

## FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# IN TOUCH

Fountain Hills, AZ

January 2023



### 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*

*Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons*



### MEET THE TRANSITIONAL PASTOR

I am honored to begin serving the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church as your Transitional Pastor, starting January 1, 2023. Pastor Bill worked with the Presbytery to invite me to come along beside him for the last few months as he prepared to retire and move his ministry to the university campus. His desire, and both the Session and Presbytery concurred, was that I would then become the Transitional Pastor.

Jeanette and I are excited to be part of your church family and look forward to

what God has for us in 2023. Jeanette and I have been married for 52 years, and have been blessed with three children who, with their spouses serve Christ in their respective churches here in the valley. We are the proud grandparents of five!

I am a graduate of Ohio Christian University, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and Ashland Theological Seminary in Ohio. I served my first church as a 20-year-old senior in college (a story in itself!) and continued to serve the Church uninterrupted as a pastor until I retired in 2018. During a period of five years in the early 90's, I was also an adjunct professor in a theological seminary in addition to continuing to serve my congregation as senior pastor. I had the opportunity to leave the pastorate and become a professor full time at the seminary but just could not think of doing anything else except being the pastor God called me to be.

I served for eight months as Transitional Pastor in one of our ECO Churches in Tempe during 2021. And now, I'm back at it one more time. Serving you

and the Fountain Hills community is my highest privilege. Old preachers are like a bad cold, they just don't go away easily! I look forward to serving beside our elders and deacons as we begin the next thrilling chapter in the life of the FH Presbyterian Church. I honestly believe our Lord has great things in store for us as we strive to love, honor, and serve Jesus Christ together. My passion is to see the church become a growing, vibrant, united, community of faith that is Christ centered, biblically based, and faithful to our Reformed theological heritage. To accomplish this, we will strive to keep our eyes on Jesus and follow Him wherever He takes us! If you want to know what my primary emphasis will be as I serve among you, here it is: *"For I have decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified"* (1 Cor. 2:2). Lots of things can divide us, but Jesus is THE uniting factor. Let's keep focused on Him as we move forward!

-Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons

Church Office will be closed January 2, 2023

Need volunteers to help take down Christmas decorations on Monday, January 2! Hope to see you then.



## OUR CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons**  
Transitional Pastor

**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 2023**  
Kathy Cole—Communications  
Terri Schmidt—Missions  
Interim Christian Formation

**Class of 2024**  
Ilene Berg—Worship & Music  
Arlene Stewart—Administration  
Stewardship

**Class of 2025**  
Sandra Coultrap  
Bob Cowden  
Bob Lull  
Jackie Miles  
Jim Stewart

**Contact Session**  
[www.fhpresbyterian.info/session-mailbox](http://www.fhpresbyterian.info/session-mailbox)

**BOARD OF DEACONS**  
Moderator: Phil Katz

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

**Class of 2024**  
Phil Katz  
Jean Linzer

**Class of 2025**  
Barbara Hoverland  
Matt Jefferson

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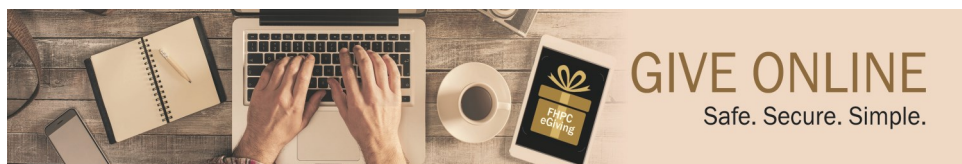
## Focus on Finance

|                    |            |            |            |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Nov Income         | \$ 32,681  | Budget     | \$ 31,654  |
| Nov Expenses       | \$ 33,761  | Budget     | \$ 34,647  |
|                    |            |            |            |
| Yr to date Income  | \$ 322,135 | YTD Budget | \$ 350,194 |
| Yr to date Expense | \$ 353,779 | YTD Budget | \$ 366,610 |
|                    |            |            |            |

November YTD income vs YTD Budget had a shortfall of \$28,059. We still managed to keep our expenses below budget by \$12,831. However, through November we still are in a deficit position.

We appreciate your keeping up with your pledges and contributions through the year. We would not be able to continue with our operations and programs without your support.

