

FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN TOUCH

Fountain Hills, AZ

May 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

Sandra Coultrap, Elder



Writing an article to be printed and distributed to a large group is and can be scary. What is not is the care and love I have for members of FHPC and the

community of Fountain Hills. Ten years ago Keith and I started looking for a home church in Fountain Hills as we were now spending more of the winter in Arizona while still having a church in Idaho. Once we finally landed at the church on the hill, Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, we attended the membership class and became Affiliate Partners in 2016. So, early to rise and church at 9am. I jumped in and attended garage sales, hospitality events and Bible study classes which I really enjoyed. Then I was asked to serve on the Biblical Garden and Columbarium Committee. I serve with an incredible group and have a good friend in George Holtan who walks the property and talks to the plants with me. It has been a true blessing to serve in this ministry. I am working on reestablishing the Herb Garden and it is on the way.

We now are able to spend 8 to 9 months in Arizona and have become full time Covenant Partners at FHPC. Thank you for live streaming the Sunday worship which we watch

when we are in Idaho. Love it!

I was asked last year if I would consider being an Elder. This was and still is a very humbling press on my heart. I was asked to serve on



K-5 Sunday School

Hospitality which is a wonderful gift and opportunity that I believe is so important. I did however feel a tug on my heart that needed to be explored.

On attending my first session meeting it was reported that since our session was short staffed last year, Pastor Bill took on the role of leading Christian Formation. With him having retired, there was an opening for this ministry. So, I volunteered to be the Elder for Christian Formation. I want to see the church grow, be part of supporting younger parents and their children to come join us Sunday morning as a start. The function of Christian Formation is to give oversight to the total formational and educational programs of FHPC and to involve the entire congregation in educational

experiences that deepen their faith and commitment. Currently we have:

- Men's Bible study on Monday Mornings with Bob Cowden studying the Gospel of John
- Sunday morning Bible Study with Lisa Carrington studying the Gospel of Mark
- A children's program each Sunday during the regular worship service led by Jeanette Simmons
- Wednesday afternoon children's music and movement with Debbie Fisher
- The Women's Ministry has (3) Bible study circles (morning, afternoon and evening)

The season is coming to an end. Some members like myself will leave for cooler weather and return in the Fall. We are establishing a good foundation, let us keep the momentum going.



Men's Monday Morning Bible Study

Continued on page 6

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

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

Class of 2025
Sandra Coultrap-Christian
Formation
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

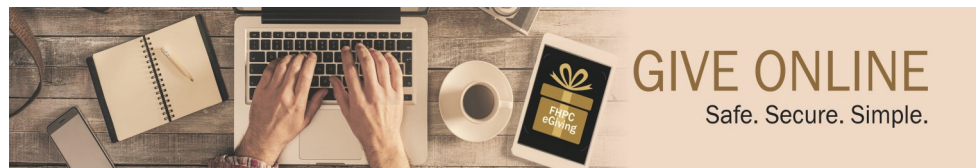
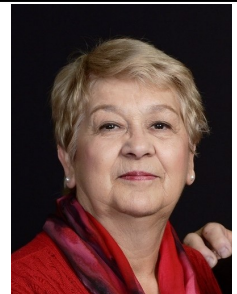
Care Committee
Linda Kester
Leslie Hermansen
Tyson Robinson
Susan Titus

Focus on Finance

Mar Income	\$ 36,460	Budget	\$ 31,387
Mar Expenses	\$ 24,872	Budget	\$ 33,058
Yr to date Income	\$ 112,532	YTD Budget	\$ 94,161
Yr to date Expense	\$ 93,130	YTD Budget	\$101,722

We are seeing a significant increase in income the first quarter of 2023. Some donors have paid up their pledges using their IRA required minimum distributions. We have a generous congregation. We have also been able to keep expenses down so far, which will give us the opportunity to build up our reserves in anticipation of the summer months when an air conditioner could fail, or with the monsoons we may find a roof leak somewhere. Our buildings are aging with wear and tear to be expected and must be addressed. We would not be able to continue our operating expenses and programs without your support. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Linda Lull, Treasurer



On the Inside:

Sandra Coultrap, Elder	1
Focus on Finance.. ..	2
Upcoming Events:	3
Mission Ministry	4
Support Our Troops	5
Worship by Giving	6
Medallions in Columbarium	6
Women's Ministries	7
Library Footnotes	8
Easter basket Thank You	8
Communications	9
Covenant Partnerships	9
Easter Sunday.	10
Meet Our Musician	12
Building & Grounds.	13
Christian Formation	14
Lunch & Lecture Series	14
Technical Support Changes	15
Social Media	15
FHPC Foundation	16
Welcome New Members	17
Music Ministry	18
Necrology for 2023... ..	19
May Birthdays	19
FH Fountain	20

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE!!

