

FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN TOUCH



Fountain Hills, AZ

October 2023



FHPC VISION & MISSION STATEMENTS

Our Vision: Growing in love for God and others, we make disciples for Jesus.

Calls us to...

Our Mission: Love God-Love People-Make Disciples

Kathy Cole, Elder



Time

The Benedictines are credited with inventing the clock during the 12th and 13th century. Prior to

that, the bells pealed in the monasteries -- not to mark the hour, but to call the monks to prayer. The Benedictines were so dedicated to regular and precise devotions to God that they employed resources to mechanize the bells and eventually developed the clock like what we know today.

Our society has become so dependent on the clock that we forget that time is a gift from God, a valuable and precious commodity which cannot be replaced. Back in the day, employers offered "Time Management" classes and provide "Day Planners" to efficiently manage time and effectively account for tasks and responsibilities. Today, our smartphone or smartwatch dings or buzzes to tell us what we need to do,

where to be and when. Yet despite our attention to time, we often neglect to plan time to relax or rest.

We should take a lesson from God. On the seventh day he rested. We might think He deserved the rest after creating the universe, but we know God has unlimited fortitude. It is us mortals who are exhausted and stressed out after the work week or other commitments. Ironically, in those Day Planners, Saturday and Sunday shared one page, symbolically limiting our allotted time to rest and to recharge for what is to come ahead.

It is essential to find a balance between productivity and making time to rest and nurture our spiritual well-being. We could ask Alexa to schedule a reminder for prayer or ask her to read us a Bible passage or devotion. She will -- I have asked!

Admittedly my smartphone is set to wake me each Sunday and often

regardless of when I rise, I am still rushing to church, but my clock stops when I arrive. The blessings of music, prayer and more so, the powerful and insightful sermons, is divine sustenance. Time is of no consequence; it is the essence of the message—the spiritual truths, guidance, and wisdom, which brings me closer to my faith and beliefs.

We all have commitments, even on Sunday. Yet God has his own schedule for us, and it is not bound by the constraints of time. He has no clock, no planner or smart device. He gives us a gift of time to take a rest from our lives and to focus on our relationship with Him.

What a blessing to enter the house of God, a place where we can put aside our worries and distractions, close our minds to the ticking clock and celebrate all that He is and all that He has done. Our host, the Lord Almighty, certainly deserves our full attention.

First Saturdays | October - April

8:00am - 3:00pm

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church



Let's Shop!

Be a Vendor!



OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons
Transitional Pastor

Lisa McFarland
Pastoral Intern

Johannah Fernandez
Administrative Coordinator

Linda Lull
Treasurer

Debbie Fisher
Director of Music Ministry

Dorothy Parris
Pianist

Frank DeGroot
Custodian

Contact Church Staff
www.fhpresbyterian.info/contact-us/

CHURCH SESSION
Clerk of Session
Jack Reynolds

Class of 2023
Kathy Cole—Communications
Terri Schmidt—Missions

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

Class of 2025
Sandra Coultrap—Christian
Formation
Bob Cowden—Finance
Bob Lull—Bldgs & Grounds
Jackie Miles—Outreach
Jeff Rand—Communications
Jim Stewart—Finance

Contact Session
www.fhpresbyterian.info/session-mailbox/

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2024
Phil Katz, Moderator
Jean Linzer

Class of 2025
Barbara Hoverland
Matt Jefferson

Care Committee
Linda Kester
Leslie Hermansen
Tyson Robinson
Susan Titus

For More Information
www.fhpresbyterian.info/elders-deacons/



On the Inside:

Kathy Cole, Elder	1
Focus on Finance	3
eGiving.....	3
Covenant Partnership	4
Stewardship	4
Worship And Music Ministry	5
ECO	5
Pastor On The Spotlight	6
Mission Ministry	7
Support Our Troops	8
Marta's Special Gift	8
Christian Education	9
Center for Biblical Studies	10
Biblical Garden	10
Medallions in Columbarium	10
Women's Fellowship.....	11
Men's Fellowship.....	11
Communications Ministry	11
Outreach Ministry	12
Community Outreach	12
Music Ministry	13
Meet Our Musicians	13
Library Footnotes	14
Update on Kaia	14
Presby Pickins Returns	15
Upcoming Events	16
October Special Dates & Fun Holidays ...	17
Necrology for 2023	18
September Birthdays	18
FHPC Foundation	19
Social Media - Live Streaming.....	20
Acknowledgements	20

Focus on Finance

August Income	\$ 22,107	Budget	\$ 31,387
August Expenses	\$ 34,776	Budget	\$ 28,433
YTD Income	\$ 280,312	YTD Budget	\$ 251,096
YTD Expense	\$ 247,602	YTD Budget	\$ 253,309



Although August income fell short of August expenses, YTD we are in a good financial position. In August we had to replace two older air conditioners in the amount of \$18,500. We have a Capital Reserve account set up to cover these type of capital expenditures. The Capital Reserve account was first set up when we started the Capital Campaign. However, the Capital Reserve account needs to be replenished. We have replaced all of the air conditioners in the last several years, as expected, but expenses in maintaining the air conditioners are ongoing. Compressors are taxed with the hot summer days, leaks occur requiring expensive replacement of freon, etc. The Capital Reserve account is

also needed for other major expenditures, such as roof repairs, water heaters, lighting. In addition, Buildings & Grounds (B&G) is in the process of updating the Fellowship Kitchen. Kitchen Appliances are the originals from when the Fellowship Center was first built, counter tops need replacing to bring the kitchen into required sanitary standards. We appreciate your keeping up with your pledges and contributions They are necessary in keeping up with our operating expenses and also allowing the church to continue various missions and programs.

