



La Habra United Methodist Church

# Vista

*October 2017*

I've been thinking a bit about death. It came to mind while preparing to preach a passage which has intrigued me but which I had never preached on. The passage is from Paul's letter to the Philippians. He wrote the letter while incarcerated, probably in Rome, though no one knows for certain. It feels to me like the thoughts of a person closer to the end of his life than the beginning.

He wants to come visit these folks but is not sure, for a variety of reasons, whether he will. For one thing he is not free to come and go. It's his other reasoning for why he may not get to them that interests me.

In the early part of the letter he is having this conversation about mortality: "I hope with daring courage that Christ's greatness will be seen in my body, now as always, whether I live or die... living serves Christ, but dying is better." He goes on to suggest that there is some personal choice that he has in this question of whether he will live or die. (My preaching passage was Philippians 1:20-30, but you could read the whole letter.)

I have been with many people who know that they are going to die. There is no additional treatment available to them that will "cure" this disease. They decide to be treated in a way which will keep them comfortable, but which no longer focuses on a "cure". We know this as hospice care and it is a good option in a range of situations.

We all know that we will die of something at some time. We also suspect that we might get sick, sometimes critically so, but that we could recover. Maybe we've even had times like Paul's when we think about this out loud. Conversations with our loved-ones about our medical treatment under a variety of circumstances is hugely important.

A few years ago I was talking with a woman who was approaching one of those birthdays which brought to her mind that most of her life was behind her. She wasn't depressed about this, just realistic. Knowing that she was a person in generally good health, and having known her mother who lived to be 89, I said: "Your health is better at this stage than your mother's was... you could easily live to be 100." She looked at me and said, "What if I don't want to live that long."

We had a good conversation about life and death, and about how we normally don't know how many days we have to be alive. We talked about what worries us. We talked about what happens as our health declines. It is a good thing to have these conversations.

In the end Paul affirms a number of things: He wants to continue living. He wants to serve the resurrected Christ. He wants all of us to live lives which reflect the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. That is a good way to live all of the days of our lives.

Blessings,

*Pastor Doug*

## *Out to Lunch Bunch*

*Out-to-Lunch Bunch meets every third Wednesday of the month. We get together for a nice meal and fellowship. Come join us for this month's event on Wednesday, October 18, at 1:00pm. We will be meeting at "Arthur's" at Central & Harbor Hope to see ya there!*

happy  
birthday

## *October Birthdays!!*

<i>Myron Bantrell</i>	<i>8<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Kyle Pfenning</i>	<i>9<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Lidia Walker</i>	<i>20<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Pat Buchino</i>	<i>22<sup>nd</sup></i>
<i>Nick Buchino</i>	<i>28<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Bob Uldricks</i>	<i>29<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Ken Bell</i>	<i>31<sup>st</sup></i>



*....if we have forgotten your birthday,  
Please contact the church office.....*



## **Preschool News.....**

**Happy Fall everyone!!!**  
Both the kids and the staff are off to a great start for the new school year.

Our preschool's Halloween Parade this year will be on Tuesday, October 31st at 9:30am!!!  
Hope to see ya'll there

## Save the Date!

Today is a  
Good Day  
For a  
Good Day

Women's Retreat  
Saturday, October 21  
9:00 a. m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$25

Guest Speaker:  
Gaylen Griffenhagen Roe

## *Our Next Art & Craft Fair will be..*

Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am – 3:30pm  
There will be many hand-made  
crafts of all different kinds

All are welcome..hope to see ya  
there!!



If you would like to purchase  
an updated Directory for  
2017, please contact

Linda Deniz or the office.  
They are \$5 each!!  
Thank You

## *ALL ABLE BODIED....*

*Come and help Patience Circle  
clean the sticky chairs in the  
Fellowship Hall....*

*Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> @ 11am*

*Bring rags & cleaning solutions  
if you have them  
Snacks provided!  
Any questions? Call Allie  
(562)947-3975*



## **RESPONDING TO HURRICANE RELIEF**

*Our United Methodist Church has been helping in many ways with the people who are impacted by these crisis. Please keep all of these people in your prayers. Also pray for the many who are in the region to rescue, care for, and to help recover and rebuild.*

*Thanks to all of you who graciously donated for these crisis.  
Our total collected was approx..\$2, 140.00.*

# October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45am-Faithlinks 10:30am-Worship	2	3 10:30am-Memoir Cl	4	5 10am-Store 2:30pm-Exercise 4pm-TOPS 6:30pm-Choir	6	7 10am-Store
8 8:45am-Faithlinks 10:30am-Worship	9 COLOMBUS DAY!  Betty Lane Service 11:00am	10 11:00am-Patience Ci - Fellowship Hall- 11:30-Hope Circle 5:00pm-Leadership	11	12 10am-Store 2:30pm-Exercise 4pm-TOPS 6:30pm-Choir	13	14 10am-Store 10am-Quilt Guild
15 8:45am-Faithlinks 10:30am-Worship 4:00pm-Concert in the Church	16  6:00pm-Quilt Guild	17 10:30am-Memoir Cl  7:00pm-Trustees	18  1:00pm-Out to Lunch Bunch! @ "Arthur's"	19 10am-Store 2:30pm-Exercise 4pm-TOPS 6:30pm-Choir	20	21 Women's Retreat 9am—3pm
22 8:45am-Faithlinks 10:30am-Worship	23	24  5pm-P.E.P. @ Clark Park!	25	26 10am-Store 2:30pm-Exercise 4pm-TOPS 6:30pm-Choir	27	28 10am-Store
29 8:45am-Faithlinks 10:30am-Worship Carelinks	30	31				