



# Grand Canyon FOCUS

Digest of the January 24, 2004  
Presbytery Meeting

Spring 2004

**Moderator** Elder Kate Wilmoth called the meeting to Order with prayer at 9:15 a.m.; the Stated Clerk was present, a quorum reported and a Memorial Minute for the Rev. Warren Day was docketed as new business.

## Service of Worship

A Service of Worship was held under the leadership of outgoing Moderator Kate Wilmoth whose message was titled "I Used to Think..." Liturgists were: Dick Coffelt, Marcia McCabe, Starr Luteri-Hicks, Don Swanson and the Rev(s) Renato Alvarez, Ken Moe, and Judy Wellington. The Rev(s) Shelly Moe and Ed Spence administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. A time of remembering those ministers and elders who died in the Faith was held. The Rev. Gale Watkins was installed as Moderator of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. Chandler Presbyterian Church and the Crosswinds Philharmonics provided music.

## Time for Dialogue

Rev. Gale Watkins spoke about the way the presbytery should work with and disagree with each other and referred to the PC(USA)'s publication on *Working with Each other In Times of Disagreement*. The section, *Speak the Truth in Love (Ephesians 4:15)*, was highlighted. Presbyters were asked to gather in small groups to discuss the Scripture passage and to respond to the questions provided. After presbyters came back together from their small groups, they shared some responses from their conversations together: "To speak the truth in love requires listening to others with open hearts and minds, putting our own agenda aside as we listen; there is a strong need for Presbytery leadership to give us the truth; since many attendees don't have all the information, we depend upon our leaders."

## Actions Taken

### Election of Moderator-Elect and Election of Treasurer

Upon nomination by the Nominations Committee, and an opportunity for nominations from the floor, the Presbytery elected Elder Cecil Patterson (Southminster) as Moderator-Elect, and Elder Shirley Randolph (Mountain View) to a three-year term as Treasurer.

### Yearly Report Of Imbalance

The Stated Clerk called attention to the Yearly Report of Imbalance of minister members and elders commissioners provided with the Call to the Meeting. Presbytery ADOPTED the proposed Motion that the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, in accordance with the policy adopted at its June 19, 2001 Stated Meeting, invite the Sessions of the 41 churches beginning with number 31 (Payson Community) on the printed Alphabetical Listing of Churches on the Basis of Location/Church and continuing on to number 1 (Alpine Community) on the list, to elect one additional Elder Commissioner for the remaining meetings in 2004 through the first meeting of 2005.

### Annual Meeting of the Corporation

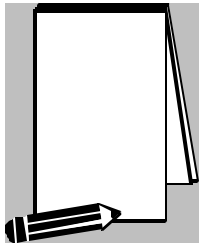
The Presbytery Meeting was recessed and the Annual Meeting of the Corporation was called to order with prayer by Ralph Meredith, President of the Corporation. Presbytery VOTED to name the following as officers of the Corporation as indicated:

President - Elder Kate Wilmoth  
Vice President - Rev. Gale Watkins  
Treasurer - Elder Shirley Randolph  
Secretary - Elder Richard Coffelt  
Executive Secretary - Rev. Kenneth Moe

Rev. Moe reported that the Annual Audit for 2003 was in process with the Henry and Horne Accounting Firm. Following the closing prayer by Elder Wilmoth the Presbytery meeting was reconvened.

**Next Presbytery Meeting: April 24, 2004**  
Northminster Presbyterian Church, Phoenix  
More information at: [www.pbygrandcanyon.org](http://www.pbygrandcanyon.org)

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## ***Fill our cup, Lord***

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Psalm 23:5*

Thanks to all of you who volunteered your time and talents, led and participated in workshops, and assisted in a host of important ways, Big Event 2004 brought more than 400 people to Valley Presbyterian Church in Paradise Valley on Saturday, February 7th. It was truly a "Presbytery Day" and an opportunity to celebrate through our connectional Church, how we are each a part of the whole, wonderful church of

Christ. Special thanks to Big Event Chair, Helmi Fulton and Vice-Chair Lawn Griffiths for all of their efforts toward making this year's event such a success.

Blessings,  
Linda Bailey, Focus Editor

## ***Big Event 2004***

*by Lawn Griffiths, Big Event Vice-Chair*

This year's Big Event returned to the campus of Valley Presbyterian Church after a five-year absence and took full advantage of the profound reconstruction of the campus for ample and roomy classrooms for our workshops. On the theme, "Fill Our Club, Lord," Presbyterians were challenged to use the day's experience to let the music and messages of morning and afternoon worship and the workshops to fortify their faith and to feel the fullness of God in their work as Presbyterians.

