

FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN TOUCH

Fountain Hills, AZ

November 2022



FHPC VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS

Our Vision: To be missionaries bearing the Gospel into the world.

Calls us to...

Our Mission: Growing as devoted followers of Jesus Christ by making disciples for our Lord and Savior.

Rev. August 25, 2020

John Scaggs, Elder Communications

The positivity of thanksgiving and mutual submission



One of many amazing aspects of The Bible is the proliferation of wholesome words. They promote health or the well-being of body, mind or

spirit and are favorable to morals, religion or prosperity.

"See thou have the example of the wholesome words which thou heardest of me, in faith and love which is in Jesus Christ." (Second Timothy 1:13, MSTC version)

One such wholesome word – *thanksgiving* – rises to the forefront for many Christians with the arrival of November. (Side note: Americans and Brazilians share a commonality by traditionally celebrating Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday of the month).

Thanksgiving toward God for his many blessings and perfect love along with a general attitude of thanksgiving through life's trials and blessings help to distinguish Christians.

In Psalms 100:4 we are taught to *"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."*

The Bible also mentions unwholesome words (or talk). Ephesians 4:29 states *"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."*

Gossip is cited as a prime example of an unwholesome word.

But what happens when a Biblical command and its related phrase – considered to be wholesome for centuries – becomes increasingly viewed as unwholesome in modern day religion?

The Bible states a lot about *submit* or *submission*. It's a theme and a command that appears with regularity. Christians are told to submit to one another out of reverence for Christ (Ephesians 5:21). Wives are instructed to submit to their own husbands (Ephesians 5:22). Church members are directed to submit to their pastors (Hebrews 13:17).

Submission makes many Christians uncomfortable. Somewhere along the way, countless people have come to

accept a false notion about what submission means in The Bible. Some link it with oppression while others misunderstand the true meaning of *submission* or confuse it with *subjection*.

Submission is the act of someone who acknowledges legitimate authority and willingly arranges himself or herself accordingly. Submission is voluntary, never forced. It is responding to the divine order of things first in the heart and then in the life.

Subjection is the act of a ruler to force obedience. The ruler uses fear or intimidation to break the will of the people who eventually surrender to him. They are now in subjection to this ruler.

The related phrase, *mutual submission*, has led to further discord among Christians in recent years, including within FHPC's congregation. Yet mutual submission is how people discern God's will in their community.

Continued on page 6...



OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Bill Good
Pastor/Head of Staff

Marta Ludwig
Administrative Coordinator

Debbie Fisher
Director of Music Ministry

Dorothy Parris
Pianist

Frank DeGroot
Custodian

Contact Church Staff
<https://www.fhpresbyterian.info/our-staff/>

CHURCH TREASURER
Linda Lull

For More Details
<https://www.fhpresbyterian.info/elders-deacons/>

CHURCH SESSION
Clerk of Session
Jack Reynolds

Class of 2022
Maria Berry— Finance
Interim Hospitality
John Scaggs-Communications

Class of 2023
Kathy Cole— Communications
Terri Schmidt—Missions
Interim Christian Formation

Class of 2024
Ilene Berg—Worship & Music
Larry Cole— Bldg. & Grounds
Arlene Stewart— Administration
Stewardship

Contact Session
www.fhpresbyterian.info/session-mailbox

BOARD OF DEACONS
Moderator: Phil Katz

Class of 2022
Leslie Hermansen
Matt Jefferson
Dawn Lau
Jim Stewart

Class of 2023
Linda Kester
Mary Lee Lehrich
Tyson Robinson
Bob & Susan Titus

Class of 2024
Phil Katz
Jean Linzer

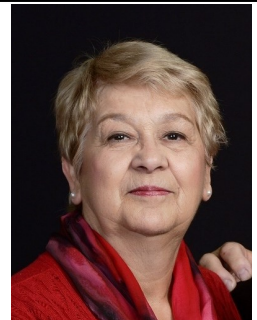
Focus on Finance

Sept Income	\$ 20,281	Budget	\$ 31,654
Sept Expenses	\$ 30,166	Budget	\$ 33,565
Yr to date Income	\$ 264,506	YTD Budget	\$ 286,886
Yr to date Expense	\$ 289,274	YTD Budget	\$ 298,408

September continued to keep our finances in a deficit position. We still managed to keep our expenses below budget, but income needs to increase in order to continue running the daily operations and missions of the church. Your continued commitments to FHPC is very much needed and appreciated. We have three months to catch up.

Welcome back Winter Residents.

