



# In Touch

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

## Ilene Berg, Worship and Music Ministry



Ilene Berg, Elder

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The general liturgical seasons of the Protestant church are Advent, Lent and Ordinary Time - the time not marked by a specific season. In this case the word “Ordinary” refers to the "ordinal numbers" (first, second, third, etc.) used to name and count the Sundays, i.e. the Third Sunday after Epiphany. It seems only recently that we celebrated Advent, the season of anticipation and celebration of Jesus’ birth. Advent 2023 was a joyful and reassuring time as the church campus took on a festive look and Pastor Bob’s sermons recalled people and events surrounding our Savior’s birth with detail that we may not have previously considered. A favored poem of the Christmas story is beautifully expressed in Madeleine L’Engle’s poem First Coming “... He did not wait for the perfect time. He came when the need was deep and great...”

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, falling this year on Valentine’s Day. We are blessed to again have the opportunity to strengthen our spirituality and discipleship as Pastor Bob continues Lenten Vespers on Wednesday evenings through March 20.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday with our traditional choir processional of waving palms and the draped cross on the chancel.

Maundy Thursday’s Meager Meal in remembrance of the Last Supper and Jesus’

betrayal will be celebrated in the Fellowship Center followed by worship in the sanctuary.

Good Friday is a solemn occasion when we will gather in the sanctuary at noon to reflect on the crucifixion and death of Jesus.

When Sunday morning, March 31, arrives we will celebrate the good news of Easter - Jesus’ resurrection! The date changes from year to year in order to prevent Easter from being celebrated on the Jewish Passover. Easter is set on the Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox. Since the date of the vernal equinox changes from year to year, calculating the proper date can be difficult. The dates for both Passover and Easter fluctuate each year.

Ordinary Time in a non-liturgical sense is that period when we experience life’s difficulty, illness, death – and also moments of grace and forgiveness. It’s a time to focus on what it means to follow Jesus by spending time reading the Bible and developing a deeper prayer relationship with God. It’s a time to put into practice the lessons we’ve learned in sermons and Bible studies.

All Seasons compel us to love God, love each other as we love ourselves and work together to do good works unto the community around us and to work together to make disciples for Him.



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



**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** | Finance  
**Sandi Thompson** |  
 Fellowship-Assimilation  
**Brendan Wagner** | Mission  
*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*

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 Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

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**Focus on Finance**

January Income	\$ 42,031	Budget	\$ 34,062
January Expenses	\$ 26,925	Budget	\$ 30,693
YTD Income	\$ 42,031	YTD Budget	\$ 30,062
YTD Expense	\$ 26,925	YTD Budget	\$ 30,693

**Finance Report | Linda Lull, Treasurer**



We began the new year with a great start to our finances, ending January with a significant surplus. There were no unusual expenditures to report. There were no unusual expenditures to report.

This is a good time to consider whether paying your pledges and contributions using your Required Minimum Distribution would be beneficial for your tax situation. Check with your Accountant or Financial Analyst. Thank you for your continued support of FHPC missions and ministry.

**FHPC eGiving is Safe and Easy**

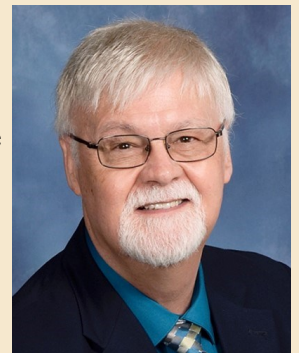
FHPC provides a means for church members and supporters to express their generosity online via our eGiving portal on our website.



Sign up today at [www.fhpresbyterian.info](http://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.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST COVENANT PARTNERS (MEMBERS)!**

One of the most exciting events in the life of every church is when they are able to add new members to the family. On Sunday, March 10th, during our Morning Worship Service, we will welcome 13 new covenant partners to our church family. Please join me in warmly welcoming these sisters and brothers in Christ. This is the largest new member class in several years and we give thanks to God! -Pastor Bob Simmons



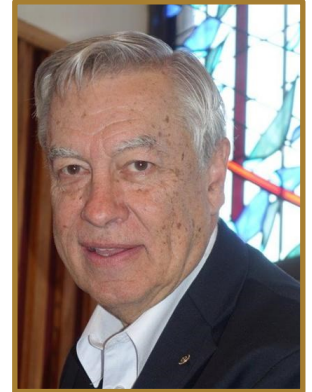
## Clerk's Corner | Jack Reynolds

### SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS, January 16, 2024

Pastor Bob has advised that it is general practice by Presbyterian churches to make Session minutes available to be reviewed in the office of the church. Some years back Session revised this policy in order to have the minutes sent via email to the Constant Contact listings. This list contains all our members and affiliates as well as non-members who have requested to be included. Session has determined that it is not appropriate to send this information to such a general audience. However, Session felt that the most important issues could be delineated in the monthly In-Touch. The full Session minutes and committee reports can be viewed in a notebook in the office.