**The Steinway Victory Vertical Project
Sponsored by Four Peaks Chapter,
NSDAR
Friday, May 12, 2023 at 5 PM
At FHPC Sanctuary**

Listen to Garik Pedersen as he tells the story of one of Steinway's proudest achievements in bringing comfort and the familiarity of music to the front lines by parachuting lightweight pianos into war zones to entertain the troops. He plays classical, popular, boogie-woogie, jazz and movie soundtracks to bring to life a remarkable account of courage, solidarity and the power of music.



IMPORTANT DATES

May 4 National Day of Prayer

May 14 Mother's Day

May 28 Pentecost

May 29 Memorial Day



Life Immortal

At the end of May, Americans honor those who've died for our country — and remember all deceased loved ones. These times of reflection, often in cemeteries, can make us ponder our own mortality. Even some Christians may fear the unknown of death.

Yet because of our faith, followers of Jesus can aim to make productive use of whatever earthly time we have left. We know the grave isn't the end. Consider this poetic description of life everlasting from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: "Dust thou art, to dust returnest / was not spoken of the soul."

To our death-defying, death-defeating God we pray: Eternal God, empower us to take hold of the eternal life to which Christ calls us, and to boldly testify of it to anyone who asks the reason for our hope. To the immortal King of the ages, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, to him be honor, glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**Youth Theater Kids to perform
Sunday, May 21 after worship
during Fellowship**



Four men to put up the cross: Bob Titus, Bob Lull, Bill Matty and George Holtan

NAME BADGES

Have you ever been unable to remember a name even when the person is familiar to you? It's embarrassing to call someone by the wrong name! Being able to greet each other by name at church goes a long way toward building relationships. Thanks to the generous funding by **Presby Pickens** we were able to purchase name badges for our congregation. You will find yours on the table at the main entry to the church each Sunday morning. If you don't find one – or if your name needs to be corrected - please contact Marta at the church office. We suggest you keep your name badge in your car – or ladies, in your purse – so it will be conveniently available on Sunday morning.

If you have a pacemaker implant and wish to have a name badge without a magnetic holder, please leave your name with Marta at the church office and an appropriate badge will be made available.

Mission Ministry



Welcome to the Mission part of our Newsletter. I am excited to fill you in on what we are doing. We here in the Mission committee so love to help those we can, and strive to be the best givers and helpers we can be. If you feel like you would like to join our group, we would love to have you. We usually meet the second Monday of the month at 4:00 in the office conference room. Feel free to sit in on a meeting and see if it is something that would interest you.

Easter Basket (Recap)

We are delighted to say we helped the afternoon circle distribute 51 Easter Baskets. Thank you to the 15 people who brought baskets in already to go, and THANK YOU to those who donated money for this project. Over \$1500.00 was collected and they were able to make an additional 36 baskets for a total of 51. Thank you to those who helped pack these baskets, and Jane Allen and her husband for delivering the baskets. *More photos on page 8!*



Reigning Grace Ranch

By the time this newsletter comes out we will already have attended the Quintet Concert. These wonderful musicians playing in this Quintet were kind enough to donate any money collected to this project. I will keep you updated on total amounts collected. The Maundy Thursday Service money collected was also donated to this cause. Some of us have been out to tour the Ranch. This is a wonderful

place for troubled teens. They do a wonderful job helping these kids feel like a worthy person in today world.



Code Red

We will be supporting the Code Red project for the Phoenix Rescue Center again this year. This will be our June and July Mission project. We will collect cases of water to be taken downtown and given out to the homeless and needy during some of our extremely hot time of the year. We will notify other Churches and put it the Fountain Hills Times, in case others wish to join in. The Phoenix Rescue will send a truck or van out to collect this water.



Extended Hands Food Bank

It is that time of year again when many of you are headed for cooler places. If you wish to clear out some canned foods and non perishable items, we will be glad to take them to the Food Bank. If you don't have anything, but would still like to help, we collect money either by check or on line. You can go on line to the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church web site and donate or you can also go on line to the Extended Hands web site and donate.

These are a few of our on going projects. If you would like to see us get involved with another project, come to our meeting and tell us about this project. Again I can not stress enough, that we can not do most of what we do without the help from our Congregation. **THANK YOU** again from the bottom of our hearts. You, the givers, are what makes our committee such a huge success.

Proverbs 19:17 "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Schmidt
Mission Elder

FINAL EXAMS

A 96-year-old lady was a faithful attendant at my women's Bible studies. She came with her lessons prepared and knew all the answers. One day a tactless member asked her, "Why do you work so hard on these lessons when you're so old and it doesn't matter?" Little Bess Elkins looked up and said confidently, "I'm cramming for my finals."

—Florence Littauer, *Women's Devotional Bible*

Support Our Troops



I want to thank each and every one of you who were willing to write a short Easter note for our current Church-connected active-duty military. A total of 41 notes were placed in the cards and hopefully the cards were received in time for Easter.

