

NEWSLETTER

Trinity United Methodist Church
3104 West Glendale Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85051
602-973-1276 • www.raysofhope.ws

Issue 5

May 2012

Special points of interest:

- Sermon Series
- DaveVisions...
- Play of the Month
- The Hunger Games
- Car Wash
- Mother's Day Luncheon
- Family Promise Is Coming

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Sermon Series: Just For Today

If you had just for today to make a difference, what would you do? Throughout April, May and June we will be exploring what it means to be The Rays of Hope United Methodist Church. Already, we understand that the rays of hope concept is about embracing an alternative way of living as a community of faith after the examples of what Jesus taught, preached, and lived. So, if we could make a difference in our community and the world how might we bring about this transformation? We are invited to live out the following means of grace:

Just for Today...

I will instill HOPE

I will extend LOVE

I will possess INTEGRITY

I will convey CARE

I will bear HUMILITY

I will reflect JOY

I will seek SPIRITUAL GROWTH

I will take COURAGE

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope - Jeremiah 29:11

DaveVisions...Messy Faith

Recently in a meeting someone referred to us as a messy church. Immediately my mind went to the well-used buildings and parking lot, along with upkeep needs that can get ahead of us. But this is not what the person meant by a messy church.

By messy, we are a church where people from all walks of life have some real stuff going on in their lives. The Rays of Hope Church isn't just some plastic-coated once-a-week-moment where we come to get our meager dosage of faith. Rather, we are a community that welcomes a person's brokenness and needs. By the grace of God, we then journey together toward a means of hope.

One church growth expert calls these types of congregations "saving stations." The mess behind churches that are saving stations is their mission to transform lives. As our friend with the messy observation of church said, "When you come to The Rays of Hope Church you are bound at some point

to get your hands dirty." If not with your own stuff, then with the stuff of another person who needs to know that they are not alone, that they can receive hope.

Fortunately, being a messy church doesn't mean that we are falling to pieces. Rather, a messy church affirms that we are unfinished and so we join together as a community of followers that seeks refinement and formation through Jesus Christ. My heart aches for people who are constantly looking for that "perfect" church. I hate to bear the news, but there is no perfect church. What exists are communities of faith where God's perfection is taking place. I believe that The Rays of Hope Church is making every effort to be such a place.

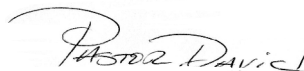
It can be easy for us to come to church and look at that person in worship who seems to have their life together when really that person across the room is crying deep inside, confused and filled with fear and anguish and just too

afraid to share their need. That's what it means to be messy. Yet, Jesus offers us hope by saying that all things are possible to become new in spite of our messes.

I've made the church my life and my work and I must confess too, that I am a mess. But it's because of our church, because of you, because of claiming who we are and who we are becoming that gives me strength to be that better parent, that better pastor, that better follower of Jesus, that better David that God has already claimed and has planned for me. This goes for you too! God has already claimed and planned for you that way of hope that takes our messes and makes us masterpieces!

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm (or messes), to give you a future with hope (Jeremiah 29.11).

Hope Alive!



Pastor David

Play of the Month – 12 Ways to Make a Guest Feel Uncomfortable (PART 1)

We all like to feel like we belong when we attend church. Consider the first of two parts that address the way a guest might feel uncomfortable in worship.

1. Hide the church sign and the entrance to the parking area. Make it difficult to know where to park and how to get inside.
2. Make sure all the "good" parking spaces are taken by people in the church before guests arrive. After all, if they really wanted to come to church they should arrive earlier!
3. Make it difficult to know through which door they should enter. Even better, lock the front door of the church and have all of the members enter through the kitchen and/or side doors.
4. Provide inadequate signage so that guests have to ask about the location of the nursery, restrooms, etc. That will be a good way to get visitors to talk to our people.
5. Don't speak to guests prior to the service. Spend your time greeting the people you know and see all of the time.
6. Ask guests to introduce themselves during the service. It is important for the people in the church to know who these new people are and where they are from. It always helps by singling them out and putting them on the spot.

Stay tuned, next month we will bring you Part II — How we can make a guest feel uncomfortable at our church.

Children & Youth Sunday School Classes

9:00 - 10:00 A.M.

Room 3
Kindergarten thru Grade 2
Advent Study

Room 2
3rd—6th Grades
Advent Study

Nursery
Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool
Hearing a Bible story each week

Youth Room
7th—12th Grades

10:00 - 10:30 A.M.

Fellowship Time in Hall/Quad

10:30 - 11:45

Start in Church for songs then on to:

Room 3—Christ's Kids
K—2nd Grade

Room 2—Club Worship
3rd—6th Grades

Room 10—Preschool
3—5 yrs. (not in K)

Nursery—Infants thru 2 yrs.

