

FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN TOUCH

Fountain Hills, AZ

February 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

Debbie Fisher, Music Director



“Music Ministry“

Here we go! It feels as though God has just taken our church out of the palm of one of His hands right into the palm of His other hand. We are experiencing a continuing forward motion as a body of Christians tapped by God, being willingly lead by Our friend and Pastor, Bob Simmons. That is a comfort to me, as the Director of Music Ministry. I have been privileged within every large change that has occurred throughout the last 30 years of my employment here, in one capacity or another, to work with some fabulous Ministers and some very tuned in Christian Musicians that main-

tain the steadfastness necessary to keep a program moving.

Worship preparedness comes weekly. Once we finish a service, the next is up, whether the last service's music is out of our mind, yet, or not. All of this occurs with constant prayer, plain and simple. The people involved in our Music Ministry are active in rehearsals to do the same great presentation in our Services from week to week. What a privilege to work with them.

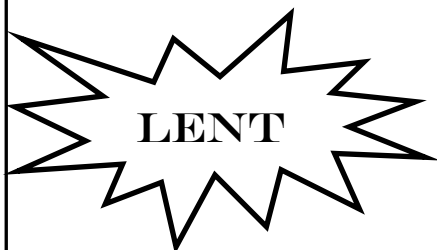
There are so many styles of music that we are permitted to express by the necessity of God's inclusion of all into our Sanctuary. I find that a true privilege, as well. We aren't stuck, or frozen, as some may think of us Presbyterians. Our church draws people from all over the Nation, and many were raised up in different denominations. We are as accommodating as we can be, but, our church has always had a style of its own. We are the only Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church in the world!

Just as the lovely potluck of treats we enjoy in Fellowship following each service, there is variety. Not everyone loves one kind of cook-

ie only. Same goes for the musical variety that plays into the moment, to the point of the sermon, which may then bring a contrasting melody to the thematic point, just to offer a variance in our mindful soul. It is a constant balanced approach to music. We are worshipping God with shouts of joy, as in Psalm 27:6. We are praising God with trumpet, harp, lyre, stringed instruments and pipe as in Psalm 150:3-4. We move our music toward lifting the emotions of the heart, whether suffering or cheerful as in James 5:13. We are learning scriptures and spiritual truths, as we are instructed in the ways we should go, as in Psalm 32:7-8. We are encouraging each other as in Ephesians 5:18-19. We are also trying to introduce others to Christ as in Psalm 40:3 “and He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many will see and fear, and will trust in the Lord.”

Our church is ready! We have God to pray to, to cry to, and to praise each moment in a unified prayer of thanks. Here we go!

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



VESPERS

With Pastor Bob

Live on Wednesdays, at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22

Communion served and ashes will be available

A Contemplative Worship Service

A Service of Evening Prayer

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons
Transitional Pastor

Lisa Carrington
Pastoral Intern

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—Tech Support
Terri Schmidt—Missions
Interim Christian Formation

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

Class of 2025
Sandra Coultrap-Hilltop Hospitality
Bob Cowden-Finance
Bob Lull-Bldg & Grounds
Jackie Miles-Outreach
Jeff Rand-Communications
Jim Stewart-Finance

Contact Session
www.fhpresbyterian.info/session-mailbox

BOARD OF DEACONS
Moderator: Phil Katz

Class of 2024
Phil Katz
Jean Linzer

Class of 2025
Barbara Hoverland
Matt Jefferson

Care Committee
Linda Kester
Leslie Hermansen
Tyson Robinson
Susan Titus

Focus on Finance

Dec Income	\$ 50,529	Budget	\$ 31,651
Dec Expenses	\$ 36,517	Budget	\$ 33,498
Yr to date Income	\$ 372,663	YTD Budget	\$ 381,845
Yr to date Expense	\$ 390,044	YTD Budget	\$ 400,108

We started the year 2022 expecting an \$18,263 deficit mainly due to the decision to pave the parking lot and incurring an additional note to pay on the balance. We managed to keep our expenses under budget during the year, ending with a deficit of \$17,380.

Thank you for keeping up with your pledges and contributions. They are very much appreciated in keeping our church and programs running.