We are currently hoping to schedule a donation pickup date for

Community Bridges (CBI) before the end of April and will do so if enough donations come in. With the warmer months upon us, we are asking for items suitable such as short sleeved t-shirts, shorts if possible, and even jeans are ok. Other items needed are socks, summer hats, shoes, blankets, towels, and of course the most important items needed are toiletries.

The Mission Committee is always happy to see members placing items in our collection box, which is now 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



Honor your mother

Anna Jarvis, the woman who first suggested a national day to honor mothers, had an incredible mother to honor. Her mom, Ann Reeves Jarvis (1832-1905), was a Sunday school teacher and activist who helped lower infant-mortality rates in Appalachia and promoted friendship among families of Civil War soldiers. At a memorial service for her mother, Anna Jarvis distributed carnations — her mom's favorite flower — to attendees. Her idea to set apart one day each year for moms gained traction, and in 1914, President Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May Mother's Day. It was customary by then to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living. Of the white flowers, Jarvis said they "symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying."

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc



Prove it!

In *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, King Herod mocks the bound prisoner who's brought to his courtyard. "So, you are the Christ. You're the great Jesus Christ!" he sings. "Prove to me that you're no fool: Walk across my swimming pool!" Likewise, the Pharisees demand evidence that Jesus is speaking for God (see Matthew 12:38). It's easy to poke fun at them, but have you ever faced a tough decision and thought, "If only God would give me a sign"? Jesus tells the religious teachers about the "sign of Jonah," a metaphor for his upcoming death and resurrection. Though it's meant to be a sign for all, not everyone accepts it as truth. Luke 16:31 notes that if the rich man's brothers weren't predisposed to listen to Moses and the prophets, then "they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead" (NIV). Signs are useful only to people who accept their messages and act accordingly.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

Christian Formation

Please come join the opportunity to see God's handy work through service in Christian Formation.

Being an alternate in the youth program would be a blessing to give Jeanette an opportunity to attend the regular service hour. Let me know if you are interested. I know we have a lot of retired teachers, what do you think? Would this work for you?

Also, what do you think about opening our Bible study classes to the greater Fountain Hills Community? Let's put our hand out as Christ did as he said, "Come" Please join me in this ministry of service.

Blessings, see you in the Fall,
Sandra Coultrap, Elder
Christian Formation

Mark 10:14

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."



6-8 Grade Middle School Sunday School



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.



Nursery 0-4 year olds



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 | May 19 | 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!

Pray With Us On The National Day of Prayer

May 4, 2023, is the National Day of Prayer. Join us as we thank God for his provision. Pray with us for the needs in our country and ministry to children in poverty around the world.

A Prayer for Our Country

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV)

A Prayer for Compassion

"If you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday." (Isaiah 58:10, NIV)

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV)

Out 'n About—Out to Lunch

Wednesday | May 17 | 12 noon | Arrivederci

Our lunch group will be gathering at Arrivederci, located at Fountain Plaza at noon on Wednesday, May 17th. Come enjoy great pasta, see the Fountain, while tourists stroll by.

Call Nancy for reservations. 480-837-3021



WOMEN'S MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday | May 11 | 9:30AM | Fireside Room



This will be our last meeting until the fall when we will start our new book The Women of the Bible Speak by Shannon Bream. The discussion this month will be the Book of Esther and God's invincible invisible hand in our own lives. Call Monique 336-382-8733 for information.

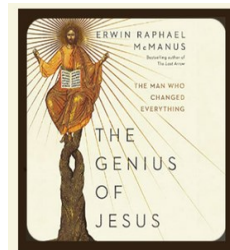


AFTERNOON CIRCLE

1st Tuesday | May 2 | 1:00 pm | Library

study: THE GENIUS OF JESUS (the man who changed everything) by Erwin R McManus. CH 3 - The Genius of Empathy

Do we offer HOPE? McManus defines empathy as emotional intelligence. Not only did Jesus come to earth to ensure that we understand God but also, that we would know God understands us. As a human, Jesus Christ was our model for love and compassion. Much as He recognized his sheep and shepherded us, we, too, can be attentive to sheep without a shepherd using his teachings. He is the Good Shepherd, the "I am". Jane Allen, Leader 907-538-3223



EVENING CIRCLE

3rd Monday | May 15 | 4:00 pm | Fireside Room

Beginning in September, the Evening Circle will return to meeting in the Adult Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the third Monday of every month. We will be studying the Horizons book Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts, by Rev. Olive Mahabir. We look forward to a meaningful year of study as well as the development of new mission projects that will help extend God's hand into our community. Please consider joining us in the Fall. If you would like to study Priscilla Shirer's Armor of God series on your own this summer, the DVDs and study book are available to be checked out through the Church office. Please contact Judy Hamouda at (480) 215-0827 who can assist you in obtaining your own personal copy of the study book.



