

Conversations @ the Well

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



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

Taking The Bible Seriously

From the Pastor:



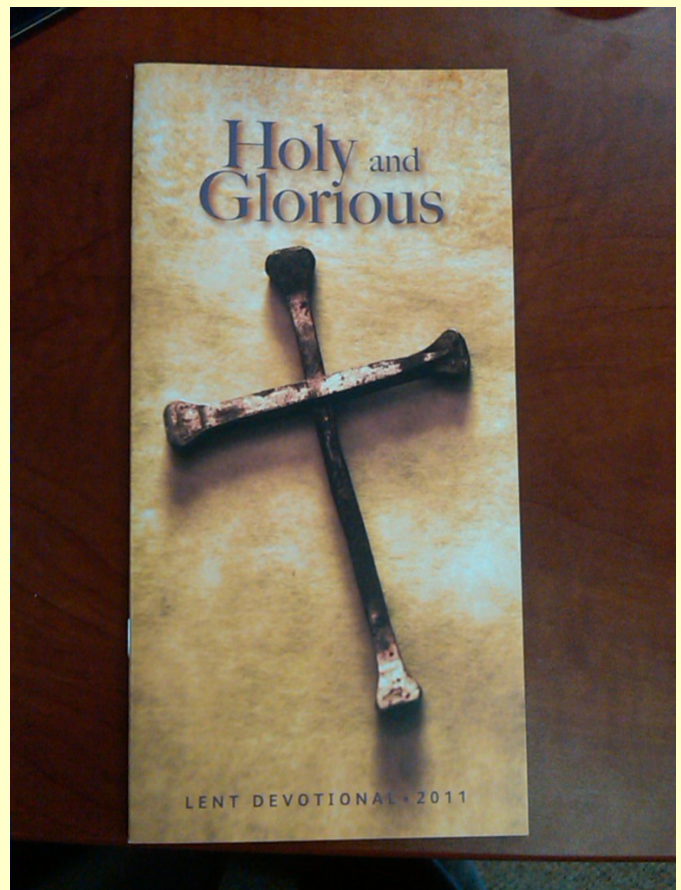
Pastor Nathan and his wife Beth Beall

To assist us through the Lenten season, we have copies of the *Holy and Glorious* devotional available. *Holy and Glorious* contains daily readings for each day of Lent. Each reading is a paragraph in length. The design of the devotional booklet is modern yet reverent and respectful of the richness found within the history of Christian Church. *Holy and Glorious* is a Lutheran product. Nonetheless, as we hear the call to be the one body of Christ, we are open to all things that work toward the unity witnessed to in scripture. Kimberly Bravo, our Faith Education staff person will order more copies by popular demand.

Historically, Lent is a fast of forty days before Easter or Resurrection Sunday. Today, it is common for people to give up something for Lent. For example, someone might say, "I will give up chocolate for Lent this year." This church, Historic First Presbyterian Church (HFPC), and other Protestant churches, typically use the season as a time to pay renewed attention to our relationship with God; specifically, to intentionally focus on specific areas for improvement as

we head toward our celebration together on Resurrection Sunday.

This way, we can join the Resurrection celebration with a clean heart to the glory of God. The Resurrection is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. It demonstrates the power of God to overcome all things to include death. Let us all prepare to celebrate with our king.



Taking The Bible Seriously (CONT)

From the Christian Education Innovator:



As I write this I have just returned home from the Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. I am so exhausted and yet so elated to have experienced such an exciting event. Aimee Perez and I were the coaches of the younger “Primary” team. Our team did a fantastic job, and I’m not just saying that because I was their coach. This group of 5 to 7 year olds really worked hard and gave an amazing performance.

You may be wondering what Odyssey of the Mind is. In fact, I had several questions leading up to the day of the tournament because I had never experienced this program before. The briefest explanation of Odyssey of the Mind is that it teaches kids to be creative problem solvers.

The teams are given a problem to solve which they must present in a creative way. One of the biggest elements of the entire process is that the kids are to come up with the answer, build the materials and write the script all by themselves. Adults are not to help, only to guide along the way. I think part of my exhaustion comes from only being able to “guide” 5, 6 and 7 year olds and not direct

them. I never realized how much patience it takes to sit back and allow someone else’s creative process to flow. Allowing the children to lead you is not as simple as it may sound.

