

Second Union Church Remembers . . .



David and Laurie Yost 2012-2015

David and Laurie Yost hail from Pinetop, Arizona, a small town four hours northwest of Phoenix. David, who among other titles had been the chief physician at an Indian Reservation near Pinetop, was brought to Puerto Rico by the CDC in 2012. He served as the Director of the Tuberculosis Containment Unit (this title may not be precise) working closely with the PR Health Department. Laurie had been teaching kindergarten prior to coming to PR.

Coming from a service-oriented Menonite background (they met at Blufton College, a Menonite institution in Northern Ohio), they immediately became active at Second Union. They faithfully attended Sunday worship, Laurie served on the Women's Ministries team, they were active in the 2UC Couples' Ministry and they also helped spearhead a Condado-based Bible study. Laurie was a faithful member of the Tuesday Ladies Bible Study and the Spanish Conversation group. They were so generous in every way - always signing up to help and contribute with every program.

Laurie played a crucial role in founding the Backpack Program at Second Union Church, as she and her home-based Presbyterian Church in Pinetop provided the initial funding source for this program. She was a faithful volunteer with the Backpack Program providing weekly backpacks of food to children from a nearby public school deemed 'food insecure'. In addition to packing and distributing backpacks with dedication, she set up the prayer pal birthday gift program for the backpack students. She also helped establish and volunteered at the weekly tutoring program for the students.

We are grateful to David and Laurie for all their contributions to Second Union Church in so many ways, and when they left Puerto Rico to return to Pinetop in 2014, it was a major loss. More than anything Pastor Bob and Christie will miss their enthusiasm, their energy, their willingness to serve, and above all . . . their friendship.

From Matt and Laurie Foster:

David and Laurie Yost have not only meant a great deal to the Second Union Church family, but they have also meant so much personally to my husband, two children and me. While David and Laurie lived here in Puerto Rico and even since they have moved back to Arizona, they have always provided me with a perfect example of what it means to live a life like Jesus. They are selfless, loving, caring, generous, kind, fair and gracious. They are

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ALWAYS willing to help in any way. They put others before themselves. They look on the bright side of life. They are happy and funny people who have a way of bringing so much joy to others. Even when the going gets tough, these two face adversity with a prayerful heart and a calm nature. They truly trust in the Lord in all things.

I recently read in Kay Arthur's book, *Lord, I Want to Know You*, that our lives are "to be lived in such a way as to reflect Him, to show the world the character of God--His love, His peace, His mercy, His gentleness." I immediately thought of David and Laurie when I read this passage.

So I would like to take this opportunity to honor David and Laurie for the wonderful Godly example they have provided to all of us...especially to me. My life has been forever changed by knowing them because I have seen firsthand the way they lead their lives and have been blessed by their unending love, advice, friendship and support. I am truly a better person because of them.

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