An 18-member committee, under the sponsorship of the Educational Ministries Committee of Presbytery, spent almost a year planning the day. Rev. Helmi Fulton, chair of EMC, was overall chairperson, with Lawn Griffiths as Big Event vice-chair. The committees of Presbytery provided members for the committee and did the initial development of workshop topics and leaders. On February 7th, 40 workshop leaders carried out 38 workshops. Our presbytery moderator, Rev. Gale Watkins, led three workshops. The Little Big Event, led by Donna Coffman, brought together 20 children for a day of activities and crafts and participation in the afternoon worship. Big Event exhibitors set up displays of 27 ministries that relate to our presbytery. And, Cokesbury Christian Bookstore offered books for sale that related to the day's workshops.

During the plenary session, keynote speaker and plenary leader Rev. Dr. Donald Campbell (Director of Congregational Ministries Division for the General Assembly Council, Louisville, Ky) led attendees through the new curricula of the church. He challenged church leaders to explore the broad offerings for curricula that our Church has developed to bring the relevant message of Christ to children and adults.

Some 109 evaluations were collected at the day's end, offering helpful feedback. People communicated that offering varying lengths of classes of 50-90 and 110-minutes in-length gave flexibility to leaders and topics. There was a clear desire to find leaders to offer workshops in music ministries and youth work. A hearty thanks to all the workshop leaders who delivered compelling and well-prepared classes.

**Special thanks to:** Mary Lorenz of Valley Church, who served as the church's liaison to the planning committee and coordinated equipment/room assignments (and to Lee Emerson and Linda Bailey who also assisted in this effort); to Rev. Dick Fouse as hosting pastor. Peter Flynn and his music team at Valley led the morning's contemporary worship. Thanks to Rev. Marilyn Manning, organist Dr. Kimberly Marshall and other Valley staff for the afternoon service that was graced by the singing of the Navajo Choir of Ft. Defiance Presbyterian Church, and Betania Presbyterian Church's Musical Group. Thanks to Marcia McCabe in the presbytery office who handled registrations and numerous details.

Also, thanks to others members of the Big Event Committee: Joan Fenton, Ellie Hetrick, Margaret Kurtz, Ann Lodge, David Lodge, Rochelle Mackey, Cindy Michels, Ken Moe, Glyndon Morris, Jewel Nicholls, Lillian Oats, José Olagues, Kirk Sexton, Annette Stewart, Kyle Weir and Judy Wellington.

**Grand Canyon FOCUS** is published four times per year by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon, 4423 N. 24th Street, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85016. Submission deadline for the next issue is April 25, 2004. Material for the *FOCUS* may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to the Presbytery Office:

E-mail: [click6@aol.com](mailto:click6@aol.com)

Fax: 602-468-3824

**Editor: Linda Bailey**

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## **Actions Taken at the January 24, 2004**

### **New Members Received**

**David E. Bybee**, a member of the Presbytery of Northern Kansas, called to be the pastor to Lake Havasu City Community Presbyterian Church was introduced and received into membership.

**MacHenry Schafer**, a member of New Brunswick Presbytery, called to serve as Associate Pastor to Pinnacle Presbyterian Church was introduced and received into membership.

### **Election of Commissioners and Youth Advisory Delegate to the 216<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2004)**

#### **Youth Advisory Delegate**

The following were introduced and placed in nomination for Youth Advisory Delegate: Karlene Carlson (Orangewood PC), 18, junior at Shadow Mountain H.S.; Shawn Guiney (Fountain Hills PC), 16, junior at Fountain Hills H.S.; Jessica Helmers (Mountain View PC), 17, senior at Xavier College Preparatory; Kindra Ross (Southminster PC), 21, junior at Phoenix College and Kathryn Theobald (Peoria First PC), 18, senior at Arizona School for the Arts. With all ballots in and counted, Presbytery VOTED to elect Jessica Helmers from Mountain View Presbyterian Church as the Youth Advisory Delegate for 2004 and Shawn Guiney from Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church as the alternate Y.A.D.

### **Elder Commissioners**

Presbytery VOTED to confirm Elders Marilyn Berry (Yarnell) and Annette Stewart (Vah-Ki) as the Elder Commissioners to the 216<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2004). The Churches were elected at the November meeting to nominate Elder Commissioners.

### **Minister Commissioners**

Rev. Darren Hawkins (Sierra Vista Yuma), Rev. Michael Hartwell (Crosswinds), Rev. Shelly Moe (At-Large), Rev. Jane Wilson (Mountain View) were introduced to the Presbytery and given an opportunity to address the presbyters. With all ballots in and counted, Presbytery VOTED to elect Rev. Darren Hawkins and Rev. Shelly Moe as Minister Commissioners to the 216<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2004). Rev. Michael Hartwell and Rev. Jane Wilson were elected as alternates.