Respectfully,
Linda Lull, Treasurer



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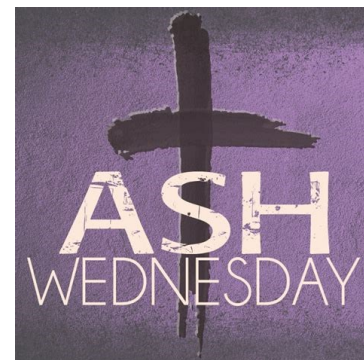
Upcoming Events

Sweetheart Brunch

Saturday, February 11, 2022

11:00 A.M. | Fellowship Center | Tickets \$15

Available in the Narthex/Office



February 22, 2023

Service at 5:30 pm
Communion Service

SERMON SERIES: "GETTING TO KNOW THE GOD WHO IS"

(These sermons will examine five special characteristics or attributes of God)

January 22	-	"God Calls"	-	Exodus 3:1-6
January 29	-	"God Speaks"	-	Psalms 19:1-4b
February 5	-	"God Hides"	-	Job 23; Isaiah 45:15
February 12	-	"God Tests"	-	Genesis 22:1-19
February 19	-	"God Forgets"	-	Psalms 103

A BRIEF WORD FROM THE PASTOR

In a conversation with our Elders, I mentioned to them that my practice has been to wear a robe for traditional worship services, until the hot days of summer rolls around. Then we can all enjoy summer attire! Please know that if you, the members of the congregation, would prefer that I be less formal and wear a suit, I am happy to do so. I don't want the robe to become a major issue of concern to any of us, but I wanted to let you know my thoughts and welcome your input. However, I do wear the robe regardless for all Memorial/Funeral Services, baptisms, and weddings since these are always very special and sacred events.



Welcome to Our Pastoral Intern!



What a difference a year makes! In January 2022 I embarked on a weekend getaway with my adult daughter from our home in Seattle, WA to Scottsdale, AZ. The time with my daughter was especially sweet, and it was on that trip that the Lord unexpectedly cleared the proverbial fog on an issue of which I'd been seeking clarity.

At the beginning of last year, at the urging of and in cooperation with my church leaders, I was concluding a year of discernment about whether to pursue formal ordained ministry. During the year of discernment, pursuing ordained ministry seemed clear, but what was unclear was the sensing that God might be calling me out of Seattle; I had no idea where I would be going.

Well, with immense joy, here I am! (Feel free to ask me the in-between details). I moved to Scottsdale in June 2022, already connected to an ECO church in the area, and was encouraged to pursue ordained ministry here.

For the last five years, I have been working as a full-time (non-ordained) pastoral counselor. I received my Master of Arts in Counseling from Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. I have been working with churches and individuals primarily in the Seattle area, specializing in churches

experiencing significant transitions, both good and hard, by assisting church leaders and caring for individuals.

When I learned of the possibility of interning at Fountain Hills Presbyterian, during a season of transition, I was excited by the opportunity. My passion is Jesus and helping others keep their eyes and hearts oriented toward Him when the things of life are uncertain. Transition, change, and uncertainty are true for us daily and create environments the enemy earnestly uses to distract.

In John 15 Jesus exhorts us, likening the church to branches, that we must actively remain or abide in the vine (Jesus). Our only source of nourishment, thriving, flourishing, and fruit-bearing is dwelling within the vine itself, and loving one another as he has loved us. This is my hope for you over the course of this year... that the ministry of Fountain Hills will be filled with the love, compassion, generosity, humility, and grace of Christ and be actively demonstrated among this church and in the surrounding community.



It is such a privilege to be able to serve among you in this season. I look forward to meeting you in a more personal way, spending time with you in visitation, working alongside Pastor Bob, and worshipping with the community of Fountain Hills Presbyterian. I eagerly anticipate the occasions that I will bring God's Word in preaching and teaching, and the many other opportunities the Lord gives me to serve and fellowship among you.

Please don't hesitate to approach and introduce yourselves. I just ask for your patience as I learn names and faces :)

Lisa Carrington

Living with God in a one-story house

We often think of the universe as a two-story house, notes Orthodox Christian priest Stephen Freeman. "We live here on earth, the first floor, where ... everything operates according to normal, natural laws, while God lives in heaven, upstairs, and is largely removed from the story in which we live." Most of the time we feel like we're all alone on our level of the world.

But, Freeman adds, God is "everywhere present and filling all things." Not that God's kingdom has fully come; we know that's not so. And not to discount the promise of eternity. But we don't live apart from God, even now. As Jacob said, "Surely the Lord is in this place. ... This is none other than the house of God" (Genesis 28:16-17). How might our perceptions and behaviors change if we expected to run into God frequently, conversing and enjoying his company not only in prayer and worship but while working and relaxing? What a difference it makes when we live as roommates with God in a one-story world.

