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Montlure, Presbytery meeting and more!

April 28, 2017



LAS NOTICIAS

Inviting Evangelism Reclaiming Gospel Belovedness

As I continue this Eastertide series on inviting evangelism, I want to review just a bit. Last week I quoted Dr. Jim Singleton from Gordon-Conwell Seminary - "creating a culture of evangelism in our congregations is hard work!" - and asked you to craft and share a brief statement that tells the Story to one other person, asking them to give you feedback on how you did. I encouraged you to make your telling of the Story a part of your own story: core and compelling, allowing your personal rhythms of faith and life into the conversation. What I did not do is share with you how I tell the Story.

It's about time I walk my talk.



For me, sharing the Story flows from the beautiful narratives of Scripture, and it is difficult to know where to begin. Do I tell the Story from the place of justice and jubilee (Luke 4)? Or perhaps I tell the Story from the starting place of God's joy (Luke 15)? Should I claim the blessedness of my brokenness (Matthew 5) or proclaim the comforts of prayer (Philippians 4)? From the depths of Job's despair to the heights of Jesus' cross, the options are endless. For me, however, my spirit is drawn to Matthew 28 and the Great Commission. In this passage, we are commanded to make disciples - not just converts but disciplined followers of the Lord Jesus - and told to teach each other to observe all that he has taught us to do - not just believe a certain way but live and move and have our being pointed in the direction of God's life in, with, among and through us. And the key to this commandment is the middle step: baptism.

It strikes many as odd that in the middle of the Great Commission are found these words: "baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." What does baptism have to do with making disciples, many wonder? In the same way Communion is the sacrament of community, so is baptism the sacrament of identity. In baptism we discover our identity, our true name: before the beginning of time God knew us, chose us and called us by our true name - Beloved of God - and we are held in the arms of God's everlasting love until after the end of all things.

The Great Commission, then, can be paraphrased like this: As you go into the world, help people learn that life with Jesus is a life of Belovedness. Teach them that their true name is "Beloved," and teach them all that it means to live into the fullness of their Belovedness. Teach that life with God in Jesus Christ is not about becoming morally good enough, nor is it about being sufficiently spiritual, but rather it is an invitation to join in the eternal dance of justice and joy with the Triune God. God, through Jesus, has done everything needed for this to happen; we need only say yes to God's invitation to join in the dance.

Here is your homework: choose three of your favorite Scriptures and craft one to three sentences about how these verses / passages connect your life with God's life. How might these Scriptures invite a personal story that invites another into the Story? Share what you craft with one other person - ask them to tell you honestly how you did.

What on earth are we doing for heaven's sake,
Brad Munroe

YAV REPORT

At the April 22, YAVs reported on their work for
Tucson Borderlands.

[Click here to read our first installment.](#)



CHURCH NEWS

KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN OF TUCSON

will hold a Service of Installation for their pastor, Rev. Sungmin Song on Saturday
April 29th at 1PM
All are invited to attend!

TRINITY

The Trinity Ringers Handbell Ensemble will be presenting a 25th anniversary concert
on
Sunday, May 7, at 1:00 p.m. with music that includes classics, hymns and the Beatles!
A freewill offering will be received to help cover the cost of refurbishing the bells.
Everyone is invited!

MOUNTAIN SHADOWS

On Sunday April 30th MSPC congregants will wear their Sunhats to service to
kickoff May Skin Cancer Prevention and Melanoma Awareness Month.
Good health habits are more likely to stick when we participate together. This year's
buzzword is REAPPLY (Sunscreen usually last only 90 minutes) . Everyone will also
receive a SPF lip balm to take home. Be sure to wear your sun hat and protective
clothing, apply Sunscreen and REAPPLY, stay out of the sun midday, and seek shade!
MSPC Health Ministry

SOUTHSIDE

welcomes the Gary Stroutsos Trio, Sunday April 30 at 7 pm.
Admission \$10-20 suggested donation- benefits the fellowship hall building program

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THANK YOU to all the
congregations who have
contributed to the 2017 Unified
Mission Budget. Companeros
en Mision, Frontera de Cristo,
the Korean Presbyterian Church
of Tucson, Middle Eastern

Presbyterian Fellowship. Montlure Camp, Presbyterian Campus
Ministry, Papago United Presbyterian Church, and the Tucson Borderlands Young Adult
Volunteers say THANK YOU!



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It's time to register your kids for
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Sr Hi 1 6/19-6/24
 Jr Hi 1 7/10- 7/15
 Jr Hi 2 6/12 - 6/17
 Juniors 6/25 -6/29
www.montlure.org

[Montlure also has jobs! Click here for more info](#)

PRAYERS

-for the ordination and installation of Rev. Song at Tucson Korean Presbyterian Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Click on each event for more info)

AUGUST

12- The Big Event- Valley, Paradise Valley

[Click to see Jobs](#)

JOBS/OPPORTUNITIES

[Frontera de Cristo Office Manager](#)

[Hymnals to give away](#)

Click the link above for a listing of jobs and other opportunities

HELPFUL LINKS

[Donate to MEPF](#)

Board of Pensions- [April](#)

[La Prensa- PW Newsletter](#)

[Weekly PC\(USA\) News](#)

[Brad Munroe](#), Presbytery Pastor

[Bob Schulz](#), Assoc/Stated Clerk

[Carolyn McBurney](#), Office Manager

[Harry Tuck](#), Finance Manager

[Beth Kath](#), Admin. Assoc.

Revs. Bob Seel and Lee Sankey, Presbytery Executive Emeritus

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