



Our Saviour's Voice

www.thechurchofoursaviour.org

God's Children With Arms Wide

In one of the most fascinating episodes of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* the crew of the Enterprise find themselves trying to communicate with a race of aliens that use stories and characters from their history and culture, symbols, and metaphor to express themselves. Imagine communicating in that way. The truth is, we already do! For example, as part of our religious tradition, we might say something like "Moses, his staff lifted high, leading the children across the Red Sea." Of course, to Jews and Christians, this is the familiar story of Moses leading the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt to worship the Lord in the Promised Land. It's so foundational in the Judeo-Christian tradition, that it is celebrated and shared each year at the Jewish festival of the Passover, and at our annual Seder dinner during Holy Week. It enfolds God's faithfulness, steadfast love, and the promise of covenant. The depth of meaning that goes with this short sentence would be entirely lost to those who do not know the Hebrew Scriptures, or the major characters in the story of God's history of salvation. Then again, from a purely cultural perspective, we might say something like, "Remember Enron, and the Wall Street scandals of twenty-first century." Most of us would have no problem interpreting the message here. But what about ten years from now? Without teaching and remembering the lessons of history, would that sentence mean anything to our children or our grandchildren? As we can see, unless we have learned and are immersed in the traditions and stories that we value enough to share with others (like the Gospel), and those of our times, we would be as confused as Captain Picard and the rest of the crew. However, well intentioned the communication, the words alone would be a mystery without the deeper resonances of the underlying symbols and metaphors.

The nature of the world has not changed significantly. We still rely on symbols and metaphors to understand and communicate today, even though our symbolic icons have changed, and the meaning of certain words has evolved over time. Over the last 10-20 years, biblical scholarship and linguistic studies have advanced our knowledge and understanding of some of the most obscure symbolic references and metaphors from Scripture. That's great for us, right! But across the country, cultural pressures are overwhelming interest and education in all manner of religious studies. This means that fewer children and even adults are hearing the foundational stories of the Christian faith, or their own faith tradition. Here's a snippet from the findings of the Pew Survey report of 2010:

"More than half of Protestants could not identify Martin Luther as the person who inspired the Protestant Reformation. And about four in ten Jews did not know that Maimonides, one of the greatest rabbis and intellectuals in history, was Jewish.

The survey ... by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life aimed to test a broad range of religious knowledge, including understanding of the Bible, core teachings of different faiths and major figures in religious history."

If we are willing to welcome God's children with arms wide, share our faith, pray for and embrace the gift of discernment, teach, learn and share some more, then the next Pew Survey will not be an indictment of inaction. The Great Commandment and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through the Great Commission still stand as our primary mission and purpose.

God's Children Arms Wide (Cont'd)

If either or both of these symbolic references is unclear for you, then please check the Gospel of Matthew 22:36-40, and 28:18-20.

The variety of ways to fulfill our mission are as broad, deep, diverse, and personal as our God-given Spiritual gifts. As a community of faith, we **are** God's children with arms wide during the whole week of our amazing Vacation Bible School, and each week through our broad array of ongoing ministries. During our Annual Rummage Sale this month, we will again be God's children with arms wide.

Take the time during the heat of the summer to pray, listen, and be playful. Let the Lord guide us all, and feel free to share your ideas so that we can be creative in our agency for freedom in Christ, and in turning the tide of culture.

Susan⁺



Quips and Quotes

Every child begins the world again. - Henry David Thoreau

Never forget the three powerful resources you always have available to you:

- love,
- prayer,
- and forgiveness. - H. Jackson Brown Jr.

I've learned that...

... being kind is more important than being right.

... we can still pray for someone even when we don't have the strength to help in any other way. - Andy Rooney

Parish Nurse Corner

National Immunization Awareness Month



August is national immunization awareness month and I am addressing just the adults!

If you are traveling out of the country then check with the health department for added protection you might need.

1. **The flu shot.** We all need it yearly as the strains vary and the risk of severe illness and death is much higher to those who do not get this protection.