Adult Sunday School

9:00 a.m. in
Hoyle Lounge



Life centered topics with God centered resources.

Attendance—all are welcome

Preparation—your experience and experiences

Participation—pick your comfort zone

Carl Baldridge, Facilitator

TUMPS Corner (Trinity United Methodist Preschool)

Wow! Here we are at the beginning of the end. End of this school year that is! April was a busy month with lots of special weeks for the entire school. We were busy with Vehicle Week, TUMPS Family Picnic, and Early Registration for the 2012-2013 school year. We were also very lucky to have the entire school walk over to the Baldridge Farm, for a great field trip. A HUGE Thank you to Carl and Elaine for braving our students and parents. The children truly enjoyed the field trip.

During the month of May each classroom will be learning about a variety of different topics from bugs to ocean animals. Plus the students will be preparing Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts. Somehow the teachers will find time to prepare the students for the end of the year program. We are a very busy place.

We have made a BIG change to our program for next year. We have extended the preschool and Pre-K classes by ½ hour and I believe that we will have a larger amount of scholarship money from the First Things First organization for these classes. It is my hope that we will be able to assist a large number of families with financial assistance, so that their children can begin their educational careers off on the right foot. If you know someone that needs preschool or Pre-Kindergarten, have them give me a call.

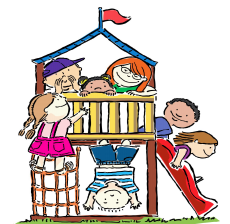
We will be offering Full-day Kindergarten again this year. And are pleased to say that we have two different scholarship opportunities for families to apply for, to assist with the cost of our FABULOUS Kindergarten. It is my opinion that if you are going to ever pay for private school, Kindergarten is where you

will get the biggest bang for your buck. It is extremely important that children begin their learning career off on the right foot – that definitely happens in our preschool and Kindergarten.

Please pray for our school and enrollment of more students.

As always, the support of the Trinity family is very much appreciated. Remember to tell people with young children about our wonderful program and send them our way. Thanks again for caring about the young children and this ministry.

Susan Weedman
TUMPS Director



Sunday Worship Services

9:00—Traditional 10:30—Contemporary 12:30—Tongan Culture

UMM Breakfast: Sunday, May 13

In honor of Mother's & Father's Day there will be a combined free breakfast consisting of cheese, ham, and egg scramble with hash browns, orange juice & coffee. Bring your entire family for fellowship, food, and life-changing worship!

Breakfast will be served from 8:00—10:30 a.m..

United Methodist Women Notes

Sally Dorell, UMW District President will be the visiting speaker at our May Unit meeting. She is a warm and informative person. The meeting will be in the Parlor, May 9, at 9:30 a.m. Come for "coffee and fellowship" preceding a short business meeting and program. All women are welcome!

Study-Prayer-Share

How Close is God?

Everyone is welcome to "God is Closer Than You Think", the current study by S-P-S (Study-Prayer-Share). The sessions are at 9:30 a.m. Thursdays in the library. Each lesson is self-contained, so visitors and drop-ins are urged to attend. Contact Beth Appleby (602-973-1415 or 602-908-4818) for information about the study and the group's reduced schedule for June through August.

Life Changing Bible Study

An Invitation to Put God First
Through Daily Scripture Reading, Reflection, and Commitment to a New Way of Life

Tuesdays 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Meet at Starbucks at 43rd & Thunderbird

Saturdays 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Meet at Baker Wee at 43rd & Thunderbird

Start When You Can, Come When You Can

Bring a Bible. Journals are \$8 each.



Help With The Coffee Cart



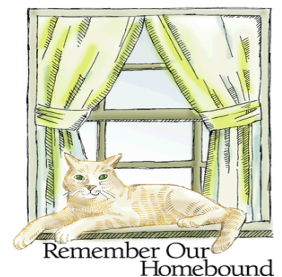
Once again it's that time of year when we are asking for help with the purchase of bottled water and ice. We would appreciate donations of both to cover the coming hot summer months. We are also in need of coffee.

Another person is needed to help with the coffee cart. Age is not a factor and instructions will be given on the procedures.

If you are interested or have any questions call Karen Smith at 602-540-1442 or send an email to khz6808@yahoo.com.

Pray For Our Homebound

Irene Baker
Helen Ballard
Ann Bragg
Marjorie Godwin
Ruth Lee
Carrie Miller
Adeline Peterson
Frances Ray
Ruth Roberts
Wally & Emily Wallentinson
William Zollars



Newsletter Deadline

Articles to be included in the **June/July** Newsletter need to be in the church office by 12 noon Thursday, May 10.

Thank you..



