

Conversations @ the Well

A publication of the activities and ministries of Historic First Presbyterian Church · April 2011



<http://www.themosmillers.org/Andy/images/Easter-desktop.jpg>

**Loving and Sharing Christ from
the Heart of Downtown Phoenix**

www.HistoricFirst.org

Taking The Bible Seriously

From the Pastor:



Pastor Nathan and his wife Beth Beall

FAMILY MEETING/TOWN HALL MEETING

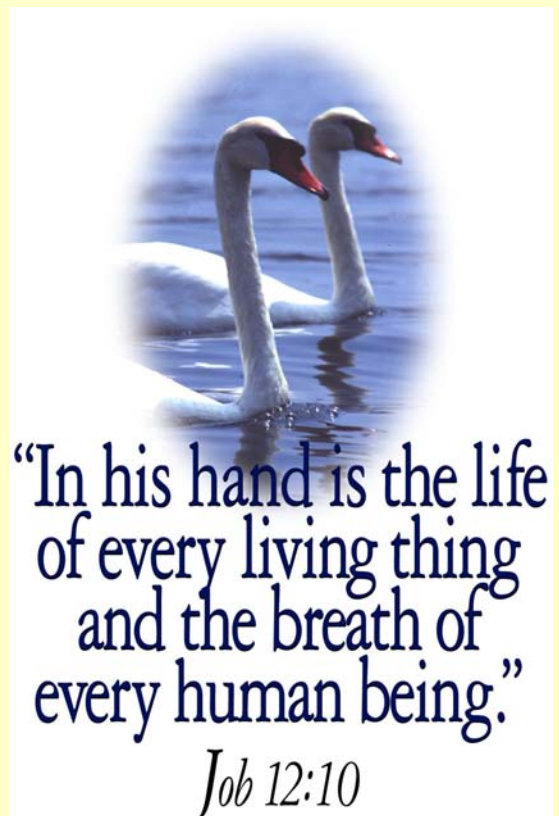
All are invited to join us for a family conversation that will take place in the form of a town hall meeting on Sunday, MAY 22. We will gather together after worship to discuss what the future of the HFPC ministry might look like. This town hall meeting will take place in the sanctuary.

This ministry began in 1879 and its legacy will continue well into the future. As stewards of God's resources, it is important that we come together as a family and discuss what that legacy might look like. A representative of the Presbytery will be present.

There will likely be four different scenarios presented. The Presentation Team is hard at work.

Their presentation will be well researched and designed. Everyone will have the opportunity to respond to each of these scenarios, either by standing up and speaking or through the use of Comment Cards that will be distributed.

I am excited by the opportunity to hear the opinions of others. I am even more excited about talking about a ministry that will, in some form, continue well into the future. Every day is an exercise in learning what it means to trust God. This town hall meeting is something at the graduate level for HFPC. In it all, God is still God, Jesus is still Jesus and, the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit. See everyone on Sunday, MAY 22, after the worship service in the sanctuary.



Taking The Bible Seriously (CONT)

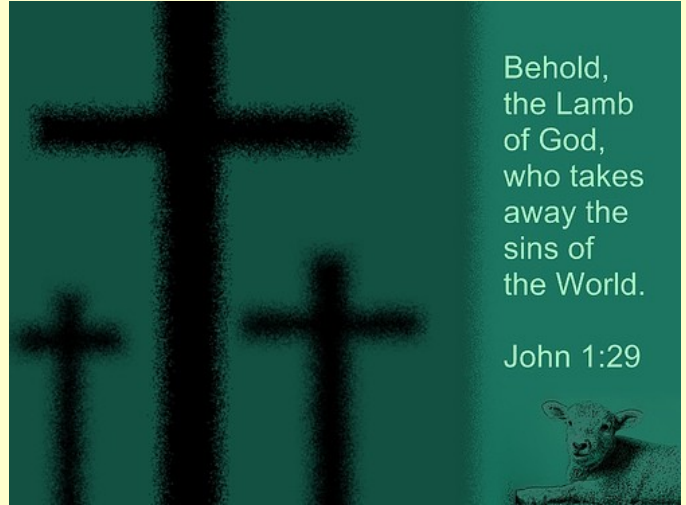
From the Christian Education Innovator:

Resurrection of the Lord Sunday is almost here. Are you ready? Do you even know what day this is? Resurrection of the Lord Sunday is more commonly known as Easter. I usually say Easter, but Pastor Nathan informed me many weeks ago that the correct name for this amazing, wondrous and totally special day is indeed, “Resurrection of the Lord Sunday.”

