



# The Desert Dove

October 2011 Issue

Vol. 9

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

### Sunday, October 16



These are exciting times! Really – they are. While we are challenged to grow God’s Kingdom, we have also faced setbacks with the Ironwood Hall fire and the departure of Pastor Jon after five years of faithful leadership.

#### So what is there to celebrate?

- ◆ The restoration of Ironwood Hall is nearly complete. It will be better than before the fire, and we will have new equipment and appliances and conducting discipleship and fellowship activities.
- ◆ Your Session is actively involved with Presbytery de Cristo team members to locate an Interim Pastor to guide us through the process of securing the services of a new Installed Pastor.
- ◆ The landscaping plans for the campus will be ready for viewing during the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.
- ◆ We are grateful for all of the lasting friendships we have made through worship and fellowship at Tortolita Presbyterian Church. Some of our members have been here since the beginning (of Tortolita). Regardless of how long we’ve been here, we all have fond memories to share.

**So to celebrate our many blessings, Sunday, October 16th there will be a catered luncheon to rejoice with our church family. Please see Esther to sign up.**

**WANTED: Photographs and other historic items for display during the celebration lunch. Please bring them to the church office.**

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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 for Pastor Jon, Jen, Mikaela, Molly, Hope and Drew in their new home.

## At our July 26th Special Session Meeting:

We received a letter from Rev. Jon Ashley resigning as Pastor of Tortolita Presbyterian Church, effective September 15, 2011 with his last Sunday being August 21, 2011.

We voted to call and announce a Special Meeting of the Congregation on August 21, 2011 to act on the recommendation of the Session to join Pastor Jon in requesting the Presbytery de Christ to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Jon and Tortolita, thereby making the way clear for him to serve in his new call.

## At our August 8, 2011 Special Session Meeting:

We met with two members of the COM, Rev. Ray Thomas, the pastor of Holy Way Presbyterian Church and Pat Turnbull, our new liaison from COM. A motion was passed to ask Walt Dellow if he is willing to be available to be our pulpit supply as soon as he arrives, but not necessarily every week.

Pastoral care needs will be attended to by the Deacons and Pastors on call, coordinated by Esther.

We will prayerfully consider our options:

Interim Pastor – called to be a transitional pastor. These pastors are trained and called to perform functions such as coming to terms with the church's history, navigating the shift in leadership, preparing for the next pastor.

Designated Pastor – called to be a minister for a term of 2-4 years. A Mission Study would need to be completed by the Session or a committee appointed by the Session. COM will provide a list of Designated Pastors from which we can select.

Guest speakers.

Our New Moderator will be Rev. Mary S. Harris, Interim Ministry Specialist. We are so appreciative that Mary has agreed to serve as our Moderator and to walk beside us in these next steps.



## ***Tortolita Presbyterian Women***

By Esther L'Esperance

The Tortolita Presbyterian Women held their first meeting on Saturday, October 8, after their summer break. We elected a new slate of officers for the coming year. The elected officers are as follows:

Moderator: Cheryl Larson

Secretary: Esther L'Esperance

Treasurer: Lisa Teager

What-Sew-Ever is meeting every Tuesday morning at 9:45. All ladies are invited to attend and bring a friend. Right now we are working on U of A sports blankets. There will be other Christmas crafts that we will be starting soon.

Our main yearly fund raiser is the selling of jelly. This year we plan on making both prickly pear and Jalapeno pepper jelly. Here again, we can use lots of hands for this project, and will be letting you all know when we plan to do this.

The ladies also have made 10 prayer shawls to be given to those who are ill. Two have been given away and they were prayed over by the Wednesday morning prayer group.

Our regular meeting time is the second Saturday of every month. We meet in Ironwood Hall at 9:30 a.m. We invite all ladies of the church 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.



## Crop Walk

November is approaching and normally we would be preparing for the annual Crop Walk. But not this year. The Crop Walk is expanding. In addition to the fall Crop Walk at Reid Park, there will be a spring Crop Walk here in northwest Tucson. Mark your calendar for Sunday March 18, 2012 so we can join the walk for a cause. We will keep you updated as we get further details.

Lisa Teager  
Missions Committee

## Tortolita Families Needed for Project F.E.E.D. (Feed Everyone Every Day)

We need a few more families to help make bag lunches for the children supported by the Giving Tree. Every six weeks, a team of four families prepares about 60 bag lunches (13 per family) consisting of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, drinks and snacks. The lunches are delivered on Sunday afternoon to the Giving Tree in Tucson for distribution to needy children. This has been a loving activity of Tortolita Presbyterian Church for several years (with occasional help from others). We want to see it continue, but we need at least four families to participate on each team. Please contact Betty Cole for more information and to sign up.

# ***Tortolita Happenings***

www.tortolita.org

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **October**

10/03 Anna Otero Colvert  
10/04 Jim Marvel  
10/05 Rachel Schmitt  
10/12 Drake Blackstock  
10/12 Brian Peck  
10/14 Jim Trask  
10/24 David Weiss  
10/26 Linda Johnson  
10/28 Elmer Creviston  
10/28 Barbara Buchanan  
10/28 Louie Schmitt  
10/28 Aaron & Lillian Gill  
10/29 Dwight & Louise Comer  
10/31 Nadia Drake



*Many thanks go to Dave Hall for repairing and staining the bench outside of Ironwood Hall. Your skillful carpentry work is always appreciated!*

*Thank you again,  
Building and Grounds*

*Our thanks go out again to Scott Soulvie for his quick repair to the roof of Ironwood Hall. And thank you for all the other things you do to keep our grounds looking nice. We appreciate the time and effort you so generously give to Tortolita!*

*Building and Grounds*

## **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

## **Upcoming Events**

Oct. 16 **25th Anniversary Celebration**  
Oct. 19 **Wednesday Night Live Kickoff**  
Nov. 4-6 **All Church Retreat to Catalina State Park**  
Nov. 13, **Congregational Meeting & Potluck**

### ***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.