Respectfully,  
Linda Lull, Treasurer



## On the Inside:

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## Upcoming Events

### GIFT OF WOMEN'S SUNDAY

The Gift of Women's Sunday will be held on **January 15, 2023**. The title of our service that morning will be "The Joy of Living". We are pleased that Patti Luttrell, founder of Children's Cancer Network will be our speaker.

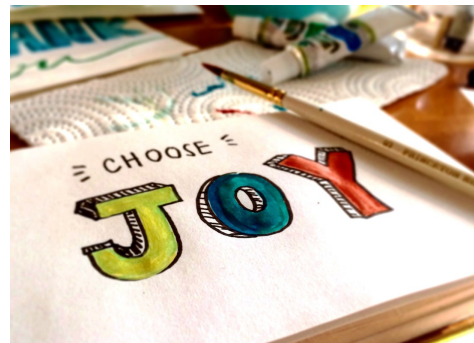
Patti will have a special message for us on leading a joyful life. Children's Cancer Network has a program for the parents entitled "Dinner Out". The parents of a sick child may bring their children to the facility and they are safely watched and entertained while the parents receive \$50 to enjoy a dinner together. Our Women's Fellowship decided that following the service we will help pass on the joy to the parents of these children who have cancer.

There will be baskets at each door for anyone who wants to donate to the "Dinner Out" program.



I hope you will put this date on your calendars and plan to attend this special service. The women will again be singing in the choir and leading the service. We hope everyone who attends the service enters the sanctuary with a smile on their face and a happy heart.

Donna Yordy



The Deacons at FHPC have recently purchased a device which can be used to jump start any vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine. That means it will not help an Electric Vehicle (EV) like a Tesla.

If your car or motorcycle battery has died in the church parking lot, and you need to Jump Start your car, this device is located in the church office on the table to your right as you walk in the door.

During business hours, see Marta in the office. At other times find a Deacon, an Elder, or another church official with a key, and they will take the device to your vehicle and return it to the office once you have started your vehicle.

This is just another way we are trying to serve the members of our church family.

-Phil Katz, Moderator of Deacons





## Mission Ministry

### Happy New Year!

I hope this doesn't sound like an echo, but I really am hoping we all have a **Happy and Exciting New Year!** We have so much to look forward to from our Mission Committee as well as in our Church Family. I want to start my section of the newsletter, by amending something I said last month. Our meeting dates have not changed, we will continue meeting on the second Monday of the month at 4:00 pm in the Church Office Conference room. If we continue to grow our committee we may have to move, but right now this is where we will meet.

### January is PB&J Month

The Mission Committee has decided to start the year



off with a drive for **Extended Hands Food Bank**. We are asking our Church Family to help us collect Peanut Butter and Jelly for the needy people. These items go further to help the needy than most items donated. As you can see by the picture, we have jump started the program. Pictured here are:

Susan Owens, Susan Titus, Jack Reynolds, Terri Schmidt, Donna Sims and Jane Allen. Members not available for the photo are Mary Holtan and Nancy Saine. We have so much fun and enjoy our jobs of helping others. Please bring in jars of peanut butter and jelly and help us. We set the program in motion by donating 14 jars of peanut butter and 13 jars of jelly from our Mission Committee members. We will keep you updated on our results.

### Veterans

Donna Sims, our go to person for our Veterans, reported some great news to us at our last meeting. She stated that 48 people wrote notes to be sent out with the Christmas cards she sends to our Church family veterans. This was the most notes she has ever sent. **THANK YOU!** You can read more about Donna's projects and accomplishments in her section of this newsletter.

### Phoenix Rescue and Changing Lives Center

Our committee was able to help out the Phoenix Rescue and Changing Lives Centers with \$300.00 each for Holiday meals for those in need. We try and assist these two Centers as much as we can. Thanks to the John Bivens Family for their Memorial Donation to the Phoenix Rescue Center.

### Senior Angel Tree

Thank you all who helped with this project. Marta had asked us if we would take the last four names on the tree? Susan Owens stepped up and said she would purchase the gifts for these four. **THANK YOU Susan!**

### Water

As a reminder, we collect cases of Bottled Water for the homeless in downtown Phoenix. This has been a longtime project for us. We really push hard in the summer months when dehydration can occur so easily. But we still collect in winter months also. You can leave them in the Church office or place them in by the grocery cart on Sunday mornings.

