

## CHILI COOKOFF

November 27<sup>th</sup>

4:30 p.m.



NEEDED: Expert chili cooks & judges

Prizes will be awarded

A basket for donations will cover your dinner

*Kits can be purchased for making Advent Wreaths*

The Presbyterian Women will have their famous Prickly Pear and Jalapeno Pepper Jelly

For sale - along with a new item

*Elmer's Special Peanut Brittle*

*Join in this time of fellowship and*

**BRING A FRIEND**

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### Children's Ministry (K-5)

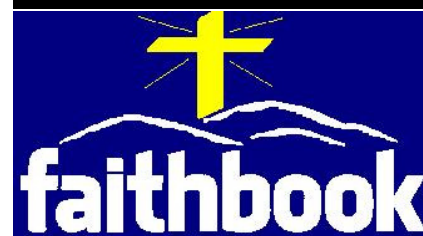
#### UPKIDZ Journey

Sundays, 9:15—10:15 a.m.  
*Don't miss this fun time of worship, fellowship & Bible stories*

#### UPKIDZ Adventure

Wednesdays, 5:30-7:45 p.m.  
*Adventure thru the Bible with fun games & creative activities!*

### Youth Ministry (6th-12th)



Wednesdays, 5:30-7:45 p.m.  
*Food. Music. God. Friends. Fun.*

### Miss a Sunday?

Audio of weekly sermons may now be heard online at

[www.tortolita.org](http://www.tortolita.org)

## Session Notes

by Sue Van Allen, Clerk of Session



The Tortolita Session has been very active in our prayers for Tortolita, prayerfully looking at our options for the future and asking for God's love and guidance in this process.

At or September 1st Special Session Meeting:

- We accepted the resignation of Teal Reinhardt as an Elder, effective immediately.
- We voted to authorize two people to sign contracts, Annette Trask and/or Sue Van Allen. Contracts may only be signed upon authorization and approval of the contract by the Session.
- We voted to accept the Wheat Scharf & Associates contract for a Conceptual Drawing for a Campus Master Plan.
- We voted to authorize Esther L'Esperance to contact pastors for pulpit supply on an on-going basis unless notified by Session.

We voted to accept Sunday School beginning at 9:15 am; Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

At our September 15th 2011 Session Meeting:

- We voted to approve a search for an Interim Pastor. We have received 3 Pastor Information Forms from Pastors who would be willing to work part-time.
- We have requested sermon tapes and will begin the interview process.

## *Susan Thoughts*

### Falling Over Myself

by Susan Mathews

When Chris was about 3 1/2 years old, he came to me and said, "Momma, I can fall over myself." I replied, "That's okay, sometimes I trip and fall too. Are you okay?" He said, "Yes, watch."

He walked over to a small rug in the living room, bent over, and put his hands on the floor. He straightened his legs, tucked in his head, and performed a perfect standing forward roll. I was amazed!

I called three of the other boys who were playing nearby, saying, "Look what Chris can do!" Chris did it again. Jacob and Charlie immediately wanted to learn, so Chris became the instructor. Patrick sat nearby in his wheelchair and cheered them on. I got out our wrestling mat to soften their landings. With Chris's gentle instructions, Jacob had it down after a couple of tries. Charlie, only about 18 months old at the time, wouldn't have made the gymnastics team, but had a great time trying. The lesson soon became a general wrestling session, so I got Patrick out of his chair to join in.

What new skills did the boys learn, and old skills did they practice?

They took turns and communicated using positive words and gestures. Chris's natural leadership and teaching skills began to emerge. Jacob listened to his little brother, and allowed him to be the leader. Charlie persisted, and felt successful, and Patrick learned how important his encouragement was to his brothers.

What did I learn? Whatever I had been doing wasn't as important as what Chris wanted to show me (I think I was paying bills). My attention and encouragement was vital to their learning. Boys love to wrestle (I think I already knew that). And falling over yourself can be a good thing.

There have been many times this year when I have fallen over myself, both literally and figuratively. My faith has been the mat that softened my landings, and the people that I have been blessed with in my life were always there to help me up; my family, my friends, and my church community. For this I will be forever grateful. Thank you God.

