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SPRING | 2014

The PCM *connection*



**PRESBYTERIAN
CAMPUS MINISTRY**
715 N PARK AVE.
TUCSON, AZ 85719

PCM Board Holds Visioning Retreat

By Rev. Ellen R. Dawson

The Presbyterian Campus Ministry Board met on Saturday, February 1st at Valley Presbyterian Church for a Visioning Retreat. We had decided to meet so we could pray together, discuss some questions, and set some goals for the future of the ministry.

First, the PCM Board reviewed the mission statement of PCM. The mission statement is:

PCM is a welcoming, relevant, and biblically-grounded community where college students in Tucson can: Be... themselves, beloved children of God; Belong... to a community following Jesus Christ; Become... who the Holy Spirit is calling them to be.

We asked ourselves how we believe PCM is expressing this mission statement both on the campuses and in the Tucson community. We concluded that we are remaining true to this mission statement, though we do want to be more relevant, not only to the University, but also to the future of the denomination and the Church.

Our second focus was how PCM is called to be a blessing and make

an impact on campus. We agreed that we want to promote more prayer on and for the campuses; develop more relationships with the staff and faculty, especially those who are members of our Presbyterian churches; and make it a priority to talk with the organizations on campus (such as residence life and the student government) to find out what their needs are.

Next, the board talked about student leadership and how PCM equips students to be involved in the ministry. We all talked about how PCM has grown in this area, as we now have students on the board and have found the current Peer Leader model to be successful. We have set a goal to get 100% of the students involved and encourage them to have more ownership in the ministry.

What are the current and future financial needs of Presbyterian Campus Ministry? This was a big question to answer, and the board was very open and honest about how our goals do or do not match the vision and mission of PCM. Our Board realized that we all need to learn more about fundraising and

how we can better communicate the needs of our ministry. Our hope is to not only increase alumni pledging, but also to more consistently educate our churches and community about the financial needs of PCM.

The last question proposed to the board was based on the Scripture from Ephesians 3:20-21. We asked each other, "What do you imagine or ask for PCM? What do you hope God can do with that vision?" Our Board is proud that PCM is committed to doing "big things" for the Kingdom of God! This includes developing PCM as a voice in the community, being seen as a difference-making ministry on campus, and being a group that prays with and for each other.

The PCM Board asks for your continued prayers, especially as we begin implementing some of these goals. We invite you, as a supporter, to consider how you can be a part of the amazing and vital ministry of PCM! ■

Spring Break Mission Trip: Pura Vida in Costa Rica

Over Spring Break, a team of nine students traveled with Pastor Ellen and PCM Board Member Freeman Taber to Costa Rica. After months of fundraising, planning meetings, preparation and prayer, the team was ready to go and arrived safely in San José on March 15th.

Rev. Stacey Steck, PC(USA) mission partner and Pastor at Escazú Christian Fellowship, met them at the airport and accompanied them to the offices of IEPC — Iglesia Evangélica Presbiteriana Costarricense, The Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Costa Rica. They were greeted by members of IEPC's leadership board and fed their first *gallo pinto*, a traditional Costa Rican breakfast of beans and rice.

When they arrived at the church, *Hija de Sión*, they were immediately greeted with smiles, hugs, and fresh papaya juice. Pastora Alejandra Quiros welcomed them first by showing them the church building, a simply constructed structure complete with wooden benches, flowing fabric, and a tin roof. This church was planted only a few years ago, and it began with worship services in the front porch area of Pastora Alejandra's home. Hanging on one wall were the architectural plans for this church's future—they have visions of a glass-enclosed temple that will allow the beauty of the countryside to be seen from inside the church! Right behind the church was the bathroom, a simple outdoor kitchen, and an open patio where the team enjoyed all of their meals.

Their week consisted of assisting in some of the construction work at the church, including putting in a roadside drainage system, laying cement, and digging a 4 ½ foot foundation ditch. However, the team quickly saw—and the church members made it very clear—that the “work” wasn't the first priority. It was through the dynamic worship and meaningful interactions that they saw Christ in their midst.

Here, the team shares some highlights. They also invite you to learn more about their mission experience at PCM on Tuesday, April 8th. 



“I loved working and being with an amazing community while seeing how they experience God.”

Risa Lafinka

“This was a mission where we not only built a church, we built lasting relationships.”

Freeman Taber

“The highlight of this trip was integrating into the church over there and coming home knowing I have a wonderful family in Costa Rica to return to.”

Patricia Wilson-Everett

“To me, this trip meant building relationships across borders, exploring the gifts we all bring to the world, and finding the Holy Spirit alive and present in the body of Christ.”

Danielle Oxnam

“I got baptized in a Costa Rican river and made some of the closest and best relationships within our group...and with the Ticos.”