### **Items of Interest**

#### **Service of Honorable Retirement**

There was a Service of Honorable Retirement for Rev. Stan Burtless. Presbyters came forward to express appreciation for his years of dedicated service and ministry.

### **Bid Farewell to Three Minister Members**

Revs. Brian and Jill Paulson and David Choate were recognized for their service of ministry in the Presbytery of Grand Canyon as they are transferring soon to other presbyteries.

### **Bills And Overtures Committee Report**

The members of the Bills and Overtures Committee presented recommendations concerning the Proposed Constitutional Amendments Approved by the 215<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (2003) and Recommended to the Presbyteries for their Affirmative or Negative Votes. Questions were invited from the floor for the purpose of clarification. The voting will take place at the April 24, 2004 Stated Meeting.

### **Presbytery Council Report to the Presbytery**

Following the presentation at the November 15, 2003 Presbytery Meeting, by the Synod of the Southwest Council on its decision to relocate the Synod Office, a motion was passed requesting that the Presbytery Council provide a written report to clarify questions that were raised by Presbyters following the presentation. The report was in three sections as indicated below and was included as a part of the documents associated with the Call to the January 24, 2004 meeting:

1. Summary and Recommendations approved by the Presbytery Council at its Meeting of January 8, 2004
2. Background on the Request for this Report
3. Brief description of documents that were reviewed in preparation for this report and are on file in the office of the Presbytery Stated Clerk

Outgoing Chair of Council, Rev. Ralph Meredith, called attention to the following statement of the Council found in the written report:

“The Council sincerely believes that as a presbytery we must move beyond the current issues related to the Interchurch Center Property. Those matters are in the hands of the Interchurch Center Corporation and its Board of Directors. Of course the presbytery does have interest in the final resolution as it impacts the location of and operation of the offices of the Presbytery of Grand Canyon. Further the Council is sincerely seeking ways to improve the relationships between and among the Synod of the Southwest and its presbyteries. The Synod of the Southwest Council as reflected in their meeting of November 24, 2003 joins us in this endeavor.

Therefore we call upon all presbyters to put the issues of the Interchurch Center behind us and join in prayer for a new day in the Presbytery of Grand Canyon’s relationships with the Synod of the Southwest and the presbyteries of Santa Fe, Sierra Blanca and de Cristo.”

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Continued from Page Three)

### Memorial Minute for Rev. Warren Day

Rev. Joedd Miller led a Memorial Minute in honor of the life and witness of Rev. Bud Day who died in December and had been Joedd's pastor in India many years ago.

### Annual Report of the Presbytery Executive and Chairperson of the Presbytery Council

Rev. Ken Moe stated that last year's finances for the Presbytery did not require us to use our reserves; however, we did only match our *reduced* budget. The 2004 GA meeting will have heavy traffic, as the next one will not be held until 2006. Many overtures have already been delivered. We need to remain calm! Pastoral changes – in the next few years we will get a dozen or more new pastors; there is a projected 100% turnover in the next seven years. Elders are also changing. These people will not have the personal experience of what we did in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Rev. Ralph Meredith referred to the Committee Annual Reports for 2003 and commended them to the Presbytery. He shared a reading on faith – our faith is in God. He asked the question, "Are we living life to the fullest, or are we being too cautious?"

### Recognition for Service and Expressions of Thanks

#### Outgoing Chair of Council – Rev. Ralph Meredith

A presentation was made to Ralph Meredith, in recognition of his dedicated service as Moderator-Elect, Moderator and Chair of Council.

#### Outgoing Treasurer - Elder Robert Gerlach

A presentation was made to Bob Gerlach (First PC, Mesa) in recognition of his six years of service as Treasurer.

### Thanks to the Hosts

Thanks were given to Chandler Presbyterian Church and Goodyear Village Presbyterian Church, and all those who were so helpful in arranging this meeting.

### Next Meeting

The next Stated Meeting of Presbytery will be Saturday, April 24, 2004 at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Phoenix.

### Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned with Rev. Gale Watkins giving the closing prayer at 3:40 PM.

Note\* The full minutes are available at  
[www.pbygrandcanyon.org](http://www.pbygrandcanyon.org)

## Presbyterian Coalition of Churches for Habitat for Humanity of the West Valley

### Current Church Members:

Christ Presbyterian Church  
Desert Palms Presbyterian Church  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
First Presbyterian Church of Peoria  
First Presbyterian Church, Sun City  
Heritage Presbyterian Church  
Morningstar Presbyterian Church  
Northminster Presbyterian Church

### *by Laura H. Brandt*

The Presbyterian Coalition of Churches joined together to finance and help build a Habitat house at the site in El Mirage. It gives us great pride and satisfaction to have reached our goal. The coalition has jointly raised the \$60,000 needed for the build. Each church was able to contribute as much as their congregation could afford. The volunteer workers from various churches have now completed their work. All the prayers have helped make this possible. A beautiful home with four bedrooms is ready for the family. A young family with four children ranging in ages from 10 years to 7 months has been selected. For them it is a dream come true, an answer to prayer, and they are very excited. They have completed their sweat equity hours, sometimes working along side our volunteers. Also, the \$1300 that they must pay for the closing, installation of utilities, and for insurance has been paid.