2. **The pneumococcal vaccine** is currently recommended once for those over 65 or younger persons with chronic illnesses. (Those at particularly high risk may be advised by their doctors to repeat this vaccine a second time in 5 years).

3. **The tetanus, diphtheria (Td) or Tetanus diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap) vaccine.** EVERYONE needs a Td every 10 years to maintain immunity. Tetanus is a disease that interferes with nerve conduction, causes severe muscle spasms, and is deadly in 1 out of 5 victims. The bacteria often enter through wounds. If you have a significant injury and it has been 5 years or more since your last Td, another shot is recommended. Adults who have contact with a baby less than 1 year of age should have a Tdap. Prior to 2005, this vaccine was not available to the older population, but has since been used safely. It is needed only once.

4. **The shingles vaccine.** A one time dose of Zostavax for those over 60. Statistics show it reduces risk by half. Yes, if you had shingles you may still get the vaccine to reduce the risk of future occurrences. People who are allergic to gelatin or neomycin should not get this vaccine. Some insurances and Part D Medicare plans help with part of this expensive vaccine.



Please see the flyers on the parish nurse bulletin board for further information, and ask me or Barbara if you have any questions. If we don't know the answer we will try to research it for you. Please keep your protection up-to-date and stay healthy.

-- Carol Anton, RN
Parish Nurse



41 Children + 31 Volunteeers = One STUPENDOUS Vacation Bible School Sun Surf Beach Bash 2011!

You made it happen!

Ready, set, blow - we
needed the breath of the
Holy Spirit!



Food for Body
and Soul!

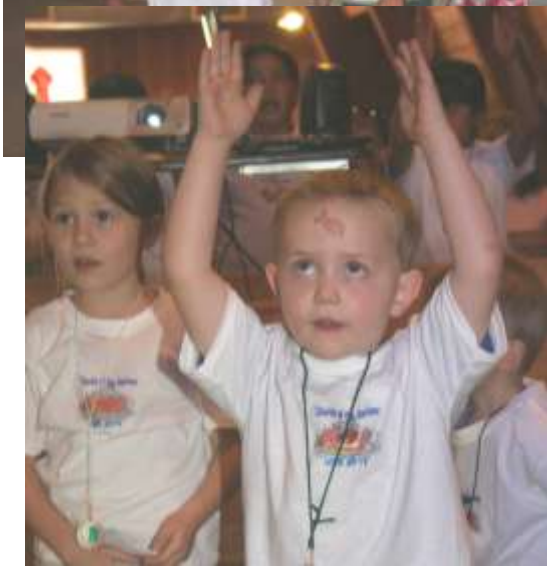


Playing on God's Team!



Singing God's praises!





Seizez Station – the Mysteries of God's World!





God's Word Heard & Lived Out



It's all about sharing God's love with His children ...



... of all
ages!

The Way of the Cross

Expectations sometimes have a way of backfiring on us. When I was 10 years old, a new grocery store was having its grand opening and I rode my bicycle over to the store to see what was happening. I noticed when I got there that the store had a bakery section. These were “new wave” back in the 1960s. They offered pieces of pie for only a quarter and I got mine out of my pocket. I pointed out the biggest piece to the attendant behind the counter – one I assumed was cherry. She gave the pie to me and I took a big bite. I quickly made a spectacle of myself by spitting it out in front of about 50 people. It turned out not to be the cherry pie I expected, but rhubarb pie instead.

When we expect one thing and then get another, it can be a rude experience. Something like this was going on in first-century Palestine. The people expected a militant Messiah who would conquer their opponents. What they got instead with Jesus was a Messiah that took the form of Isaiah's suffering servant.

In Matthew 16:21-28, Jesus fleshes out the idea of what it means to follow him. Self-denial is at the heart of his mission and therefore, becomes vital to those who chose to be his disciples. To follow Jesus is to allow God to remake us in God's image by divine grace. According to the New Testament, Jesus is as close to the image of God as any human being will ever see. He had the divine imprint stamped upon his person.