Respectfully,
Linda Lull, Treasurer



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Upcoming Events

INVITATION

“FAMILY FEAST OF THANKS”

Thanksgiving Dinner

Saturday, November 12, 2022 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Center

On November 12th at 5:00 PM FHPC will be sponsoring a Thanksgiving dinner for the entire Congregation. You will be able to sign up to attend the dinner on October 23rd, October 30th and November 6th. All food items: turkey, gravy, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans and bacon and, of course, pies will be under strict CDC guidelines provided by the Church Kitchen under Chef Arlene. Since there is no budget for this kind of activity your monetary donations are appreciated. Seating capacity is 15 tables with 6 chairs each, ergo 90 in total. Please reserve your seat ASAP.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Sending the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

“Go therefore and make disciples of all Nations.” Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts not only delight the hearts of children in more than 100 countries, but delivers the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Again, this year, FHPC will participate in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Our focus will look a little different this year. We hope to be able to reach many more children with a shoebox gift and the good news of Jesus Christ. The way to do this is for you to contribute \$25 per shoebox. Your \$25 will pay for the toys and other supplies in the shoebox and includes postage. In other words, we get more “Bang for our Buck”. Samaritan's purse will buy the toys and supplies wholesale and fill the shoeboxes and deliver them around the world. You can purchase as many shoeboxes as you wish. You can drop off your cash or check starting October 30th in the Shoebox Christmas Tree that will be displayed. You can also donate online through E-Giving or bring your check to church made out to FHPC with Christmas Shoebox on the memo.

Of course, for those who love to shop and wish to fill their own shoebox, we will have them available for you. Simply buy your “wow” item, toy, personal care items, and school supplies, fill the shoebox, and bring back to church with a donation of \$10 for postage included in the box. **Shoeboxes must be brought back to the church by November 13th.**

Most important, remember to pray for the child who will receive a shoebox.

FHPC Mission Team



FOUNTAIN HILLS COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Tuesday, November 22, 2022 7 pm

Christ's Church of Fountain Hills
15555 E Bainbridge Ave
Pastor Bill Good will give the sermon!

Mission Ministry

Greetings from the Mission Committee! I am here to try and convince you to join our committee by letting you know all the things we are doing. Christ has asked us as Christians to help those in need, and we here in Missions try our hardest to help in any small way we can. Here are some of our new and on going projects.

Hurricane Ian

This project is completed by the time this publication appears. But our Mission Committee has designated \$250.00 to this cause.



We also put out a plea to the congregation. At the end of our time, October 30th, we have raised extra from the congregation. We will let you know the total in next month's

newsletter. Thank you for your generosity for those in desperate need. I am sure you have read of all the devastation in Florida, it will take years to recover. Be sure to keep them all in your prayers.

Extended Hands Food Bank

We once again are collecting Frozen Turkeys and Thanksgiving extras for Extended Hands Food Bank. Please make sure the other things are non perishable, such as canned vegetables or fruit, boxed stuffing, canned gravy, or if you prefer you can donate Grocery Store Gift Cards. The last Sunday to donate for this project is November 20th. These things can be placed in the food basket by the front doors on Sunday or taken to the office during the week.



Christmas Shoe Box Project

Thank you to Susan Titus and Mary Holtan for the wonderful display for Missions at the **All Church Event**. This project has been an annual project for us for many years and with the costs going up each year, a lot of peo-



ple prefer to just donate money. If you choose to donate, the cost is \$25.00 and Samaritans Purse will fill the box for you. If you choose to fill yourself, you fill the box, and then add an extra \$10.00 for shipping. We need to have these boxes back by November 12. Again we Thank all of those who so generously help with this project.

Veterans

Just a reminder if you are writing notes to our family servicemen and women, they need to be into Donna Sims by the middle of November. This is in case some need to be sent over Seas. The donations of new T-Shirts, socks and Sweatshirts also need to be in by that time. We like to keep those who serve us in our thoughts and prayers especially during the Holidays. Again I want to say a big Thank You to all who support this project.

These are a few of our projects going on now. I will keep you updated on some of our projects to come. But right now I wish to say a **Big Thank You** to the Mission Committee for all of their work on these projects as well as you the congregation for your support. Proverbs 19:17 says **"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done."**

If any of these projects interest you or you have some of your own, feel free to attend our meetings. We have changed our meeting dates to the first Monday of the month at 4:00 pm. We generally meet in the office Conference room, unless we have to many people. Then we will meet in the Fireside room. Please feel free to join us and find out what is going on.



Mission Elder
Terri Schmidt

Deck the halls...

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DECORATING – CHILI DUMP

Saturday - November 26 – 9 a.m.



Everyone is invited! No experience necessary!
Inside and Outside Helpers Needed

Support Our Troops



October is the month when any address and/or rank changes for any of our Church connected military must be made. If you are willing to write any holiday notes, please ask me and I will give you the envelope that has the needed items in it. All you have to do is ask

me for one. I want to thank all of those who have already taken one of the envelopes to write their notes on. The deadline for getting the notes back to me is by the end of the first week in November. The cards will be mailed by mid-November for our deployed members and for stateside is by the second week of December. Believe me when I say these hand written notes are very much appreciated by those who receive them. I cannot express enough how important that these little notes are for our Military members.

With the change in temperature, it is also the time of year where we switch to collecting cold weather items of clothing, etc. Any items that are gently used will be sent to our local veterans and if you are willing to send any clothing items to our active-duty Troops overseas, the items need to be new. Items that we send are dark colored long-sleeved t-shirts, long sleeved sweatshirts, sweatpants, socks, gloves, and toiletries are extremely needed. I have even thrown in some much appreciated snack items too. All items to be sent overseas will need to be in my hands by the 3rd Sunday in November for shipping in time for Christmas.