—based on *Hunting Magic Eels* by Richard Beck

*-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc*

Women's Ministry

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING

3rd Friday | Feb 17 | 9:00 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!

Our WF book Inspirational Readings, all 120 books, sold out! Marta will keep a list of future orders so that she'll print and we'll bind, as needed. *For info:* call Marta in the church office at 480-837-1763. *May we carry inspiration forward in 2023!*



Out 'n About—Out to Lunch

Wednesday | February 15 | 12 noon | Saddle Bronc Grill

Our February luncheon is planned for the Saddle Bronc Grill, located at 11056 N. Saguaro Blvd. Ladies, be there at noon for various tasty lunch choices. For reservations, contact Nancy at 480-837-3021.



WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday | Feb 9 | 9:30 am | Fireside Room

Read "And the Walls Came Tumbling Down", chapter 9 in our study book: *Esther, a Woman of Strength and Dignity* by Charles Swindoll. This chapter exposes the deceitful schemes and treacherous acts set out to destroy the Jews as well as the more powerful divine righteousness that stands against such wickedness. Right ultimately prevails over wrong, then and now. Join our discussion. Call Monique 336-382-8733 for more information.



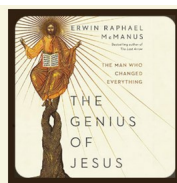
AFTERNOON CIRCLE

1st Tuesday | Feb 7 | 1:00 pm | Fellowship Center

study: THE GENIUS OF JESUS (the man who changed everything) by Edwin R McManus. Ch. 1 - *The Genius*. Years earlier McManus, while in pursuit of genius and the search for God, finds they converged in one person Jesus. Later in a newspaper ad, "Are you a coward or are you the hero we're looking for?" leads



him to want to be a hero, like Jesus, a transformative human with the fullness of the divine. We'll discuss HOW Jesus makes us a better human or is it HOW Jesus makes us human again? And in re-seeing reality, we'll find Jesus' real genius is in making it transferable to us.



This book challenges us to take on "our" genius! For more info, call Jane Allen at 907-538-3223.

EVENING CIRCLE

3rd Monday | February 20 | 4:00 pm | Fireside Room

The Evening Circle has produced their first batch of "Blessing Bags for the Homeless" to be picked up and distributed by congregation members wishing to do so. They will continue to produce 20 bags each

month between now and the end of May. If you would like to help support the ladies in this endeavor, please feel free to donate online through the Mission donation site, specifying "Blessing Bags." This month the Evening Circle will be looking at Lesson 5 "The Shield of Faith" in the study book "Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer. She reminds us that we must constantly be prepared to defend ourselves against the enemy who tries to attack our faith. We want our faith to be reflected in our attitudes and actions, but this can sometimes be challenging. Please join us, and if you would like more information about Evening Circle, feel free to contact Judy Hamouda at (480) 215-0827.



Pictured: Linda Katz, Barbara Oakeson, Carol Hodgson, Maria Berry, Donna Yordy and Arlene Stewart.

Mission Ministry



Now that we are officially into the New Year, I want to say a BIG THANK YOU to all who helped us with our Mission Projects. I want to give you a brief recount of our Projects in 2022.

We helped with these 19 projects:

- **Extended Hands**-with both food and cash money.
- **Code Red Water Drive**-with both cases of water and cash donations of \$1668.30.
- **Devereux Easter Baskets**-\$1350.00 this in 54 baskets @\$25.00 each
- **Ukraine/Sister City** with cash donations of \$5025.81.
- **Haiti**-\$1000.00
- **Streetlight**-is a joint effort with the Evening Women's Circle, a total of \$2026.33 was collected.
- **Blankets Plus/Church World Services**-a total of \$2207.66 was collected.
- **Phoenix Rescue**-\$500.00 plus money given in John Bivens name for another \$1597.66.
- **Mattress Plus**-a total of \$376.72 in coins collected.
- **Boys and Girls Club**-\$1000.00 given for scholarships for the needy kids.
- **Here We Grow**-\$1000.00 for scholarships for those needy kids.
- **Foster Your Future**-\$500.00 for helping the youth who have aged out of the Foster System and possibly living on the streets.
- **Good Samaritans Purse**-helping those in Kentucky with \$620.00 and with \$393.25 for Hurricane Ian.
- **Fountain Hills PTA**-\$500.00
- **Vets**-\$2025.00
- **Fountain Hills Crisis Team**-\$500.00
- **Christmas Shoe Box Ministries**- \$3627.49 in money and some boxes.
- **Santa for Seniors**-this in conjunction with the Afternoon Women's Circle.
- **Caleb and Summer**-\$500.00 to help with their Missionary work.

