January 2024 – Volume 13 | Issue 1

1 Touch

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

New Year Greetings from the Pastor's Desk



Pastor Bob Simmons

On the Inside:

| Finance2 |
|-------------------|
| Clerk's Corner3 |
| Christian Ed 4-5 |
| Fellowship 6 |
| Lisa McFarland7 |
| Mililani7 |
| Mission 8-9 |
| Music 10-11 |
| Outreach11 |
| Communications11 |
| ECO12 |
| Membership12 |
| eGiving12 |
| Foundation 13 |
| Biblical Garden13 |
| Columbarium13 |
| Various Matters14 |
| Columbarium 14 |
| Calendar15 |
| Presby Pickins'15 |
| Live Streaming 16 |
| |

It has been my honor and joy to serve as your Transitional Pastor for one year! As we move into 2024, I will begin a second year of walking beside you in this wonderful and exciting journey of following Jesus Christ. God has blessed us in this past year in many and various ways. Our attendance at worship has increased, our financial giving has been strong, the morale and spirit of our congregation is positive, and we are experiencing the silent but very real presence of the Holy Spirit in our gatherings. I always look forward to Sunday morning to see what the Lord will do in our midst. You are such a receptive congregation to my sermons!

Please sincerely join me in praying that 2024 will be an outstanding year of spiritual growth and blessing for our church. I want us to expand our outreach to our town and to be intentional about inviting our neighbors and friends who do not attend any church to come visit us. I want each of us to be so excited about what is happening here that we can't help but tell others and invite them to join us. Let's covenant together to make 2024 one of the best years ever at Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church!

I am a strong believer in the power of prayer. Nothing of any great consequence happens without prayer. And the reason that is true is because God has ordained prayer as the primary means by which we can develop our relationship with Him, and is the means to present our needs, worries, and concerns to Him. I will be stressing the importance of prayer much more in this new year, and I want to provide specific ways in which we can pray for one another and especially in those times when we are going through difficulties of one kind or another. Stay tuned and I will share more details during my January sermon series, "Learning to Pray Like Jesus."

Easter comes early this year (March 31), so we will enter the Lenten season on February 14 (Ash Wednesday). I am working on a special Lenten sermon series and will announce it soon. We will have our Wednesday evening Vesper Services during Lent, and I am planning to include some special guests to provide us with our devotional messages. More information about this will be coming.

Following Easter, I want to take us through the book of Acts as we witness the Church on fire! But more about that in the coming months!

I have so many other things that I want to share with you as we enter this new year, but I will hold off for now. Let us believe great things so that by God's power and grace we can accomplish great things for our Lord in 2024.



Growing in love for God and others, we make disciples for Jesus. Love God—Love People—Make Disciples



OUR STAFF

Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons *Transitional Pastor* bsimmons@fhpresby.org

Johannah Fernandez Administrative Coordinator office@fhpresby.org

> Linda Lull Treasurer

Debbie Fisher Director of Music

Dorothy Parris Pianist

Frank DeGroot Custodian

CHURCH SESSION

Jack Reynolds Clerk of Session

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

Bob Cowden | Finance Jackie Miles | Outreach Jeff Rand | Communications Jim Stewart | Bldgs/Grounds Class of 2025

> Phyllis Kern Sandra Thompson Brendan Wagner Class of 2026

BOARD OF DEACONS

Phil Katz, Moderator Jean Linzer Class of 2024

Barbara Hoverland Matt Jefferson Class of 2025

Jeannette Simmons Class of 2026

Telephone: 480.837.1763

13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Website: www.fhpresbyterian.info

Focus on Finance

| November Income | \$ 34,525 | Budget | \$ 31,387 |
|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| November Expenses | \$ 29,266 | Budget | \$ 29,532 |
| | | | |
| YTD Income | \$ 373,680 | YTD Budget | \$ 345,257 |
| YTD Expense | \$ 331,045 | YTD Budget | \$ 341,930 |

Finance Report | Linda Lull, Treasurer



Through November our finances are in a good position to end the year, with one month remaining. Thank you for keeping up with your pledges and contributions in support of FHPC operating expenses, projects and missions.