The Mission Committee is always happy to see many members placing donations in our collection box located in the Narthex and in the Church office (gently used clothing, bedding, socks, t-shirts, jackets, shirts and toiletries). Thank you again for remembering our Veterans and our Troops.

Donna Sims,
Mission Committee



Worship by Giving...Time, Talents & Treasure



GIVING IS SAFE AND EASY WITH FHPC eGiving

Sign up today!

FHPC has established a way for church members and supporters to express their generosity electronically! An online donation platform, GivePlus, is now on our website. Look for the GIVING menu at the top right on our **Home** page.



STROLL IN THE GLOW Lighting of the Avenue Community Event Saturday, December 3, 2022 4pm to 7pm

Seeking live nativity characters:

Mary & Joseph
Shepherds
Three Wise Men
Angels
Choir

Enjoy being a part of the Big God Story in a fun creative way. We have a place for you in our live nativity! There will be a petting zoo. Contact the church office 480-837-1763 for more information!

THE POSITIVITY OF THANKSGIVING ...

Continued from page 1...

It shows that Christians truly believe that God is in charge of their community, and His authority is one of empowerment and love for the members of Christ's Body.

Mutual submission empowers others to step into their God-given identity and authority as children of God. Many Christians believe this is how God leads us. He doesn't overpower us.

Jesus' night in the Garden of Gethsemane vividly demonstrates the power of mutual submission.

Even with an agonizing death looming, Jesus refuses to avoid the cross. Christ did not exercise His own will but obeys His Father.

Consider that during His earthly ministry, Jesus was prepared to wash the feet of his disciples, a duty normally performed by servants or slaves. Jesus commanded us to have the same attitude as outlined in John 13:15-17:

¹⁵ *For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.*

¹⁶ *Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither He that is sent greater than He that sent him.*

¹⁷ *If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.*

Jesus demonstrated servant leadership. While He was confident of His mission and authority, Jesus submitted to his Father. He dispelled the individualistic, me-first mentality through His words in Mark 10:45: *"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

FHPC revised its vision and mission statements in August 2020. The church's vision - To be missionaries bearing the Gospel into the world -- suggests the need to extend mutual submission into the community and beyond. As Christians reach out to people, they are submitting to those people in Jesus' name. This is how we saw Jesus engaging in His mission and teaching His disciples to do so. We enter God's mission, in submission to others, because that's how Jesus did it.

Thanksgiving is a response to God's goodness and love. Mutual submission is the result of Christians honoring others above themselves, as Christ did. To show reverence toward God and emulate a perfect role model (Christ) seems wholesome.

-John Scaggs, Elder

Olive Oil Could Add Years To Your Life

A Mediterranean diet is known to be heart-healthy, and a new Harvard study found that consuming just a small amount of olive oil every day lowers your risk of dying from a variety of ailments. Researchers followed 90,000 Americans for 28 years and found those who consumed a half tablespoon of olive oil daily had a lower risk of death from cancer (by 17 percent), respiratory disease (by 18 percent), heart disease (by 19 percent), and neurodegenerative diseases such as dementia (by 29 percent). Whether taken straight from the bottle or used in cooking, olive oil has anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties that contribute to overall health, as does replacing other artery-clogging fats.

- Readers Digest



U.S. Military Medallions for our Veterans

Medallions for our Columbarium niches are now available. Please call or stop by the church office for more information.



Women's Ministry

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING

3rd Friday | Nov 18 | 9 am | Fireside Room

We meet the 3rd Friday each month at 9am in the Fireside Room. This meeting is for all women of the Church. We are always looking for new ideas as we work together and plan future events. In the past we have planned two or three opportunities for fellowship. We are very excited to offer a speaker February, 25th from the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group. This program is open to the membership to learn to protect and support these majestic creatures roaming the lower Salt River in the Tonto National Forest in Arizona. In April there will be an event for the women of the church to celebrate a year-end luncheon and tea, come help us plan.

In January the Women's Fellowship will lead the worship service with guest speaker, Patti Luttrell from Four Peaks CCN. Ms. Luttrell's theme, is "Joy of Living," please come and worship with us on January 15th. Service to the community is important to this group of incredible women.

Women's Fellowship support Devereux and MANA House, the Extended Hands Food Bank and Streetlight, USA on an ongoing basis.

Currently an updated and new Meditation Book full of Inspirational Readings and Prayers from the membership and favorite authors will be available December 1st, making a great Christmas gift! This has been a labor of love.

Peter 1:15-16, "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written, 'be holy, because I am holy'".



The Women's fellowship invites you to come and join us as we make room in God's Kingdom, where the only one missing is you! Come be a part of this Women's Ministry of Fellowship.