Building our first Habitat house has been a very rewarding experience of cooperating and working together on a common goal. There is now \$24,482.50 in the Coalition's Habitat account toward our next effort. And we would like to increase the number of churches that belong to our Coalition. If your church has an interest in Habitat For Humanity of the West Valley, consider this your personal invitation to join our Coalition. The Habitat office number is 623-583-2417. They will direct your call to a coalition member who will be in touch with you. We ask for your prayerful consideration and look forward to hearing from you.



### School Uniform Project

The Agua Fria Clothing Bank needs your help to provide 800 new school uniforms for 400 children from the Avondale Elementary & Middle School District for the 2004-2005 School Year.

**To Help Us Reach this Goal:**

1. Donate blouses or shirts (white), skirts or shorts or pants (navy blue)
2. Donate \$25.00 for an outfit.
3. Share this project with your friends.
4. Or "adopt" a child. (call for details)

Please send your donations by May/June to enable us to have everything ready for July 2004.

**For more information:**

P.O. Box 845 Avondale, AZ 85323  
623-932-9135

### PC(USA) Delegation to the Middle East

A PC(USA) delegation traveled to Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel/Palestine and Egypt in February to be in solidarity with the Christian community and partner churches in those countries. Some high-level meetings were scheduled with church, government and peace leaders, including a visit with President Assad of Syria.

The group left for the Middle East on Thursday, February 19 and returned home on Friday, March 5. Lillian Oats, Vice Moderator of Presbyterian Women was a member of the delegation. Watch for more information about the delegation's experiences in the next issue of Focus.

### Cook College and Theological School Auxiliary presents

**Eighth Annual Benefit Tea**  
Saturday, March 27, 2004  
2:00 PM

708 South Lindon Lane, Tempe  
[www.cookcollege.org](http://www.cookcollege.org)

\$5.00 per ticket  
Proceeds benefit CCTS  
Auxiliary Sponsored Student Programs

Entertainment and Door Prizes  
For more information and tickets:  
CCTS 480-968-9354



### Would Your Church Like to Offer A Summer Internship for A Seminary Student?

The presbytery has received a few requests from seminary students (under care in other presbyteries) who would like to pursue a summer internship in Arizona, with a church in Grand Canyon Presbytery.

If your church would be interested in exploring this option, call Marcia McCabe at the Presbytery Office: 602-468-3820 for more information. Of course, any program would have to be coordinated with the student's seminary.

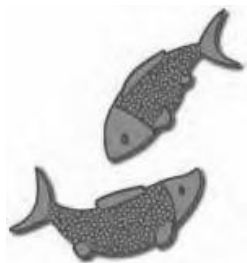


### Yamaha Organ Available Free.

**But, you must make your own shipping arrangements.**

Questions? Contact:  
Lorelei Macrow at 623-933-6766

## One Great Hour of Sharing



It is during the season of Lent that members of the Presbyterian Church (USA) share their blessings with communities of poor and oppressed people around the world by giving to One Great Hour of Sharing.

## OACC Committee (Older Adult Concerns and Celebrations)

**20th Senior Service Awards Luncheon**  
**Thursday, April 22, 2004**  
**11:45 AM - 2:00 PM**  
**First Presbyterian Church, Sun City**  
 12225 N 103rd Ave., Sun City, AZ  
 623-974-3605

The Older Adults Concerns and Celebrations Committee is planning for the 20th Annual Senior Recognition Luncheon, to be held on April 22nd at First Presbyterian Church, Sun City. A letter from OACCS was sent out to churches in January with a registration form attached. Forms should be completed and returned by March 22nd so that plans can be completed. The Annual Awards Luncheon makes it possible for our churches to honor one of their members (age 70+) for *outstanding voluntary and supportive service to the church and community* in the words of the certificate of appreciation.

Sessions are invited to select one individual (or couple) for this honor. This year, the cost of the luncheon is \$7.00 for each attendee.

Forms are available through the presbytery office and at [www.pbygrandcanyon.org](http://www.pbygrandcanyon.org) at the presbytery's website. Paid reservations are due by Friday, April 2, 2004 and should be sent to.