If you haven't sent in your 2024 pledge, you still have time to do so, and you might want to be thinking of using your Required Minimum Distribution to pay your pledge in lieu of taxable dollars. Wishing everyone a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year.

FHPC eGiving is Safe and Easy



FHPC provides a means for church members and supporters to express their generosity online via our eGiving portal on our website.

Sign up today at www.fhpresbyterian.info; look for the **Giving Box** image at the top right. Or, click **Giving** in the top menu. You can also add *Vanco Mobile* app to give from your phone. See eGiving Help for instructions.



Good Samaritan's Fund

Christmas Eve Collection for the Fountain Hills Christian Ministerial Association's Good Samaritan's Fund totaled \$2,477. This includes a donation of \$250 from the proceeds of the Presby Pickins' Flea Market.

Thanks to all who contributed to help those in need in our community!

Clerk's Corner | Jack Reynolds

The Session, on behalf of our entire congregation, extends its gratitude and appreciation to Kathy Cole and Terri Schmidt for their service to our church as they step down as seated elders.

During her tenure, Kathy employed various methods of communications media and technology to reach the congregation and the community. She maintained our website, our social media and brought our sound booth and live streaming into the 21st century.

Terri Schmidt led our Mission Committee heeding our objective of "Sharing God's love by doing and giving." With Terri at the helm, there has been an increase in the number of organizations that we have helped, both locally and internationally. We are grateful that Terri will remain as an active member of the Mission Committee.

As we enter a new year, the Session is pleased to welcome new elders Phyllis Kern, Sandi Thompson and Brendan Wagner. In addition to filling seats in the Mission Ministry and Christian Education, we will be introducing a new ministry—Fellowship. This ministry will be responsible for fostering and strengthening the celebration of Christian unity with each other and God. Ministry assignments are yet to be decided.

Phyllis Kern



Sandi Thompson



Brendan Wagner

In Touch ... Embracing Color in 2024 | Kathy Cole



Our monthly newsletter, *In Touch*, dazzled readers when it was accidentally printed in color in September. The response was overwhelming, making it perhaps our most widely read edition in quite some time! Recognizing the increased expense of color printing, the Session generously agreed to feature color editions for Christmas and Easter. *What's even more exciting is that we've been blessed by the generosity of benefactors who've offered to cover the incremental color cost for all of the 2024 In Touch editions*.

To make the most of this opportunity, *In Touch* has undergone a redesign, featuring a new color scheme and more captivating images and photos. We hope you'll appreciate its enhanced appearance ... the articles are sure to shine a colorful new light on information relevant to our church.

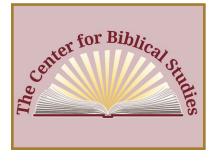
To ensure that our printed copies remain within reasonable limits, we encourage you to explore the full-color *In Touch* <u>online</u> at **www.fhpresbyterian.info/newsletters**/.

We look forward to sharing the joy of our vibrant *In Touch* newsletters with you in 2024! Thanks again to our benefactors who have made this possible!



Christian Education

The Center for Biblical Study | Pastor Bob



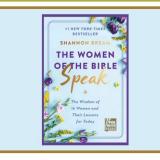
Wednesdays | 10 a.m. | Fireside Rm Wednesday | 6 p.m. | Fellowship Ctr

The Church by John Stott

Pastor Bob Simmons will begin a new weekly study on January 3rd at the respective times. Calling us to listen well to both the Word and the world, Stott shows how

Christianity can preserve its authentic identity and remain relevant to current realities. For more information contact Pastor Bob 480-837-1763.

Women's Morning Bible Study | Monique Reynolds



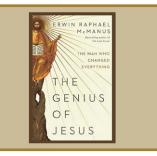
Thurs, Jan II | 9:30 a.m. | Fireside Rm

The Women of the Bible Speak by Shannon Bream. Chapter 4

Whatever battle we may have been through, or are fighting now, or will one day face, God will be with us. He is faithful to equip and guide us. Like Deborah and

Jael we want to be armed and ready when our assignment arrives. Monique Reynolds 336-382-8733.

