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DESERT CROSS CARAVAN

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 25 & 26

www.desertcross.org (480) 730-8600 info@desertcross.org

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

ART CORNER

"The Temptations in the Desert" – Michael O'Brien

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

February 26 following 10:45am worship
Tempe Campus

Agenda:

Approval of the 2011 Annual report

Vote to engage in a visioning process with Alan Klaas as our facilitator

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

February 26 – Class in Tempe following Annual Meeting
March 4 – Lesson in Gilbert
March 11 – No Meeting due to Spring Break
March 18 – Lesson in Gilbert

LENT 2012

Ash Wednesday Worship Services

February 22 Tempe 5:30pm & 7pm Gilbert 7pm

Lenten Supper Volunteers

February 29, March 7, 14, 21, & 28

Tempe Community Center 6pm

We need many volunteers for the soup suppers.

We need volunteers to set up, serve, and clean up.

We need volunteers to bring soup and bread.

To volunteer, please contact Denise McClellan at dmcclellan@desertcross.org or 480-730-8600

Lenten Worship Services

February 29, March 7, 14, 21, & 28

Soup Supper Tempe Community Center 6pm

Worship Service Tempe Sanctuary 7pm

Using a simple evening prayer, music, and faith stories, we will explore spiritual practices to help us grow in our faith and break down the barriers in our lives that make it difficult for us to always follow Jesus. Our five week journey will follow Michael Foss' book Living the Six Marks of Discipleship: Real Faith for Real Life. Books can be purchased through local bookstores or online.

Please note that it is NOT necessary to read the book to understand and participate in our Lenten services, but if you would like to follow along, here is the weekly schedule:

- February 29 - Daily Prayer (Chapter 1)
- March 7 - Weekly Worship (Chapter 2)
- March 14 - Daily Bible Reading (Chapter 3)
- March 21 - Nurturing Relationships (Chapter 5)
- March 28 - Serving in and Beyond the Congregation AND Giving a Tithe and Beyond (Chapters 4 & 6)

Please contact Sara Wilson if you have any questions,
swilson@desertcross.org

BOOK GROUP

March 1, 8, & 15

Thursday Tempe Education Building Room 9 2:00 p.m.

We'll be reading Wendell Berry's Hannah Coulter.

Now in her late seventies, Hannah sorts through her memories.

Childhood. Young love and loss. Raising children. Changing seasons.

Hannah's story explores love, gratitude, grief, and strength.

Book Fee: \$12.00

To sign up, contact Becky Endres at

beckends@cox.net or 480-503-4025

ADULT FELLOWSHIP

TOUR OF UNITED FOOD BANK AND LUNCH

245 South Nina Drive Mesa

March 8

Carpool from Desert Cross Tempe at 10:00 a.m. or

Meet there at 10:30 a.m. (Ask for Directions)

We'll have a tour of the facility and see the great work they do

Then we'll gather together for lunch at the facility

Fee for Lunch: \$5.00

RSVP by March 5

To sign up, contact Ormal Saathoff at 480-883-7736

BIBLE STUDY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Begins March 8

Thursday Tempe Fellowship Hall 7:00 p.m.

This Bible Study will be unlike any you've attended.

We're rethinking Bible Study by using modern study tools.

It will be a working study session.

We'll explore the week's Scripture Lessons by searching the internet together.

For more information, contact Pastor Pam at

pwerrell@desertcross.org or 480-730-8600

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOK ARE HERE

Lenten Devotional Reading is a key part of Lent at Desert Cross. This year we're offering you Water Marks. Pick one up for you! Pick one up for a friend! This is also offered via email from Luther Seminary. Go to www.luthersem.edu and sign up for God Pause.

LENTEN STUDY BOOK ARE HERE

If you'd like to go a bit "deeper" this Lenten Season, we're offering Book of Faith Lenten Journey: Water Marks. This book offers extended versions of the daily devotion described above. It includes sections on Biblical Wisdom, Wisdom from the Tradition, Psalm Fragments, and Questions to Ponder. This book is great for individual or group study.

If you'd like to order a copy, contact Denise McClellan at dmcclellan@desertcross.org or (480) 730-8600.
Book Fee is \$8.00 (scholarships available)

FIELD TRIPS OF FAITH

March 4 Gilbert Campus 10:15 service

We invite you and your family to come on a field trip out to Gilbert this month! Come see the new worship space and the wonderful things the Gilbert community is doing. **Plus, stay for the great family event after...Transportation Day!