**Rev. Jane Wilson**  
**8050 E. Mountain View Rd.,**  
**Scottsdale, AZ 85258**  
**For more information: 480-998-1085**

## Actions of the General Assembly Relative to Same-Sex Marriage and Civil Unions

March 8, 2004

Louisville, KY

Given the recent public discussion on the possibility of a federal marriage amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the Office of the Stated Clerk has received questions about the position of the Presbyterian Church (USA) on this issue. The Presbyterian Church has demonstrated a historic commitment both to the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman and to human and civil rights for all persons.

A review of previous actions taken by General Assemblies on items related to this issue might prove helpful to our governing bodies, church agencies, and the general public. Generally, the questions fall within the five below. Included are the General Assembly actions that support the answers provided:

- 1. Has the General Assembly defined marriage?*  
 Yes. The *Directory for Worship* states, "Marriage is a civil contract between a woman and a man. For Christians, marriage is a covenant through which a man and a woman are called to live out together before God their lives of discipleship." (*Book of Order*, W- 4.9001)
- 2. Has the General Assembly taken action to support a federal marriage amendment?*  
 No. The 214th General Assembly (2002) declined to adopt a resolution calling for support of the federal marriage amendment.
- 3. Has the General Assembly taken action in support of marriage for same-sex couples?*  
 No. (See answer to question 4.)
- 4. Has the General Assembly taken action to support contractual relationships between same-sex couples with equal civil rights of married couples?*  
 Yes. The 208th General Assembly (1996) approved the following resolution: "Affirming the Presbyterian Church's historic definition of marriage as a civil contract between a man and a woman, yet recognizing that committed same-sex partners seek equal civil liberties in a contractual relationship with all the civil rights of married couples, we urge the Office of the Stated Clerk to explore the feasibility of entering friend-of-the-court briefs and supporting legislation in favor of giving civil rights to same-sex partners."
- 5. Is it appropriate for PC(USA) governing bodies to communicate these actions to public officials and the media?*  
 Yes. In fact, PC(USA) governing bodies have historically communicated the denomination's position on public issues.

*Sponsored by the  
Women's Ministries Committee*



*All Women are Invited*

**You're Invited to the  
2004 Presbytery of Grand Canyon  
Women's Retreat, April 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Led by the Reverend Shelly Moe and the Reverend Pat Baxter**

*How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings the good news,  
who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces  
salvation, and says to Zion "Your God reigns!" (Isaiah 52:7)*

**Camp Pine Rock Prescott**

Join us for an opportunity to escape the heat,  
study the text of Isaiah 52:7, relax, worship and have fun!

Registration fee includes 6 meals. Register early to ensure a good spot and the type of room you'd like. Registration deadline is March 15. Registration fee: Cabin (no linens) \$90, Cabin (with linens) \$100, Deluxe Fiesta Suites \$120 (the Deluxe Fiesta Suites are a considerable walk from the meeting areas.)

Registration:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate type of room you're registering for (please check one)

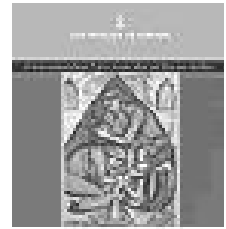
- Cabin without linens (\$90)
- Cabin with linens (\$100)
- Deluxe Fiesta Suites (\$120)

Roommate Preference, (cabins only): \_\_\_\_\_

Fee enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Needs (Dietary, Accessibility): \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Presbytery of Grand Canyon  
Mail registration to: Gayle Park, Registrar at: 6920 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. #103  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Questions or Scholarship Information: Gayle at parkgaz@aol.com or 480-947-4216



## Ordering Next Year's Resources

### ***2004-2005 Planning Calendar, 2005 Mission Yearbook and 2005 Children's Mission Yearbook***

#### **To Pastors and Committee Chairs:**

It's time to place orders for the *2004-2005 Planning Calendar*, the *2005 Mission Yearbook for Prayer and Study* and the *2005 Children's Mission Yearbook* through the presbytery office and save through our bulk ordering. All orders must be prepaid so your check is required with your order form. Also, since there will not be a Presbytery Meeting in June (when we would normally distribute the calendars), you will need to make plans to pick up the calendars at the presbytery office, since they are too large to mail. Don't forget, the calendars begin in JUNE.

Order forms are available on the presbytery's website at [www.pbygrandcanyon.org](http://www.pbygrandcanyon.org) for printing and mailing in with your check. Please use these forms to pre-order planning calendars and mission yearbooks for yourself, your staff, your session members and committee chairs and church members who might be interested.