### Haiti

We continue to support Pwoje Espwa (Project Hope) in Haiti through Overture International, formerly Free The Kids, Inc. The project was originally an orphanage but over the last five years has evolved into a family reintegration and child development program similar to foster care in the U.S. Last year the president of Haiti was assassinated, and the country collapsed into anarchy. Today Haiti is a tinderbox under constant threat of rioting and violence.

In 2015 we were introduced to this project by Jack Reynolds and his brother-in-law Father Marc, who founded Pwoje Espwa and he has been involved for over 20 years. Because of the turbulent situation, many well-known organizations have left the country. But the skilled Haitian management at Espwa that has been mentored by Overture personnel for many years, continues their mission offering support to over 1,000 families in the hard-to-reach rural villages in western Haiti. Additionally, Espwa operates a school system with 1200 students K-12. Espwa has over 200 employees from the area running this facility. For more info visit: **[www.overtureinternational](http://www.overtureinternational)**

These are a few of our Projects this month. We strive to help as many people as we can with our Mission Budget. But there are times we need to reach out to you, our Church Family for help. You have always been very supportive and we appreciate it immensely. If you would like to join our committee and have a say in our projects or would just like to help, we meet the second Monday of the month at 4:00pm. Please stay tuned for our next project.

**Hebrews 13:16 says: "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is PLEASED."**

Submitted by,  
Mission Elder Terri Schmidt





## Support Our Troops

On behalf of the Mission Committee, I am happy to report that all I had started to accomplish for the holidays for our Troops and for our Veterans and the Homeless was a success, with some being very rewarding and others being hard to finish. So let me explain. Our Christmas Cards for the Troops was a huge success, and for the first time in over 15 years, the most notes ever were placed into each card going to one of our Church-connected active-duty military, a total of 48. I sure wish I could actually see the look on their faces as they open the card and find a rather large number of notes to read. Thank you so much to one and all who were willing to take some of their time to write their personal thoughts of the holidays to our military.

The second part of our holiday ministry at this time of year is the collection of, or the purchase of, items for military members who are deployed. Items purchased by the Committee along with some donated items included long sleeved, dark colored t-shirts, socks, sweatshirts, toiletries and some snacks. These items were then taken to Packages From Home who then does the sorting, packaging and shipping and I was very happy that the Mission Committee was able to donate some funds toward the shipping costs. They were very happy to see me again this year and I want to thank Sandra Coultrap for keeping me company on the long trek to and from Glendale.

The third part of our holiday ministry is the collection of donations for our local Veterans, especially this time of year when the weather is cold and not very comfortable for the homeless. With the amount of donations being way down from our usual amount throughout the year, I was unable to schedule a pick-up from CBI in December but hopefully I can do so by mid to late January. Gently used clothing items are really needed along with jackets, bedding, and toiletries. Please take notice that our collection box is now located on the east side of the Narthex instead of in the front where you would see it as you entered through the front doors. Please place any donations in the container when able.

Again, thank-you to one and all who have stepped forward to help make this particular Mission Committee project a success. The Mission Committee is always happy to find donations in our collection box in the Narthex or 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



A few weeks ago, on Giving Tuesday, we had a visit from our friend Donna! Donna has been donating to PFH since 2005 when her grandson became a Marine. She's the proudest Marine Grandma around! We always love to see her and the Marine Mobile- her yellow mustang decorated with Marine stickers. Donna and her friends from Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church donated postage funds and supplies, including warm clothes and fun snacks. Thanks to their generosity, many service members will receive a reminder of home during the holiday season.

**Packages From Home** sends care packages to deployed American military heroes and facilitates activities that elevate morale of all veterans.

Pictured: Sandra Coultrap, Alli Riley, Don Nance and Donna Sims



## Worship by Giving...



### 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**.



## Columbarium Trustees



Just before Christmas the Columbarium Committee folks were hard at work in the Biblical Garden. They took a break for this photo: Sandra Coultrap, Matt Jefferson, George Holtan, Dawn Lau, Jack Morris, Keith Coultrap and Bob Lull.