Women's Afternoon Circle | Jane Allen



Tuesday, Jan 2 | I p.m. | Library

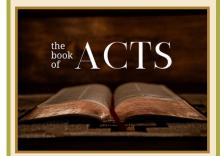
The Genius of Jesus by Erwin R McManus. Chapter 7: The Genius of the True.

In an attempt to corner Jesus, his adversaries would ask a question. In his genius, he proved the best answer is the right question. While standing trial, Pilate asked

him, "What is truth?" though never caught on that Jesus is the truth.

McManus distinguishes that truth is about accuracy while being true is about intention. Simply, if truth dwells within us, we can be trusted, and thus, we are true. The question for us is: Am I true? For more information, contact Jane Allen, Leader, 907-538-3223.

Men's Bible Study Bob Cowden



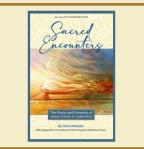
Mondays | 8:30 a.m. Fireside Room

New Bible Study Pastor Bob Begins Jan. 28



Sundays | 10:20 a.m. Fireside Room

Women's Evening Circle Judy Hamouda



Monday, Jan 22 | 4:00 p.m. Fireside Room

Lunch & Lecture | Maria Berry



Lunch & Lecture will continue into 2024. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by the lectures, and then discussion.

In January, we will continue the lecture series *The Dead Sea Scrolls* by Professor Gary Rendsburg of Rutgers University.

The lectures for January include the following:

January 20

- Opening & Reading the First Scroll
- The Historical Backdrop of Ancient Judaism

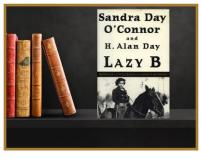
January 27

- The Rise of the Jewish Sects
- The Dead Sea Site of the Qumran Sect

Library Footnotes | Barbara Oakeson

One of Arizona's most famous residents recently passed away. Sandra Day O'Connor has received many deserving accolades for all her accomplishments throughout her life. Two of the books she has written are available in our church Library.

She cowrote Lazy B: Growing Up on a Cattle Ranch



in the American Southwest with her brother Alan Day. It's a remarkable story of their family and early life, and her journey to adulthood in the American Southwest that helped to make her the

first female justice of the US Supreme Court. Laced throughout these stories about three generations of the Day family, and everyday life on the Lazy B in a remote setting on the Arizona border, are the lessons Sandra and Alan learned about the world, selfreliance, and survival, and how the land, people, and values of the Lazy B shaped them. The Day family raised cattle for a living; real cowboys worked the ranch, broke wild horses, built and mended fences, rounded up cattle, drilled wells, and built windmills. The children participated in all aspects of ranch life. In The Majesty of the Law O'Connor explores the

law, her life as a Supreme Court Justice, and how the Court has evolved and continues to function, grow, and change as an American institution. Tracing some of the origins of American law through history, people, ideas,



and landmark cases, she sheds new light on the basics, exploring through personal observation the evolution of the Court and American democratic traditions. Straight-talking, clear-eyed, inspiring, this book is more than a reflection on O'Connor's own experienc-

es as the first female Justice of the Supreme Court; it also reveals some of the things she has learned and believes about American law and life – reflections gleaned over her years as one of the most powerful and inspiring women in American history.

Barbara Oakeson



Upcoming 2024 Dates:

- February 17 & 24
- March 23
- April 13 & 27
- May 11 & 25



Fellowship Ministry

Men's Fellowship Women's Fellowship Ladies' Drop-In M. Holtan & S. Titus L. Katz & M. Berry **Bill Matty** women's fellowship **Breakfast Meeting** Meeting **Fun & Fellowship** January 13 | 8:30 a.m. Friday, January 19 | 9 a.m. **Every Tuesday | 10 a.m. Fellowship Center Fireside Room Fireside Room**

Out n' About | Nancy Wulfmeier



All ladies are invited to gather at "Streets of New York" with the Out n' About lunch group on Wednesday, January 17th at noon.

It will be a time to relax and visit awhile, after our busy holidays. Join us for a great meal and wonderful conversation!

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

Women's Sunday | Sunday, January 21 | 9 a.m.