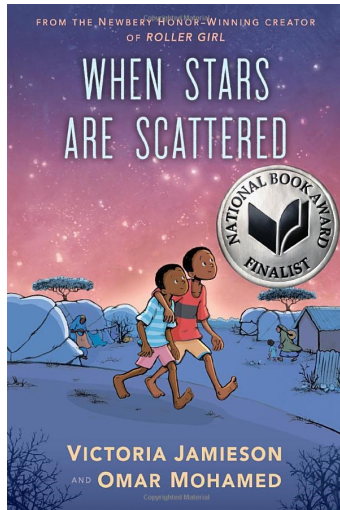
Library Footnotes

When Stars are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson

One day Omar and Hassan's village in Somalia was attacked and they were both told to run. Omar, being the oldest brother grabbed his brother's hand and they ran and followed everyone else. They eventually ended up in a refugee camp in Kenya where they spent the next fifteen years. They had no idea where their parents were or even if they were still alive.

This is a story about hope and the angels God sends to help these boys survive. It's about taking advantage of the few opportunities that were available to Omar in the refugee camp. Omar works hard to get an education that will help him and his brother get to America and a better life.

Omar and Hassan did get a sponsor and settled in Tucson, Arizona. Omar's first job was a pool attendant at a fancy resort in Tucson. He attended University of Arizona and both he and his brother became citizens in 2014.



Omar now lives in Pennsylvania and works at a center that helps resettle other refugees. He founded Refugee Strong and he returns to the refugee camp several times each year to deliver supplies to students there.

This is not your normal book. It has received many awards including Time Best Book of the Year award. It is a book of illustrations. You read Omar's story in cartoon fashion. The story is beautiful and the illustrations on each page will draw you into the boy's story in the refugee camp. I loved this book and I hope you will take time to read it and enjoy the illustrations.

Happy reading everyone!

Donna Yordy



DEVEREUX EASTER BASKETS 2023

Enjoy our shared photos. Devereux's smiling! We are, too!

51 Easter Baskets delivered on Tue April 4: 49 plus 2 extras. 15 finished baskets + 12 baskets with items to assemble. 36 baskets, includes above 12, & assembled by WF ladies. *Thanks!* Joyce Leo, Susan Titus, Maria Berry, Linda Katz, Barbara Hoverland, and Jane Allen.

Record high in cash donations: \$1554.51 *Thanks!* FHPC and greater church community. WF will direct excess money to essentials, game gear, and fun stuff for Devereux residents.



Communications



Communications Ministry

At FHPC, the Communications Ministry reaches the congregation and our community by using a variety of tools to inspire, inform, and invite participation in the life, mission, and purposes of the Church. Effective communication is accomplished through the following avenues:

Internal Communications

Order of Worship
Visual Support
Church eNews
In Touch Newsletter

External Communications

Press Releases
Advertising & Graphic Design
Website
Remote Services
Social Media



Kathy Cole



Jeff Rand

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)

Covenant Partnership



Miles; you may call her with questions at 480-518-5182.

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



Prepare to be Empowered

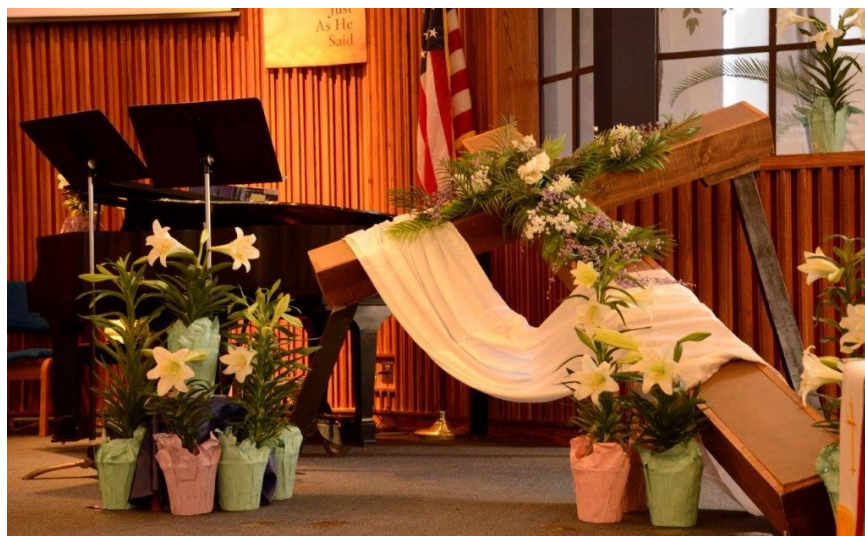
Contrary to common perception, Jesus' disciples weren't frightened and hiding during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Instead, they were actively preparing for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. They "all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14, NIV) and took steps to replace Judas.

After that inward focus, the disciples were ready to boldly burst forth on Pentecost, empowered and "enabled" (Acts 2:4) by the Spirit. They proclaimed Christ's death and resurrection, leading 3,000 people to faith that day, now known as the church's birthday.

"A great wave of faith and love swept through this newborn community," writes Suzanne de Dietrich in *Free Men*. "These Christians could not keep silent. Their joyful liberty had broken down all the walls behind which people would like to keep them; no prison could silence them."