Graduation Sunday May 20, 2012

We will list names of Trinity graduates in our bulletin and recognize them in worship. Please send us the names of children, youth, and adults who call Trinity home and are graduating at any level, K-Graduate School.

Copies of Sermons

Copies of the sermons are now available on CD for \$2.00 each. If you would like a specific sermon, please let the office know.

Adult Ministries' News



Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

The purpose of the Adult Ministries team is to encourage people to engage in the transformation of their hearts and lives so that they become more and more like Jesus. Every gathering should potentially be a life changing event.

To that end, we offer courses of study that focus on deepening personal relationships with Jesus Christ **and on discerning** the guidance of the Holy Spirit in order to accept God's invitation to join Him in His work and step out in faith as disciples of Jesus.

Wednesday Night Study 6:30-8:00 in Hoyle Lounge

The Me I Want To Be

There is a "me" each one of us wants to be.....someone who's more kind and generous, patient and loving. But there is a gap between the me I am and the me I want to be.

Becoming God's best version of you is both God's desire and the greatest task of your life. And here's the good news....He's already working on it. Your life is God's project, NOT YOURS!!

The Me I Want to Be experience is a powerful way to move toward becoming the unique, fully alive, flourishing person God intended. This 6 week study by John Ortberg will challenge you to open yourself to God's Spirit and allow Him to transform you into the best version of yourself through your mind, your time, your relationships, and your experiences.

***The Most Important Task in Life IS NOT "what you do,
but who you become."***

John Ortberg

So what is the next REALLY BIG BOOK????

The Hunger Games!!!!

By Suzanne Collins

You've probably heard about it and maybe have even seen the movie.....what started as a trilogy for adolescent readers has captivated adult readers who can't put the first book down once they start to read.

Quick overview: *Katniss is a 16-year-old girl living with her mother and younger sister in the poorest district of Panem, the remains of what used to be the United States. Long ago the districts waged war on the Capitol and were defeated. As part of the surrender terms, each district agreed to send one boy and one girl to appear in an annual televised event called, "The Hunger Games". The terrain, rules, and level of participation of the games may change, but one thing is constant: kill or be killed. When her sister is chosen by lottery, Katniss steps up to go in her place.*

The Gospel According to the Hunger Games Trilogy is the study resource we will be using to analyze characters and themes, to compare characters to Biblical figures, and to provide discussion questions.

START READING!!!! Then set aside Wednesday, May 23 and Wednesday, May 30 to discuss the book in Hoyle Lounge from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Another REALLY GREAT BOOK: *7 An Experimental Mutiny Against Excess*

by Jen Hatmaker

7 is the true story of how Jen (along with her husband and her children to varying degrees) took seven months, identified seven areas of excess, and made seven simple choices to fight back against the modern-day diseases of greed, materialism and overindulgence.

She once considered herself unmotivated by the lure of prosperity, but upon being called "rich" by an undeniably poor child who was a victim of Katrina, she saw the evidence mount that her family was indeed motivated by prosperity. Jen, a pastor's wife and a Bible Study speaker, began this social experiment that turned into spiritually transforming experience.

Jen Hatmaker's writing style is at once humorous and self-deprecating as she shares her journey through a deeply reduced life to a call toward Christ-like simplicity and generosity and to a radically better existence.

This book is funny, raw, and **NOT** a guilt trip in the making, so come along and consider what Jesus' version of rich, blessed, and generous might look like in your life.

START READING!!!! We will discuss this book in the fall.

Helping Your Church When You Shop

I'm sure that a lot of you like to eat and probably go grocery shopping on occasion. Here's a way that your shopping can help the church with very little extra effort.

Fry's Food Stores will donate a percentage of the cost of our purchases to Trinity provided we use a gift card assigned to Trinity as payment. By getting this gift card at Trinity and taking one extra step to load money onto the card BEFORE shopping, we can still buy the same items at the same price as everyone else, get the same sales with our VIP cards, and use the gift card to pay at checkout. This one extra step of loading the card first can mean lots of money to Trinity. The gift cards can be used to pay for all purchases including gas at the Fry's gas stations too! And Fry's gives a discount of 10 to 30 cents per gallon based on purchases using your VIP card.

Highlights of the program are:

- Load the card BEFORE shopping using cash, credit, debit, or check up to \$500 at a time.
- You only need to use one card

that you can reload over and over.

- The balance of funds on the gift card are listed at the bottom of your receipt.
- The card must be reloaded at least once every 90 days to remain active.
- These cards are like cash and if they are lost, cannot be replaced.