The Gospel of Matthew Jesus' demands for who understand who Jesus is gospel. In this way, disciples understanding of discipleship. follow him in the way of way find their authentic selves. apart from his teachings will straw and chaff.



holds the Christology of Jesus and discipleship in close tether. Those will then live a life that befits the conform to Jesus' paradoxical Jesus suggests that those who suffering and death will in a curious Likewise, those who seek their lives ultimately be gathering nothing but

Søren Kierkegaard, wrote a beautiful piece of irony in an essay titled “And I Looked Around and Nobody was Laughing.” He wrote: “I went into church and sat on the velvet pew. I watched as the sun came shining through the stained glass windows. The minister dressed in a velvet robe opened the golden gilded Bible, marked it with a silk bookmark and said, ‘If any man will be my disciple, said Jesus, let him deny himself, take up his cross, sell what he has, give it to the poor, and follow me.’”

Most of us are not bad people, but we are too often timid and afraid. We want to be followers of Jesus, but we are unsure and apprehensive. In order to live fully, we are freed from all the restraints by which the world shackles us. If we could let go of our narrow understanding of what gives life meaning, then we would be free to pursue a life that cannot be taken away. As Jesus said in Matthew 16:25, “Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

– David Neil Mosser, reprinted with permission from *The Clergy Journal*, © Logos Productions.

July Round Up!

Journezy Of Hope



About 35 young men arrived on Sunday, July 3rd ready to eat and cool off before continuing their cross-country journey in support of people with disabilities. Each rider must raise a minimum of \$5,000 in order to participate in this remarkable annual event.

With our usual gracious hospitality, COS provided supper, showers and a cool space to rest.

The young men shared their stories and an awesome puppet show with us!





July 4th Parade

It was an early start, but this year's parade was really well done and COS was there to share our many ministries with the crowd of folks lining the Deuce of Clubs. The theme was *"Growing Together and Moving Forward"*. We got the most cheers from the crowd for our Support Our Troops banner! A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our float – helping to decorate it, riding along, passing out candy, and working so hard to make it happen!



Ministry Team Fair

Each year we take the opportunity to show off our broad array of incredible ministries in one place at one time during the Annual Ministry Team Fair. This year, St. Polycarp Hall was lined with great displays from each of our ministry teams, serving this faith community, the broader White Mountain community, and the world. Long-time members, new members, and visitors alike got the chance to look around, sign up, and consider how God might be calling them to ministry in this place. Several folks commented on the great variety of ministries that we offer here, and at least two ministry teams gained new volunteers! Thanks to all our ministry team leaders for setting up displays!





Holding on to What is Good

– Andrea La Sonde Anastos, reprinted with permission from *Behold Together (Pentecost 1, 2011)*, © Logos Productions.

In Romans 12:9-21, Paul gives us an interesting checklist of good behaviors. Depending on how you count them, there are as many as 25 bits of advice in these few verses. Find your favorite Bible and read this passage. Notice how many of Paul's words are verbs – action words: love, hate, outdo, serve, rejoice, contribute, extend, bless, weep. Which of these things are easy for you to do, day by day? Which are harder for you?

Are there any verses in Romans 12 that you don't really understand: "Do not lag in zeal," for instance, or perhaps "Be ardent in spirit"? Try reading these verses in different versions of the Bible to see whether you can learn more about what they might be asking you to do. Try reading each phrase in the box and put a + beside the things you think would be fairly easy for you to do as a regular habit. Put a – beside the things you think would be hard to do regularly. Put a ? next to any that don't make sense to you and ask someone to help you understand what they mean.

What would happen if you were to work on Paul's list for the next month? Try choosing one item each day and try to do what it advises. Start your day by saying it out loud to yourself. Write a note to yourself and put it in your pocket; then take it out each time you eat a meal or a snack. Look for ways to do these things in your everyday life.

So, how do we "hold fast to what is good" in times when we are sad or hurt, sick or afraid? One way is to make a reminder you can carry with you – something that gives you a little courage and reminds you that God is always with you. Maybe it's a star, a favorite picture, a special rock or shell.