All of this was done with \$6000.00 from the Mission Budget and \$5000.00 given to us from the Rummage Sale money. The rest was given by our generous giving church family. Thank You!

February is Blankets Plus Month

The Mission Committee is once again helping with this long standing project. We will have a brief Minute for Mission and a brief video to show the congregation towards the first of the month. The Good Samaritans Purse is used for the blankets as well as other essential items needed in disaster areas. See more information on page 5.

Extended Hands Extended Hands

We will continue to collect food things for the Extended Hands Food Bank in the shopping cart outside of the Church on Sunday mornings and in the office during the week. Remember non-perishable and canned food items. You can always go on line on the Church's website and donate specifically to EHFB or write a check and put EHFB on the memo line and place in offering basket.

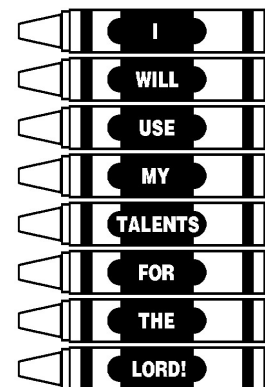
Vets

We continue to collect for the Veterans. There is a place in the Narthex where you can place things or you can take them to the Church office. Be sure and read Donna Sims's part of this newsletter to get an idea of how we help the Veterans.

These are some of our February projects. We had a very successful PB&J drive with 160 jars of Peanut Butter and jellies and jams as of January 23. Thank you to all who help us to help those less fortunate.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Schmidt
Mission Elder

Galatians 2:10 *All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.*



Support Our Troops

After our very busy Christmas season for our Troops and Veterans/Homeless, it has been pretty quiet regarding donations and that is to be expected but please remember that this particular mission project goes on all year long, it never stops. We are hopeful for your donations of our regular year-round items, such as gently used clothing, jackets, jeans, t-shirts, shirts, shoes, bedding, small household items, CD's DVD's, puzzles, and really needed are toiletries. The Mission Committee is always happy to see many members placing items in our collection box located in the Narthex on the East side and in the Church office. Thank you again for remembering our Veterans and our Troops.

Donna Sims,
Mission Committee



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**.



Blanket Sunday

Blanket the World with Love

From something as simple as a blanket, amazing things can happen. **CWS Blanket Project** shares love through

“Blanketing the World with Love”.



Imagine you are a homeless person and winter is coming. You wonder how you will stay warm and dry. Imagine you are a mother of two children fleeing the conflict in your country. You need shelter,

warmth, and something to carry your belongings in. Imagine your home and everything in it is destroyed by a tornado. You need a blanket to keep you warm in the shelter.

Our congregation can support these people and change lives. **Blanket Sunday Kick-off is February 5th.** Your gift of \$10 for a blanket will support Church World Services change people's lives in the United States and around the world recovering from disasters of any kind by providing them with a blanket for warmth, shelter, and to carry their belongings.

Let's Blanket the World with Love!

\$10 provides a blanket for one person. \$50 provides blankets for an entire family in need. Let's give generously and top our contributions from last year which was over \$2200. There will be Blanket offering envelopes in the Narthex starting February 5th for you to place your cash or check. Drop a check in the offering box in the narthex or church office. Remember to put "Blankets" on the memo. You can also use e giving to contribute to the Blanket Project. We will be collecting money for blankets until February 26th.

February is also Valentine's month. Contributing \$10 for a blanket to honor a special person in your life makes a wonderful Valentine's gift.

Let's Blanket the World with Love!

Library Footnotes

When there is work to be done in the church, it is heart-warming and inspiring when someone steps up to the plate and volunteers to do it. Thus was the case over eight years ago when Elsie Hofferber volunteered to write reviews of books that are in our church Library for this monthly publication. Elsie was an avid reader and could capture the essence of a book and enthusiastically share it on pen and paper. Her last review was in the December newsletter and when she turned it in, she talked about doing another in early 2023. We certainly will miss her, but are thankful for the way she shared her talents with us for a number of years.