### *Baptism is serious business!*

Baptizing people into God's family has always been a ministry highlight for Pastor Stan Purdum. One Sunday, he had the privilege of welcoming three infants and two young boys to the baptismal font, along with all their parents. After baptizing the babies, Pastor Purdum turned toward the families with older children, who'd been instructed to have their boys step forward one at a time.

Immediately, the 3-year-old shouted, "Not me!" and bolted for the exit. His father caught the youngster and carried him back as the congregation chuckled. This time, Purdum wasted no time completing the sacrament.

"Maybe this young boy was not greatly wrong to try to duck baptism," he later pondered. "Far from being a harmless little ceremony, baptism begins a lifetime commitment to God, which over the long haul is no easy thing. It lays upon us the responsibility to live up to the vows we have made." How seriously do you take your baptismal vows?

-The Newsletter Newsletter  
by Communication Resources, Inc



### 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 | Jan 20 | 9 am | Fireside Room

All ladies of the church are welcome to our meetings, where we plan future events of interest and fellowship.

We love new ideas!

### GIFT OF WOMEN SUNDAY

~ The JOY of Living

The Gift of Women Sunday has been scheduled for **Sunday, January 15th**. The women hope that you will put this on your calendar and plan on attending and participating in this special service. See more information on page 3.

### INSPIRATIONAL READINGS

Yes! *Inspirational Readings*, our Women's Fellowship book, is here. It is dedicated to the Glory of God! You will find 74 pages in color of incredibly, diverse readings submitted by 36 contributors within our FHPC family. We believe it makes a personal, heart-warming gift to anyone and at any time. To order: Jane Allen on Sundays in Narthex or Marta in the church office. \$15 is suggested to cover costs. Thanks for your submissions & support!

### Out 'n About—Out to Lunch

Wednesday | Jan 18 | 12 noon | Blossom Kitchen

Our January luncheon will be at the Blossom Kitchen in the Fry's Plaza - 14835 E. Shea Blvd. Suite 100 - at noon - Wednesday, January 18th.

Come and enjoy tasty Asian cuisine. All ladies welcome.

Contact Nancy Wulfmeier for questions or reservations - 480-837-3021.



### WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday | January 12 | 9:30AM | Fireside Room



How do insomnia, the gallows, and a dinner party relate to God's sovereign design? To find out read Chapters 7 and 8 in our book: *Esther, a Woman of Strength and Dignity* by Charles Swindoll. God transcends time-past, present and future. What does that mean for us? Join our discussion. Call Monique 336-382-8733 for more information.

### AFTERNOON CIRCLE

1st Tuesday | Jan 3 | 1:00 pm | Fellowship Center

**study:** RECIPES FOR A SACRED LIFE by Rivvy Neshama, p 199-232

**recipe:** mystery craft by Jo Dell Stevenson *This, Too, Is True* is the book's closing of little true stories & recipes for sacred living. We learn -Good Day, be grateful / Bad Day, be graceful -the progression of commandment, connection, & blessing with Him -being human is a guesthouse for His grace -the half empty, half full glass is both and -stay true to self and to our Savior, the True One.



### EVENING CIRCLE

3rd Monday | January 16 | 4:00 pm | Fireside Room

The Evening Circle will meet on Monday, January 16 in the Fireside Room from 4:00 to 6:15 as we look at Lesson 4 of our study book "*Armor of God*" by Priscilla Shirer. Donna Yordy will provide us with refreshments as we discuss what we learned from our last lesson "The Breastplate of Righteousness."

This month we will see how we can put on the "shoes of peace" (as mentioned in Ephesians 6:15) so that we can protect the peace of Christ within us which Satan tries so hard to destroy. If you would like more information about Evening Circle, please contact Judy Hamouda at (480) 215-0827.



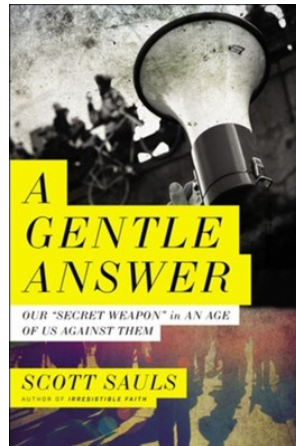


## Library Footnotes

### A Gentle Answer: Our “Secret Weapon” in an Age of Us Against Them, by Scott Sauls

This is such a timely book! Emotions are running high in this country, and no matter which “side” we are on, we want to know that we are best representing Christ when we discuss current issues with others. Now is a perfect opportunity for Christians to be examples of how to love those who don’t agree with them. Jesus didn’t separate people into piles labeled “good” or “bad,” nor should we see others in terms of “us” or “them.”