Respectfully,
Linda Lull, Treasurer

Worship by Giving... Talents & Treasure



GIVING IS SAFE AND EASY WITH FHPC eGiving

Sign up today!

FHPC has established a way for church members and supporters to express their generosity electronically! An online donation platform is now on our website.

Go to our website www.fhpresbyterian.info and look for the **Giving Box** image at the top right. Or, click **Giving** in the top menu.

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.

Affiliate Partners 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.

Are you interested in becoming a Covenant Partner with full rights of membership, or a Affiliate Partner, making FHPC your “home away from home”? Contact Pastor Bob Simmons or call the church office at 480-837-1763 to attend an upcoming informational meeting.

Stewardship

The Shift The new year-long approach to stewardship requires a **SHIFT** in the way we think, talk, and act about the meaning of **STEWARDSHIP**.

Stewardship is not just about—
Our pledges to pay the bills.

Stewardship is about—
Loving God and loving your neighbor.

Stewardship is not just about—
Money.

Stewardship is about—
Our whole self: our Time, Talents, and Money.

Stewardship is not about—
**How much of “What is mine,”
should I give away?**

Stewardship is about—
**How much of “What is God’s,”
should I keep for myself?**

Stewardship is not about—
“We do not have enough.”

Stewardship is about—
“God has provided for us in abundance.”

YOU ARE THE STEWARD OF GOD'S GIFTS...
USE THEM FOR HIS GLORY



The new **SHIFT** in Stewardship is not primarily about paying the church’s bills. It is about how the congregation together can do God’s work and live out God’s call to love God and our neighbors.

- ♦ Stewardship is directly tied to being a disciple. It is no longer about the church’s need to receive, but the giver’s need to give.
- ♦ Stewardship is a way of life; about how generous we are with all that God has entrusted to our care inside and outside the walls of the church.
- ♦ Stewardship is **stepping inside the basket** with our Time, Talents, and Money. Join our Basket Club. Give your gifts from God to God and others.

Worship & Music Ministry

PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

The concept of pastor appreciation is biblical. Paul states in 1 Timothy 5:17: The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. In 1994, the Christian organization Focus on the Family began promoting Pastor Appreciation observance and from that grew the idea of emphasizing one specific day – the 2nd Sunday in October - to nationally pay tribute to our clergy.



As Jim Stewart noted in the August edition of our In Touch newsletter, there is a certain vibe surrounding our church these days – a vibe of appreciation for Pastor Bob and Jeanette for their leadership and dedication to nurture the spiritual well-being of our congregation.

During this period with a Transitional Pastor, we have seen our congregation grow in size and enthusiasm for a deeper understanding of the scriptures. We now have Bible studies available to accommodate a wide variety of days and times, and folks who have never before attended a Bible study are excited and enthusiastic about what they're learning.

Pastor Bob's tutelage and guidance for our Pastoral Intern Lisa McFarland has blessed our church with an opportunity to see our denomination grow.

We have many reasons to be thankful that Pastor Bob and Jeanette, both newly retired, accepted a call to serve as Transitional Pastor and Ministry Partner for FHPC.

There is a basket on the entry table to collect greeting cards for Bob and Jeanette if you wish to lift their spirits and encourage them by expressing your personal appreciation.

ECO



THE ECO NATIONAL GATHERING

Any elder, seated or unseated, is invited to attend and act as FHPC Commissioner that will be held on January 29th to February 1st in 2024 in Greenville SC. Pastor Bob will be attending. This is very spiritual, fun-filled and informative conference. We encourage those eligible to consider attending with Pastor. Contact him for more details or you can view the website at econationalgathering.org

Pastor In The Spotlight

FHPC Promotes Spiritual Development



Transitional pastor focuses on mentorship

After the retirement of former Pastor Bill Good, the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church (FHPC) tapped The Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons to take over as transitional pastor.

While the church searches for a new permanent pastor, Simmons has focused on the spiritual development of church members, mentoring the youth and filling any pressing needs before a new church leader is chosen.

“My goal is to try to get the church at a place where this time next year, they either have found someone or they’re doing a diligent search,” Simmons said, whose original contract called for one year with an option to renew for an additional year as transitional pastor.

Simmons made it clear that while he is not in a hurry to leave his post, he understands that the church needs a permanent pastor to lead them into the foreseeable future.

“Early on in my training in seminary, I’ll never forget a professor that said to me, ‘Every church needs to earn the right to be in their community.’ And how do you do that? Well, by meeting some needs,” Simmons said.

Those needs include initiatives such as providing a grief support group for those who have lost loved ones, offering tutoring classes for the youth and – given the musical emphasis of the church – possibly offering music lessons to those interested in taking on a new challenge.

