



LAS NOTICIAS

Weekly Missive

Purple Christians on the Border Moral Taste Buds

One of the more contentious elements in debates about the border center around questions related to national sovereignty and respect for the rule of law. Some cite Romans 13:1 as textual evidence that Christ followers should obey the laws of the land: "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established." Others note Jesus himself once overturned the money-changers' tables as an expression of a kind of civil (or uncivil) disobedience (Matthew 21:12).



Our Barmen Declaration in the Book of Confessions is rather direct about the primacy of Jesus' Lordship over all, even the State: "We reject the false doctrine that the Church could and should recognize as a source of its proclamation, beyond and besides this one Word of God, yet other events, powers, historic figures and truths as God's revelation," and, "We reject the false doctrine that, apart from this ministry, the Church could, and could have permission to, give itself or allow itself to be given special leaders [Führer] vested with ruling authority."

As Americans, we rejoice that our German brothers and sisters stood against Hitler and Nazism in the 1930's and confess these words apply to all Christians of every nation and generation. Yet the differences between the "law and order" folks and "civil disobedience" folks can seem both stark and startling. The differences seem stark because there seems so little gray area for common embrace and startling because the differences are often expressed within the same set of family members! How can we be so different?

One way to conceive of the genesis of our differences is through the work of Jonathon Haidt, a researcher in moral psychology, who wrote the book *The Righteous Mind*. Haidt noted that our moral choices are like our taste buds. My wife likes salty foods while I am a fan of sweets. My son can eat spicy foods that make me break out in a sweat. Haidt noted six "moral taste buds" that align along a continuum:

care versus harm;	loyalty versus betrayal;
liberty versus oppression;	authority versus subversion;
fairness versus cheating;	sanctity versus degradation.

All moral people prefer the first words listed rather than the second words if presented as binary choices. However, Haidt's research discovered differences among people's strengths of preference—the place one stands along a continuum. That is, people who identify as politically liberal tend to have much stronger and more intensely felt preferences for the care and liberty continua while people who identify as politically conservative tend to have strong but not overwhelming preferences across all six continua. I liken liberals to sprinters and conservatives to marathon runners and like to ask groups, "Who is the better runner—the Olympic gold medalist in the 100-meter dash or the gold medalist in the marathon?" The answer, of course, is, "Yes."

Returning to our conversation about national sovereignty, I wonder if conservatives' relatively stronger preference and liberals' relatively weaker preference along the "authority" continuum, lead to our different interpretations of Romans 13? When *must* we obey all civil laws? When *can* civil laws be transgressed? When *must* civil laws be transgressed to the point of rejection?

This is hard work but worth doing...together,
Brad Munroe

[Click here to read this and past missives](#)



SAVE THE DATE- Note revised location and dates

Native American Presbyterian Women's Conference

Join this gathering of Native American Presbyterian women as we come together to share and to give honor and praise to our Lord, Jesus Christ. Help us to embrace one another, our similarities, our differences, our concerns and joys. Let the Lord weave love into our fellowship together, that we may overflow with grace and allow truth to light up our lives anew!

[FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE](#)

STOP THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Dates: May 30 and June 19

Location: WEBINAR

Time: 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm Eastern Standard Time

Those interested can participate in one or more of the remaining webinars even if you did not participate in the first webinar. Each webinar session will be on a different theme.

Sign up to join the Self-Development of People webinar **The Least of These: Engaging in the Work of Preventing and Alleviating Poverty** as together we seek to stop the cycle of poverty.

To register, or for more information, [email nina.lewis@pcusa.org](mailto:nina.lewis@pcusa.org)



Montlure Summer staff and volunteer applications are open for 2019! Applications can be found at Montlure.CampBrainStaff.com

Register for Overnight and Traveling Day Camps at Montlure.CampBrainRegistration.com

Overnight Camps:

Senior High: June 2-7

Junior High: June 23-28

Juniors: July 7 -11

Day Camps:

Phoenix/Orangewood Presbyterian : June 3-8
Phx East Valley/Gilbert Presbyterian: June 10-14
Casa Grande/First Presbyterian: June 17-21
Green Valley/Valley Presbyterian: June 24-28
Tucson/Christ Presbyterian Church: June 24-28

More to announce, soon!

More details at: Montlure.org

CHURCH NEWS

NORTHMINSTER

is collecting unwanted men's ties. Help with a creative project by donating any ties that you have to offer. They may be brought to the Church Office during regular business hours through Sunday, June 9.

VALLEY

has been a mission Partner of Nogales Crossroads for many years. In 2018, support from the Mission Committee and the Noisy Offering totaled, \$8,530.97. Many friends of the congregation send support directly. Year-round, Valley Presbyterian members and friends make the 72-mile trip to the mission to prepare lunch for those on both sides of the border who truly could use a meal. Summer is always a time when food donations decrease, but somehow they find a way to feed the people who gather at their door. Additional volunteers are needed to join in the lunch preparation. Men to lift the heavy pots and pans full of the day's soup or casserole are also needed along with people to drive

the team to Nogales. You will be given directions or paired with someone who has been to the mission before. Send e-mail to janicepottr@aol.com if you can volunteer, even once, this summer. Call (520) 505-9944 if you have questions.

PENTECOST OFFERING

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency:



- [Young Adult Volunteers](#)
- [Ministries for Youth](#)
- [Children-at-Risk](#)
- [Pentecost Offering Financials](#)



Healthy Pastors Healthy Congregation Initiative

To help PCUSA pastors address the growing financial challenges to ministry, the Board of Pensions has developed Healthy Pastors, Healthy Congregations. This initiative, designed to help ministers and congregations work together for financial stability, provides education and financial resources. This program combines pastor and congregational leader education with grants up to \$10,000 to qualifying pastors.

[Click here for a brochure with more info](#)



A new way to support Triennium online!
There is a link on the de Cristo homepage WWW.PRESBYTERYDECRISTO.ORG along the right-hand edge. Click on the Link "Donate to Triennium 2019" or [CLICK HERE!](#)



Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Youth graduating from high school and college!

Job Opportunities- New listings

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 24

The Big Event/Presbytery- Mission del Sol

OCTOBER

4-6 PWS Fall Gathering- [Registration](#)

[THIS WEEK'S PCUSA NEWS](#)

[Board of Pensions](#)

[ACTIVE SHOOTER PLAN FOR CHURCHES](#)

Visit our Website

Presbytery de Cristo | 602-468-3820 | Fax- 602-468-3824 | pbbyoffice@gmail.com
www.presbyterydecristo