Sandra Coultrap, Moderator (208) 699-3409

Out 'n About—Out to Lunch

Wednesday | November 16 | 12 noon | Que Bueno

Are you craving chips, salsa, tacos, rice and beans? Maybe even a Margarita? We will be gathering at this familiar Mexican restaurant on La Montana at noon Wed., Nov. 16th. I hope to see some new faces -- we always have fun. Sign up with Nancy or call 480-837-3021 for reservations.



WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday | November 10 | 9:30 AM | Fireside Room



We are well into our study book, *Esther: A Woman of Strength and Dignity* by Charles Swindoll. This month we will read and discuss chapters 4 and 5: *An Evil Interlude and Saying What's Right-Regardless*. We will learn about suffering and wickedness but, more importantly, how our unique response to these is significant. For more information call Monique 336-382-8733.

AFTERNOON CIRCLE

Monday | November 14 | 1:00 pm | Fellowship Center

study: RECIPES FOR A SACRED LIFE by Rivvy Neshama, p 173-198

recipe: Evelyn Vernon (via Barbara Hoverland) *Rituals & Celebrations: Birth to Death and In-Between* awaken us to join families across cultures and to create ties. Simply, it's in prayer that we talk to God and in meditation that we listen to His answer. When troubled, Neshama urges us to invite light into our mind (faith), into our mouth (hope), and into our heart (love). Truly "feel grace" in whatever you do; it's the essence of love.

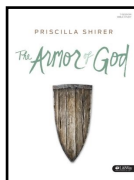
For more information call Jane Allen at 907-538-3223.



EVENING CIRCLE

3rd Monday | November 21 | 4:00 pm | Fireside Room

The Evening Circle will meet on Monday, November 21 in the Fireside Room from 4:00 to 6:15 as we look at Lesson 3 of our study book "*Armor of God*" by Priscilla Shirer. Maria Berry will provide us with refreshments as we discuss what we have learned from personal study of our last lesson. It is so obvious that Satan is at work in the world today, and he targets each one of us. He knows our weaknesses. There are no exceptions. In this study, Priscilla Shirer shows us that we have everything we need to stand firm against the enemy as is described in Ephesians 6:10-19. This is a powerful study

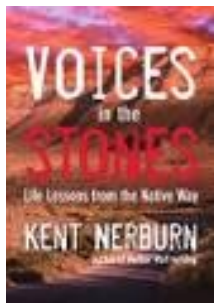


which gives each participant the personal insights and confidence to stand strong. Please join us for our next lesson's video which focuses on the breastplate of righteousness. We will have study books available at the meeting. If you would like more information, please contact Judy Hamouda at (480) 215-0827.



Library Footnotes

Voices in the Stones: Life lessons from the Native Way Author ~ Kent Nerburn



For 30 years, author Kent Nerburn has lived and worked among the Native American people in northern Minnesota on the Red Lake Ojibwe reservation. *Voices in the Stones* is a collection of his encounters, experiences, and reflections during that time.

Examples: He takes us inside a traditional Native feast to show us how the children are taught to respect the elders. He brings us to an isolated prairie rock outcropping where a young Native man and his father shows us how the power of ceremony connects the present with the ancient voices of the past. At a dusty roadside café he introduces us to an elder who remembers the time when his ancestors could talk to animals.

In these stories and others, Kent Nerburn reveals the spiritual awareness that animates all Native American life and shows us how we have much to learn from one another if only we have the heart to listen. This is a book well worth the time to read and absorb its message.

Another of Nerburn's books in our church library is, *Make me an Instrument of Your Peace*. It is about how to live in the spirit of the prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi.

- Carol Fuls



Pastor Bill Good

What Pastor Bill Means to Us

Oh, how we are going to miss Pastor Bill! Fifteen years ago at Mountain View Presbyterian Church, my mother attended Bill's Bible study. She would drag me along when she was able and they would wildly debate about many things. Little did we know that Bill would perform the memorial for my mother in 2011.

We were always going to attend FHPC, and so we felt a special connection with Bill. He is always there for us, a kind and caring man. We were shocked when he announced his retirement from FHPC; now we are excited for his new calling.

We wish you the very best, Bill. Thank you for sharing the last twelve years with us.

God Bless you and your family.
Love,
Linda & Jay Moyer



Be a Santa to a Senior Sponsored by Home Instead of Fountain Hills November 14th to December 9th

Need something fun to do in 2022? Make a senior who is alone for Christmas sing with joy when they receive your gift! Simply pick a paper bulb off the wreath in the church office or in the Narthex on Sundays. Shop for the item and return unwrapped.

If you wish to give but not shop, no problem. Call Elf Mary Martinson at (602) 319-5080. Also, if you are aware of a Fountain Hills senior who will be alone for Christmas, please tell Mary.

