

Conversations @ the Well

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



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

Taking The Bible Seriously

From the Pastor:



Pastor Nathan and his wife Beth Beall

REFLECTIONS ON A TOWN HALL MEETING

We read in 1 Corinthians 14:40 that we are to be sure that everything is done properly and in order. Among all the things that happened at our Town Hall Meeting on May 22 one of them was the adherence to this biblical admonition. We met to hear presentations constructed by Matt Miller, Lea Benson, and Rick Reed. All of it, the presentations as well as the comments from the congregation, were both delivered and heard decently and in order.

After the presentations a microphone went around the sanctuary to allow people to ask questions, cast opinions, or share observations. Comments reflected the many different ways people relate to the Historic First Presbyterian Church (HFPC). Now, the session will meet and consume all that happened at the Town Hall Meeting and make a

decision about the way forward. Ideally, the session will decide the direction on June 8. I say ide

ally because time is of the essence. We don't have much time.

The consensus seems to be both keep the building and keep ownership. Looking at the numbers creativity with both of these categories will be a must. As much as we might cherish the building and ownership as we currently know them, we might find that the way forward may realistically alters the way these two: building and ownership-look.

The Town Hall Meeting was a positive experience for most in attendance. It gave members, friends, and visitors a chance to hear from one another in an appropriate forum. As we look toward the next chapter in our lives together, may God's people continue to pray, discern, and act lead by the Lord Jesus and guided by the Advocate, the Holy Spirit. Let it all be to the glory of God.

REFORMED QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Lifeless prayer is no more prayer than the picture of a man is a man. To say a prayer is not to pray; Aschanus taught his parrot the Lord's Prayer . . . It is the violence and wrestling of the affections that make it a prayer, else it is no prayer"(Watson, *Heaven Taken By Storm*, 20).

Taking The Bible Seriously (CONT)

From the Christian Education Innovator:

Summer is here and by now most kids have finished their last week of school and summertime has become official. Just as the regular schools take a break for the summer so does our own faith education.

What does this mean for you?

There will still be Sunday morning worship at 9:30 as always. DsTny Bible Study will continue to meet throughout the summer at 11:00 every Sunday. The rest of our faith education programming will take a break until September. This does not mean there aren't opportunities for faith development going on. Jesus is at work in our lives each and everyday, summer, fall, winter and spring.

Beginning this month all children will stay in church for the entire worship service the first Sunday of every month. It is so important for young people to see how we gather and praise God together as reformed Christians. You are their faith educators as they sit with you and learn from you how we as Presbyterians celebrate our faith.

All children are loved and accepted by Christ and therefore are loved and accepted by the congregation at Historic First Presbyterian Church. There will be children's worship bags available as usual, but children 5 years old and younger are welcome to attend the nursery if they are more comfortable there.

For the remaining Sundays in each month 3-9 year olds may participate in a summer Kid Praise class 9:45-10:30. The curriculum offered will rotate between watching a faithfully appropriate movie (i.e. Veggie Tales) and working on a craft.

There will not be any 11:00 classes for children during the summer or a traditional adult Bible study. This schedule allows our volunteer teachers to take time off to revive and renew.

All faith education classes begin again on September 18. Be watching for information regarding the Faith Education kick off event on September 11.

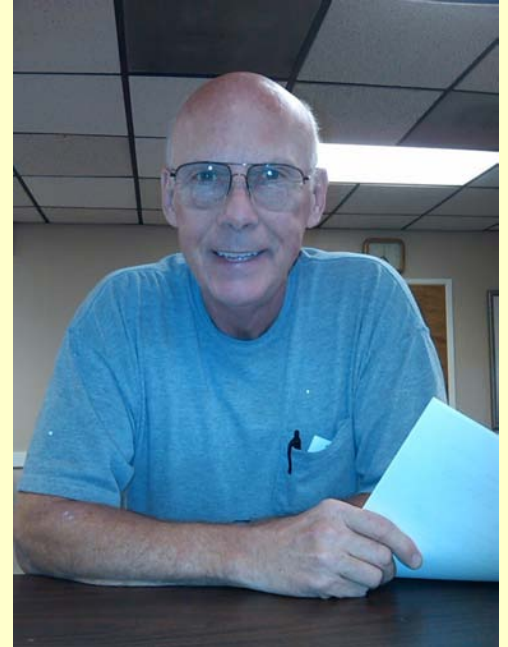
Kimberly Bravo



Preaching New Life In Jesus Christ

NEW HFPC MEMBERS

Please welcome HFPC's newest member: **Jack Fernstrum** and **Helen Asfaha** as they continue to walk with the Lord. We hope they will discover a ministry that nourishes them. Congratulations!!!



Holy Humor

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter.

Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note: "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

Serving As A Church Without Borders

2011 ETHIOPIA MISSION TEAM

The HFPC Ethiopia Mission Team will leave for Ethiopia on June 12. Please join us in prayers that the Lord will prepare the way for them. It is not too late to donate to this mission.



(L-R) Brett Wingate, Pam McCune, Lou Bauman, Kaylene Bauman, Pastor Nathan Byrd, Kristin Wingate, Deana Wingate, Pastor Asfaw, Patsy Jones and Diane Dresback.



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

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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.