THIRD ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION DAY

March 4 Gilbert Site 11:30am – 1:30pm



Come explore, sit in, and take pictures by all kinds of transportation! Fire trucks, police car, construction vehicles, and more! Lunch will be served. Grab your friends and neighbors and come join the fun!

This is a fun day where kids can investigate, sit in, and take pictures by all kinds of transportation. If you have a form of Transportation you would like to share or know of someone who does (motorcycle, boat, tractor, limo, etc) please contact Shannon Fossett at sfossett@desertcross.org or Matt Dobyans at mdobyans@desertcross.org

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

In partnership with 1st Evangelical Lutheran in Mesa we will be collecting Women's business attire and accessories for the next few weeks. (Accessories include purses, shoes, hoses and jewelry) The clothes will be given to Dress for Success a non-profit to help single women who will be entering or re-entering the workforce. All sizes are welcome and Suits/suit separates size 16/16W - 34W, Professional Handbags (Black & Brown), Shoe size 8 - 12 are in the highest demand. Please place the clothes in the .COM bin in the Tempe Narthex or Gilbert Fellowship Hall. Thanks for your support.

CHRISTCARE SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Jean O'Donnell's group has a place for you!

Please join us!

Tuesday 10am Gilbert Site Women

For more information, contact Jean O'Donnell at 480-726-8928

BOOKS OF FAITH - PHILIPPIANS

March 4-April 1 Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Tempe Community Center Adult Classroom

Let's see what we can learn about today's church by studying Paul's words to the Philippians.

Book Fee: \$6.00 Scholarships Available

To sign up, contact Denise McClellan at

dmcclellan@desertcross.org or 480-730-8600

SOUL 2 SOLE BLOG

Check out Intern Sara's Blog about Soul 2 Sole for weekly posts about spirituality and wellness: <http://soul2solesara.blogspot.com/>

SAVE THE DATE: April 14, 2012

Details coming soon on a DCLC Soul 2 Sole special event

HOME AFFORDABLE MODIFICATION PROGRAM (HAMP)

If you are not unemployed, but you are still struggling to make your mortgage payments, you may be eligible for HAMP. This program is scheduled to complete on December 31, 2012. If you would like to know more, please attend a presentation on March 24th at 1:00pm. For more information, please contact Doug Bjotvedt dbjotvedt@desertcross.org.

TREATS FOR TROOPS

During February the .COM Ministry will again be collecting goodies for our troops still in Afghanistan. If you know of someone who would enjoy a box of treats from Desert Cross, please email Hilda Rose bhrose1@cox.net with their complete address or you can call me at 480-897-8689. The boxes will be packed and mailed the beginning of March, so please ensure that the personnel will still be there in March. Also include your relationship to this person as we include that in a note

A LIST OF SUGGESTED ITEMS will be available in the Tempe Narthex. Items can be placed in the Donation Box. Each package costs about \$12 to ship, so cash donations are also welcome and can be placed in the offering designated for "Treats for the Troops."

COLLECTING PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE FOR MEN

Donations will be provided to URBAN OUTREACH, a Tempe nonprofit who strives to help homeless people move from a state of crisis to a state of stability, in a respectful environment. They are in need of the following gently used or new items: Suits, Suit Jackets, Dress Slacks, Dress Shirts, Dress Shoes, Ties, Belts and Dress Socks/Undergarments

PARENTING TEENS COURSE

Begins Tuesday, February 28 7pm-8:30pm Tempe Youth Room

Parents of 11-18 year olds are welcomed to join a new 10-week course on parenting teens! This course will be led by Chad Diegle and covers material put out by ALPHA. Each class will be 1hr 30mins and will cover a different aspect of parenting teens. I am looking forward to the conversation and connections that a course like this can offer us. Whether you know what you're doing as a parent and things are going great or if you feel like you're riding on the Titanic, let's get together and learn what we can.

To register please email, Chad at cdiegle@desertcross.org

SAN TAN CHORALE PRESENTS "WESTERN VISTAS"

Celebrating Arizona Statehood and the American West through music

Tempe Campus
February 25 at 7:30pm

St. Luke Lutheran
February 26 at 3:00pm
807 N. Stapley Dr.

The San Tan Chorale has been commissioned as an official choir for the 100th anniversary for the state of Arizona. Tickets: \$10 adults / \$5 children and students with ID. Advance Group Pricing: \$8 each for 10 or more available online at www.stcpa.org or at the door.

FEBRUARY IS "INVITE A FRIEND MONTH"

February is "Invite a Friend Month"! Worship, Sunday School, Kindle/Ignite, and Joyful Noises are fun programs...but they would be double the fun with a friend. Invite someone to join you this month!