As we live in a world divided on so many issues, how can we, as Christians, best respond? Being a Christian certainly does not mean keeping your mouth shut for the sake of keeping peace. You have opinions, and your opinions matter. Some differences of opinion can disappoint us and even lead to anger. We are expected to get angry from time to time, and this book reminds us that Christ used to get angry too.



(After all, wasn’t Christ the one flipping tables in the synagogue?) This book teaches by example. The author gives numerous examples of how Jesus responded in various situations, offering grace to those who seemed least deserving. He also gives examples of people today and throughout our history extending that same grace to others.

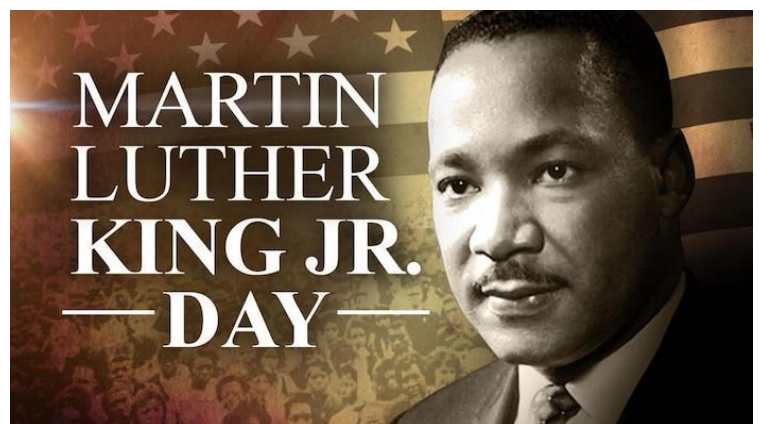
I highly recommend this book and can say that it has changed my way of thinking. It made me realize that to think and live in any way other than the way Jesus taught makes me just another hypocrite, and now I have many fresh examples to draw from as well as the Scripture to support them.



- Judy Hamouda

I am convinced that love is the most durable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a Utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Someone must have sense enough and morality enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can only be done through love.

—Martin Luther King Jr.



-The Newsletter Newsletter  
by Communication Resources, Inc.

January 16, 2023

## Communications



The Communications team strives to foster and increase awareness and understanding of FHPC's vision and mission, thereby stimulating commitment to FHPC.

- Internally. The team produces an email newsletter, The Weekly, and a monthly newsletter, In Touch which are printed and also available digitally on our website. Both of these promote activities, upcoming events, and ways for people to connect.

- Externally. We write and distribute press releases to the Fountain Hills

Times and the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce to promote FHPC activities and events as well our support in the community

- We also manage and update content for the church's website and Facebook page.
- In addition, we produce the live stream of weekly worship.

All content intended for internal or external distribution should be emailed to [news@fhpresbyterian.info](mailto:news@fhpresbyterian.info). If you wish to speak directly with a church Elder on the Communications team, contact Kathy Cole at [webmaster@fhpresbyterian.info](mailto:webmaster@fhpresbyterian.info)



Kathy Cole



### SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN SCAGGS

For the past 3 years, John Scaggs has served as Elder of Communications and has been the key communicator to our external media channels, writing press releases and creating print ads. His expertise lent itself to aptly describe FHPC, our events and accomplishments, in a most positive perspective.

Thank you, John, for your contribution to FHPC!

## 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.



### Pursue Jesus — and your passions

If you struggle with making and keeping resolutions, you're not alone. It can be discouraging to focus on what you're doing "wrong" and all the difficult changes in store. Yet January offers great opportunities to listen to God's direction. After all, Jesus came to give us abundant life and wants us to pursue him.

As you review the previous year, ask: What brought me joy? How did I grow? How did I help others? What did I do that no one else could have done? Whether your list includes spending time outside, mentoring or coaching young people or making crafts to give away or sell, continue doing what brings you joy. God gives us each unique gifts and circumstances, so live passionately for him this year!