- ✓ In order to have the planning calendars available by June, your order form and check must be returned to the office no later than May 1st. (\$6.25 each)
- ✓ The order forms and checks for the Mission Yearbook (\$5.15 each) and Children's Yearbook (\$4.50 each) must be returned to our office by July 10, 2004. You will be notified when the books arrive (late 2004).

*The 2005 Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study* contains games, puzzles, and information for young children third through sixth grades, that helps them learn about the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and its Mission domestically and around the world.

If you have any questions please phone Marcia at the office: 602-468-3820 or toll free: 1-800 557-3820.

### **Interactive Parent's Seminar**

#### ***Take the Time To Talk - Guiding Children to Good Choices*** **A Community Forum for Parents, Educators and Law Enforcement**

Saturday, April 17th

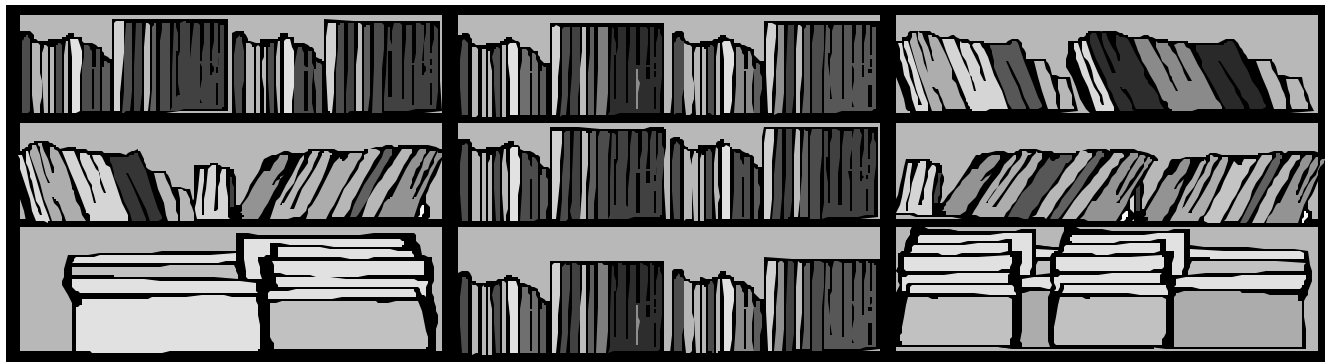
9:00 AM - noon

Celebrity Theatre, 440 N. 32nd Street, Phoenix

to register: [www.drugfreeAZ.com](http://www.drugfreeAZ.com) or call 602-506-7630

**Research** shows that religion plays a key role in the lives of American teens. According to data from the Monitoring the Future study, 90% of teens in the USA are affiliated with a religious denomination and 43% of 8th graders attend religious services weekly. Here is an opportunity to inform congregations of an important parent's forum taking place in Phoenix that is sponsored by ABC 15, the Phoenix Suns, Drug Free AZ and the Anasazi Foundation. Saturday, April 17 from 9:00 AM to noon, at the Celebrity Theatre (440 N. 32nd St.), the forum will help to empower parents to address the challenges of adolescence, steer their children away from destructive decisions and recognize warning signs of trouble with their child. Admission and materials given out at the seminar are free of charge. Everyone who attends will receive an exclusive DVD. This seminar is the first of its kind in the state of Arizona. Seating is limited. To register: log onto [www.drugfreeAZ.com](http://www.drugfreeAZ.com) or call 602-506-7630.

Funding for the conference is being provided by the Scripps Howard Foundation, KNXV -TV, the Phoenix Suns Charities and Celebrity Theatre.



## GREETINGS FROM THE INTERCHURCH RESOURCE CENTER!

BY KATE WILMOTH

**H**as your church paid the 2004 membership fee to the Interchurch Resource Center? We requested that all fees be in by March so that we can budget wisely and effectively. We want to continue to offer quality, up-to-date resources to all of our congregations. Everyone's support is needed for us to be able to do that at such a minimal cost to each church.

Let me remind you that if you are doing your planning without taking advantage of all the wonderful materials here at the Resource Center, you may be working harder than you need to.

New resources are arriving all the time. Our January newsletter featured over \$800 worth of new resources that are available to anyone in a member congregation to use. Check out our website at [www.icresource.org](http://www.icresource.org) if you need resources for Bible study, spiritual growth, summer programs, VBS materials, etc. If you need ideas to spark an old study group or to create a new one, you can find them here.

Call us at 602-468-3810 or e-mail at [director@icresource.org](mailto:director@icresource.org) for more information.

If your church has not yet paid this year, please send in your check along with the form below, ASAP to: Kate Wilmoth, Resource Center, 4423 N. 24th St., Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85016.