Join us for a special Women's Sunday worship service on January 21st. We're thrilled to announce Pastor Jackie Parks from South Scottsdale Presbyterian Church as our guest speaker. Pastor Parks will deliver an inspirational message, sharing her insights on being "Blessed to be a Blessing." Additionally, several talented women from our own congregation will actively contribute to the event.

Deb Fisher is on the lookout for enthusiastic volunteers to be part of the allwomen's choir. Plan to attend practice on Thursday, January 18th at 4:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars and make plans to be with us on January 21st for a memorable Women's Sunday. It promises to be an outstanding occasion filled with inspiration, community, and the joy of being "Blessed to be a Blessing."

Looking forward to seeing you there! Mary Holtan & Susan Titus

Lisa & Jay, You'll Be Missed!



Christmas Eve in Mililani | Jackie Miles

I had the pleasure of spending Christmas week with my son and his wife and family on Oahu, HI. They live in Mililani, and we attended a delightful Christmas Eve Candlelight worship service at the Mililani Presbyterian Church, "The Church of the Open Doors".

The church is made of supporting timbers and clear glass. One can see through all four walls, with windows and glass doors on all four sides of the building. Every Sunday morning the Presbyterian congregation meets at 9 a.m., followed by a second worship service, in Korean, at 10:30 a.m. The Samoan Congregational Christian Church worship service starts at noon each Sunday. This is followed by a 3 p.m. service for the Rainbow House Church of Christ and a 5 p.m. Micronesian worship service.

The Christmas Eve service was opened by the Presbyterian pastors Ron Pfeifer and Kho-Hun Kim. We were invited to say the Lord's Prayer as one, in the language of our choice. Special music, "He Shall Reign For Evermore" was played by Andrew Kim (home for the holidays from USC) on the viola. Another college student, Paige Nakashima, in a lovely



long dress, performed the worship hula "King of Kings".

The Samoan Congregational Church choir sang for us in their language, followed by The Rainbow House choir singing "It's All for Love" in Chinese. We did not meet the Micronesians because they were attending a memorial service elsewhere.

After the message "A Place at the Manger", the various pastors participated in The Lighting of the Christ Candle and then lit our candles as we recessed to "Joy to the World". What a wonderful and memorable multi -cultural event this was!

Mission Ministry | Terri Schmidt



As I write this portion of the newsletter, I am a little saddened. By the time this comes out in January, I will no longer be the Elder leading the Mission Committee. I will continue on as a member because I so love the work we do here, but I come off Session in 2024 after heading this committee for six years.

I still remember when Pastor Bill asked me to chair the committee. I was not sure I wanted to do it, but while on vacation, God gave me the nod through another Pastor's sermon. When I came home, I agreed to it and I've come to absolutely love doing mission work! Thank you to all the people who have helped out both financially and physically.

Now let me recap the organizations we were able to support this past year. They include:

Our Veterans: Easter/Christmas Cards and clothing.

Extended Hands Food Bank: Monetary donations, food collections, including our huge month-long PB&J campaign and Souper Bowl drive.

Devereaux: Easter Baskets for children.

Operation Christmas Child: Shoe Box and monetary collections.

Reigning Grace Ranch: Sonoran Quintet concert fundraiser.

Phoenix Rescue: Thanksgiving and Christmas meals; along with Code-Red Water Drive.

Changing Lives Center: Thanksgiving/Christmas meals.

Church World Service: Blanket Sunday

Boys and Girls Club of Fountain Hills: Scholarship money.

Here We Grow Preschool: Scholarship money for those who can't afford to pay.

Fort McDowell Presbyterian Church: cleaning supplies and things when they reopened the Church after their closure for Covid.

Project C.U.R.E.: Support for a hospital in Cameroon that Pastor Bob asked us to help.

Overture International: The Haiti children's project.

Fountain Hills Schools: School supplies.

AZ Brainfood: Weekend meals for those in need.

Good Samaritans Purse: Financial relief for the earthquake in Turkey, Maui catastrophe, war in the Middle East.

These are the major projects of 2023. Now, setting our sight on 2024.