Thanks for your giving spirit,
FHPC Deacons & Home Instead Senior Care



Communications



COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications team strives to foster and increase awareness and understanding of FHPC's vision and mission, thereby stimulating commitment to FHPC. We do so in 2 ways:

- ◆ Internally. The team produces products for the church - The Weekly email and the In Touch monthly newsletter – to promote activities and ways for people to connect as well as upcoming events.
- ◆ Externally. We write and distribute press releases to the FH Times (newspaper and online website) and FH Chamber of Commerce and also strategize FHPC involvement in community events.
- ◆ We also manage and update content for the church's website and Facebook page, in addition to producing the live stream of weekly worship.



Kathy Cole



John Scaggs

All content intended for internal or external distribution should be emailed to news@fhpresbyterian.info.

If you wish to speak directly with a church Elder on the Communications team, contact John Scaggs at john.scaggs64@gmail.com or Kathy Cole at webmaster@fhpresbyterian.info.

Covenant Partnership

Are You a Partner in FHPC?

Most of us know about "Covenant Partners" – these are folks who have made the decision to call FHPC their "home church" and have formally entered into a commitment which grants them full rights of membership – including the ability to speak *and* vote in formal church meetings.

But did you know that ECO also affords us the opportunity to enlist "Affiliate Partners" in our congregation? This acknowledges that a special relationship exists between you and your FHPC family, *in addition* to your primary membership, which remains at another "home church" – back in Minnesota, for example. Becoming an Affiliate Partner witnesses to your engagement in life at FHPC, allows you to participate in church meetings and speak to the issue(s) at hand, while lacking only the right to vote.

Is FHPC your church "home away from home"? Consider "Affiliate Partnership" as a way to say so. Interested? Contact Pastor Bill or the church office at 480-837-1763.



Being a little older, I am very fortunate to have someone call and check on me everyday. He is from India and is very concerned about my car warranty.

Gratitude galore

If you've ever kept a gratitude journal, you know they're fairly easy to fill. Edward King, an English bishop known for working with the poor, may not have had a fancy journal. But these words evoke such a list: "I will thank God ... for the glory of the thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of birds and the laughter of children. ... for the awe of the sunset, the beauty of flowers, the smile of friendship and the look of love ... for the leaves on the trees in spring and autumn, for the witness of the leafless trees through the winter, teaching us that death is sleep and not destruction, for the sweetness of flowers and the scent of hay. Truly, oh Lord, the earth is full of thy riches!"

King concludes: "And yet how much more I will thank and praise God for the strength of my body enabling me to work, for the refreshment of sleep, for my daily bread, for the days of painless health, for the gift of my mind and the gift of my conscience, for his loving guidance of my mind ever since it first began to think, and of my heart ever since it first began to love."

PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY



*Photos courtesy
of
Bob Petersen*



**Pastor
Appreciation
Sunday**

October 9, 2022



PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY



CHRISTIAN FORMATION



Pastor Bill's New Ministry "Uncommon Community"

Join Pastor Bill Good
Mondays & Fridays **at 11 am**

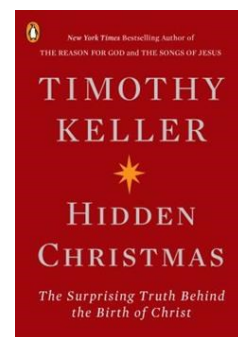
On Monday, **October 17th**, Pastor Bill will begin a new, twice weekly online devotional. This will replace his former devotional, *Together in the Word*.

There will be a link on our website...fhpresbyterian.info
Don't miss the opportunity to support this Ministry
Search "Uncommon Community" on Facebook and
click on the "like" button

NEW ADVENT BIBLE STUDY
With Pastors Bill & Bob
Live on Wednesdays, at 6:00 pm in the
Fellowship Center

Hidden Christmas

The Surprising Truth
behind the Birth of Jesus



Books available in church office.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP PRESENTS **Lunch & Lecture Series from the Great Courses** **12:00 noon in the Fireside Room**

We start with a lecture at noon followed by lunch with discussion. A second lecture will be offered to those who want to stay. Each lecture is 30 minutes. See schedule below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Course</u>
<u>Saturday</u>	<i>The History and Archaeology of the Bible</i> <i>By Jean-Pierre Isbouts</i>
Nov 5	The Empire of Alexander the Great The Kingdom of Herod the Great
Nov 19	The World of the Gospels The Birth of Jesus

Save the dates! Hope to see you there. Let the church office (480-837-1763) know if you are coming. This helps us prepare for the number of ladies and gentlemen for lunch.

- Maria Berry

Building & Grounds

The long hot summer has now drawn to a close and the beautiful month of October is blessing us with much needed rain and temperatures in the 80's. This gives us renewed energy to work outside and once again enjoy it without breaking into a sweat.