—Janna Firestone

-The Newsletter Newsletter  
by Communication Resources, Inc



## **READY FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**





## Celebration Singers



*Thank you to the Celebration Singers under the directorship of Debbie Fisher for their wonderful music. We also thank Dorothy Parris for her commitment to FHPC. We are certainly blessed!*





## Presby Pickins' FLEA MARKET

Presby Pickins' Flea Market has grown month after month! In October we saw bookings at about 50% of our 50 available spaces with temperatures rising to 95 degrees! As the temps cooled down, news of our Market heated up and spread throughout the Fountain Hills community. In November and December, we were thrilled to have all our spaces booked and have our campus bustling with shoppers. Even with the rain forcing us to close down early on December 3rd, our vendors reported great results.



Rentals of spaces and tables/ chairs, along with sales of donated items and Arlene's Sweet Treats, rendered a GROSS income of \$6,305. These funds collected October through December are held in a FHPC reserve account from which expenses and donations are paid. At the end of December, the balance was \$4,554.

### *Proceeds Support Ministries*

The primary mission of Presby Pickins' Flea Market is to support our church ministries by funding new or unexpected small projects and initiatives outside their expense budgets. The maximum award value is \$250 and any FHPC ministry may apply. Request for Funds Forms are located in the office in the "Presby Pickins'" mailbox.



### **Pitching in to Help**

It takes a village to pull such an event off. Thanks go out to all our amazing volunteers! From pricing and sorting, pre-dawn set-up, sales, and clean-up at end-of-day, plus, our congregation has stepped up to support the Flea Market in other ways, such as — item donations, cash donations, to purchasing vendor spots and baking.



*Volunteers Jean Linzer and Dawn Lau*

### *Supporting Youth*

Another focus of the Flea Market is to support organizations that invest in our Fountain Hills youth. We have awarded checks to the Parent Teacher Organization (FHUSD PTO), Girl Scout Troop 6645, and Noon Kiwanis K-KIDS program which supported their Angel Tree for the December giving season.



*Troop 6645 with Kathy Cole*

Presby Pickins' also encourages Fountain Hills youth to earn community service hours by volunteering to help out at the Flea Market.



### Outreach

We are continually blessed to receive high marks on being a welcoming and friendly church. As Presby Pickins' brings people of our community to our beautiful campus to sell, to shop and to eat, we are increasing awareness of our church and also promoting fellowship among our guests and our volunteers.



We have experienced wonderful connections with our community. The Fountain Hills Chorus sold tickets to their holiday event at our November Flea and Fearless Kitty Rescue rented space in December to sell wares with plans to return in January. The proceeds of the day provided funds to spay three female kitties.

### Food Vendors

We have also had a variety of food vendors over the last few months including Batchelor Pad BBQ, Swette Ice Cream Truck, Authentic Navajo Fry Bread, as well as our "sell-out every flea" of Arlene's Sweet Treats!



*Chef Arlene Stewart*

### Accepting Donations

We are currently accepting donations of items to sell on the FHPC tables, such as household items, decor, rugs, etc. through March 30th. No clothes or furniture please. Drop items off at the church during office hours. Cash donations are also greatly appreciated to defer operating expenses. Items which have been donated but not sold after two months, are donated to Goodwill, Sunshine Acres, and/or UMOM.



### 1st Saturday Through April

Presby Pickins' will continue on the 1st Saturday of every month, 7am-1pm, now through April. Reservations are open for all months. Have an art or craft to sell? Perhaps you found treasures when cleaning your garage? Visit our website at [www.fhpresbyterian.info/bookfleamarket](http://www.fhpresbyterian.info/bookfleamarket) to reserve your space and any tables or chairs you may need.

We hope you may find a Saturday in the next couple of months to come to shop, be a vendor, help out or just hang out at the Presby Tables to fellowship among our volunteers. It's amazing to see relationships grow among our congregants and with our neighbors. Doing good for our church and for the community.