HOLY COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

Holy Communion Instruction is offered for 4th and 5th graders, or for children whose parents feel they are ready. Classes will be on Wednesdays during Lent: March 7th, 21st, and 28th from 5:00-6:00pm. The Seder Meal honoring the First Communicants and their families will be on Maundy Thursday, April 5th at 6:00pm. Students will receive the sacrament during the 7:30pm worship service that same evening.

To register, please contact Shannon Fossett at:
sfossett@desertcross.org or (480) 730-8600

HUNGER GAMES – MOVIE NIGHT

Hunger Games is opening March 23

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, February 22

You can purchase tickets at MovieTickets.com and Fandango.com

Please come and join us for the *first midnight showing* at:

HARKINS CHANDLER CROSSROADS 12

2980 E. Germann Rd. Chandler, AZ 85286

(Loop 202 & Gilbert)

If you have any questions please e-mail Pastor Pam at:
pwerrell@desertcross.org

THANKS FOR THE GREAT WEEKEND

Thanks to all who made Pastor Steve's last weekend with us amazing! Special thanks to the Susan and Mike Maas for coordinating the gift for Pastor Steve and Cherie, Denise and Dave Pedersen for organizing the great lunch, Shelley Mardany for her decorating and celebration planning, the church council for the stained glass gift to Pastor Steve made by Joy Petroff, Jane and the Worship and Music Team, musicians, worship assistants, choir who made worship outstanding, the Sunday School Kids and Teachers for their song and gift of flowers and the many, many gifts of love shared.

RESULTS FROM THE FUTURE VOTE FOR STEVE

A Fisher of Men becomes a Fisher of People = 25 votes
Academy Award Nominee for his role as Floyd R. Turbo = 23 votes
International Packer Ambassador = 68 votes - Winner!
Middle-East Peacekeeper, Chief of Security Augusta Victoria Hospital = 19 votes
Horizon Hearing Officer = 3 votes
Join the Senior Pastors Gadding about Tour = 28 votes
A Professional Volunteer = 22 votes
The Best Grandfather EVER! = 26 votes
Reality Show Star = 15 votes
"Tour the World with Steve" guide = 43 votes

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



the difference
i can make.

The .COM Ministry is starting a new program to support Concordia Charter School. You can help the

school earn **CASH** every time you shop for groceries! Clip the **Box Tops for Education** labels on hundreds of your favorite products. Every Box Top coupon is worth **10 cents** to the school. All General Mills and Pillsbury products carry the label. Labels can be dropped off at the church. A small box has been placed on the table in the Narthex. This will be an ongoing project, similar to our shoe drive.

THE STEVEN A. HOLM ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT LUTHER SEMINARY

As you know, in honor of his retirement, our congregation has established an endowed scholarship fund at Luther Seminary in Pastor Holm's name. If you are interested in making a contribution to this fund, you may do so by writing a check to Desert Cross Lutheran Church and including "Steve's Gift" on the information line. This contribution may be put in the offertory or dropped off at the church office. The endowed scholarship will be a permanent funding source for the training of future pastors and other leaders of the church who will follow in Pastor Holm's footsteps. Gifts may be made one time or on an annual basis and may also be made in memory of a loved one. In addition, if you are interested in learning more about Luther Seminary, Pastor Holm's alma mater, and its programs, including the annual report which details the cost of educating a seminary student, you may pick up information in the church office.

A SPECIAL THANKS FROM PASTOR STEVE AND CHERIE

What a day! You blew me away with the hugs, tears, and cards. The music was heavenly, the food spectacular, and the gifts took my breath away while rendering me speechless. Cherie and I thank you from the bottoms of our hearts. If you wanted us to believe that we are loved you have totally succeeded. We are humbled and gratified by all your expressions of affection. I am now convinced that I have been the most blessed pastor ever. You are wonderful! And you kept it all a secret! I was clueless!

Steve and Cherie Holm

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our sister in Christ, Sue Vogel-Herrera, passed away in the early morning hours of Tuesday, February 21, due to the leukemia that resisted all means of treatment. She is survived by her parents, siblings and husbands, Alex. A celebration of Sue's life and faith will be held Sunday, February 26 at 3:00pm at Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church, 2605 S. Signal Butte Road, Mesa, AZ. Your prayers and presence are welcome. May the hope of the resurrection bring comfort and courage for the days ahead. Memorials in Sue's name may be given to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society or the Easy Valley Thrift Shop.