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc

EASTER



A Special
THANK YOU

A NOTE OF THANKS!

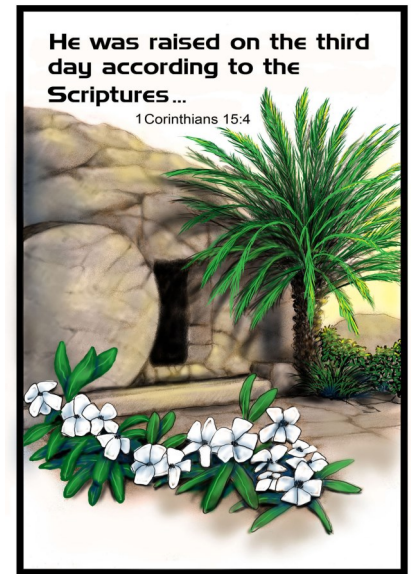
To my FHPC family – Words cannot express my gratitude to you and for you.

The cards and gifts. . .
The fabulous celebration of my retirement. . .
The food. . .
The music and the testimonials. . .
The wonderful original artwork picturing the heart walk. . .
The hugs and tears. . .
The subsequent calls and emails I've been blessed to receive. . .
But more than anything, I thank you with all my heart for 12 years of your love and support – for our Lord and for his servant.
My time at FHPC and your friendship will remain forever one of the greatest blessings of my life.

I celebrate the new life I am enjoying. But I truly and dearly miss you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill

EASTER



EASTER Worship:
Resurrection Sunday
April 9, 2023
Thank you to Pastor Bob, Lisa Carrington and the
Worship & Music Ministry team for
our wonderful and meaningful celebration!

Pictured are the Worship Team who decorated
the sanctuary. From the left:
Pat Willigrod, Jean Ipema, Joyce Babaian,
Mary Holtan and Ruby Pearson. Not pictured
Ilene Berg

THANK YOU!



Our proper role

“We’re called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.” This quip may bring a chuckle, but it’s also a good reminder as we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord (May 18 this year). Jesus directed his disciples to spread the good news he had taught them: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses ...” (Acts 1:8, NRSV). While professional lawyers and judges certainly have their place in society and can serve God by working for genuine justice for all, we are not called in daily life to judge others’ morality or relationship with God. “Do not judge,” Jesus says, “and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven” (Luke 6:37, NIV). And what is one of the most powerful forms of witness to Christ? Forgiveness.

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc

Meet Our Musicians

Phil Katz started playing clarinet at the age of 11 and started taking private lessons the next year. His private teacher was a woodwind player who owned a music store in the town Phil lived in and by 1967, he had Phil playing Alto and Tenor Saxophone, and flute. Phil's teacher recruited him as a back-up player in a Big Band, where Phil would play Alto, Tenor, or Bari sax depending on who was sick that night.

Phil loved classical music, and played in the High School band and Orchestra. The first recorded non-classical music Phil ever heard, was the Beatles White Album, and from that moment in 1968 on, classical music was no longer enough.

As he became a more accomplished clarinetist, he began taking clarinet lessons with Herbert Blayman, who at the time was first chair clarinet at the New York Metropolitan Opera orchestra. Under Mr. Blayman's tutelage, Phil earned the first chair clarinet position in the New Jersey All State orchestra in 1969 and 1970.

Meanwhile, in Freshman year of High School, 1967, Phil's band director formed a jazz band, and Phil played Lead Alto Sax, and, on occasion, Baritone Sax. As Phil's interest in music deepened, his band director taught him how to play Valve Trombone (for the jazz band) and Baritone Horn in the marching band.

Phil graduated High School in 1970 and attended the Indiana University School of Music to be a conductor. He was one of over 100 clarinetists at the University and a very small fish in a very large pond. He played

Baritone Horn in the Marching Band, studied Tenor Saxophone with Dave Baker (of Downbeat Magazine fame), and it was in Dave Baker's #2 Jazz Band that Phil was first exposed to improvisation.

When Phil realized that he wouldn't be able to make a career as a conductor, he focused on Jazz Saxophone and during the summers, played in off-off-broadway musical pit orchestras (sax, clarinet, and flute) to keep his chops in shape. Even that proved to be too competitive an environment, so Phil left Indiana University and moved back East to begin a career in IT.

Phil never stopped playing though, and he played Saxophone (Mostly Tenor and Baritone Sax) in garage rock bands, and church Praise Bands in New York and Chicagoland. In 2004, playing in a Praise Band at the Christ Community Church of Plainview, Illinois, he was asked to stand in for another member to sing, and that was when Phil learned



Phil Katz

that he had a voice.

Phil moved to Fountain Hills in 2010 and joined Debbie Fisher's choir as a Baritone. When the church began the Second service, Phil played Saxophone and sang with the Hilltop praise band. In 2018 with much coaching and encouragement from Debbie Fisher, Phil began singing Tenor in the choir, and life hasn't been the same since.