Don't worry whether you will be able to accomplish everything on Paul's list. The important thing is to focus on the good things and let go of what isn't so good. Imagine how much better the world might be if we all tried to follow Paul's advice in Romans 12:21, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

<input type="checkbox"/> Let love be genuine.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejoice with those who rejoice.
<input type="checkbox"/> Hate what is evil.	<input type="checkbox"/> Weep with those who weep.
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold fast to what is good.	<input type="checkbox"/> Live in harmony with one another.
<input type="checkbox"/> Love one another with mutual affection.	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdo one another in showing honor.	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not claim to be wiser than you are.
<input type="checkbox"/> Do not lag in zeal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not repay anyone evil for evil.
<input type="checkbox"/> Be ardent in spirit.	<input type="checkbox"/> So far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
<input type="checkbox"/> Serve the Lord.	<input type="checkbox"/> Never seek revenge against others.
<input type="checkbox"/> Rejoice in hope.	<input type="checkbox"/> If your enemies are hungry, feed them.
<input type="checkbox"/> Be patient in suffering.	<input type="checkbox"/> If ... thirsty, give them something to drink.
<input type="checkbox"/> Persevere in prayer.	<input type="checkbox"/> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
<input type="checkbox"/> Contribute to the needs of the saints.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Extend hospitality to strangers.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bless those who persecute you.	

Around the Community --
In Short ...

<p style="text-align: center;">Bible Study</p> <p>Each Sunday throughout August we continue with our adult Bible study classes at 9am in Polycarp Hall with <i>The Exodus from Egypt</i>, a John MacArthur bible study. Please join the conversation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Christian Sympathy</p> <p>Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of our beloved sister in Christ, Suzanne Propstra, who died on July 17th. A private, family memorial service will be held in mid-August in Mesa.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Garden Angels Welcome Here!</p> <p>A group of folks are stopping by periodically for an hour or so to dig up the weeds that thrive on these hot and wet summer days, and to do a little planting out front in our yard. You are all welcome to donate a tray of annuals, or bring in some hardy perennials. If you like gardening, feel like some fresh air, or find that quiet time in God's good creation is also prayer for you, please feel free to join in any time you like. Remember – many hands make light work! Blessings and thanks to all our garden angels!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Contribution Statements</p> <p>Statements for the end of the second quarter were mailed mid-July. If you did not receive yours or if there are any errors to report, please contact Treasurer, Sharon Dalrymple.</p> <p>Sharing our financial resources is part of being a good stewardship of God's gifts, and is how we do ministry here at COS. If you have not made a financial pledge commitment, please consider doing so. If you need to change your pledge (up or down) please let your Treasurer know.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Our Annual Rummage Sale is August 5th & 6th</p> <p>If you have items for the rummage sale, please call the office – we have space to store items. Please check the list of acceptable items posted on the bulletin board in Polycarp Hall. We are all looking forward to seeing all the "new/old" stuff this August! If you are interested in being co-chair of the rummage sale this year with Susan Dufrain please let Pastor Susan⁺ know. Volunteers – please save your mornings for August 1-4 for sorting and setting up the rummage sale. We really appreciate you all!</p>	
<p>2011 Outreach Fund Applications are available in the office. Applicants must complete and return by August 15th.</p>	<p>CPR Training with Sandy will be held August 28th from 11:30am--2pm. Cost is \$20 per person. Have a heart! Save a life!</p>
<p>Cameroon Mission Trip slide show part II presented by Joe and Barbara Stone will be on August 28th at 7pm in Polycarp Hall.</p>	<p>Baby Bottle Drive by Living Hope Women's Centers. If you would like to fill a bottle for their annual "change for life" fundraiser, please return it to the office by August 14th. Living Hope have sponsored more than 30 adoptions in the White Mountains.</p>

Saint of the Month

Having recently returned from a successful and fun fishing vacation, visited San Antonio, Texas and located some missing items of information, the saint of the month just has to be St. Anthony of Padua – but more on the reasons for that in a minute.