We have projects waiting for our committee to delve into – these include:

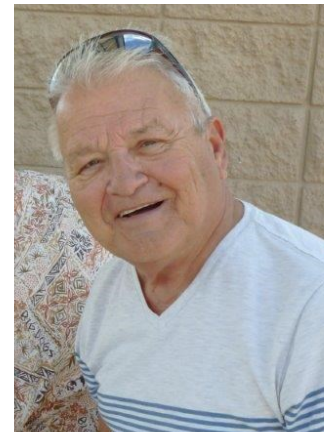
1. Curbside painting with red paint to designate No Parking Areas. These areas are on the north side of the dumpster and in the back of Fellowship Hall by the fire hydrant. The current red paint is now pink due to fading over the years.
2. Linseed Oil will be used on the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Office wooden doors. They need some luster. The sun is so hard on the surface of them.
3. Some sidewalk areas in front of the Sanctuary need work due to upheaval of some of the cement slabs. This proves to be a dangerous area for tripping and falling on the exposed areas. Prices will be checked on how much it would cost to use a grinder in those areas. If this proves too costly, we will use red paint to alert people of the danger.
4. The price of a ramp and possible railing to add to the outside of the office will be checked out. We want to make sure that everything is safe for everyone.

5. We are currently working on the ceiling lights in the Sanctuary – blinking lights, lights that are out, etc.
6. The large tree by the basketball hoop on the south side of the church will be removed in November.
7. A new filter was installed in the fountains located in the Columbarium.
8. The backflow on the south side of the church was leaking. AFS (Affordable Fire and Safety) was called, and they immediately fixed the problem. A rubber gasket was torn and needed to be repaired.

We hope that you are enjoying the beautiful month of October and November. Take some time to stroll through the beautiful gardens located throughout the campus. Beautiful plantings await you – the last good rain rejuvenated them.

Thank you for your support – we are most appreciative.

- George Holtan



The sky whispering to the Earth



CUSTODIAL NEWS

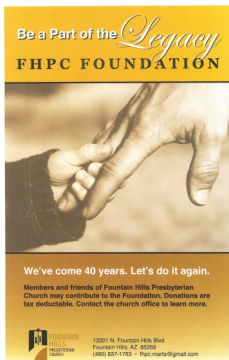
This month I thought I would bring up the topic of cleaning and sanitizing, as you are most aware we are entering the cold and flu season and we also have the covid situation to think about. My work background was not in the field of cleaning, but in maintenance. Since my work now as the church custodian (sexton) includes cleaning, I am spending more time doing so. That means working with various cleaning products; some are more to disinfect, some are more to clean and shine. I have a new found respect for products with bleach. Anything bleach touches, it affects! Shirts, pants, as I found out, but sanitizing is its main function. I use toilet bowl cleaner weekly, I learned that I do not need brute force but to wait and then “lightly” brush. I use a spray product on sinks and handles of doors. I have been told it leaves an odor that not everyone likes. Most of my cleaning is completed by Thursday. So by Sunday the odor should have dissipated.

Going forward I will learn more about “natural” cleaning products and try to incorporate them into my service.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Frank



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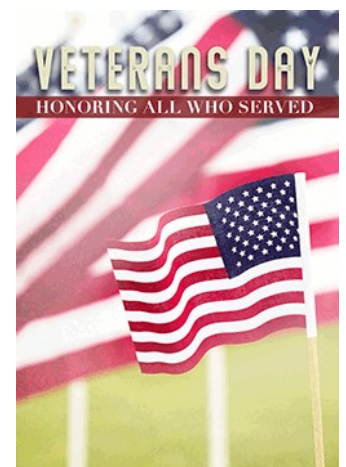
HONOR OUR VETERANS

Veterans Day, which is November 11 each year, is a holiday to honor America's veterans for their patriotism and willingness to serve and sacrifice for our nation's common good.

Christians follow the Prince of Peace, so war is a dilemma that often challenges people of faith. Some Christians are pacifists, while others believe in a "just war." Many believe that the goals of freedom, justice, equality and democracy are worth the cost required.

Whatever individual Christians decide about any given conflict, most Christians believe that men and women who strive to make this world free of tyrants are to be respected. As Winston Churchill said, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

Thank you to all the men and women who served or are now serving our country.



Sage Advice

1. HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. -- **Alan, age 10**

-No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all the way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with. -- **Kristen, age 10**

2. WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. -- **Camille, age 10**

3. HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. -- **Derrick, age 8**

4. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both don't want any more kids. -- **Lori, age 8**

5. WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

-Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough. -- **Lynnette, age 8**

- On the first date, they just tell each other lies and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date. -- **Martin, age 10**

6. WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

-When they're rich. -- **Pam, age 7**

-The law says you must be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that. -- **Curt, age 7**

-The rule goes like this: If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. -- **Howard, age 8**

7. IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. -- **Anita, age 9**

8. HOW WOULD THE WORLD BE DIFFERENT IF PEOPLE DIDN'T GET MARRIED?

There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there? -- **Kelvin, age 8**

9. HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a dump truck. -- **Ricky, age 9**



Social Media



FACEBOOK PAGE:

www.facebook.com/fhpresbyterianchurch/

Go to our website, at the bottom of our Home page, click on the Facebook icon. View Sunday worship and read current posts about FHPC. Be sure to "Like" our page to get posts directly in your Newsfeed.