## ***Tortolita Presbyterian Women***

By Esther L'Esperance

The Presbyterian Women held their monthly meeting on October 8th. Our guest this month was Jean McElrath, the Moderator for Presbyterian Women de Cristo.

The Fall Gathering was held at Valley PC in Green Valley, October 22nd.

The first Monthly Intergeneration Craft Activity, sponsored by the PW and Discipleship was held at WNL! On October 26th. The crafts made were in the Halloween theme.

Each coming month there will be another theme—November will be Thanksgiving and December will be Christmas Crafts. Everyone will have three adult crafts and three children's crafts to choose from. This will give the adults and the children a chance to work together and share the fun doing activities together.

We hope everyone will join in for a once a month evening of fun and getting to know each other.

Plans are also being made for our Chili Cook Off! This event will be held on November 27th. We need some expert chili makers and, of course, some judges to judge the entries. We will also be making Advent Wreaths that evening.

The Presbyterian Women's famous Prickly Pear and Jalapeno Pepper Jelly will be on sale along with Elmer's Special Peanut Brittle! More information will be announced on this upcoming event.

Our next meeting will be on December 10th, at 9:30am, in Ironwood Hall. All women of the church are welcome to come join us!



## **3rd Annual All Church Retreat November 4-6**

We will again meet at Catalina State Park from Friday evening through Sunday afternoon (including worship service Sunday morning).

We enjoyed pleasant fall weekends in 2009 and 2010. Join us for devotions, campfires (with singing and marshmallows, of course) crafts, hiking and games.

We will plan on a brown bag lunch on Saturday, a barbeque dinner Saturday night (everyone brings their own meat to cook on the grill and a side dish to share) and a potluck lunch on Sunday.

The camping area we will use this year (across the road from last year's site) is quite pleasant and easy to navigate – with modern, well maintained restroom facilities (including showers). Views of the Catalina Mountains are magnificent, and there are several easy hiking trails (optional, of course).

The **overnight camping** fee is \$15 per vehicle per night (up to 6 people per vehicle). **Overnight camping is optional!**

The **day use** fee is \$7 per vehicle per day (up to 4 people per vehicle).

More details and a registration sheet will be published as the event draws closer.

Come Play and Pray! Mark your calendar for this fun fellowship event!  
Questions? Contact Orland Worcester.



# ***Tortolita Happenings***

www.tortolita.org

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **November**

11/04 DaNeil Olson  
11/08 Lisa Teager  
11/11 Anna Weiss  
11/12 Corinn Olson  
11/16 Alicia Rowe  
11/17 Patrick Mathews  
11/17 Erin Soulvie  
11/19 Kathy Worcester  
11/19 Vanessa Brockman  
11/21 Jen Ashley  
11/23 Gabe Mathews  
11/23 Jamison Noenickx  
11/26 Cheryl Larson  
11/27 Marlene Singer  
11/28 Loren Trujillo  
11/30 Annette Trask  
11/30 Tiffany Williams



## **Upcoming Events**

Nov. 4-6 **All Church Retreat to Catalina State Park**  
Nov. 13 **Congregational Meeting**  
Nov. 27 **Chili Cook-Off**

## **We need more HP!**

The many ministries of Tortolita largely run on volunteer power, and we could use a few more horses! To help increase our HP (Holy Power) by volunteering to serve, simply contact any of the elders or deacons below:

### **Session Ministry Leaders**

Personnel, Frank DiCosola - 877-5024  
Outreach, Roger Wallace - 744-9443  
Worship/Fellowship, Orland Worcester - 204-6951  
Finance, Dick Besemer - 579-9092  
Personnel, Chuck Brown - 825-4732  
Building & Grounds, Bob Chester - 395-1249  
Discipleship, Annette Trask - 730-9409  
Clerk of Session, Sue Van Allen - 245-1577

### **Deacon Ministry Leaders**

Moderator, Alicia Rowe - 797-8891  
Meals, Sue Wallace - 744-9443  
Cheryl Larson, Health Ministry & Home Communion- 887-9733  
Visitation, Vanessa Brockman - 954-8924  
Transportation, Kathy Worcester - 400-4797  
Youth Deacons: Danielle Brockman and Brandon Mathews

### ***Attention all Councils***

Anyone that is interested in placing their upcoming events on the outdoor sign, please contact Esther at 572-1210 or Roger Wallace at 744-9443.