Ministerial internship

A new initiative that Simmons has undertaken during FHPC’s transitional period is in the form of a ministerial internship.

Through A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO), this year-long internship program invites qualified pastoral interns in the process of ordination into the inner workings of a church to learn, grow and lead some of the many church functions.

Joining Simmons is Pastoral Intern Lisa McFarland, who has hit the ground running since joining FHPC in January.

“One of the blessings about this particular ordination program is that you have people supporting you from the national level from the local Presbyterian level all the way down to the local church, rooting you on and helping you get through the process,” McFarland said.

As a pastoral intern, McFarland is in many ways filling the role of assistant pastor: Performing visitations, teaching Bible studies, leading worship services and meeting with parishioners regularly. McFarland said her goal at the end of the internship is to become ordained and to pastor a church that is kind toward the marginalized.

“Anyone who has been made to feel like they don’t belong in the church, who has been on the margins, outcast, hurt by the church... these are all the things that are really dear to my heart,” she said. “My desire is to develop a church community where these people, which are many, have the opportunity to experience church differently.”

Women in clergy

McFarland completed her seminary in 2018 with a master’s degree in counseling from Westminster Theological Seminary in Glenide, Pa. For years, she was involved with churches that did not support the ordination of women before joining the Presbyterian Church. Since 1956, the Presbyterian denomination in the United States ordained its first female minister, and Simmons is eager to support McFarland in her journey.

“We Presbyterians believe that God does not call us to serve him on the basis of gender but on gift and passion,” Simmons said. “God looks beyond the gender and says, ‘You got a passion to tell the story about Jesus? Go do it.’”

*-Interview by Cyrus Guccione
Published by Fountain Hills Times*

Mission Ministry



Another month and we are on to new and old projects and ministries. We here in the Mission Committee are eager to continue some old and start some new projects. "...whatever you do for the least of your Brothers and Sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40.

boxes. Again, we here in the Mission Committee want to say Thank You for all of your help with our projects. You help us accomplish so much. We love helping others. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 says "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God Loves a cheerful giver."

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Schmidt, Mission Elder

Code Red

Thank you for another successful water drive. We collected over 100 cases of water plus collected \$1348.32 to purchase water. That averages at least another 337 cases of water. This helped a lot of very needy people in downtown phoenix stay hydrated this HOT summer.

Maui

Thank you to all who answered our call for donations. We were able to help those who were in need of help after the wildfires devastated the Island. We sent our donations to Samaritans Purse and they were able to get it where it was needed. We were able send a check for \$1172.00 and able to collect \$672.00 from those of you who donated and we were able to add another \$500.00 from our budget.

School Supplies

We collected our school supplies and took them to the school to be distributed as needed. They were asking for head sets for the students this year. Thanks to those who donated money, we were able to purchase 100 head sets for their use. The Ladies in the School office told me that these help the students concentrate more on their studies and less on each other. Thank You!

October Mission

Our Mission will start with the Church Kickoff. We will do our Shoe Boxes, again this year. We need to have them back by the first part of November. We will have our boxes at a table for the kickoff as well as in the Narthex on Sundays. You can donate money instead of buying for the shoe boxes if you prefer. If you do get a box to fill, be sure to add an additional \$7.00 for mailing fees. As you collect the box, there will be suggestions of things to put in

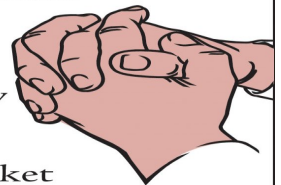
MISSIONARY-MINDED PRAYER

An important part of missions is prayerfully supporting the church. Use this activity to guide your family's prayer time.



What you need:

- Plastic bag (large zippered)
- Permanent marker
- Bandage
- Toy plane
- Heart-shaped drawing or toy
- Spoon
- Coin
- Hot-sauce packet



What you do:

1. Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
2. Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
3. Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
4. Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.

Support Our Troops

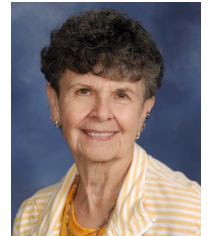


Our large collection of donated items was picked up by CBI on Labor Day Monday and they were so thankful for not just the size of the pick-up but the overall variety of items thrilled them obviously. (See picture). With this October newsletter begins my annual beginning of many things to do to make this year's project for our Troops and Veterans a success.

ask for donations of dark colored long-sleeved t-shirts, dark socks, neck scarves, anything for winter weather wear, but does have to be new items, that will then be packaged and shipped overseas. Please remember that our veterans, and our homeless will and still are in desperate need of gently used clothing, bedding, socks, shoes, hats, jackets, sweatshirts, long pants, and most of all, toiletries. These items get picked up by CBI when I have enough donations collected to schedule a truck. The Mission Committee is always happy to see members and friends 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.

It begins with my request for all church-connected military families to submit all address and rank changes, to prepare and make available the envelopes full of note pads for all my faithful volunteers to write notes to our church-connected active-duty military members,

Donna Sims,
Mission Committee



Marta's Special Gift



As a retirement gift, **Marta Ludwig** was presented a gift certificate from Session for an original art by **Sally Atchinson**. Marta selected a watercolor painting, "Evening Primrose."