It is difficult to lose a friend who is near and dear, but the mission of the church continues for the rest of us "saints". And we carry on, thankful for having had each one as part of our lives.

So now we are recruiting new workers to help continue with Library work. Some of the duties of the Library Committee include:

- Processing recently acquired books (computer entry, printing labels and catalog cards, attaching pockets with check out cards in books)
- Maintaining circulation records by entering books in

the computer that are checked in or out

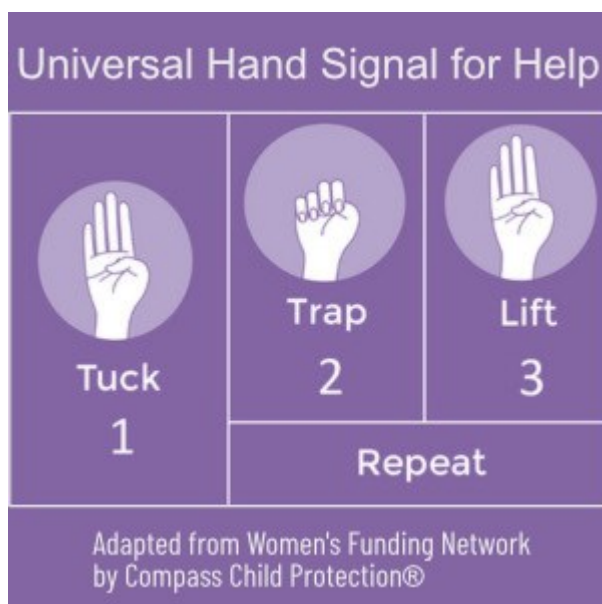
- Writing (or recruiting someone else to write) a book review for the newsletter
- Featuring books on display that relate to current liturgical seasons and study topics, PW Reading list, or national and world events in the news.
- Providing assistance to patrons looking for information and/or help about certain topics
- Assisting with selection of books which meet the criteria established for our Library Resource Center
- Sending out overdue book reminders

Most of the duties involved in maintaining and developing our Library are easy to learn with a little practice and are quite flexible timewise. They can be done at your convenience and are less likely to conflict with other commitments that we all have. You get to see all the new books we acquire as they arrive, getting first dibs! And you provide a service appreciated and respected by our congregation. If you would be interested in learning more or giving it a try, let's talk! Contact me at 480-837-5563.



Barbara Oakeson

Teach kids this safety hand signal!



Ladies' Drop IN

Well they completed another puzzle! All women of the church are welcome to join in at any time...Tuesdays at 10am to 12 noon. Pictured:

Nancy Wulfmeier, Peg Inglis, Linda Katz and Edee Grider

Communications



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 is 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



Kathy Cole

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 develop media support, such as slides and videos, and produce the live stream of worship and memorial services.

All Communications Submissions should be emailed to news@fhpresbyterian.info.

Contact our Elders on the Communications team:

Kathy Cole (webmaster@fhpresbyterian.info/860-884-5008)

Jeff Rand (jeffrand@cox.net/480-547-9580)

WELCOME TO JEFF RAND, Communications Elder

I grew up in Southeastern Michigan, where I was involved in the First United Presbyterian Church of Wyandotte. I graduated from Michigan State University and entered a career with the Boy Scouts of America. During a 40-year career, I lived in six states, ending in Arizona, where I retired two years ago. I travel extensively, pursuing adventures throughout the United States and the rest of the world. I now look forward to growing in faith and service to FHPC as a member of the session.



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 Bob or the church office at 480-837-1763. We welcome our Outreach Elder, Jackie Miles; you may call her with questions at 480-518-5182.



LADIES OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH



ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS



1st row: Bob Lull, Kathy Cole, Terri Schmidt, Sandra Coultrap, Arlene Stewart

2nd row: Jack Reynolds, Pastor Bob, Jim Stewart, Bob Cowden, Jackie Miles, Ilene Berg, Jeff Rand

Pastor Bill's Retirement Party



More photos on page 17...