*Kathy Cole & Shawn Uphoff, Co-Chairs*



## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### **Pastor Bill's "Uncommon Community"**

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

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



**BIBLE STUDY**  
**With Pastor Bob**  
**Live on Wednesdays, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Center**

**New Study will begin on February 8.**

### **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> |  |
| Jan 14          | Jesus and John the Baptist<br>The Ministry of Jesus  |
| Jan 28          | Elizabethan England-Protestants, Puritans, and Catholics<br>The Henrician Reformation in England |

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

## **FH Presbyterian Church Foundation**

“Our purpose is to endow and support the future needs of FHPC’s missions by encouraging our members to include the Foundation in their planned giving”

### **Are You Looking for a Way to Do Good?**



**FHPC Foundation NEEDS your pledges, bequests, cash or check donations, endorsed stocks and bonds, IRA transfers, Qualified Minimum Distributions, real estate proceeds, trust fund designation, and why not tithe your insurance policy or estate???**

**Whatever you can give will be gratefully accepted...**

**We can help you with the pledge form – call today!**

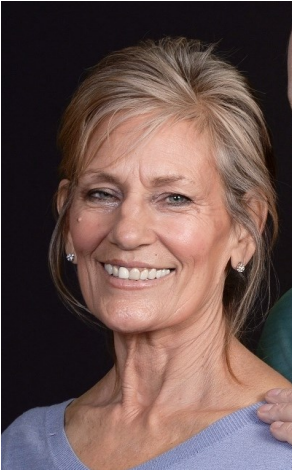
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**The FHPC Foundation is registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.  
The Foundation’s tax ID number is 46-2970452**

## Music Ministry



Debbie Fisher, Director of Music

Happy New Year! Another year of opportunity right in front of us, offering us a chance to spend time in Christian love, making music our avenue for praise. We welcome and urge all who would like to be a part of our Music Ministry to take part with us. We are an expressive group of people, and all are welcome to join us! We appreciate the opportunity to work together in presenting a diverse and inclusive, yet, traditional style of music. We are a flexible group of people who love working together. I appreciate everyone of them that bring what is a foremost requirement, to keep our eyes on the prize, focusing on God, focusing on the life of His Son, and enjoying the Spirit with which we are employing as we take part in each worship service. What an experience!

I want to thank the Celebration Singers, accompanied by Dorothy Parris, complimented by the beautiful oboe played by Patti Backes as we presented “Welcome to Our Wonder-

ing Sight” written by the Norwegian Composer, Bradley Ellingboe. We were provided a compilation of visual expression on screen and narrative influence all gathered by Reverend Bill Good, and, in rehearsal, Reverend Bob Simmons who then fell ill and was unable to present with us.

There was a real effort made by all to bring, once again, the glory to God. Thank you all! Much thanks to the behind the scenes presentation efforts by Marta Ludwig, Kathy Cole and her team. You are wonderful!

Let’s go into our new year ready for what comes next, and sharing together as a church driven by the Spirit to handle our lives together in our community of believers.

*“Let us come before His presence with Thanksgiving and make a joyful noise unto Him”*

Psalm 95:2

Debbie Fisher  
Director of Music Ministry  
Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church ECO

### Time for a spiritual assessment

Although we picture the Founding Fathers as old men, many were quite young. By July 4th, 1776, Aaron Burr was 20, Alexander Hamilton, 21; James Madison, 25; John Jay, 29; and Thomas Jefferson, 33.



“Hardly anything else reveals so well the fear and uncertainty among [people] as the length to which they will go to hide their true selves from each other and even from their own eyes,” says A.W. Tozer. For insights into who we really are as Christians, the theologian proposes “rules for self-discovery.” According to Tozer, “we may be known” by these seven things: what we want most, what we think about most, how we use our money, what we do with our leisure time, the company we enjoy, who and what we admire, and what we laugh at.

The “wise Christian” will find other tests, says Tozer, but these are a starting point to reveal if our desires and priorities conflict with God’s will. “Our self-judgment is almost certain to be biased and imperfect,” he adds, yet there’s “every good reason for us to work along with the Holy Spirit in his benign effort to locate us spiritually in order that we may make such amendments as the circumstances demand.”

-The Newsletter Newsletter  
by Communication Resources, Inc



## Building & Grounds



On the north side of our parking lot we have designated two spaces for Visitors. Please honor the signs. Right next to the visitor spaces are 5 handicap spaces. If there is anything we can do to make traveling over our campus easier, please let us know.