Firstly, some information regarding last month's article on St. Polycarp. Vicki Howell found out from Fr. Jim that the original name for "Polycarp Hall" (as it is now commonly referred to) was "St. Polycarp and All Martyrs' Hall". Lois Nansen who was on the vestry at the time of naming the new parish hall remembers that the saint to be recognized was a close call between St. Polycarp and St. Mary Magdalene. Imagine how we could have cashed in on the recent "The Da Vinci Code" craze if the latter name had been chosen! The icon of St. Polycarp that hangs in the hall was apparently given to Fr. Rousch, but the artist remains unknown to this author – any further information on that would be most welcome. While discussing the icons in the hall, it emerged that the beautiful large painting of Christ that hangs in Polycarp Hall came from the brush of our own Charlie Aldrich.



Now back to St. Anthony of Padua (provenance is important; I found at least 37 other St. Anthony's). He is the patron saint of Native Americans and is commonly referred to as "the finder of lost articles" (hint: always look under the sofa first and get a remote control finder.) His feast day is June 13th. The link to Native Americans is believed to be because 18th century Spanish missionaries in North America found an Indian village on St. Anthony's feast day and built a mission there. This mission was part of the community that became today's San Antonio in Texas.

Something of a fast-tracker, Saint Anthony was canonized less than one year after his death. Portuguese by birth, he became an Augustinian monk, but left that order to become a Franciscan in 1221 at age 26 so inspired was he by early Franciscan martyrs. Renowned for his effectiveness in teaching the faith to every strata of society, he also came to be known as the "hammer of the Heretics". The legend goes that one time he was preaching the true Gospel to heretics who would not listen to him, he left and went to a river and preached the Gospel to the fishes, who gathered in multitudes (definitely a move recommended for your next fishing trip!) This miracle caught the attention of the heretics who then listened and received the true gospel, perhaps making this the only incidence of fish becoming catchers of men!

St. Anthony is commonly depicted with a book and the infant child Jesus, Jesus having miraculously appeared to him. St. Anthony died at age 36 close to Padua, Italy, following a long illness. His body was exhumed some 336 years after his death whereupon it was found that although the rest of his body had decayed, his tongue was uncorrupted. This was attributed to the perfection of the teachings that had been formed by it.

Steve Wilmot

References: Catholic Online, St. Anthony of Padua, retrieved from http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=24
Wikipedia, St. Anthony of Padua, retrieved from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_of_Padua



Supporting Our Troops

Thanks to all the wonderful help it was possible to ship twelve boxes in July bringing the year to date total to 123 boxes. All shipments this year have been shared between the two military hospitals in Kandahar and Camp Dwyer, both in Afghanistan.

The focus has always been for homemade cookies, cakes and candies since these are the items that our wounded could not otherwise receive. Thank you all so very much. Give yourselves a pat on the back!! From the comments received, it is clear that these shipments are more than well received and that your love and devotion will remain long in the hearts of the soldiers and hospital staff. On one occasion one of the wounded burst into tears, the ginger cookies were almost identical to the ones his late grandmother made, he was very touched and delighted. When we all bake, we never know the full impact of the love shown.

This is **your** ministry, its success is entirely due to your continued support with contributions of food, cash etc. Again, thank you, one and all, keep up the wonderful work, keep them cookies a baking and brighten the darkest days for our wounded warriors. Because of the extreme heat en route to Afghanistan, it is still not possible to ship chocolate candy.

The next shipment is planned for August 11th, to arrive in time for Labor Day. This shipment will be the final one that Chaplain Andrew Sholtes will receive at Kandahar, for distribution, immediately prior to his return home. Let us all help make this a truly grand shipment.

Andrew is expected to return home at the end of August and it is provisionally planned that, together with his wife, he will be visiting Lakeside the weekend of September 11th. He wishes to take the opportunity to meet with members of both this parish and the Presbyterian church. Updates on their travel plans will be in the Sunday bulletins and September newsletter.

Peter & Mary Jane Bish



Out and About!

Here's this month's picture of our Senior Warden with another hat on – as VBS Director!

This pink flamingo hat was a big hit with the children too!

Don't forget to send in your fun pictures!

Don't Miss A Thing at COS!