Christian Education

New Adult Bible Study

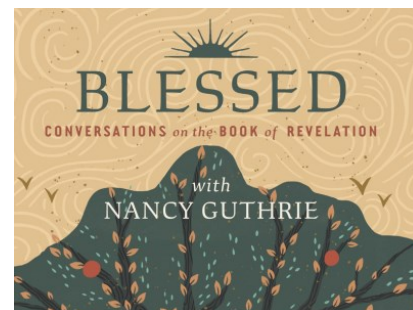
Sundays | After Worship | Fireside Room |

Tuesdays | 6 p.m. | Fellowship Center |

Ongoing until December

Pastoral Intern Lisa McFarland will lead this study on the Book of Revelation, using "Blessed" by Nancy Guthrie.

A Community Bible Study We welcome the Fountain Hills Community to attend either session of this study. For more information, contact Lisa at lmcfarland@fhpresby.org. Pre-register by calling the office 480-837-1763.

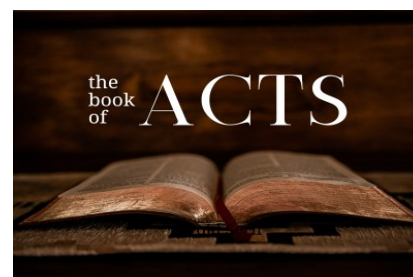


New Men's Bible Study

Mondays | 8:30 a.m. | Fireside Room

The weekly Men's Bible study will resume on Monday, October 16 at 8:00 am. The focus of the study is the Book of Acts. The group will meet weekly until the study is completed.

Please notify Bob Cowden at rsowdenjr@gmail.com if you plan to attend or have any questions about the study.



Women's Morning Bible Study

2nd Thursday | October 12 9:30 a.m. Fireside Rm

Shannon Bream offers us a deeper understanding of each of 16 women in her book *The Women of the Bible Speak*. Please read "Sarah and Hagar,

Women of the Covenants" as well as the Introduction. For more information call Monique Reynolds at 336-382-8733.



Evening Circle

3rd Monday | October 16 4 p.m. Adult Center

The Evening Circle began a brand new Horizons study for 2023-2024 on September 18 entitled "Sacred Encounters, The Power

and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts," by Olive Mahabir. At our next meeting we will look at Luke 8:26-39 in Lesson Two: The Exorcism in Gerasa. Here we see that Jesus extends his saving grace to all, despite struggles with physical, spiritual or mental illness. How do our images of people with mental illness influence the way we treat them? How does Jesus exemplify dignity, respect and compassion to the man described in this passage of Scripture? These are the types of questions that we will be discussing. If you think that you would like to join Evening Circle. After this meeting in October, we will be in Fireside room from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. moving forward. Please call Judy Hamouda at (480) 215-0827, for any questions and she will order a study book for you as well. There is a copy available in the Church library, so please feel free to stop by and take a look at it.



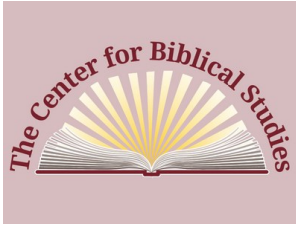
Afternoon Circle

3rd Tuesday | October 17 1:00 p.m. Library

THE GENIUS OF JESUS by McManus. Read CH 5 The Genius of Grace. There are times in our lives that our only hope is GRACE. Bruce

Lee taught his apprentices "to be like water" during a stressful fight. And Jesus gave the Beatitudes as a show of grace amid the hard realities of life. Yes, McManus geniously sums it up, "Grace is only needed when it is undeserved." Jane Allen, Leader 907-538-3223

The Center for Biblical Studies



The Contemporary Christian

Instructor
Dr. Bob Simmons, Pastor

The Center for Biblical Studies is the new

"brainchild" of Pastor Bob that is offering a series of seven courses on the topic, "The Contemporary Christian." Two courses, "What is the Gospel?" and "What is a Disciple?", have been completed by over 35 persons. The third course, "Can We Trust the Bible?" begins October 4th, at 10:00 am in the Fireside room, and 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Center.

These courses provide an opportunity for people to deepen their understanding of their Christian Faith. The mission of our church is, "Love God, Love People, Make Disciples." Since a disciple is a pupil, learner, or student of Jesus, these courses provide the means to deepen our discipleship and

to be better equipped to live and share our faith. Those who complete all seven courses will be awarded a certificate. This is not your typical Bible study but is more of a Bible College classroom setting. We certainly use the Scripture, but we also read and discuss a textbook for each course.

Because we use a textbook, preregistration is very important as that allows time to order sufficient copies for everyone. The fourth course, "How Do We Impact the World?" is tentatively scheduled to begin November 8. Please contact the office or Pastor Bob to register.

Please pre-register for upcoming courses to ensure we have enough books.

Go to www.fhpresbyterian.info/biblical-studies or call Johannah at 480-837-1763 or email to office@fhpresby.org.