Breath of the Spirit

The breathing I did yesterday will not keep me alive today. I must continue to breathe afresh every moment, or my life will cease. In like manner, yesterday's grace and spiritual strength must be renewed, and the Holy Spirit must continue to breathe on my soul from moment to moment in order that I may continue to enjoy him and to work the works he has assigned me.

—Augustus Toplady

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc

Building & Grounds



Keith Coultrap

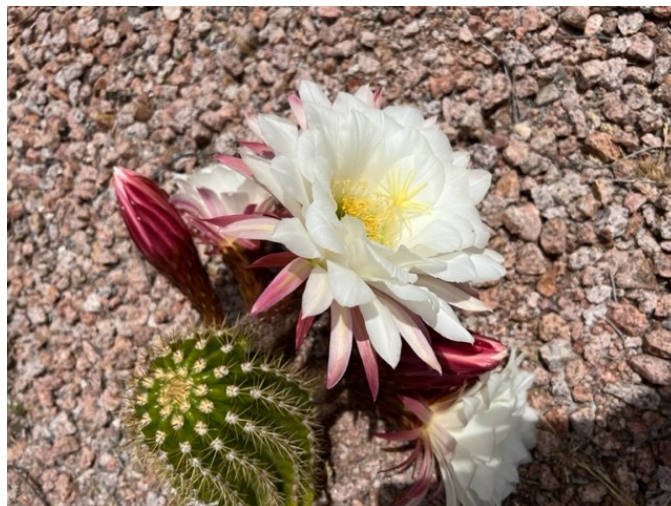
Caught in the Act

Many people do lots of work around our church. Most of this ‘donated’ time goes largely ‘unsung,’ but it is very necessary. “Caught” late one afternoon recently, Keith Coultrap, a new Member to Buildings and Grounds, has nearly single-handedly managed to apply a coating (not paint he insists) to most of the outside walls around our air-conditioners, dumpsters, stairways, cactus gardens and ramp. The coatings, generously donated by Keith’s company, will outlast most of us. Walk or drive around our campus and see how clean and fresh these walls look.

Thanks so much Keith

SPRING CACTUS IN BLOOM ON FHPC CAMPUS!

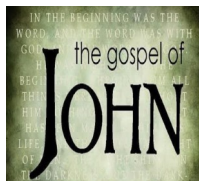
Thank you George Holtan for capturing these photos!



CHRISTIAN FORMATION



- **Sunday Adult Bible Study**
After worship
Fireside Room
With Pastor Bob and Lisa
“Book of Mark”



- **Men’s Bible Study**
Mondays at 8:30 am
Fireside Room
Will go on summer Hiatus after May 15!
Led by Bob Cowden

- **Women’s Three Bible Circles**
Will go on summer hiatus from June to September
See page 7

- **Children’s Sunday School**
Will continue thru the summer

- **Children’s Music and Movement**
Will continue thru the summer

- **Lunch & Lecture Series**
Will be on hiatus from June to September

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:

Date Saturday Course **DEAD SEA SCROLLS**

The lecturer is Professor Gary A. Rendsburg from Rutgers University.

May 6 “The Discoveries and Their Significance”
“The First Seven Scrolls”.

Save the date! 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

God among our brokenness

I am not the only one who sees the underside and God at the same time. There are lots of us, and we are at home in the biblical stories of antiheroes and people who don’t get it; beloved prostitutes and rough fishermen. ... It was here in the midst of my own community of underside dwellers that I couldn’t help but begin to see the Gospel, the life-changing reality that God is not far off, but here among the brokenness of our lives. And having seen it, I couldn’t help but point it out.

—Nadia Bolz-Weber, *Pastrix*

Come as you are

As a young pastor, Stan Purdum de-husked black walnuts one Saturday, not realizing his hands would be badly stained. They looked filthy, he recalls, and the marks would not wash off; they’d have to wear off. Then Purdum realized he’d be serving Holy Communion the next day.

Before distributing the elements, the pastor apologized to congregants, explaining that his hands were washed but just stained. Years later, Purdum reflected: “Now that I have a fuller grasp of theology under my belt, I think a better thing for me to say would have been, ‘Nobody comes to Communion with clean hands.’”

We’re all unworthy to receive Jesus’ body and blood, but that’s exactly why he offers it. Thanks be to God for redeeming and forgiving us — wiping away the stain of our sins!

—adapted from *The Wired Word*

-The Newsletter Newsletter
by Communication Resources, Inc



Technical Support Changes



Over the past two years, Elder Kathy Cole held responsibility for our audio-visual support. This included managing the sound booth, producing the livestream of worship services, memorial services, and special events, as well as audio-visual support for the Sanctuary. With assistance from Sean Hart, Kathy transitioned our livestream production from using a single cellphone to one with a “Point-Tilt-Zoom” camera controlled through computerized software (vMix) with connection to a Behringer audio mixer.