Children's & Family Worship Service

Join us on **Sunday, August 7th at 9am** for this month's children and family worship service. This month we will continue our celebration of the season after Pentecost, and checking into *beautiful feet!* Prepare for the fun!!! Children of all ages are welcome! We celebrate Holy Communion in the Celtic tradition, as well as join together in prayer, singing, and activities. *Give us all beautiful feet, Lord, and make us swift and strong to carry the good news of your love to people everywhere.*



Wednesday Evening Service

Why not try something new? Stretch your spirituality, and check out our mid-week service of evening prayer, Holy Communion and healing at **5:30pm every Wednesday** in the sanctuary.

The folks who already come consider it a gem of a service, and a great mid-week booster. For those who are sick or desire prayers for healing, we offer prayers, anointing and laying on of hands for healing at the mid-week service. Take a break from your busy life, and the secular world, and feed your soul.

Recycling at COS

Keep saving those cans! We will have a monthly collection on the first Sunday of every month. Next collection date is **Sunday, August 7th**.



Our Saviour's Voice Newsletter

We welcome articles for the monthly newsletter. The deadline for our September edition is August 23rd. Please send your articles to cos5147rector@frontiernet.net.

Praying Together -- Clement of Rome, c. 200

O God, grant us unity.

Bless the oppressed, bless the oppressor.

Draw all people home to you.

Deliver the oppressed, pity the unnoticed, raise the fallen,

show yourself to the needy, heal the sick, bring back those who have strayed,
feed the hungry, lift up the weak, remove the prisoners' chains.

May every people come to know that you are God, that Jesus is your Son,
that we are your people.

Parish Leadership

Vestry

Dick Hileman
 Michael Iafrato
 Judy Peterson
 Sandra Rasmussen
 Carol Risch
 Brenda Roubal

Vestry clerk – Judy Peterson
 Senior Warden – Sharon Dalrymple
 Junior Warden – Dennis Irwin

Altar Guild	Lauren Novy
Budget & Finance	Pastor Susan
Choir	Vacant
Columbarium Board	Vicki Howell
Hospitality Hour	Electra Brooks
Librarian	Joey Nelson
Organist	Juanita Simpson
Treasurer	Sharon Dalrymple
Assistant Treasurer	Trish Shaffery
Webmaster	Joe Stone

Ministry Team Leaders

Children's & Youth Ministries	Michael & Melody Iafrato
Christian Formation & Community Outreach	Pastor Susan
Office	Angela (Angie) Parsley
Pastoral Care	Marty & Ron LaMar
Welcoming	Heather Steiner
Worship Leader Coordinator	Lynda Klingler

August Birthdays

3	Stan Gregory
6	Beverly Anderson
6	Laura Cook
8	Gloria McQuiston
12	DK Branom
13	Peter Dohrmann
13	Violet Hamann
24	Bryan Cook
27	Jerry Nansen
28	Alexandra Rucker
29	Electra Brooks
31	Maribeth Rychlik



August Anniversaries

5	Peter & Mary Jane Bish
5	Mike & Heather Steiner
6	John & Margery Clark
10	Frank & Nancy Armanno
25	Jerry & Nikki Nansen

Mid-Year Parish Meeting & Potluck Lunch

Join Susan⁺ after the 10am service on Sunday, August 14th for the mid-year parish meeting. I promise it will not be too long, but I am going to share some important information with the parish.

Don't miss it!

Then please stay with us for our potluck luncheon – the sign up sheet is in Polycarp Hall.

Church of Our Saviour
5147 Show Low Lake Road
Lakeside, Arizona 85929

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See it in color! The newsletter is available in COLOR on our website: www.thechurchofoursaviour.org

Bread of Life Mission

All donations for the bread of life mission in Holbrook are gratefully received. Please place new clothing items, shower sandals, paper products, personal hygiene items, non-perishable food items, office products, and all other gifts into the box in Polycarp Hall. We'll make sure that it is delivered to the Mission!

COS Community Chest

We are still accepting items for the COS community chest, so that we can be prepared to help families who lose everything or need to start over for whatever reason. Donations boxes for the COS community chest are also in Polycarp Hall. Thanks for generosity.

Book of Timothy