Biblical Garden



Plan a Stroll As we are getting closer to saying goodbye to extreme summer heat to wonderful fall weather let's make a point to visit our Biblical Garden, at the very *heart* of our campus. Before embarking on your tour, read about the numerous interesting plants that you will see in the Garden. You can check it out by going online to www.fhpresbyterian.info/biblical-garden or pick up a brochure in the office.



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 Fellowship



Out 'n About

Wednesday | October 18th | Noon

Over Easy Breakfast & Lunch.

Over Easy is located just off Frank Lloyd Wright at 11162 N. Turn left into the little shopping area, behind

the Prestige Cleaners. Plenty of taste-tempting breakfast items, plus salads, etc. are waiting for everyone. Come join this group of ladies who enjoy gathering for a relaxing time with varied conversation. Please contact Nancy at 480-837-3021 for reservations.

Women's Fellowship Meeting

3rd Friday | 9 a.m. | 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! We will see you all.

Ladies Drop In

Tuesdays | 10 a.m. | Fireside Room

Join us for fellowship, board games, puzzles, cards and conversation in the Fireside Room every Tuesday!

Men's Fellowship

Gentlemen: Our next meeting will be **Saturday, Oct. 14th**, and please note that we will meet in the **FIRESIDE ROOM** starting at 8:00 am as usual. We'll have more details in the coming weeks.

Bill Matty

E-mail bbmatty67@gmail.com

Tel No. 815-282-6024



Communications Ministry

It's that Time of Year September signals the beginning of a new season when many of our church family and friends return from their summer sojourn and activity around our church is abuzz once again. Our ministries and committees are planning programs, initiatives, activities, service projects, and events to support our Vision of *"Growing in love for God and others we make disciples for Jesus"* and our Mission to *"Love God—Love People—Make Disciples."* Your Communications Team is here to help you spread the word!

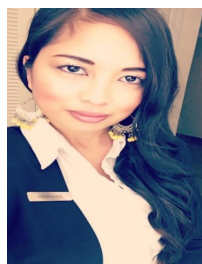
Whether your audience is internally (our congregants) or externally (the Fountain Hills community), consistent and effective communication is essential to the success of any endeavor. Your message should answer the 5 W's and H questions—Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How? If possible, provide photos to convey what words alone cannot. Contact a member of the Team for assistance in developing your plan.



Kathy Cole



Jeff Rand



Johannah Fernandez

Email All Communications Submissions
to news@fhpresbyterian.info

Contact the Communications Team:

Elder Kathy Cole (860-884-5008)

Elder Jeff Rand (480-547-9580)

Adm. Coord. Johannah Fernandez (480-837-1763)

www.fhpresbyterian.info/communications-ministry

Outreach Ministry



Jackie Miles

Connecting with Our Community The Outreach Ministry seeks opportunities and supports the means for the FHPC family to broaden its involvement in the community so that we can spread the Word and share Christ's love with our neighbors. There are various ways our congregation acts as disciples by bringing the work of the church to the Town's people through activities and events.

Our current outreach efforts include participation in the Volunteer Expo in January, Fountain Hills Day in March, and the Stroll in the Glow in December. We also host events on our campus that are open to the public such as for 4th of July and the Presby Pickins' Flea Market. We work with other churches to host large-scale events that simply serve to spread the Good News like Easter Sunrise Service and the Community Thanksgiving Service.

Our Biblical Garden and Chapel offer places of respite for our neighbors seeking a closer communion with God through meditation and prayer. In addition, we extend hospitality to our greater Fountain Hills community by opening our campus facilities to outside groups for private meetings and events.

By participating in these various activities and events, we will foster a stronger sense of community within our congregation and create opportunities for a positive impact in the town. If you're interested in learning more about how you can become more involved in Outreach, contact Elder Jackie Miles at 480-518-5182 or jackiemles@aol.com.

Community Outreach

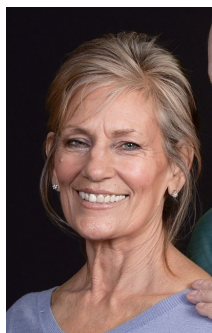


Make a Difference Day will take place in Fountain Hills on Saturday, October 21st 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. This is another great opportunity for FHPC folks support the community by giving 4 hours of Volunteer service to vulnerable, elderly, and homebound residents with a variety of interior and exterior projects.



Shepherd of the Hills is painting a mural and is inviting the community to participate. This is a great outreach to our Christian neighbors! The mural is nearing completion, so they can only take 6 people at a time; for only 1 hour -- 9 to 10am, or 10 to 11am. No artistic ability is required; it's more paint-by-numbers. If you are interested, contact SOTH directly at office@sothaz.com or call 480-837-9532.

Music Ministry



Fall is here! Welcome back to those who are rejoining the flock! It's the most wonderful time of the year! We have music to sing, ring, and play for the next several months together. I look so forward to this time of the year, but, I must say I enjoy our summer musicians, and the variety of style

and expression offered by their contribution. So, on behalf of Dorothy and myself, and Pastor's Bob and Lisa, we thank You Mike, George, Phil, Jackie, Sandi, Margie, Mary, Mary, Ann, Nancy, Bob and Greg, for sharing your music in our Sanctuary! Our congregation joined in singing so many wonderful hymns with praise and thanksgiving, and it must have been to God's delight! Anyone thinking about joining our Choir or our Bells, please do it! It feels wonderful to be involved in music and worship!