It makes total sense really. I mean, the word Easter doesn’t tell me much of anything about the celebration. But, RESURRECTION OF THE LORD SUNDAY, now that name gives you the what, who and when all in one shot.

As Christians you and I should have been calling this celebration Resurrection of the Lord Sunday all along. Perhaps it’s just a bit too wordy and we wanted an easier way to say it? Using the more secular term, Easter, just seems to be easier, simpler and faster.

Easier. Simpler. Faster. Our culture is full of people telling us how much better it is to do things easier, simpler and faster. We are all searching for the latest gadgets that would make our lives easier and simplify our daily tasks. But Jesus tells us that following Him is far from easy or simple.



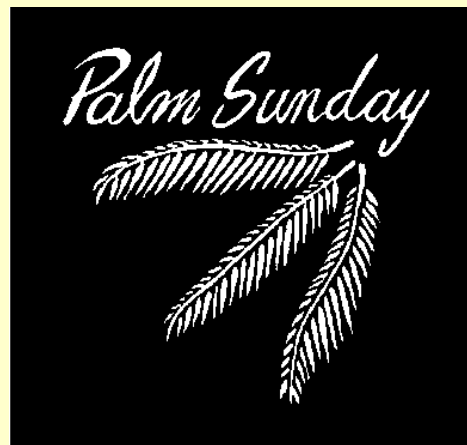
“Then He said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”
Luke 9:23

Jesus Christ loves us and died for us. His resurrection is the amazing event that makes us Christians. We need to enter into this celebration full of thanks and joy. So, my friends, I wish you a Happy Resurrection of the Lord Sunday and may the Living Christ guide your steps, light your way and be a continuing source of support for you now and always.

Taking The Bible Seriously (CONT)

PALM SUNDAY SINGING

On Palm Sunday, April 17 the kids will be singing two songs at the beginning of the 9:30 worship service. They are simple and fun songs that the kids will have a good time singing and you will have a good time hearing. You don't want to miss it.



COME AND SEE WHAT THE KIDS HAVE MADE

Through the Sundays in Lent the children in the Kids Praise class have been creating a special rainbow. We have been discussing "What Color Is Lent?" Each Sunday we choose a different color and discuss a Bible story. For example, for the color Red we talked about Moses parting the Red Sea.

Each child creates their own unique collage and then all the kids creations are put together to make the rainbow. By Easter Sunday the rainbow will be complete and will be hanging in room 112 classroom. The kids would love to have you come by and see the rainbow they have worked so hard on.

REFORMED QUOTE OF THE MONTH

This is what we should in short seek in the whole of Scripture: truly to know Jesus Christ, and the infinite riches that are comprised in Him and are offered to us by him from God the Father.

John Calvin

Preaching New Life In Jesus Christ

TRIAL RUN FOR PHOENIXONE

HFPC is the host for the PhoenixONE kickoff event. PhoenixONE is an outreach effort to reach young professionals in their 20s and 30s. Historically, this is the least church-ed demographic in America. The trial run will take place each Tuesday night in the month of April.

PhoenixONE plans a wide range of guest speakers and top-shelf musical performers. The organization has a board and an executive director. The website is <http://phx1.org/>. Check out the line of programming planned.

EL ENCANTO STREET FAIR

Thank you for everyone's assistance with the Encanto Street Fair on Sunday. A good number of children enjoyed the painting craft throughout the day. In the morning we met a nice family looking for a church and encountered many individuals who recognized HPFC as the church they attended years ago.

A special thank you to Peggy Parker and Justin Benson who spent the entire afternoon staffing the booth. They also encountered people with connections to the church from a wedding or a visit at some point in the past. Our goal was to remind the community HPFC is still actively worshipping and serving in downtown Phoenix. I think we accomplished our goal, making the effort worthwhile.

Thank you Lea for getting us all organized and in communication. Thank you ME for making the amazing fliers. Thank you Wendy and Pastor Nathan for your support.

RENEW

Renew is a group of college age folks that present a unique form of worship each first Friday. Their ministry is open to all ages. They gather in the HFPC sanctuary to worship and fellowship with one another for an hour. After this, they head out to the streets to introduce themselves to people and to share the gospel through prayer.



El Encanto Street Fair

Serving As A Church Without Borders

UPCOMING ETHIOPIA TRIP

Nine HFPC members are firmly on board to go to Ethiopia in June. The nine have been meeting monthly to help with accountability in preparation and to stay encouraged for this upcoming trip that will be emotionally, physically, and spiritually demanding. There are all sorts of entry requirements and other steps related to the mission trip.

