock- we are experiencing some already! 4)That we would

honor you and represent you well in all that we do and never forget that without you we would not have the honor of being here. 5) That no health problems would interfere with anything we need to do. Thanks for sharing this journey with us.

Grace and Peace, Blessings and Hugs.

ST. PAUL'S NEWS

A second donation of over \$300 was sent to UMCOR's 'Nothing but Nets' malaria prevention campaign.

Solar News- The City of Reno, stating our proposal for the Administrative Variance, will be heard on Wednesday, March 2nd!

A reminder to bring used ink cartridges and cell phones for the Ark to earn cash for supplies.

To submit an article photo or cartoon to be published in the April/May 'Circuit Rider News' please e-mail newsletter@stpaulsumcreno.com



Visit the website for more good news!
www.stpaulsumcreno.com



THE GIRLFRIENDS OF THE CHURCH

LINDA LEEP

The February 13th meeting has been cancelled, so everyone can celebrate Valentines Day on Sunday after services. This year's brunch, hosted by the Girlfriends, promises lots of laughter and fun. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring friends, family, neighbors, sweethearts and spouses. After brunch is served, everyone will play a lively game- "Lefty's in Love"- and each table will have a lucky winner of a special Valentine's gift! Tickets are \$7.00 per person and can be purchased in advance or at the door. Kids eat free! See the sign up sheet in Thurman Hall to RSVP.

The Girlfriends plan to continue the current ministries and have decided to add a few more for 2011!

Carol Leamy will expand the prayer shawl ministry to include knitting 'cozies' for persons losing their hair during chemotherapy. She has supplied the yarn and patterns and has announced the ministry to the congregation.

Linda and Leonard Clark and friends regularly visit 'the Villas' retirement home, offering a Sunday service and Eucharist with music to their residents. Their efforts and a recent request from Onetia Gwaltney, have inspired the

Girlfriends to start a similar ministry to serve the residents of the "Fountains". To participate, please contact Ruth Stacy.

The Bookworms Friends Club continues to meet every third Wednesday at Carol Leamy's home, from 7-8:30pm and invites any interested men and women to join in the fun.

The Comfort Food Friday team informed the trustees that the CFF proceeds in 2011 would be designated to start landscaping the northeast corner of the building, in hopes of improving the appearance of the Church and Ark.

The Girlfriends have elected a new chaplain, Susan Schulte; as well as Ruth Stacy as secretary, Georgia Clymer as treasurer, Nina Schweiss as vice president, and Yours Truly as president. Next meeting is March 13th.

THE
BOOKWORM
FRIENDS ARE
READING
**'THE PURPOSE
DRIVEN LIFE'**
IN FEB. AND
**"THE RED
TENT"**
IN MARCH



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February

- 5th- Charlie White Eagle
- 8th- Donna Collins
- 9th- Ally Schulte
- 9th- Onetia Gwaltney
- 12th- Daniel Lyons
- 13th- Howard McMaster
- 15th- Gabby Szachara
- 20th- Laurie Hillin
- 23rd- Tim Iveson
- 23rd- Susan Doctor
- 28th- Bill Strohschein

March

- 2nd- Sheila King
- 2nd- Steve Harrison
- 2nd- Jake Schulte
- 5th- Jan Lyons
- 6th- Joe Scurry
- 6th- Cris Scoufos
- 12th- Troy Hillin
- 12th- Christina McEuen
- 15th- Pearl Cartwright
- 15th- Mary Pond
- 16th- Sami Szachara
- 19th- Evelyn Vice
- 21st- Edith Green
- 21st- Melody Rail
- 22nd- Richard Schendel
- 24th- Brent King
- 31st- Colleen Petrini
- 31st- Linda Havens



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Submitted by Steve Harrison

LAY LEADER LITANY

MIKE CLYMER

“THERE’S
NO
PLACE
LIKE
HOME”

I spent the last week of January in Nevada’s Other Big Metropolis, Las Vegas. During that time, I ate in some very exclusive restaurants where the tab was more than my monthly food budget. I visited many of the Casinos, traveled the Great Pyramid, visited the Grand Canal of Venice, toured a Lion sanctuary, and walked the streets of New York and Caesar’s Forum. I was entertained by The Lion King, Michael Jackson, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis, Penn and Teller, and Rock music so loud it would break my sound meter. I passed groups of men and women on the sidewalk, slapping business cards and trying to give them to me or Georgia promising great adventures and fantasies with beautiful women. I saw people so drunk they had no clue where they were or even who they were. I saw people carrying expensive two and three foot long glasses filled with an

obnoxious concoction of chemicals made with cheap liquor, sugar, and flavoring. They, and others like them, were desperately trying to have ‘Fun’ the way they think you are supposed to, but being drunk and loud and dancing. I saw shoes, jewelry, and purses that cost more than my house and looked at menus that had no prices, because if you had to ask, you couldn’t afford it. Then I saw the homeless, moving on the edge of the tourists gleaning a couple of bucks to survive. The common cardboard sign said “Why lie, I need a beer.” – A joke that probably pulled in a few more dollars than just holding out their hand. I also met a truly honest man. He was very helpful in directing my party to the correct bus stop. When asked where he lived, he said “On the streets.” He said he was panhandling in the hopes of

getting \$22 for a room for the night. He didn’t ask us for money, but we gave him some. I hope he got that room.