Extended Hands Food Bank: We will again focus on collecting PB&J in January, yet our shopping carts out front every Sunday for all food donations. Closer to

Super Bowl time, we will have baskets for each team and to collect canned soup. We have a great record of predicting the winning team, while helping Extended Hands Food Bank.



Pastoral Food Bank: Pastor Bob is part of the many Fountain Hills Pastors involved with this project. Each Church is designated certain items to provide for this Food Bank. We here in the Presbyterian Church are to provide Velveeta cheese, cereal, and jello. So these items can be added to the shopping carts out front and we will separate what goes to which Food Bank.

Blankets: This project will kick off on January 29th and run into February. In support of Church World Service, we will collect money to purchase blankets and other items for disaster areas.

In closing, scripture says it best. Proverbs 11:24 "One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want."

Thank you to all who have supported me and the Mission team. We all appreciate you!

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Schmidt, Mission Elder

Support Our Troops | Donna Sims, Mission Committee



This past month since my writing for the December In Touch Newsletter, I have been extremely busy and have managed to "get it all done" thankfully. All of the Christmas cards were mailed out, with the deployed cards being mailed first. The second mailing occurred and I am hoping all will reach the intended military person. This is not an

easy and fast project. Many, many hours.

January Mission Projects

The next specific Christmas project is finding the items needed for deployed Troops, which need to be new items, and this means shopping here and there and everywhere, which I did. I then made the drive to Glendale to Packages From Home with my trunk full of items which they were totally delighted to receive and I am totally delighted that they do the packaging and shipping overseas. Through all the years of this specific project, we have gotten to know each other and even by first name and of course they know my car.

This past month since my writing for the December In Touch Newsletter, I have been exneed of help in many ways. On December 1st, Com-



I am so very thankful too.

munity Bridges, Inc., made its second trip out here to Fountain Hills in a week to pick up another load of donations. They have been so happy and so thankful for all of you who have made these donations possible and

Our Veterans and Troops Ministry is year-round, never stops. We continue to collect gently used clothing, bedding, socks, shoes, hats, jackets, sweatshirts, long pants, and most of all, toiletries for the homeless veterans in the Phoenix and surrounding areas. We are 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.

Donna Simms



PB&J Drive will run through January to benefit EHFB. Suggested items include peanut butter, almond or alternative butter, jelly or jam. (Plastic jars, please). Grocery carts will be set outside the Narthex or drop off in the office.



Blanket Sunday kicks off on January 28 and runs through February. The Church World Service theme this year will be "*Give Love. Give Warmth. Give Blankets*!" Let's make this the year the best yet!

Meet Our Musicians | John Scaggs

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." — Plato



Music, and the joy it brought, first made its mark on me in the 4th grade. The music teacher announced auditions for interested 4th grade students. Those selected would perform one song with the high school choir. On a whim, I tried out and was fortunate to be selected. It laid the foundation for my participation in assorted

choirs that continues to this day.

The next school year, students were offered the chance to purchase an instrument and be part of the 5th grade band. I tried multiple brass and woodwind instruments during a musical assembly. Having developed a liking for jazz music and encouraged to consider a woodwind because I produced a better sound on reed instruments, I started an 8-year journey with my alto saxophone that would involve playing in concert, jazz and pep bands as well as marching band in high school.

As I reflect on that assembly, I'm reminded of the sacrifices my parents made, financially and with their time, so I could "blow into a horn."

For my first choral Christmas concert in middle school, the instructor selected me to be part of a barbershop quintet of young men who sang "Jingle Bell Rock." It was the classic "exhilarating" and "nerve wracking" experience, as I also was tasked with keeping the beat by tapping a wood block. This experience introduced me to harmonizing voices.

It subsequently stimulated using my allowance to purchase 45-RPM records and albums of groups known for harmonies, such as The Beatles, The Moody Blues, The Beach Boys, the Eagles and Electric Light Orchestra (ELO).

My instrument playing days waned after high school, in part due to the nomadic lifestyle that comes with serving in the military. But I'm fortunate to have experienced singing in a variety of college, community and church choirs over the years. One highlight was being accepted into the Bury St. Edmunds performing troupe in England while assigned to a Royal Air Force Base. This introduced me to performing in a musical on stage and singing outdoors at fetes (British festivals).