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Fee</u>
0 - 99	\$20
100 - 149	40
150 - 199	60
200 - 249	80
250 - 299	100
300 - 349	120
350 - 399	140
400 - 449	160
450 - 499	180
500 - up	200

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership of Church \_\_\_\_\_ Fee Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person to Receive Newsletter:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



## Theological Task Force Prepares Preliminary Report for GA

DALLAS -The Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church recently marked the halfway point in its 5year term in Dallas with the development of a preliminary report it will present to the church's General Assembly meeting in Richmond, VA, June 26-July 3, 2004.

The major effort of the 2 1/2 day meeting was review, discussion, and revision of the report. In the report, the group, which was called into being in 2001 to address divisive issues in the denomination, makes three preliminary affirmations related to the peace, unity, and purity of the church. Development and review of the report was led by task force members Stacy Johnson, professor at Princeton Theological Seminary; Barbara Wheeler, president of Auburn Theological Seminary; and P. Mark Achtemeier, professor at University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.

In remarks to the task force, Susan Andrews, Moderator of the 215th General Assembly (2003) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), charged the group to recommend to presbyteries and congregations active study and discussion of the preliminary report and use of task force-developed videos.

A pre-General Assembly conference is being planned for the morning of June 26 in Richmond to familiarize assembly-goers with report contents and ways the task force has studied issues in its 2001 mandate from the General Assembly. Task force member Barbara Everitt Bryant of Ann Arbor, MI, is conference coordinator.

The task force continued study of the history of the denomination, particularly of historical splits and reconciliations that have occurred since the establishment of Presbyterianism in the United States. They also explored ordination standards-the most controversial issue in the group's mandate-from biblical, theological, polity, and practice perspectives.

This portion of the meeting was under the joint leadership of task force members Mike Loudon, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Clear Lake, FL; Sarah Grace Sanderson-Doughty, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Lowville, NY; and Gary W. Demarest, co-moderator of the task force who is currently serving as interim pastor of the Point Loma Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA.

For more information, contact Sharon K. Youngs, Communications Coordinator, Office of the General Assembly, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202-1396; phone (888) 728-7228, ext. 5750; email [youngs@ctr.pcusa.org](mailto:youngs@ctr.pcusa.org)

### Southminster Presbyterian Church 50th Anniversary Banquet Saturday, April 3rd at 6:00 PM Hilton Garden Inn, Phoenix-Midtown 4000 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix

Southminster is hosting its 50th Anniversary Banquet as a fundraising event in celebration of 50 years of service to the community. The theme for the celebration will be, *Celebrating Southminster's Journey of Faith, Mission and History*. The banquet will be held on Saturday, April 3, 6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, Phoenix-Midtown, 4000 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix.

The cost for attending the banquet is \$50 per person or \$500 per table of ten. For more information or to make your reservation, call 602-276-2582.

The church was established March 23, 1954 with the founding pastor, Rev. Dr. George Benjamin Brooks, Sr., who served there for 42 years. Currently under the leadership of Elder Reginald Ragland, Commissioned Lay Pastor, the church's mission continues to be rooted in providing needed services to enhance the lives of others.

Southminster had responded to the need for pre-school education and the need for Food and Nutrition programs for the elderly and children. The Head Start Program and Food and Nutrition Programs were implemented in 1965. Southminster's Head Start Program has a long-standing tradition of delivering comprehensive and quality services designed to foster healthy development in low-income children. The concept which became the National Head Start Program, is believed to have originated at Southminster.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### **PWP SPRING GATHERING** **Lake Havasu City Community Church,** **Lake Havasu City, AZ** **MARCH 27, 2004**

*Leave No Child Behind* is the theme for this year's event. The Gathering will begin at 8:30 a.m., for registration, and end at 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$7.00 per person. The keynote speaker will be Susan Keil Smith, from Albuquerque, NM, (Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Southwest, Member-at-Large, Justice and Peace Issues). Lillian Oats, Vice-Moderator for Justice and Peace Issues, Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT); Jeanne Matt, Moderator for PW in Synod of Southwest; and Meri Simmons, CCT contact for Synod of the Southwest will be participating, as well. For more information contact Mary Danforth, (480) 345-0629 /Kay Harding, (480) 641-2617.

### **Celebrate the Gifts of Women**

By action of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly, Celebrate the Gifts of Women appears in the Presbyterian Planning Calendar each year. Originally placed on the Sunday closest to March 8, which is International Women's Day, this year it appears as June 11, 2004. Most churches still tie it in with International Women's day but it can be celebrated at any time. Congregations and individuals are encouraged to celebrate this day at some time each year, recognizing the gifts women bring to God, the church and the community.

This day is set aside to celebrate and honor individual women who contribute their gifts to church and community, and to lift up issues of women's rights. The occasion provides an opportunity for congregations to recognize particular women whose faithful service makes a difference in the church's life. It also gives congregations a chance to lift up specific issues of concern to women locally, nationally and Internationally.