After four days of that, I was really glad to come home. Did I have fun? Yes I did. Would I go again? Yes I would. In retrospect; I compared the Alaskan Cruise last summer with Michael W. Smith and Friends, to Las Vegas. The Cruise was a full week of praising God and tuning into His greatness. Las Vegas was a week of playing around with fantasies. Look at the list above. None of it was real. After the Cruise, I came back fulfilled and rejuvenated with the Spirit of the Lord. After Las Vegas, I have some fun memories.

On arriving home from Las Vegas, I was greeted at the airport by Scott with a warm hug and a hearty welcome. He assured me that he still loves me even after taking care of my four Dachshunds for the week. As Dorothy said, “There’s no place like home!” Shalom!

‘FIVE WISHES’ WORKSHOP


RUTH STACY

Having a Winning End Game Strategy is the topic of a workshop set for Saturday morning, March 5, 2011, at St. Paul’s UMC. The workshop, offered by Wednesday Wanders, is designed to address what many of us have put off, because we really don’t know to go about dealing with it—instructions to our loved ones should we become incapacitated.

All of us know at least one story where families agonized over what their mom or dad, or their brother or sister, or their best friend would want, when the unexpected happens. This workshop is

intended to be a gift to our friends and relatives as well as a way for us to have some control over the possibility of becoming unable to tell others our wishes. Wednesday Wanders is asking for a \$5 donation to help cover the cost of the Five Wishes Booklet for each participant, but no one will be turned away because of inability to donate.

Please sign up on the clipboard in Thurman Hall, and plan to be at the workshop from 9:30am to noon. Yes, there will be refreshments! Anyone needing transportation, please call Ruth Stacy, at 775-826-6467.



You're invited to St. Paul's annual
Valentines Day Party

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13th

12-1:30pm \$7.00 per person

St. Paul's UMC Thurman Hall

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

LYSA LEE

Well, hello from St. Paul's cozy little library nook. Now that we have our library up and running, we thought we'd add a book of the month article to the newsletter to get your reading juices flowing.

Her Mother's Hope- *by Francine Rivers*

The first in an epic two-book saga, this sweeping story explores the complicated relationships between mothers and daughters over several generations. Near the turn of the 20th century, fiery Marta leaves Switzerland determined to find life on her own terms. Her journey takes her through Europe and finally lands her with children and husband in tow in the central valley of California. Marta's experiences convince her that only the strong survive. Hildie, Marta's oldest daughter, has a heart to serve others, and her calling as a nurse gives her independence, if not the respect of her mother. Amid the drama of WWII, Hildie marries and begins a family of her own. She wants her daughter never to doubt her love—but the challenges of life conspire against her vow. Each woman is forced to confront her faulty but well-meaning desire to help her daughter find her God-given place in the world.

COMFORT FOOD FRIDAYS

Menu

February 11th

Glazed Baked Chicken

Wild Rice

Vegetable

Dessert

Sign up now!

March Menu

To be Announced!

7.00 for Adults

5.00 for Kids

5:30 -7pm in

Thurman Hall



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays

8am Worship

9am Bible Study

10am Worship

5pm Youth Group

Wednesdays

7:30am Men's Group at Carrows

6pm Bible Study

7pm Holy Macrels Rehearsal

CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING VISIT ST. PAUL'S WEBSITE

www.stpaulsumcreno.com

- Feb 4** Bunco in Thurman Hall at 7pm
- Feb 9** No Time to Scrap in Thurman Hall at 5:30pm
- Feb 11** Comfort Food Friday in Thurman Hall 5:30-7pm
- Feb 13** Valentine's Day Party in Thurman Hall at 12noon
- Feb 16** Bookworms Friends at the Leamy's 7-8:30pm
- Feb 18** Crafts and Scraps in Thurman Hall 6-11:30pm
- Feb 19** Felicia Sawyer Memorial in the Sanctuary at 2pm
- Feb 20** Administrative Council Meeting after 10am service
- Mar 4** Ark Art Night and Silent Auction Fundraiser 7-8:30pm
- Mar 5** Having a Winning End Game Strategy Workshop 9:30am
- Mar 9** Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary at 7pm
- Mar 11** Comfort Food Friday in Thurman Hall 5:30-7pm
- Mar 13** Girlfriends of the Church Meeting after 10am service
- Mar 16** Bookworms Friends at the Leamy's 7-8:30pm
- Mar 26** Emmaus Gathering in Thurman Hall 6-8:30pm