Daniel Tannen

“The highlight for me was jumping into a waterfall with Valerie!”

Libby Frino

“I was inspired by the community of faith, and by the way they cared for one another. This church truly is an example of Christ's body in the world.”

Rev. Ellen Dawson

“The highlight of this trip was sitting outside at night talking to some of the girls of the community.”

Valerie Schlegel

“Surprise, surprise, my highlight was the food. Yes, the food was incredibly delicious, fresh, and exotic. But more importantly it was made with love. It was that love and commitment to caring for us that makes the food my highlight of the trip.”

Katie Herrmann

“I learned specifically about The Lord's Supper, and that when we take the Sacrament, we are saying we will continue to wait for the return of Christ.”

Julie Daffron

“Being involved with this mission trip allowed me to find Jesus and understand how powerful he is -- through him all things are possible.”

Michelle Gutierrez

To learn more about the PCM Spring Break Mission Trip, come hear from the students at PCM on Tuesday, April 8th from 6:00-8:00pm at the Campus Christian Center!

Congratulations to...

**Margo Tangeman
and Aaron Edris**
Married October 19, 2013
In Mesa, AZ
Currently living in Tempe, AZ



**Emmy Tangeman
and Jordan Edris**
Married December 22, 2013
In Chandler, AZ
Currently living in Charleston, SC



Pastor Ellen was honored to officiate both weddings for these PCM Alums!

Focus on: Worship

One of the roles of the PCM Worship Peer leader is to assist Pastor Ellen in making a complete worship plan for the semester. This means plotting out the Scriptures and themes, determining what weeks they will hold communion, and coming up with creative uses of the worship space.

This semester, PCM has already done a three week series on the Book of Joel and a study of some of the "I Am" statements of Jesus. Mission Night is planned for April 8th, which will feature the Spring Break Mission Trip team sharing about their time in Costa Rica. The month of April will include a four week examination of what Scripture teaches us about Social Issues such as poverty and violence.

Please continue praying for the students to grow as members of the PCM Community in and through their weekly worship together. ■



Our Peer Leader for Worship is Courtney Lauver. She is a Sophomore and a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Gaslight Theatre Fundraiser

Purchase tickets now for the Gaslight Theatre Fundraiser on **Sunday, April 13th at 6:00 pm**. PCM has bought out the entire theatre for Gaslight's Spring show **Beach Blanket Bee Bop!** Tickets are \$30.00 each, and you can purchase your ticket now at your church office or by going online to the PCM website: www.pcmarizona.org and click on "Support." Don't miss the chance to enjoy some laughs and fellowship with a theatre full of PCM supporters! Bring your friends...bring your family...and enjoy this great evening at Tucson's one and only Gaslight Theatre! Your presence supports our ministry!

Questions? Contact your church office or PCM at 623-7575.

\$10.00 of your purchase is tax deductible!



PCM Welcomes New Board Members

Freeman Taber

Freeman joined the PCM Board in December. He is serving as Treasurer and also co-led the Mission Trip to Costa Rica. He is a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Emily Hamrick

Emily is a PCM Alum and former Peer Leader. She is a member of Second Mile Faith Community and is a full-time teacher in Tucson. Emily is serving as our Chair of Publicity & Outreach.

Barbara Wright

Barbara is a member of Christ Presbyterian Church in Tucson. She joined the Board in January and has previously served a term on the PCM Board.

If you would like to give your time and talents to the PCM Board, please contact June Kanaski at jkanaski@yahoo.com.

PCM Student Intern Gets Published Online

Congratulations to our PCM Intern Valerie Schlegel for getting published in the online blog for ASOR, which communicates news about archaeology and the history of the eastern Mediterranean.

Her article, entitled "Breaking In: Women's Representation in Archaeology" was written as part of her research with Professor Beth Alpert Nakhai. She hopes to continue this research about female leadership in the field of archaeology and actual excavation sites. This research is garnering both national and international attention!

To read her work, go to www.asorblog.org and scroll down to find Valerie's article.

Valerie is a junior at the UofA majoring in Judaic Studies and Religious Studies. ■





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You are invited to Presbyterian Campus Ministry's

HIGH SCHOOL INVITE NIGHT

Tuesday, April 22nd
6:00-8:00pm

**Come join PCM for Dinner and Worship and see
what our college ministry has to offer you!**

**All youth and Youth leaders
welcome to attend!**



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The PCM Connection is a quarterly newsletter of Arizona Presbyterian Campus Ministry, an unincorporated mission program of Presbytery de Cristo and the ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

If you have any input or responses regarding this newsletter send them to: pcm Arizona@gmail.com.

This issue was edited by Ellen Dawson, Valerie Schlegel and Emily Hamrick.

Electronic version available at www.pcm Arizona.org.