A health issue in 2017-2018 temporarily damaged my vocal chords. It was a scary and uncertain time. But through God's grace and healing, I recovered enough to be part of this amazing choir at FHPC. I also perform with the Fountain Hills Community Chorus.

FUN WITH MUSIC – It will benefit our church!

The gift of music has been and continues to be a blessing for me. With the recent celebration of the greatest gift of all – Christ's birth – still fresh in the minds of many people, I will submit a monetary gift to an FHPC ministry or project to be determined by the first congregational member who approaches me and correctly names the musical or concert from each of the three categories below. Note there is one correct answer per category and you must provide all 3.

Local musicals: Which <u>one</u> of these 3 productions have I not participated in?

a. Music Man b. Pirates of Penzance c. Showboat

Concerts: Which <u>one</u> of the following 5 artists have I not seen in person?

a. Bee Gees b. Ernie Haase & Signature Sound c. Alan Jackson d. John Pizzarelli e. U2

Broadway Musicals: Which <u>one</u> of the following 5 shows have I not seen in person?

a.Cats b. Les Misérables c. Mama Mia! d. Rent e. Wicked

Remember, music brings people together. I pray that music touches each of you in some special way in 2024.

"Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!" - Psalm 95:1

Music Ministry | Deb Fisher



Happy New Year! Now, we continue onward in our journey made possible only by God. His Son brought everything with Him when He arrived, impressing God's fullness into His fullness of life on earth, no different than life in Heaven, and left with us with His perfect impression of living in His Spirit. Now we continue learning how to accept and live in His glorious truth. We are blessed to have this Sanctuary on a Hill for the past 50 years in which to pray and study, to sing and emote physically, mentally and soulfully, contemplating and appreciating Gods Blessings and Miracles.

Our Music Ministry is continually moving forward to fulfill the portions within all our Church Life's Ministry, and appreciate, so very much, all of you beautiful musical people in this truly, one of a kind journey.

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined." Isaiah 9:2

Outreach Ministry | Jackie Miles



Stroll in the Glow Thanks to all our volunteers who made our live nativity on the Avenue a great success! This includes the "construction crew" Bob Lull, Dewey Anderson, Roy Nickel and Bob Titus; Debbie Fisher, choir and singers; Kristi Robinson who arranged the costumed characters, including Eloise and Aurora. Plus, those lent their lanterns --Jeff Rand, the Nickels, and the Stewarts; Susan Harding, Jill Gregory, Sandi Thompson and Johannah Fernandez

who prepared our candy cane handouts; and Jean Linzer who passed them out.

Upcoming Fountain Hills Activities & Volunteer Expo On Wednesday, January 24th from 3-5 p.m., FHPC will participate in the this Town-sponsored event at the Community Center. It is a great opportunity for you to represent our church, meeting and greeting members of the community and sharing information about our church activities and ministries. We are looking for volunteers! Interested in covering a shift? Contact Jackie Miles at 480-518-5182 or



Communications Ministry | Jeff Rand



In Touch provides an opportunity for all ministries and committees to keep the congregation apprised of their activities, events, and accomplishments. We encourage everyone to submit newsworthy information to be included in this monthly publication. We also suggest including photographs!

Articles for *In Touch* are due the 15th of the month prior to publication in order to have adequate time to lay out the newsletter. Late submissions will NOT be included in the upcoming edition if NOT received by the 15th.

Additionally, ALL submissions MUST be sent to the email address news@fhpresby.org. Sending to Johannah will delay or may cause omission.

ECO | Our Denomination



The name ECO is not an acronym. It reinforces our passion for strengthening the ecosystems of local churches. We believe that the Church is a living organism that needs life-giving resources to help it grow, thrive, and multiply. ECO is committed to cultivating a healthy, diverse, resource-rich ecosystem where pastors and congregations can flourish.

Our full name ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians speaks to our core commitments:

- COVENANT: To connect leaders in accountable relationships and encourage collaboration.
- ORDER: To commit to a shared way of life as we unite around a shared theological core.
- EVANGELICAL: To advance the gospel of Jesus Christ and plant new missional communities.
- PRESBYTERIAN: To stand within our Reformed heritage and celebrate the life of the mind.