Please take note of our rehearsal times below:

Celebration Singers

Thursday's in Sanctuary
4:30 pm

Celebration Ringers

Monday's in Sanctuary
4:30 pm

Make joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before His presence with singing!
Psalm 100:1-2

Debbie Fisher

Director of Music Ministries
Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church ECO

Meet Our Musicians

I LOVE MUSIC --I started my singing "career" at the young age of five when I joined the choir for Cherubs at the Congregational Church that we belonged to in North Troy, Vermont. From there I sang with the Junior choir and on to the Senior Choir made up of high school students and adults from the church. My sisters and I took piano lessons from grades one through three. The teacher liked hitting our knuckles with a ruler whenever we made a mistake. Needless to say, I am surprised we lasted that long. In Junior High School I began taking lessons again from our pastor's wife who was also the church organist. After awhile she had me playing at a small church in a nearby town. They had a very old organ with pedals you pumped to get the air for sound. It was difficult and I made plenty of mistakes. I moved to Burlington, Vermont and joined a huge Congregational Church with a very large and talented choir. I also took singing lessons for a couple of years. When I moved to California, I sang with several choruses in the Bay area. I took a music appreciation course at San Mateo Community College where the professor asked me to join their chorus. I sang there for three years. Then I moved to Mountain View and got involved with the Cupertino Community College and joined their 150 member chorus called the Schola Cantorum and sang with them for twenty eight years. This was a classical group who teamed up with the San Francisco Orchestra and the San Jose Orchestra when they needed singers. When my husband and I retired we moved to Fountain Hills and, lo and behold, I was introduced to the Presbyterian Church choir by Barbara Wyman who was director at the time. I also joined the Community Chorus in 1997 at the suggestion of Evelyn Bretting who was in charge of the old Community Center, now the Theater.



Sandi Thompson

I guess you could say I have been singing all my life. I love music and find spiritual enjoyment in the process.

Library Footnotes



Barbara Oakeson

In the Likeness of God by Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey

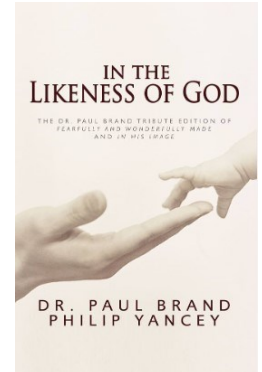
Our Wednesday Bible study classes at FHPC have just wrapped up John Stott's book *The Disciple*, the second in a series of seven courses. While reading the first chapter, I noticed a footnote referencing *In the Likeness of God*, which is actually two books written by Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey – *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* followed by *In His Image*. Although I read them over 30 years ago, they impressed me so much both now and then that I feel compelled to encourage others to check this combined edition out from our church Library.

Dr. Brand spent most of his medical career in India working among fifteen million victims of leprosy. To him, these are among the most neglected people on earth; not nobodies, but people made in God's image. He devoted his life to trying to honor that image. In the late 1940s, he became the first surgeon in the world to use reconstructive surgery to correct the deformities of leprosy in the hands and feet. Eventually he established the only leprosy hospital in the USA in Carville, Louisiana. His co-author Philip Yancey has written many widely acclaimed Christian books on his own.

In *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made*, Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey explore the human body. Join them in a remarkable journey through inner space—a

spellbinding world of cells, systems, and chemistry that bears the impress of a still deeper, unseen reality. This Gold medallion Award-winning book uncovers eternal statements that God has made in the very structure of our bodies, presenting captivating insights into the Body of Christ. Knowledge of the human body sheds light on the metaphor used more than thirty times in the New Testament – the Body of Christ which is the Church. The Church is comprised of individual members joined to Jesus Christ as Head. The importance of this metaphor and its significance throughout this book is found in I Corinthians 12:12 "The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts: and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ" NIV

The second book, *In His Image*, continues this approach, but whereas the first placed emphasis on individual cells and the varying roles within the Body, the second focuses more on the connections, the forces uniting and guiding that Body, and the involvement of God Himself. Both books cause the reader to reflect on what it means to be the Body of Christ and created in God's image. You will find it enjoyable and enlightening.



Update on Kaia

By Jane Allen



THEN. 1 year 1 month old. Transplant Day following 4 chemo and a radiation for treatment of AUL, a rare leukemia. Thanks donor, the sole match for Kaia!



NOW. 3 years old. 1st day of Preschool. 2-year anniversary following stem cell transplant. Doctors say, "Amazing! Thanks, FHPC family, for prayers and uplifting!"

God beyond time ... teach us to pause in this moment, to tuck ourselves into the curve of your slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we measure, and standing with us in it. May we see the goodness of our still hours and days, sunrises, sunsets, and the darkness where our rest is found.

— Micha Boyett
in *A Rhythm of Prayer*
(edited by Sarah Bessey)

Presby Pickins' Returns

Presby Pickins' Flea Market begins its 2nd season on Saturday, October 7th at a new time—from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our flea market has become a vibrant gathering that benefits both the church and our community. It is a fantastic way to build connections and engage with others—to love people!