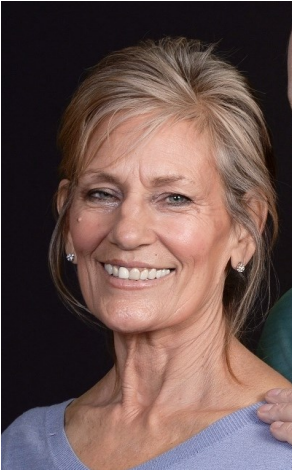


Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church YouTube Channel

Go to our website, at the bottom of our Home page, click on the YouTube icon. View Sunday worship here. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube Channel to receive notifications of LIVE services.

SUBSCRIBE

Music Ministry



Debbie Fisher, Director of Music

I am constantly reminded that I am blessed. I am then in constant amazement because of God's blessings. There is a thickness involved, with an absolutely unconditional hold making my prayers, my thoughts, my relationship with God, myself, and with others so valuable. An unconditional value. We have a lot of this blessing experience within our church. I know it goes with us into every experience outside of our church, as well. We are a good, strong force of blessed

people, always connected vertically with God, His teachings and the glorious

gift of His Son. We are completely strengthened by our rich relationships that have withstood many discerning moments from within our walls, leading to an opportunity to make more decisions together and remain strong through it all.

We laugh deeply, cry deeply, and listen deeply to each other at very important times. We sing strongly, knowing the value of the hymns as we open our hearts in the direction of God, thanking Him for holding us so amazingly tight in the palm of His hands, which He offers to all.

We sing hymns together that are familiar, written in 1500's such as "All Creatures that on Earth Do Dwell" by Louis Bourgeois, or "Go Tell it on the Mountain" written in 1865 by John Wesley Work Jr., to "Antiphonal Praise" written in the 1990's by Steve Green.

How blessed we are, indeed. I look forward to every worship service, and rehearsal or meeting that prepares us for each service.

Be still my soul, the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul!
Thy best, thy heavn'ly Friend,
thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

- Katharina von Schlegel, 1752

"Be still, and know that I am God."

Psalm 46:10

Debbie Fisher
Director of Music Ministries
Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church. ECO

A challenging word

Do you not know that God entrusted you with that money — all above what buys necessities for your families — to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to help the stranger, the widow, the fatherless; and, indeed, as far as it will go, to relieve the wants of all mankind? How can you, how dare you, defraud the Lord, by applying it to any other purpose?

—from a sermon by John Wesley

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc

I choked on a carrot this afternoon and all I could think was "I bet a donut wouldn't have done this to me."

I accidentally wore a red shirt to Target today and, long story short, I'm covering for Debbie this weekend.

Name Tags

10 Reasons Everybody at Church Should Wear a Nametag

By Chuck Lawless

At many conferences and meetings I attend, I am expected to wear a nametag. The business world thinks about name-tags, but the church world gives them too little thought. Here are ten reasons EVERYONE in church ought to wear a nametag.

1. Few people know everybody in the church. Even in the smallest churches, it's sometimes difficult to remember everybody's name. If/as the church grows, that task becomes even more difficult. Nametags allow us to admit that struggle while providing a way to overcome it.

2. Leaders need help with names. I want to know everybody's name in my church, but I'm not gifted with that kind of memory. I admit I need help if I want to be the best church leader I can be. I would much prefer calling people by name as I minister to them – and name-tags allow me to do so.

3. Nametags invite conversation. Knowing another person's name breaks down one barrier to conversations that church folks ought to feel comfortable having. It's simply easier to talk with others when you are on a first-name basis.

4. Knowing names makes fellowship more personal. While calling each other "brother" or "sister" sounds good (and is theologically on target), that nomenclature is often a cover up for "I'm sorry I don't know your name, and I'm embarrassed to ask." As long as conversations remain at the anonymous "brother" and "sister" level, fellowship will remain surface level.

5. Nametags save embarrassment. We've probably all called someone by the wrong name, only to realize it later (or perhaps even within the same conversation). If "brother" or "sister" is a gentle way of saying, "I don't know your name," using the wrong name is an undeniable way of doing so. That's embarrassing for both parties.

6. Nametags are an inexpensive way to promote outward focus. The church that says, "We don't need name-tags since we already know everyone anyway" is probably saying more than they care to admit. My guess is they see few guests at their church, and they probably aren't expecting any. On the other hand, using nametags is one way to say, "We expect God to send us guests, and we want to be ready for them."

7. Guests feel less conspicuous. I understand why we might give guests a nametag, but doing so for them alone

actually makes them even more noticeable – and puts them at a disadvantage in conversations. I know their name, but they don't know mine if I'm not also wearing a nametag. Guests should never be the ones who must do the asking.

8. Saying to someone, "Please let us know your name" also says, "We want to know you." Much has been written about guests' desire for anonymity in churches, but I take a different slant on that issue. People who come to a church are looking for something. They often welcome care and concern. What they don't want is to be smothered and made uncomfortable. That's a different issue, though, than simply wanting to know them by name.