Historic First is the only church that participates in this event. All other teams come from area schools. When you consider how much more time a school team has to work on something compared to how much time our church teams have, it is pretty amazing what our kids can accomplish together. Of course the other big part of Odyssey of the Mind is learning how to work together as a team towards a common goal.



(con’t)

Taking The Bible Seriously (CONT)

Some of you may wonder how such an experience can be a church related activity. For all the HFPC teams they are to incorporate a Bible story into their solutions. It is pretty amazing what the kids come up with. The younger team used the creation story in their answer while the older team, coached by Brett Wingate, incorporated the story of Noah's Ark into their solution.

The biggest reason to keep participating in this event is the kids absolutely LOVE it. Teague Perez has already asked me what the question will be next year. If you are in for some fun and amazing times I highly recommend coaching an Odyssey of the Mind team.



Preaching New Life In Jesus Christ



Rickie Rosales

THANK YOU!

We want to thank you to guest singers for being part of HFPC and sharing their gifts with us.



RENEW Group

Serving As A Church Without Borders (CONT)

A SHEPHERD'S WALK

The child of a shepherd works from dawn to dusk caring for the families goats. Children as young as three years old tend animals and work daily. In a family with a total income of \$25 per month, options are few for the future. An education can change a life forever.

For \$100 you can send a child to school, provide for a room and school supplies to allow a young child to attend school for an entire year. Some are going for the very first time. Through the Shepherd's Walk program you can impact a child's life with one simple donation to the AllNationsEthiopia Mission.

AllNationsEthiopia.org

The child of a shepherd works from dawn to dusk. Tending to goats and helping their family to survive. There are few options for the future.

An education can change a life forever.

\$100 = Teacher + Classroom + School Supplies
\$100 = A hope + an education + a future

One donation to **Shepherd's Walk** will impact a child's life forever.

Shepherd's Walk

JOINT PICNIC AND WALKATHON

HFPC & El Bethel

You are invited to participate in a walkathon and enjoy our joint picnic with El Bethel (Ethiopian) in the HFPC Courtyard, on Sunday, March 13 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM.

We will have use of the two mile course marked for participants to walk in the Shepherd's Walk Walkathon to raise funds for students in Ethiopia. To walk in the walkathon please pick up a sponsor form. Talk to your neighbors and co-workers outside the church about pledging to help those in need. On the next page you will find the Contribution Tracking Form.

AllNationsEthiopia.org

A Shepherd's Walk - Walkathon

Shepherd's Walk March 13th, 2011 @ Historic First Church Phoenix AZ. Noon-4PM

Contribution Tracking Form

(Please Mail your \$10 Registration fee and a copy of this registration form to HFPC 402 W. Monroe Ave. Phx AZ 85003 or E-Mail the Contact Information to DowntownMinistry@gmail.com to register for the Walkathon)

Contact Information _____

All Nations Participant Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Phone Number_h_w _____ E-mail Address _____

Please make checks payable to HFPC (Memo line AllNationsEthiopia - Donation). Thank You!

Sponsor's Name	Address/City/State	Phone	Amount	Check	Cash

Total Amount Collected: \$ _____

Donations for building schools can be accepted. Please mark memo line.

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

The following pertains to the
One Month Ending January 31, 2011
CASH BASIS

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
Pledge & Loose Plate Offering	\$ 14,681	\$ 15,958	\$ (1,277)
Other Income	6,068	4,778	1,290
Transfer from Foundation	<u>0</u>	<u>17,085</u>	<u>(17,085)</u>
Total Revenue	20,749	37,821	(17,072)
Total Expense	<u>36,750</u>	<u>37,821</u>	<u>1,071</u>
Net Revenue Over Expense	<u>\$(16,001)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$(16,001)</u>

The pledge and loose plate offerings were \$1,277 less than budgeted through January 31, 2011.

Other income was \$1,290 more than was budgeted through January 31, 2011.

Through January 31, 2011, no money was transferred from the Foundation. Transfers will be made from the Foundation when it becomes necessary for cash flow.

Expenses were \$1,071 less than budgeted through January 31, 2011 primarily due to timing differences for payroll and utilities.

At January 31, 2011, the general fund account reflected a deficit of \$16,001.

At January 31, 2011, the balance in the First Presbyterian Foundation was \$488,934.

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

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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.