Ministry Support Last year the proceeds from the Flea Market supported several church ministries and activities, including name badges, holiday decorations, blessing bags, parking signs, a new vacuum for Frank, and more. In addition, \$2,500 was applied to the parking lot loan principal.



Again this year, ministries can request funds to augment projects and activities which we not planned for in their budget.

Community Support Presby Pickins' proceeds also provided a financial awards to youth programs such as the Girl Scouts, Boys & Girls Club and Reigning Grace Ranch. We will continue this charitable effort



with plans to support community causes, such as Fearless Kitty Rescue, Fountain Hills Leadership Academy, EHFB and Bob's Bikes. In addition, we offer community service hours for teens interested in volunteering.

Family Events Each month we plan to have an activity to attract families to our campus for more than just shopping.



In October, the Fountain Hills Rural Metro Fire Department will be on site from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for children to "Explore-A-Truck." The firefighters will also hand out hats and other giveaways in honor of Fire Prevention Week.

In December, Presby Pickins' will host storytelling by children's author Debbie Novotney.

Nibbles & Nosh Arlene's Sweet Treats will set up its tent with homemade goodies and coffee to start the morning, followed by a lunch menu



of hot dogs, burgers, chips, and drinks from the Noon Kiwanis food truck. Melody's Fry Bread will also be on site selling their authentic Navajo bread.

Volunteers We welcome volunteers to price, move, stage and sell items,



plus set up and take down tables, chairs, signage and more. As our official FHPC greeters, our volunteers are the face, and more importantly the heart of FHPC. Collectively they portray our congregation as welcoming group who love people.

Join us to sell, to shop, to volunteer, or, if for no other reason come by to drink in the atmosphere. The campus



is abuzz with activity, fun and fellowship. You won't want to miss it!

Visit www.fhpresbyterian.info/fleamarket/ for more information. Or, email Kathy Cole & Shawn Up-hoff at ppfleamarket@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

All-Church Kickoff

Sunday, October 15th | After Service

**Join us to learn about the many
ministry and volunteer opportunities
available at FHPC!**



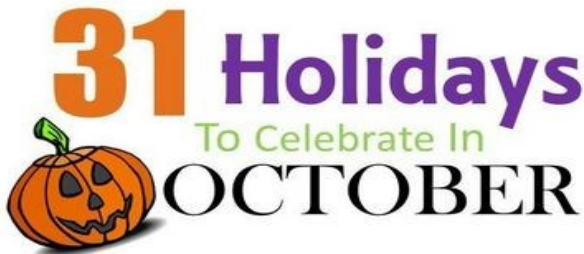
COMMUNAL DINNER

- Hilltop Hospitality is asking everyone to mark a date on their calendar for Saturday, November 11th at 5:00 PM. At that time Hilltop Hospitality will be hosting a Communal Dinner, this year, in the Fellowship Center. We will be providing ham and beverages for the dinner and then asking everyone else to
- sign up to bring a salad, vegetable dish or dessert to share. Sign up sheets for the event will begin in October in the Narthex, before and after Worship on Sundays, and in the Fellowship Center after Worship. We are looking forward to everyone coming to this special event.

October Special Dates & Fun Holidays



Pastor Appreciation Month
World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023
Columbus Day, October 9, 2023
Indigenous Peoples Day, October 9, 2023
Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2023
Reformation Day, October 31, 2023



- 10/1 World Vegetarian Day
- 10/2 Name Your Car Day
- 10/3 Techies Day
- 10/4 National Golf Day
- 10/5 Do Something Nice Day
- 10/6 Mad Hatter Day
- 10/7 Bald and Free Day
- 10/8 American Touch Tag Day
- 10/9 Cheese Day
- 10/10 Handbag Day
- 10/11 It's My Party Day
- 10/12 Silly Sock Day
- 10/13 International Skeptics Day
- 10/14 National Dessert Day
- 10/15 Information Overload Day
- 10/16 Dictionary Day/Learn a New Word Day
- 10/17 Wear Something Gaudy Day
- 10/18 No Beard Day
- 10/19 Think About Your Future Day
- 10/20 National Brandied Fruit Day
- 10/21 Count Your Buttons Day
- 10/22 Caps Locks Day
- 10/23 National Mole Day
- 10/24 National Bologna Day
- 10/25 Punk for a Day
- 10/26 Howl at the Moon Day
- 10/27 National Tell a Story Day
- 10/28 Plush Animal Lovers Day
- 10/29 Internet Day
- 10/30 National Candy Corn Day
- 10/31 Carve a Pumpkin Day and Halloween



Heavens to Murgatroyd!

The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy; and he looked at her and said, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He had never heard of the word jalopy! She knew she was old ...But not that old.



Well, I hope you are Hunky Dory when you read this and chuckle. About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included: Don't touch that dial; Carbon copy; You sound like a broken record; and Hung out to dry. Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.

Heavens to Betsy!

Gee whillikers!

Jumping Jehoshaphat!

Holy Moley!

We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley ; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle, shoes, and pedal pushers.

Oh, my Saching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, "Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!" Or, "This is a fine kettle of fish!"

We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth. Where have all those great phrases gone?