Presbyterian Women in our Presbytery who are participating in this Gifts of Women Sunday find creative and unique ways to celebrate. Some provide the worship service on that Sunday using women and female youth in all aspects of the service, preaching, choir, ushers, liturgists, etc. Some use displays to highlight service projects and mission work pertinent to women. Others use displays showing the work of women worldwide who have provided leadership in areas of social reform, education, religion, politics, civil rights, etc. Some groups use this Sunday to honor a local church member with the Honorary Membership.

If your church is not celebrating the Gifts of Women Sunday, why not approach your pastor and request that a date be placed on next year's calendar. The Nov/Dec issue of *Horizons* each year has wonderful resources. There's a full worship service you can follow and other ideas of how to plan a meaningful celebration.

### **The Birthday Offering**

Today may not be your birthday, but having a birthday is something we all have in common. Presbyterian Women has a birthday celebration, too. In 1922, while on a tour of mission stations in the Orient, Hallie Paxton Winsborough, first superintendent of Women's Work, Presbyterian Church in the United States, visited a girls' school in Japan. She returned home and challenged women to give a special offering to the school. Excited by the opportunity, PW was soon giving a special offering each spring to meet a major mission need. This special collection of funds was named *Birthday Offering* in recognition of the 10th Anniversary of Women of the Church.

The *Birthday Offering* is one way PW answers God's call to make a difference in the lives of others. Participants contribute an average of \$1,000,000 each year. These funds support predetermined projects selected annually by the Creative Ministries Offering Comm. Each project meets the needs of hurting people in accordance with mission concerns and is interpreted in the Jan/Feb issue of *HORIZONS*. Last year the women in our Presbytery collected \$9,293.65 for this offering.

This year's recipients will be:

Camp Luminaria, Santa Fe, NM

The Institute for Theological Education of Bahia, Salvador, Brazil

Mobile Health Screening, Louisville, KY

Children's Cross Connection USA, Atlanta, GA

Presbyterian Senior Svc. Grandparent Family Apartments, Bronx, NY

**PRESBYTERY  
OF GRAND CANYON**  
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Phone (602) 468-3820  
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To check online Presbytery calendar:  
[www.pbygrandcanyon.org](http://www.pbygrandcanyon.org)

## CALENDAR\*

To confirm or add calendar information,  
call Marcia McCabe at 602-468-3820

\* Meeting dates may be subject to change

<b>March</b>	<b>23</b>	1:00 PM	COM	Valley Church	<b>April 27</b>	1:00 PM	COM	TBA
	<b>24</b>	1:00 PM	Theology and Worship	Interchurch Center	<b>28</b>	1:00 PM	Theology & Worship	Interchurch Center
<b>April</b>	<b>1</b>	11:45 AM	Council Meeting (Presbytery Office Closed)	Memorial Church	<b>May 6</b>	11:45 AM	Council Meeting (Office Closed)	TBA
	<b>9</b>	Good Friday	Presbytery Office Closed		<b>12</b>	2:00 PM	Stewardship Mission & Communications Dev.	Interchurch Center
	<b>11</b>		Easter Sunday		<b>17</b>	4:00 PM	Women's Ministries	Interchurch Center
	<b>14</b>	2:00 PM	Stewardship Mission Communications Dev.	Interchurch Center	<b>17</b>	5:00 PM	Property Committee	Interchurch Center
	<b>15</b>	10:30 AM	Evangelism & Church Dev.	Interchurch Center	<b>18</b>	11:00 AM	Preparation for Ministry	Interchurch Center
	<b>15</b>	3:00 PM	Educational Ministries	Interchurch Center	<b>20</b>	10:30 AM	Evangelism & Church Development	Interchurch Center
	<b>15</b>	4:30 PM	Social Justice & Peacemaking	Interchurch Center	<b>20</b>	3:00 PM	Educational Ministries	Interchurch Center
	<b>19</b>	4:00 PM	Women's Ministries	Interchurch Center	<b>20</b>	4:30 PM	Social Justice & Peacemaking	Interchurch Center
	<b>19</b>	5:00 PM	Property Committee	Interchurch Center	<b>25</b>	1:00 PM	COM	TBA
	<b>20</b>	11:00 AM	Preparation for Ministry	Interchurch Center	<b>26</b>	1:00 PM	Theology & Worship	Interchurch Center
	<b>22</b>	11:45 AM	OACCS Luncheon	First, Sun City	<b>31</b>		Memorial Day	office closed
	<b>24</b>	8:30 AM reg. 9:00 AM mtg.	Presbytery Stated Meeting	Northminster Church Phoenix, AZ				