Our Mission: To build flourishing churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision: As ECO began, our desire was not simply to create another denomination, but to truly be a movement that recaptures the best of our Presbyterian and Reformed heritage to saturate our broken and hurting world with the transforming power of Jesus Christ. We are committed to reaching a new apex in our next decade of ministry, by envisioning 1,000 planted, revitalized, and flourishing ECO congregations and microexpressions by 2030. To make this passion a reality, we must aggressively recruit, train, re-train, and deploy 1,000 vocational leaders and 10,000 highly invested lay leaders.

In doing so, we see hundreds of thousands of movement-equipped people emerging for daily gospel influence. Like a child who blows a dandelion into the wind, the Spirit scatters us into our communities to plant the gospel. Imagine worldwide, millions of people linked to the surprising goodness of God, loved through tangible acts of kindness, lifted by the compelling good news of Jesus, and lavishly adopted into a new and better kind of family. (Reprinted from www.eco-pres.org)



Covenant Partnership

Are You a Partner in FHPC?

Many of us are familiar with the concept of "Covenant the life of FHPC. This status allows you to participate Partners" at FHPC—individuals who have chosen FHPC as their "home church" and have formalized their commitment, granting them full membership rights, including the ability to speak and vote in formal church meetings.

Affiliate Partners: We welcome "Affiliate Partners" in our congregation. This acknowledges a special relationship between you and your FHPC family, supplementing your primary membership at another "home church," perhaps in another state. By becoming an Af-

filiate Partner, you affirm your active involvement in in church meetings, speak on relevant issues, with the only limitation being the right to vote.

If you're interested in becoming a Covenant Partner with full membership rights or an Affiliate Partner, please reach out to Pastor Bob Simmons or contact the church office at 480-837-1763 to attend an upcoming informational meeting.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to deepen your connection with FHPC.

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Foundation



Are You Looking for a Way to Do Good?

The FHPC Foundation solicits, invests and subsequently disburses planned gifts from members and friends to ensure the future needs of the church and its ministries.

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

Whatever you can give will be gratefully accepted... We can help you with the pledge form – call today!

Foundation TrusteesJean Ipema, Secretary, 480-652-0188Bill Matty, 815-282-6024Matt Jefferson, Chair, 480-837-6001Roy Nickel, 480-688-8392Mary Holtan, 612-382-8824Linda 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

Biblical Garden



Visit to 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/biblicalgarden or pick up a brochure in the office.

Columbarium



The Columbarium provides a final resting place for the mortal remains of members and friends. Along with the urn niches, there is a Wall of Remembrance, a waterfall and memorial benches, providing a lovely place for prayer and meditation. It is managed by the Columbarium Trustees, a committee of our church corporation. A trust fund insures proper maintenance and perpetual care of the area.

U.S. Military Medallions are available for Veterans' columbarium niches. Please contact the church office for more information.

In Memoriam | 2023

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 Jean Foster Ben Dresser



Birthdays | January



- 1–Jan Bob Hoffarber
- 3–Jan Gayle Anderson
- **3–Jan** Carol Fuls
- **3–Jan** Donna Yordy
- 6-Jan Gerry Prokupek
- 9–Jan Linda Lull
- 10–Jan Brendan Wagner
- 15–Jan Marge Bacher
- 16–Jan Jen Young
- 22–Jan Archie Babaian
- 23–Jan Jeff Rand
- 24–Jan Tony Harris
- 24–Jan Mary Ann O'Connor
- 25-Jan Torchy Robinson

The Power of Prayer

If you are ill or recovering, hospitalized or anticipating a procedure, or going through some difficult times, please let us know so that our church family can raise you in prayer.



We publish our *Prayer List* in The Weekly and include healing prayers during worship. If you prefer not to publicize it, we will respect your privacy. Let us know by calling the office or fill-

ing out a prayer request online.

We have an excellent support system in place due to the diligent efforts of our Pastor and our Deacons. Help us support you through difficult times by communicating your situation.