Long gone: Pshaw, The milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Wake up and smell the roses.

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills.

This can be disturbing stuff! (Carter's Little Liver Pills are gone too!)

Leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a phone booth. See ya later, alligator!

After a while crocodile.

Oki-Doki artichokey!



1-Oct Mary Wernecke
2-Oct Martha Carillo
2-Oct Mary Edman
6-Oct Orene Hinkley
7-Oct Carol Skewes
8-Oct Andrew Lull
10-Oct Mary Martinson
10-Oct Monique Reynolds
11-Oct Diane Monas
16-Oct Donna Sims
18-Oct Midge Trump
19-Oct Lana Busche
20-Oct Martha Baxter
24-Oct Diana Olinger
25-Oct Vi Levens
26-Oct Doug Katonak
27-Oct Mary Holtan
28-Oct Larry Cole
30-Oct Joyce Leo

To Our Dear FHPC Family

July 24, 2023

Ben and I thank you so very much for your prayers, support, cards and calls. They have meant so much to us since our lives were turned upside down and inside out by covid and pneumonia.

Your well wishes and communications continue to keep our spirits up!

Love,
Melissa and Ben Fast

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

Yvonne Ellingson
 Lois Medley
 Kurt Ahrens
 Sunniva Graves
 Heather Greco
 Carol Hencz
 Phyllis Rapp
 Jane Haynes
 Bill Lyon
 Ben Fast

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

Matthew 25:21

Hospitalized? Call the church!

If you are sick, hospitalized or home recovering from illness, we want you to call the church and let us know! In a congregation like ours where people leave in droves for extended summer months, it is easy for the staff, elders and deacons to assume, when we don't see someone, that they are simply "vacationing away." The truth is that some of you are sick and we are not aware of it.

You can help us by simply letting one of the staff know of your situation. We have an excellent support system in place due to the diligent efforts of our deacons. Help us serve you by communicating your situation.

It's so easy to order flowers...

You can request flowers in honor or in memory of someone dear, or in celebration of a special event. The flowers will be placed on the communion table for all to enjoy during Sunday worship. To order, call the church office 480-837-1763.



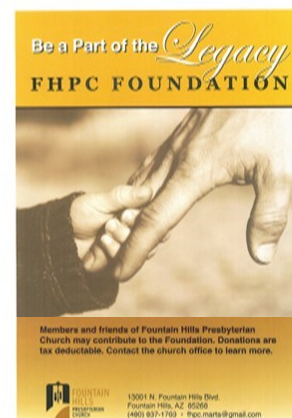
FH Presbyterian Church Foundation

“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”

The goal of the FHPC Foundation Trustees is to educate and engage with the congregation in order to build a sound and sustainable non-profit enterprise to help ensure the future growth of the church. The Board is committed to developing a sustainable source of funds benefiting the church and it’s ministries.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FOUNDATION MAY BE USED TO...

- † Pay tribute to loved ones through a Memorial Gift
- † Invest in our community through local mission programs
- † Perpetuate the life of the church by investing in youth and education programs
- † Support continued successes in church programs and activities



YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDATION IN ANY NUMBER OF WAYS...

- † Through a cash gift or check
- † Endorsing stock over to the Foundation
- † Donating some or all of your Required Minimum Distribution to the Foundation
- † Designating the Foundation in a trust fund
- † Pledging a future bequest
- † Name the Foundation as a beneficiary under your will
- † Contribute a life insurance policy that is no longer a part of your estate plans
- † Name the Foundation as a direct beneficiary of all, or a portion, of your retirement assets

***** AS ALWAYS, TO ENSURE YOUR DONATIONS ARE DONE PROPERLY, PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR FINANCIAL AND OR TAX ADVISOR.**

Any questions or concerns? Please contact one of the Board members listed below.

Foundation Trustees

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

Mary Holtan, 612-382-8824
 RoyNickel, 480-688-8392
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 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



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Visit us on our website at
www.presbyterianinfo.com



ECO

**A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians**

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Social Media — Live Streaming



Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/fhpresbyterianchurch/

View Sunday worship and read current posts about FHPC. Be sure to “Like” our page to get posts directly in your Newsfeed.



YouTube Channel

www.youtube.com/@fhpresbyterianchurch

View Sunday worship here under “Live.” Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube

Channel to receive notifications of upcoming LIVE services.

SUBSCRIBE

If you’re not yet a member of our Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church family, but have been attending for a while, we want you to know that we value each and every one of you and we are very happy to have you with us. We periodically have Inquiry meetings for those interested in becoming members.

*If you are attending our church and don’t have membership in another church, you can join our church by profession of faith and receiving the Sacrament of Baptism or, if you’ve already been baptized, you can join by reaffirmation of faith in Jesus Christ.

*If you belong to another church, but would like to transfer your membership to our church, we can arrange for a letter of transfer from your current membership church to ours.

*If you are a winter visitor and are an active member of another church “back home”, you can become an affiliate member at our church here and maintain your full active membership there. An affiliate member is entitled to all of the rights and privileges of active members with the exception of the right to vote and hold office.

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Phone - (480) 837-1763 Office E-Mail Address: office@fhpresby.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m. to Noon www.fhpresbyterian.info

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