

Covenant Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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A Christ centered covenant community;

Loving God loving,

Loving people,

Making disciples

July 2019

Pastor's Ponderings

There is an odd little word that occurs in various psalms: the word "Selah." You don't have to look any further than Psalm 3 to find it:

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;
many are saying to me, "There is no help for you in God."

Selah

But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory,
and the one who lifts up my head.

I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill.

Selah

I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.

I am not afraid of ten thousand's of people who have set themselves against me all around.

Rise up, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

Deliverance belongs to the Lord; may your blessing be on your people!

Selah

Scholars really don't know what this word *Selah* means. It appears a total of 71 times and the best guess is that it is some kind of liturgical or musical instruction on how to read (or sing) the verses. The Amplified Bible translates *Selah* with the words, "pause and think of that" which is probably about right.

Selah seems like a good word for summer, too. If we imagine that God has given us the seasons of the year to help mark and regulate the rhythms of our lives, then it seems likely that one of those seasons (or maybe just the month of July for Arizonans!) might hold an invitation to pause and think about just how good God is...!

In Christ,

Brant

FROM THE CLERK

Pastor Brant and the Worship Team have been adding to our Praise Team on Sunday mornings. Rob Shuster has been a great addition with his special custom-made drum box. What joyful sounds are springing forth in praise to our God!

Watch for our new lighted sign that has been installed in the office by Everett Greenwood and Richard Taylor. Our tech guy Derek Moore will be working to program it so we will join the Neon Park area with one that tells about Covenant!

Thank you to our cookie bakers who have supplied the goodies for Pastor Brant and other Elders to give as welcome gifts to new people buying houses in our community. Now that Pastor Brant is moving us forward, we are asking everyone to be sure to invite friends and neighbors to join us. Maybe give them a ride to worship and take them out for breakfast/lunch afterwards. We can't keep God's love and our welcoming and supportive congregation a secret!

From Christian Education

Exciting times at Covenant Presbyterian! We had our first study in "Determining the Truth." This introduction revealed several means of coming to the truth and demonstrated how all truth comes from God. The next study will be held July 14th where we will explore Archaeological Discoveries that support the Bible. Pizza and Soda will be available.

What kind of Beloved... by Tina Hudson

In The Song of Solomon 5:9 a question is asked: "What kind of Beloved is your Beloved". The Shulamite girl then goes on to explain how beautiful and wonderful her Beloved is - "outstanding among ten thousand...he is wholly desirable this is my Beloved my friend."

Jesus Christ is my Beloved. Without Him I am nothing. As I spend time with Him, He speaks to me through His Word. I often journal these thoughts and would like to share them with you when appropriate. Hopefully, you will see, along with me, what kind of Beloved He is...to me and to all whom He has called. "I am my Beloved and my Beloved is mine" (Song of Solomon 6:3).

Deacons Corner

Holy Communion will be served Sunday July 7th by way of intinction. We are here to serve our congregation so if anyone is in need of meals please let one of the deacons know.

Bible Men's Study

The men of the church meet at the church each Thursday at 11:00am. All men are welcome and you can bring a sack lunch if you like.

Neighborhood Help Team

The Neighborhood Help Team is continuing a service for those who could use a little bit of help. We would like to help you in replacing A/C filters or with some landscape trimming on the 4th Saturday of each month. Contact Nelson Moore in person or call him @ 520-483-0461.

July Calendar

- 4 Fourth of July
- 10 Prayer Night, 6:30pm
- 11 Worship Team, 1:00pm
- 13 Deacons meeting, 8:00am
- 18 Session meeting, 6:00pm
- 24 Prayer Night, 6:30pm

July Birthdays

- 4 Crystalle Kirkbride
- 9 MaryAnn Schmadeke
- 14 Mike Urton
- 17 Rev. Brant Baker
- 18 Carole Lenhert
- 18 Ellen Greenwood
- 20 Pauline Johnson
- 20 Suzette LeMieux
- 30 Gary Schmadeke

July Anniversaries

- 29 Henry & Ruth McLaughlin
- 31 Phil & Gladys Perry