The Volcanic Island of Aogashima, Japan  
Inhabited by 200 villagers.

*Weird World*



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

## Social Media



**FACEBOOK PAGE:**  
[www.facebook.com/fhpresbyterianchurch/](https://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**

## Life Line Screening



6111 Oak Tree Blvd.,  
Suite 301  
Independence, OH 44131

**Here at FHPC**  
**Monday, January 23, 2023**  
**Fellowship Center**

you ever thought about the following?

- I want to see my grandchildren grow up.
- I want to continue living independently.
- I don't want to be a burden on my family.

Preventive screenings can help and we have partnered with Life Line Screening to provide these valuable screenings.

The mission of Life Line Screening is to provide advance, yet affordable and convenient health screenings

that supplement your traditional healthcare.

They can help make you aware of a previously silent, unrecognized problem that can now get treated at an early stage, or confirm that you are on the right path and should continue your healthy habits.

Don't let heart disease and stroke get in your way of the life you love. Call toll free 1-888-653-6441, text the word, "circle" to 797979 or online at <https://llsa.social/HSC> to schedule your health screening.

**A package of 4 vital screenings is offered for only \$149.**

### ***A Christmas harvest***

Christmas is the harvest time of love. Souls are drawn to other souls. All that we have read and thought and hoped comes to fruition at this happy time. Our spirits are astir. We feel within us a strong desire to serve. A strange, subtle force, a new kindness, animates man and child. A new spirit is growing in us. No longer are we content to relieve pain, to sweeten sorrow, to give the crust of charity. We dare to give friendship, service, the equal loaf of bread and love.

—Helen Keller

*-The Newsletter Newsletter  
by Communication Resources, Inc*



"The Singing Tree"  
The wind blowing thru makes music  
Wind World

### **EPIPHANY**

On January 6 Christians celebrate Epiphany, when the Magi came to worship baby Jesus. Epiphany, which means an appearance or manifestation, symbolizes the first recognition of the Savior by non-Jews. Because Epiphany also is a reminder that Jesus came as the light of the whole world, its symbols include light, candles and a star.

How did the wise men know — and how do we know — that Jesus is the light of the world? As preacher George Buttrick said, "It would little avail to ask how we know. That would be like asking how we know that Beethoven's 'Hymn to Joy' is joyous. If a man were to say, 'It is not joyous to me,' he would not condemn the music; he would tell only his morbidity. There is no logic to establish an axiom, for an axiom is the basis of all logic; and the soul of Jesus has axiomatic truth. Jesus is light, and there is no proof for light except light itself."

*-The Newsletter Newsletter  
by Communication Resources, Inc*





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  
John Brockelman  
Fred Hansen  
Elsie Hoffarber

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

Matthew 25:21



In Bolivia, there are over 1500 kinds of potatoes!

### 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](http://www.fhpresbyterian.info/flowers)

then click on the calendar

Or call church office 480-837-1763

*Happy Birthday to...*

01/01 Bob Hoffarber  
01/03 Gayle Anderson  
01/03 Carol Fuls  
01/03 Donna Yordy  
01/06 Gerry Prokupek

01/09 Linda Lull  
01/15 Marge Bacher  
01/16 Jen young  
01/22 Archie Babaian

01/23 Jeff Rand  
01/24 Tony Harris  
01/24 Maryann O'Connor  
01/25 Torchy Robinson



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



**ECO**

A Covenant Order  
of Evangelical  
Presbyterians

Visit us on our web at  
[fhpresbyterian.info](http://fhpresbyterian.info)

**In Touch** is published monthly; the deadline for each issue is the **15th** of the month before publication. News and information should be submitted to the church office in hard copy, or email to [news@fhpresbyterian.info](mailto:news@fhpresbyterian.info) Editor, Marta Ludwig; Proof Reader, Phyllis Rapp; Photographer: open.



### *Another year for God*

Another year is dawning; dear Father, let it be,  
in working or in waiting, another year with thee....

Another year of progress, another year of praise,  
another year of proving thy presence all the days.

Another year of service, of witness for thy love;  
another year of training for holier work above.

Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be,  
on earth, or else in heaven, another year for thee.

—*Frances Ridley Havergal*

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#### **Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church**

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