Kathy sourced and coordinated installation of new digital laser projectors in the sanctuary, as well as a updated sound mixer and amplifier, along with a wireless microphone, in the Fellowship Center.

Kathy and Sean, joined by Ben Harris, have shared responsibility in producing the livestream and audio-visual requirements for the sanctuary, as well as supporting AV requirements for special events in the Fellowship Center.

Jay McFarland, fiancé of Pastoral Intern Lisa Carrington, recently moved to Foun-



tain Hills and became a member of FHPC. Jay has his own IT business and has experience in AV with other churches. This, in addition to having a passion for helping those in need, made Jay the perfect fit to assume management of FHPC’s AV, as well as IT needs.

Thanks go out to Elder Cole and Sean Hart for their dedication to FHPC’s audio-visual support as we welcome Jay, who will oversee all AV and IT needs for FHPC and continue to work with Ben Harris in the sound booth producing the livestream and AV in the Sanctuary,



Welcoming Our Guests

Designated parking for our visitors to our church was added when the parking lot was re-surfaced. Our Buildings and Grounds Committee will be adding directional signage for those entering our campus for the first time. Not only does the parking offer convenience to those unfamiliar with FHPC, it bids a welcoming “sign” that we were expecting them! The parking spaces are located at the end of the sidewalk to the Sanctuary, due north of the Carillon. The signage was funded by Presby Pickins’ Flea Market.

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

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”



“To those who have moved on to the Kingdom of God and left their charitable mark and final testimony of faith and value to the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church.”

The Foundation pays tribute to the Legacy members of the Foundation who have passed.

The memorial plaque hangs in the narthex next to the back door that takes you to the Fellowship Center. It is there for your viewing.

If you are interested in learning about the Foundation, have a question or comment, feel free to contact a Board of Trustee member.



Foundation Trustees

Jean Ipema, Secretary, 480-652-0188
Matt Jefferson, Chair 480-837-6001
Bill Matty, 815-282-6024

Mary Holtan, 612-382-8824
Roy Nickel, 480-688-8392
Keith Coultrap, 208-967-2303
Linda Lull, Treasurer

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

Welcome New Members

Jay McFarland

Jay is originally from Charleston, West Virginia. He has four adult children and one grandchild on the way. He has just moved to Fountain Hills from central Phoenix. He works in IT as an executive senior engineer. He has a passion for helping those in need. Jay came to this church in support of Lisa as she serves her internship and pursues ordination. They are planning on getting married in June here at FHPC.

Jay and Lisa have started a non-profit to assist ex-prisoners find housing and experience successful re-entry into society. Jay loves technology and has a huge interest in cars. He also enjoys serving in the sound booth and looks forward to continuing to support Lisa in her internship.



From the left: Jay McFarland, Colleen and Tom Taylor, Jeanette Simmons, Perry Trout and Brendan Wagner

Jeanette Simmons

Jeanette is happily married to Pastor Bob. They met in college and now have three perfect children and five grandchildren. Jeanette loves to bake and decorate cakes. She likes to walk but not hike. They have lived in Fountain Hills for 28 years and finally had the opportunity to attend FHPC. She was a member of Mountain View Presbyterian Church in Scottsdale and wishes to become a member here by letter of transfer.

Sandra Smith (not pictured)

Sandra was born in Mankato, Minnesota and attended college at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Paul, Minnesota. She and her husband lived in Mankato and raised 4 great kids. They moved to Fountain Hills in 1991 mostly because of his declining health. Sandra has been an English teacher in Mankato high schools. Her four adult children have given her 9 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Sandra desires to be a member of a congregation that shares her Christian values and beliefs.

Tom & Colleen Taylor

Originally Tom & Colleen became members here in August of 2021. Subsequently, they moved to Mountain View Presbyterian Church and now they are back! We are so happy to have them here again.

Tom & Colleen are baby boomers. As such, they believe there is nothing they can't accomplish. They met on a blind date and married 3 years later to the day in 1981. Tom is retired from law enforcement but he was a private pilot for nearly 50 years. Colleen is a lifetime dancer and loves to cook and entertain. She is an accomplished artist whereas Tom is an accomplished photographer. They had

supported each other at art shows in the Scottsdale area. Colleen was in real estate, a legal secretary and caterer as they moved quite a bit. They decided to come back to FHPC because of the people and friends they had made.