International Dark Sky Discovery Center

Save The Date

International Dark Sky Discovery Center

February 25 | Saturday | 10:00 am to 12 noon | FHPC Fellowship Center

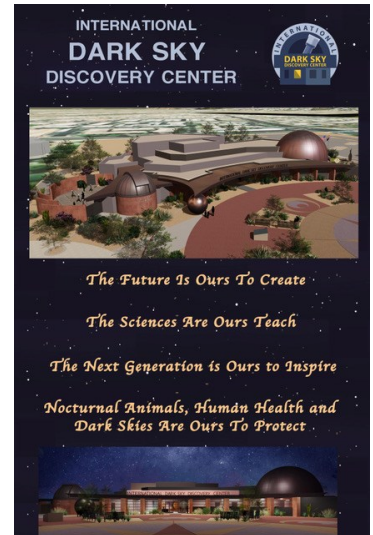
Join the Women's Fellowship in learning about the newest building project in Fountain Hills.

The International Dark Sky Discovery Center will be built on city land and will be a welcome attraction near our community center, museum & library.

Come listen to Mr. Joe Bill, president of the center and learn why our town was selected & see pictures of the building & telescopes.

Please come and bring your family & friends-this program is open to everyone. Light refreshments will be served.

More information: darkskycenter.org or call Susan Titus 608-332-1265



God's peaceable kingdom

Once in a while — too seldom, it seems, but often enough to give us hope — Isaiah's prophecy comes true: "The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together ... The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together" (Isaiah 11:6-7, NRSV).

In February 2022, a Minnesota photographer captured a rare event: a wolf and a deer lying feet from each other in the snow — and neither was eating the other! Occasionally we hear of Palestinians and Israelis partnering to teach peacemaking skills, a rally protester helping an injured counter-protester, a crime victim and perpetrator embracing. A divorced couple I know, deeply estranged, decided they could sit together at their son's high school graduation to demonstrate their love for him.

In a world sadly torn apart, glimpses of mending, tolerance and love are signs of God among us. Isaiah (11:6) declares what makes such goodness possible: "A little child shall lead them." We know this child as the babe of Bethlehem, Jesus.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

-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.



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



VESPERS

With Pastor Bob

Live on Wednesdays, at 5:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Starting on ASH WEDNESDAY, February 22

**A Contemplative Worship Service
A Service of Evening Prayer**

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP PRESENTS Lunch & Lecture Series from the Great Courses

12:00 noon in the Fireside Room

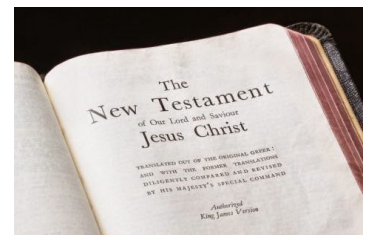
We start with a lecture at noon followed by lunch with discussion. A second lecture will be offered to those who want to stay. Each lecture is 30 minutes. See schedule below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Course</u>
<u>Saturday</u>	<i>The Making of the New Testament Canon" by Prof. Bart Ehrman from the University Of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</i>

February 18	The Pauline Epistles The Problems of Pseudonymity
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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



Meet Our Musicians

Roy Nickel (Trumpet and Choir member)

General Background:

Born in rural Elgin, Illinois...about a thousand years ago.
Farm boy during growing up years.
Education in a one room country school.
Played football in high school.

Musical instrument Background:

Roy grew up with music, and a piano playing mother....where many sing-a-longs prevailed on a daily basis.
By the 3rd grade he wanted to play a trumpet, and took private lessons. By the 7th grade he was playing trumpet in school.

He started singing in his youth choir at church where his mother was director. He played trumpet throughout the rest of his education...Junior High...High School...and all of college where he received his Bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, IL.

Staying with music...he got his first teaching job in Flanagan, IL...where he met his wife, Mary Ann. He was the only music teacher in Flanagan, and therefore taught all general music, band and choruses. After 3 years he returned to Northern Illinois University and earned his Master's degree in 1966. The majority of his teaching years were spent with bands...5th grade beginners through high school. His "middle thirteen years" in education was as District Coordinator for Music and Art.....a department of 44 teachers. In total he was involved with music in Illinois schools for 32 years.

After he and Mary Ann discovered Fountain Hills, they took early retirement...and in 1996 joined FHPC. He was one of the founders of Fountain Hills Community Band, and served on the Fountain Hills Public Arts Committee for 12 years. He headed up the "Fount Rushmore Presidents Display" in FH Park. (2015...had no idea you did that)



A favorite saying of his is: "Those who play together, stay together".
(All the information above is thanks to Roy Nickel and Pat Willigrod.)