9. A "nametag" ministry provides opportunities for service. Somebody must purchase the nametags. Somebody must distribute them. Greeters must remind folks to get their name-tags. And, likely, somebody must clean up the "peel and press" nametags that wind up on the floor after the service. The opportunities for members to get involved in a simple but significant

ministry are numerous.

10. Leaders risk little by trying this approach. We're not omitting a ministry from the budget, re-writing the church constitution, or killing a sacred cow with this approach. We're simply asking people to wear a nametag to promote fellowship and welcome guests. If this ministry fails – and I don't think it will if leaders promote it properly and patiently wait for it to enter the DNA of a congregation – the church has lost little.

What are your thoughts about nametags?



This and That

Pardon me!

The annual turkey pardon has been called America's "most absurd holiday tradition." Every November, the president oversees a tongue-in-cheek ceremony, pardoning bird pairs with yummy names such as Biscuits and Gravy, Tater and Tot, and Drumstick and Wishbone.

Theologically, pardon is synonymous with divine forgiveness, an action only God may take (see Psalm 130:3-4). Every sin, at its deepest level, is directed against God and his call to holy living. We can *forgive* someone for a personal offense, but only God can set aside the penalty for sin.

Pardon is also related to atonement, which refers to God reconciling sinners to himself, making us "at one" with him. The Hebrew verb usually translated into English as *pardon* involves the idea of restoration to full favor.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

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Okinawa, Japan has more than 450 people on it above the age of 100 and is referred to as the healthiest place on Earth.



The super-moon on November 14, 2016 marked the closest the full moon has been to earth in about 70 years.

From scarcity to abundance

Author Parker Palmer recounted being stuck on a storm-grounded airplane for hours. Though it was lunchtime, meals weren't available, and passengers grew irritable. One flight attendant apologized for the delay, expressing empathy for people's stress, and then passed around two breadbaskets, asking everyone to contribute something.

"Some of you brought snacks to tide you over, and some of you have a few LifeSavers or chewing gum," she said. "And if you don't have anything edible, you have a picture of your children or spouse ... or a bookmark or a business card." Then, she said, "we'll pass the baskets around again, and everyone can take out what they need."

Complaints soon ceased, Palmer recalled, as passengers searched for items and stopped focusing on themselves. The plane became a community of sharing as scarcity and deprivation transformed into abundance and

joy.

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Our disarming God

We want the war horse. Jesus rides a donkey.
We want the eagle. The Holy Spirit descends as a dove.
We want to take up swords. Jesus takes up a cross.
We want the roaring lion. God comes as a slaughtered lamb.
We keep trying to arm God. God keeps trying to disarm us.

—Rev. Benjamin Cremer (via Twitter)

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With deepest sympathy we list those members who have passed away in 2022

Michael O'Connor
Virginia Nelson
Tom Hencz
Bernice VerHage
Jim Roy
Pat Tuttle
John Bivens

*Well done, Thou good and faithful servant....
Enter thou into the joy Of thy Lord. "*

Matthew 25:21

Hospitalized? Call the church!

If you are sick, hospitalized or home recovering from illness, we want you to call the church and let us know! In a congregation like ours where people leave in droves for extended summer months, it is easy for the staff, elders and deacons to assume, when we don't see someone, that they are simply "vacationing away." The truth is that some of you are sick and we are not aware of it. You can help us by simply letting one of the staff know of your situation. We have an excellent support system in place due to the diligent efforts of our deacons. Help us serve you by communicating your situation.



It's so easy to order flowers...

You can request flowers for upcoming Sundays' worship at

www.fhpresbyterian.info/flowers

then click on the calendar

Or call church office 480-837-1763

Happy Birthday to...

11/01 Deborah Stark
11/02 Louise Jones
11/02 Jack Morris
11/03 Ben Dresser
11/03 Jean Foster

11/04 Bob Petersen
11/10 John Skewes
11/12 Bob Berg
11/12 Melissa Fast
11/13 Sandi Thompson

11/19 Dorothy Rudack
11/20 Kris Peluso
11/23 Paulette Roland
11/24 Monika Buck
11/29 Connie Harris



Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church
13001 N. Fountain Hills Boulevard
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268



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Grace, what a gift

Grace strikes us when we are in great pain and restlessness. It strikes us when we walk through the dark valley of a meaningless and empty life. It strikes us when our disgust for our own being, our indifference, our weakness, our hostility, and our lack of direction and composure have become intolerable to us. It strikes us when, year after year, the longed-for perfection of life does not appear, when the old compulsions reign within us as they have for decades, when despair destroys all joy and courage.

Sometimes at that moment a wave of light breaks into our darkness, and it is as though a voice were saying: "You are accepted."

—Paul Tillich

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by Communication Resources, Inc*

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

13001 Fountain Hills Blvd. - Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Phone - (480) 837-1763 Fax - (480) 837-1729 Office E-Mail Address: fhpc.marta@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday: CLOSED. www.fhpresbyterian.info
Pastor/Head of Staff: Rev Bill Good email: fhpc.billg@gmail.com cell phone: 480-329-8090
Transitional Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons email: fhpc.bsimmmons@gmail.com cell: 623-239-8720