Perry Trout

Perry has been a winter visitor for 2 and a half years from Kansas. He and his wife Sally have been married for 45 years. They have three adult

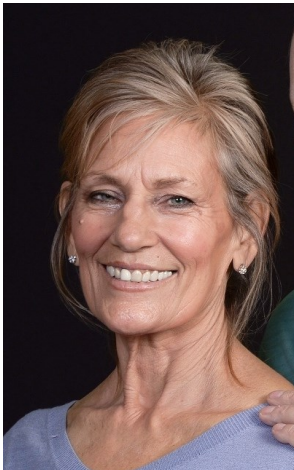
children and two grandchildren. Their primary residence is in the Kansas City area, Leawood. They love family get togethers, sports (golf especially), hiking and travel. Perry is into Commercial Real Estate Development and investment. He loves all outdoor activities as he used to be a runner (20 miles per week) and play basketball (10 hours per week). He truly likes to exercise but his passion was coaching youth sports (baseball, basketball and golf). Perry grew up in a Presbyterian church in Iowa. It was a huge church but it had friendly people, conservative values with emphasis on the Bible. He has found a second home here.

Brendan Wagner

Brendan is from Detroit Michigan in a family of 7 siblings. He had been a member of St. Peter Catholic Church in Mount Clemens, Michigan. He is divorced with three adult children, a daughter-in-law and 2 granddaughters. His special friends are Jack Morris, Mary & George Holtan, Bob and Susan Titus and Bob and Linda Lull. They have become family and invited him here to FHPC.

His mother was a church organist and his father was a former seminarian. Brendan moved to Fountain Hills in 2018 because of his job with the city of Scottsdale. He would love to be a liturgist and will be happy to assist with any church decorating and Men's Fellowship projects. But he will never sing in the choir!

Music Ministry



Debbie Fisher, Director of Music

We've come to the time of saying goodbye to so many that fill our Choir loft and our Sanctuary. I pray all have safe journeys to their other home and other family and friends.

The season where all are joined together goes by all too quickly, and believe me, we miss you!

As our summer months approach, our music shifts into the solo, duet and ensemble presentations for our service, which is another favorite of mine. You will hear some of the individuals that make up our whole Music Ministry as they bring such wonderful styles, thoughtful music into

play.

It is truly something to look forward to!

The music ministry truly appreciates the support and appreciation given by all of you. We share in the musical presentations brought forth as glorifying our Lord, and we enjoy the shared praise through music that touches all of our

hearts as we musically pray, musically express joy, and fill the sanctuary with music which guides our souls. Thank you, musicians, for your contribution in that direction.

We will continue to do what it takes to allow those who come into the Sanctuary to come to have a place to worship, and be a place where Believers find Believers. There will be music that reflects the beautiful joy of knowing God, and how He tends to us, and we praise His Holy name.

*"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord,
and to sing praises unto Thy name,
O Most High."*

Psalm 92:1

Debbie Fisher
Director of Music Ministry
Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church ECO

Music Appreciation Sunday April 16, 2023

Debbie Fisher, Director, Dorraine Aggen, Organist, Dorothy Parris, Pianist and Celebration Singers!



Thank you to Hilltop Hospitality! You outdid yourselves this Post Easter Brunch! Fantastic!
From left: Jane Allen, Linda Katz, Tony Harris, Connie Harris, Maria Berry, Jo-Ann Spalding and Joyce Leo.



With deepest sympathy we list those members who have passed away in 2023

Yvonne Ellingson
Lois Medley
Kurt Ahrens
Sunniva Graves
Heather Greco

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

Matthew 25:21



Post Easter Celebration

Jay Moyer, Linda Moyer, Pat Willigrod & Ruby Pearson

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...

5/01 Bob Cowden

5/01 Phylliss Kern

5/01 Bill Matty

5/02 Mike Owens

5/03 Claire Cartmell

5/03 Jim Lindau

5/03 Glenn Olinger

5/08

5/10

5/12

5/13

5/14

5/16

5/17

Eloise Robinson

Bob Lull

Aurora Robinson

Kurt Augustine

Bonnie Hollabaugh

Jim Stewart

Matt Botsford

5/17

5/19

5/20

5/22

5/23

5/27

5/30

Bev Watters

Michael Stanton

June Shaffer

Gail Botsford

Mary Alice Bivens

Linda Covault

Christine Young



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

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 Editor, Marta Ludwig; Proof Reader: open; Photographer: Tom Taylor.



Facts, not futility

“If the resurrection of Jesus Christ did not happen,” writes Mary Fairchild, “then the apostles were all fakes and everyone throughout history who has ever testified of Christ’s power is a liar. If the resurrection did not happen, then Jesus Christ has no dominion over life and death, and we remain lost in our sin, destined to die. Our faith is useless.” Paul sounds a similar tone in 1 Corinthians 15:14-19, saying unless Christ was raised, any preaching about him is “in vain” and our faith is “futile” (ESV).

Praise God that he doesn’t leave us in suspense. Unlike Thomas, we don’t need to doubt Easter’s good news. With utter certainty, Paul continues: “But in *fact* Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep” (vs. 20, emphasis added). So let us rejoice with the apostle: “Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (vs. 57)!

*-The Newsletter Newsletter
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
Transitional Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons email: fhpc.bsimmmons@gmail.com cell: 623-239-8720
Pastoral Intern: Lisa Carrington fhpc.lisac@gmail.com 206-304-3057