Questions & Answers concerning the biography.
Church member Jay Moyer asked Roy a few questions about his musical history, and the FHPC Choir.
(Obviously Mr. Moyer lacks some polish when it comes to...certain inquisitive skills and musical knowledge)



Q: Did your parents encourage you to enter music as a vocation?
Roy: No.

Q: Did they suggest you take up farming?...or to join a circus?
Roy: No and no.

Q: In other words were you positively influenced by your parents' musical interests...and decided that was what you wanted to do?
Roy: No...I did not realize a direction toward Music education until my senior year in High School.
I was greatly influenced by the H.S. band director and a number of my classmates. Out of a class of 425...about 5 of us went on to become music educators.

Q: Was playing a trumpet in the 3rd grade your idea....or your parents?
Roy: It was totally my idea and my parents supported me.

Q: Why did you pick the trumpet and not the banjo, or base drum? Perhaps the kazoo or harmonica?
(Roy explained to me that "base" is spelled "bass". I should have said: "percussion instrument".)
Roy: I do wish I had taken piano lessons more seriously. It's probably the greatest instrument for all settings.

Q: Did you play in a symphonic band and/or regular orchestra? Dance band?
Roy: Played in symphonic band and orchestra through out my College years. Through the 1960's also played in big bands (Jazz, Stage, Dance) but not much since then. In my later years, the Fountain Hills Community Band was formed and was very important.

Q: Did you march in a school band and/or become a drum major?
Roy: Marching band was in my life, not my favorite, but necessary. Through the years, conducting groups was very enjoyable. Still is.

Continued on next page...

Q: Did you perform on stage with famous musical personalities? (Such as: Gene Autry, Roy Rogers, "Rex O'Herlihan the singing Cowboy" (From movie Rustlers Rhapsody))
 Roy: Not that I know of...thanks for asking.

Q: In the choir, do you consider yourself a soprano, alto, tenor, or bass? Or perhaps all four?
 Roy: How much musical training did you say you had?
 Bass.

Q: Were you gifted with "perfect pitch" (sometimes called absolute pitch) like Amadeus Mozart or Whitney Houston?
 Roy: Are you serious?

Q: Did you win a lot of musical recitals... taking home ribbons, medals, trophies, or plaques?
 Roy: Next question.

Q: Do people ask you for your autograph?
 Roy: None recently, if you want one I will provide.

Q: Were you "inspired" by a particular musical scholar, or professional band leader, or orchestra conductor?
 On the other hand...was there a musical conductor or director that you would like to see thrown into Lake Mead?
 Roy: Not sure how to.....

Q: Who was your favorite director, conductor or composer? (Examples: George Solti, Anton Dvorak, Bob Dylan?)
 Roy: Who are those guys?

Q: Who is/was your favorite musician? (Examples: Winton Marsalis, Tiny Tim, Boris Karloff)
 Roy: Are you all they could find to do this interview?

Q: What was/is your favorite kind of music? (Examples: Rap, Jazz, Folk, Classical, Opera.)
 Roy: Listened to the big bands of Les Brown, Count Basie, Stan Kenton for hours on end. Also liked Maynard Ferguson (trumpet). Also liked folk, classical, jazz, Patriotic songs...all of 'em. Also some Country, and Dixie.

Q: Who was/is your favorite performer(s) ? (Examples: Linda Ronstadt, Fats Waller, Lady GaGa)
 Roy: Ray Charles ("America the Beautiful"). Louie Armstrong ("It's a Beautiful World"). The Texas Tenors. Canadian Brass. US Military Bands.

Q: What is your favorite choral piece. (Mine was "Zippide-Do-Da".)
 Roy: Handel's Messiah is fine. Choral and Instrumental.

Q: Did you ever sing in musicals like "The Sound of Music" or "HMS Pinafore"?
 Roy: Played in pit orchestras, never sang.

Q: Did you ever compose...or want to compose music? (What kind?...Acid rock, Classical, Heavy Metal?)
 Roy: Only in my masters degree days.

Q: Have you made CD's or tapes of your favorite music and put them together in one CD or tape?
 Roy: Not recently.....next question?

Q: Do you have a favorite trumpet solo piece?
 (Examples: Haydn E-Flat Major Concerto for Trumpet; Leopold Mozart Concerto in D Major; or Louie Armstrong playing anything.)
 Roy: I think the last one. Can I go now?