A Special Thank-You



I want to thank everyone who was concerned about me and prayed for me after my recent fall. I'm well recovered now — no prettier, but back to my old self!

Bob Titus

Chancel Flowers

Honor or memorialize someone dear or celebrate a special occasion or event by making a \$30 donation for flowers to adorn the communion table during Sunday worship. Your dedication will be published in *The Weekly* and announced during Sunday's *Welcome*.



There is a sign-up book in the Narthex or call the office with your request. You may take the flowers following service or donate them to an ill or homebound church family member.

January 2024 | Upcoming Meetings & Events

Check *The Weekly* or the online calendar for changes to date, time or location. Contact Johannah at 480-837-1763 or office@fhpresby.org with any calendar updates.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| | 1 8:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am Library Meeting (L) | 2 10:00am Ladies Drop In (FR) 11:00am Columbarium/Biblical Garden Meeting (FR) 4:30pm Staff Meeting (CR) | 3 4:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) | 4 4:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) | 5 8:30am Christmas Decorations Removal Day | 6 CANCELLED Presby Pickins' Fle Market |
| 7 8:00am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) 9:00am Worship (SA/Online) | 8 8:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am Library Meeting (L) 10:30am Care Committee Meeting (FR) 11:30am Deacon's Meeting (FR) 4:00pm Mission Ministry Mtg (CR) | 9 9:30am Columbarium Mtg (L) 10:00am Ladies Drop In (FR) | 10 9:30am FHPC Foundation Mtg (FR) 11:00am Communications Meeting (CR) 4:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) | 11 9:30am Women's Morning Circle (FR) 4:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) | 12 9:00am Hilltop Hospitality Meeting (FC) | 13 8:00am Men's Fellowship (FC) |
| 14 8:00am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) 9:00am Worship (SA/Online) | 15 8:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am Library Meeting (L) 4:00pm Women's Evening Circle (FR) | 16 10:00am Ladies Drop In (FR) 4:30pm Session Meeting (AC) 4:30pm Staff Meeting (CR) | 17 12:00pm Out 'n About (FR) 3:00pm Finance Mtg (L) 4:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) | 18 4:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) | 19 9:00am Women's Fellowship Mtg (FR) | 20 12:00pm Lunch & Lecture (Fireside) |
| 21 8:00am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) 9:00am Worship (SA/Online) | 22 8:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am Library Meeting (L) | 23 10:00am Ladies Drop In (FR) | 24 3:00pm FH Activities & Volunteer Expo 4:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) | 25 4:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) | 26 | 27 12:00pm Lunch & Lecture (Fireside) |
| 28 8:00am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) 9:00am Worship (SA/Online) 10:15am Sunday Bible Study (FR) | 29 8:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am Library Meeting (L) | 30 10:00am Ladies Drop In (FR) | 31 4:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) | 1 4:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) | 2 | 3 8:00am Presby Pickins' Flea Marke |

AC = Adult CenterCP = Chapel ER = Education Room FR = Fireside Room FC = Fellowship Center L = Library NU = Nursery NX = Narthex O = Office SA = Sanctuary

CR = Conference Room

Presby Pickins' Flea Market | January 6th is CANCELLED



Unfortunately, due to unforeseen last-minute circumstances, we regret to inform you that the Jan 6th Presby Pickins' Flea Market has been canceled.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause; however, we have exciting news to share - our February, March, and April 2024 markets are still scheduled to take place! We sincerely hope you can join us for one of these upcoming events. Contact us at ppfleamarket@gmail.com or 480-779-8115 with any questions. Visit www.fhpresbyterian.info/fleamarket/ for more info.



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

Visit us on our website at www.presbyterianinfo.info

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." Subscribe to our Channel to receive notifications of upcoming LIVE services. SUBSCRIBE

© 2024 **In Touch** is a monthly publication of Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church. Articles should be submitted to **news@fhpresby.org** no later that the **15th** of the month prior to publication.

Editors: Johannah Fernandez & Kathy Cole Proof Reader: Monique Reynolds



Office Hours: Monday – Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 13001 Fountain Hills Blvd. | Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 Phone: 480.837.1763 | Email: office@fhpresby.org

