



LAS NOTICIAS

Weekly Missive

Purple Christians on the Border God Alone Is Lord

Memorial Day weekend Laura and I were in San Diego visiting friends. To commemorate Memorial Day, the last hymn in the worship service was *My Country 'Tis of Thee*. The lyrics to the fourth stanza read:

Our parents' God to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright, With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might, Great God our King!

This hymn is an ode to our nation's heritage of religious liberty and a prayer for God's protection in our exercise of the religious liberty we claim belongs to us as inalienable right of our humanity. Amen!



I am cognizant of the multiple claims on the practice of religious liberty in our country today: the right to protest (in either direction), to march (or post on social media), to bake a cake (or not). One such practice of religious liberty was performed by Dr. Scott Warren, whose faith led him to place water in the desert in order to save the lives of those crossing from Mexico to the United States. (*Here is a link to an article about this case: [The Prosecution of No More Deaths](#).*) The place where Dr. Warren placed the water is Federal land, making his act a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

Some of you reading this do not agree with Dr. Warren's actions and would never knowingly transgress the laws. I respect your perspective. I understand the argument for national sovereignty requiring secure borders is compelling. I also understand, as do you, that our Lord Jesus commanded us to live lives of compassion: "For I was thirsty and you gave me drink." Matthew 25 hardly seems like a suggestion. Given the stark, clear, and specific wording of Matthew 25, I respect Dr. Warren's choice to place water in the desert, even on Federal land. I believe humanitarian aid is never a crime and his actions constitute the sacred practice of religious liberty about which we sang at my friend's church last Sunday.

You may or may not agree with my perspective. That's okay! I am comfortable living in the dissonance of our 21st century world, which includes living in a "purple denomination" where opinions run the gamut from right to left. I am quite proud of our Presbyterian heritage that says, "God alone is Lord of the conscience, and faithful, intelligent Christians will sometimes disagree. Therefore, mutual forbearance in all things is to be shared for the common good." For the common good, I am willing to respect you may disagree with me. However, for the common good, I ask that you respect Dr. Scott Warren and his right to pursue his faith in a manner explicitly taught by Jesus.

Dr. Warren goes to trial next week; it begins on **Wednesday, June 5**. Because I believe his actions constitute both an exhibition of Jesus' Way and an act of religious liberty, I will join colleagues from many Christian churches and other people of faith in a prayer vigil for Dr. Warren. If you are in Phoenix, I will meet folks to carpool from the **Starbucks in Tempe on the corner of Warner and Emerald at 6:00 a.m.** (just west of the I-10 and across from Panera Bread). If you are in Tucson, I will gather with you at **8:00 a.m. in the plaza in front of the Tucson courthouse.**

I would like to close this missive with a prayer: Our parents' God to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing. Long may our land be bright, With freedom's holy light, Protect us by Thy might, Great God our King! And God's people say...?

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



Suspicious emails

Both Bob Schulz and Brad Munroe were recently hacked and emails were sent out in their names. The language in the suspicious emails is clearly not Brad or Bob and the emails have referred to Brad as Rev. and Fr. and Bob as Rev.. They may have begun with "Many Blessing (your name)". Should anyone receive one of these suspicious emails from someone at the Presbytery they should not open it and absolutely not reply. They should also let us know if they receive one and feel free to check with us to confirm the legitimacy of an email.

STOP THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Dates: 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

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](#)





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](#)

CHURCH NEWS

NORTHMINSTER

presents Summer Movie Nights - 5:30-8:00pm, Grundstrom Room.

Free to attend. Popcorn provided. Nursery care (4 and younger) available upon request; please let us know by Sunday prior to showing date, (520) 327-7121.

- I Can Only Imagine - Wednesday, June 5. True story of hope and forgiveness. Rated PG. View trailer [here](#).
- The Grapes of Wrath - Wednesday, June 12. Classic story that has remarkably current themes. Not rated but recommended for those 12 and older. View trailer [here](#).

VALLEY

What the Heck Do I Believe????? Mondays, June 3, 10, and 17 at 1:00 p.m. in the Recreation Building at La Posada - and - Mondays, July 8, 15, and 22 at 1:00 p.m. in Classroom 5 at the church. The Bible says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." This summer, Linda Freeman and Pastor Diane will lead classes on how you can find words to describe what you believe. The class will be offered twice in two separate locations- Contact the church for more information.

Board of Pensions luncheon



Thursday, July 18th
Northminster Presbyterian Church
2450 E Fort Lowell, Tucson 85719
11:45 – 1:30

Join Clayton Cobb, your Regional Church Consultant with the Board of Pensions for this gathering for **Pastors, Church Administrators, Personnel and Finance Leaders and Benefits**

Decision Makers.

Anticipating the opening of the Employer Agreement Season in July, the Agenda will include:

- Review of the theological values that shape our benefit offerings
- Review of the Employer Agreement Process to begin mid-July and how to tailor benefits per employee classification
- Specific information about optional benefits: Flexible Spending Accounts, Group Term Life Insurance, Vision Eyeware, Dental – what to pay for, what to make available
- Share feedback and questions with your Board of Pensions staff
- Meet other benefit decision makers

In addition to a better understanding of the benefits plan, all will take away suggestions and solutions for churches and employers of all sizes – small and large – to be the best employers they can be. This event is open to all who wish to attend, please forward this notice to all who might be interested. To RSVP (For lunch) Contact Clayton Cobb at ccobb@pensions.org, 267-844-2411

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:

- Rev. Bill Voigt, recovering from surgery
 - Campers and staff at Montlure
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[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](#)

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