Inquiring minds need to know this stuff. Thanks to Roy for participating...I know there's a ton more information about his background, but it would probably take a book to fill in. And possibly better worded questions.

Roy Nickel

When you are principal trumpet... playing the solo in Handel's Messiah...what else is there? Must be gratifying.
 Roy has a great solo voice which he carries with confidence, ease and leadership. A definite asset to the FHPC Choir.
 Would like to see him play the trumpet more.

Some of Roy's favs:
 "If you don't practice, a terrible thing happens...NOTHING."

"Singing is great! A group working toward the same goal.....The Performance!"

"Everyone can sing...just some better than others. All people love music in their hearts."

Don't worry about avoiding temptation.
 As you grow older, it will avoid you.

- Winston Churchill



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Pastor Bill's Retirement Party



I wear it when I dust

Some churchgoers chatted about their customized T-shirts from a service project, sharing compliments they'd received while wearing them in public. One chimed in, saying, "I wear mine when I dust." Two nearby staff members raised their eyebrows, likely thinking it wasn't the outreach strategy they had in mind. Jesus gave us all a "service project" via the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). Tasks include telling people about Jesus, baptizing and teaching his commands. In a way, we all received a Great Commission T-shirt at our baptism. When do you wear yours? And how are your projects going? Whether you're serving in the community or at home (even by dusting), remember Who you represent!

—Julie Lee

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc



America's First chocolate-covered ice cream bar, the Eskimo Pie (renamed Edy's Pie in 2021), was patented in 1922. Creator Christian Kent Nelson partnered with chocolatier Russell Stover on the treat, then the pair sold the manufacturing rights to a few ice cream companies in Iowa. They were an instant hit, as the first 250,000 bars sold out within 24 hours.

-Readers Digest

Words of Wisdom

Words of wisdom

1. The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.
2. When a kid says "Daddy, I want mommy" that's the kid version of "I'd like to speak to your supervisor."
3. It's weird being the same age as old people.
4. Just once I want a username and password prompt to say CLOSE ENOUGH.
5. If I am ever on life support unplug me and plug me back in and see if that works.
6. Do you ever wake up in the morning and look in the mirror and think... "That can't be accurate.?!"
7. Last night the internet stopped working so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.
8. If Adam and Eve were Cajuns they would have eaten the snake instead of the Apple and saved us all a lot of trouble.
9. We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages...Metamucil and Ensure.
10. You know you are getting old when friends with benefits means having someone who can drive at night.
11. Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.
12. After watching how some people wear their masks I understand why contraception fails.
13. Some of my friends exercise every day, meanwhile I am watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.
14. For those of you that don't want Alexa listening in on your conversation they are making a male version.... it doesn't listen to anything.
15. I just got a present labeled, From Mom and Dad, and you know damn well Dad has no idea what's inside.
16. Now that I have lived through a plague I totally understand why Italian renaissance paintings are full of fat people lying on couches.
17. Now that we have everyone washing their hands correctly...next week.....Turn Signals.

And I end with... Love what you have before life teaches you to love what you lost.

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



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

Thank you my dear friends,

I truly appreciate all the prayers, cards and condolences you sent upon Elsie's passing. It meant a lot to me. Its never easy losing a loved one. You eased my pain. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,
Bob Hoffarber



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...

02/03 Rebecca Redeman
02/06 Roy Nickel
02/09 Ben Fast
02/09 Jane Realdsen
02/10 Linda Kester

02/12 Melinda Stanton
02/17 John Bacher
02/18 Tim Halchuck
02/20 Jane Haynes
02/23 Gerry Carroll
02/23 Shawn Uphoff

02/25 Jackie Miles
02/25 Josephine Nelson
02/26 Karen Cowden
02/26 Barbara Oakeson
02/26 Tyson Robinson
02/29 Kitty Youngquist



Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church
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of Evangelical
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“Consider”

Consider the lilies of the field whose bloom is brief:
We are as they; like them we fade away,
as doth a leaf.

Consider the sparrows of the air of small account:
Our God doth view whether they fall or mount,
he guards us too.

Consider the lilies that do neither spin nor toil,
Yet are most fair: What profits all this care and
all this coil?

Consider the birds that have no barn nor harvest-weeks;
God gives them food:
Much more our Father seeks to do us good.

—Christina Rossetti

*-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc*

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

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