The actual trip will include sharing the Gospel through word and deed, introducing simple solar technology (solar lamps and cookers), distributing Bibles, and fellowship with remote Christian congregations. Other aspects of the trip will include a visit with the Presbyterian missionary, Carolyn Weber, a visual update on various church and school plants, and a trip to Lalibela. Lalibela is a collection of rock hewn churches that were built underground in the 12th and 13th centuries.

Above and beyond the nine people who are going on the trip, others can participate with prayer and/or financial support. The team has done well in raising money for equipment and supplies, but still needs a little bit more to alleviate some of the financial burden involved. All who feel called to participate financially can submit funds to HFPC (memo: Ethiopia).

This will be the second HFPC trip to Ethiopia. The first one was in 2009. Each trip opens minds, challenges, and sets up the individuals up for growth. The whole process is rewarding. There are many levels of participation. If you have a question about any aspect of the mission trip, whether on this side of the ocean or on the other side, feel free to contact the church office. Matthew 28.19 and following are still in the Bible and God's people are still going out to all nations to the glory of God.



Palm Sunday

April 17, 2011

9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday

April 21, 2011

6:30 p.m. - Worship Service
Sanctuary
(child care will be provided)

Easter Sunday

April 24, 2011

5:45 a.m. - Sunrise Service
HFPC Courtyard

9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
Sanctuary

Serving As A Church Without Borders (CONT)

CHURCH PICNIC

The Church Picnic and Walkathon held on March 13 was great fun!!!! It was attended by members of both HFPC and El Bethel. The Walkathon was a fund raiser for scholarships to send Ethiopian children to school. Around \$1,200 was raised, which will pay the expenses of twelve children for a year of schooling.

It was a fine opportunity for all who attended to get to know our own members better and to make new friends with members of El Bethel.

Delicious hamburgers and hot dogs were prepared by Lou Bauman. A variety of salads and desserts were brought by those attending. Thanks to those who "made it happen".



EASTER EGG HUNT: SUPPLIES NEEDED

On Sunday, April 24 after our worship and celebration of the Risen Christ we will be having an Easter egg hunt for the children. We would appreciate donations of plastic filled eggs for this fun event. You are welcome to bring the eggs any Sunday up until April 24. Please NO chocolate and be sure all the food items are individually wrapped.



Thank you and God Bless.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The offering for One Great Hour of Sharing will be collected on April 24. The children will also be participating in this special offering. The kids will be sent



The following pertains to the
Two Months Ending February 28, 2011
CASH BASIS

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGETED</u> | VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE) |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Pledge & Loose | | | |
| Plate Offering | \$ 29,182 | \$ 31,917 | \$ (2,735) |
| Other Income | 7,702 | 9,557 | (1,855) |
| Transfer from | | | |
| Foundation | <u>40,000</u> | <u>34,169</u> | <u>5,831</u> |
| Total Revenue | 76,884 | 75,643 | 1,241 |
| Total Expense | <u>68,459</u> | <u>75,643</u> | <u>7,184</u> |
| Net Revenue Over | | | |
| Expense | <u>\$ 8,425</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 8,425</u> |

The pledge and loose plate offerings were \$2,735 less than budgeted through February 28, 2011.

Other income was \$1,855 less than was budgeted through February 28, 2011.

Through February 28, 2011, \$40,000 was transferred from the Foundation. Transfers will be made from the Foundation as it becomes necessary for cash flow.

Expenses were \$7,184 less than budgeted through February 28, 2011 primarily due to timing differences for payroll and utilities.

At through February 28, 2011, the general fund account reflected a surplus of \$8,425.

At through February 28, 2011, the balance in the First Presbyterian Foundation was \$448,934.

Please contact Donita Young, Financial Secretary at 602-254-6356, ext. 110 if you have any questions and/or need additional information concerning the church's finances.



Conversations @ the Well

HISTORIC FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Presbyterian Church (USA)
402 West Monroe Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1620

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PHOENIX, AZ
PERMIT NO 191

Sunday Activities

9:30 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship Service

10:00 a.m. - El Bethel (Ethiopian) Service

11:00 a.m. - DsTny Discipleship Bible Study

Be a part of the church downtown

602-254-6356

Historic First Presbyterian Church

*"Loving and Sharing Christ
from the Heart of Phoenix."*

Email: info@historicfirst.org
Website: www.historicfirst.org

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.