Fry's will give Trinity a rebate check every 6 months based on the following total spending by all of us:

- \$2,000 – \$10,000 = 3%
- \$10,001 – \$25,000 = 4%
- \$25,001 – \$75,000 = 5%
- \$75,001 – UP = 6%

With a total purchase of \$15,000, Trinity will receive a 4% rebate, which equals \$600. Just think what we could do together by using our gift cards. If 50 of us spent \$50 per week for a year, Trinity would get a rebate check of \$6500! And \$50 a week is a low estimate nowadays, especially with gasoline purchases included. And if more than 50 people use these gift cards, that's even more money for the church.

Let me share a scenario that I use for my purchases – only when I'm able to pay off my credit card each month, I reload my gift card with my Visa card. Then I earn flight miles on my Visa. Then I shop at Fry's and get the same prices as everyone else using my VIP card. At checkout I simply slide my gift card through the card reader and I'm done. I don't have to push any numbers or sign anything. Then I go to the gas station and read my VIP card first in order to get 10 to 30 cents off a gallon of gas, pass my gift card through the card reader, and fill up. There have been lots of news reports lately about fake card scanners being put on gas pumps to steal credit card information. With the gift card, there's nothing to steal so it's much safer to use at the gas pump. So I get flight miles and sale prices for groceries and gas, and Trinity gets a nice rebate from Fry's.

If you would like your very own gift card, please contact Nancy Truscott or let someone in the church office know you are interested.

Car Wash

Saturday, May 5
9:00—11:30 A.M.
\$5.00 Donation

Proceeds to:
Summer Camp
Scholarships

Tickets on Sale Sundays

Help send a kid to Mingus Methodist Camp! Don't need a car wash? Support our 2012 campers by putting your donation in the offering or turn in to the church office. Thanks!



Mother's Day Luncheon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! For our annual Mother's Day Luncheon Saturday, May 12. Mothers bring your sons and daughters. Daughters and sons, bring your Mother. A DELICIOUS LUNCH will be served at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. Fun, entertainment, prizes and surprises.

Tickets will be on sale thru May 6.
 Cost: Adults \$10—Children \$6.



"Hats Off to Our Mothers"

Wednesday Evening for Kids

Join us in Room 3 for a fun new class that explores the Bible verses and stories behind some of our favorite songs. Those in Kindergarten through sixth grade are also invited to participate in Children's Choir practice during the class time (approx. 7:00-7:30 pm). We'll have games, crafts, snack, service projects and fellowship as we find new ways to MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! This class runs Wednesdays April 18—May 30th from 6:30—8:00 pm.



www.facebook.com/raysofhopechurch

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Patience Nyaungwa	May 1
Bobbie Ray	May 3
Faith Morgan	May 5
Reginald Matthews	May 7
Aimee Wickersham	May 8
Gina Lipko	May 9
Ruth Roberts	May 9
Sione Mohulamu	May 10
Sisilia Kanongataa	May 11
Sean Singer	May 13
Tom Quaing	May 14
Olivia Morgan	May 16
Betty Pope	May 18
Patricia Flowers	May 20
Morgan June	May 21
Bill Vail	May 22
Keith Zollars	May 24
Sierra White	May 27
Eva Brown	May 31

George & Enid Kent
 May 9—Married 31 years



Family Promise Coming In May

Reminder: Family Promise will be here May 26-June 2

A brief meeting will be held in early May to orient new volunteers and make our plans for the next visit. If you would be willing to give even an hour or two of your time, please contact Marleah McKnight or the Church office for more information. To find out more about the Family Promise program, visit their website at www.FamilyPromiseAZ.org.

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Trinity United Methodist
Church Office Telephone: (602) 973-1276
Preschool Telephone: (602) 973-9060
[Http://www.raysofhope.ws](http://www.raysofhope.ws)

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
Knowing Christ's Hope and Making It Real

LEADERS IN MINISTRY

- MINERVA CARCAÑO BISHOP
 - GARY KENNEDY DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
 - DAVID RENNICK SENIOR PASTOR
 - TIMOTE PIUKALA ASSOCIATE FOR TONGAN MINISTRY
 - SUSAN BALDISSERI CHURCH SECRETARY
 - SCOTT MANGELS FACILITIES MANAGER
 - ERIC EVERETT YOUTH DIRECTOR
 - CYNTHIA REID FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER
 - KAYTE GLEASON NURSERY COORDINATOR
 - BETH ZOLLARS MUSIC DIRECTOR, TRADITIONAL SERVICE
 - ERIC EVERETT CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER
 - CAROL HILL ORGANIST
 - SUSAN WEEDMAN DIRECTOR OF TRINITY UM PRESCHOOL
 - AMY VOGLER WEDDING COORDINATOR
 - DEB HERRMANN PRAYER LEADER
 - CAROLYN BOWERMASTER NEWSLETTER EDITOR
- OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M., MONDAY-FRIDAY



come
as you
are