Treasurer's Report: The 2023 ended with a surplus of \$43,728. In December Session approved transferring \$15,000 additional operating reserve funds to the Capital Reserve account. The \$15,000 is part of the December expenses of \$47,001. A great finish to 2023.

Communications Elder Jeff Rand motioned that the weekly not be published on the first Thursday of the month. This is a duplication since the In Touch is also available that week.



## A Special Thank You

They did it again!

Men's Fellowship Ministry pulled off a very successful Annual Sweetheart Brunch. It was well attended, the meals were scrumptious, and indeed, the ladies felt very special during the sweetest time of the year!

Thanks to Bill Matty and to all the men who spent many hours and days planning this event. Until next year!



## Vesper Services | Pastor Bob Simmons



Pastor Bob extends an invitation to the community to continue to join the church each Wednesday of Lent for a very special Lenten journey.

If you have any questions or need more information, please note that the new email address is [bsimmons@fhpresby.org](mailto:bsimmons@fhpresby.org).

This year's theme, "Jesus in His Own Words," is taken from the Gospel of John where we will examine the "I AM" statements of Jesus.



### CONTINUING SERIES

#### March 6

*"Jesus is the Door; the Good Shepherd"*

(Rev. Dr. James Michael Walters, Special Guest)

#### March 13

*"Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life"*

#### March 20

*"Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life"*

(Rev. Brett Everett, Special Guest)

#### March 28

Maundy Thursday Communion

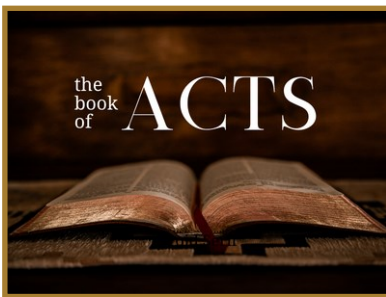
*"Jesus is the True Vine"*

## Christian Education

**Men's Bible Study**  
Bob Cowden

**Sunday Morning**  
Pastor Bob

**Center for Biblical Study**



**Mondays | 8:30 a.m. | Fireside Rm**

*Book of Acts*

Men's Bible study will meet until the *Book Of Acts* is completed.

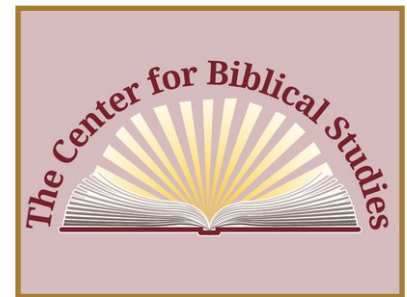
Please notify Bob Cowden, [rscowdenjr@gmail.com](mailto:rscowdenjr@gmail.com) if you plan to attend or have any question about the study.



**Sundays | 10:15 a.m. | Fireside Rm**

*A Journey through the Bible*

Pastor Bob will lead us through a journey of the 66 books of the Bible on Sundays after worship. We will view a brief 20-minute video presentation by Dr. R. C. Sproul, followed by a discussion.



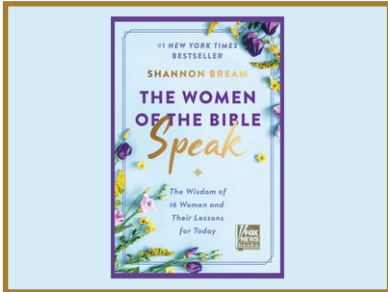
**NEW April 3rd**  
**Wednesdays**  
**10 a.m. | Fireside Rm**  
**6 p.m. | Fellowship Ctr**

*Focus on Christ*

Pastor Bob Simmons will begin a new weekly study after Easter on April 3rd at the respective times.

## Christian Education

### Women’s Morning Bible Study | Monique Reynolds



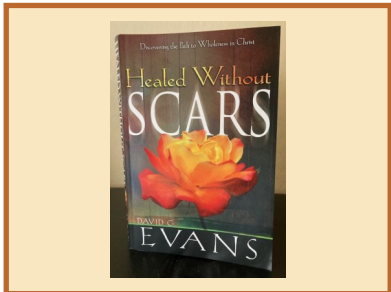
**Thurs, March 14 | 9:30 a.m. | Fireside Rm**

*The Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream. Chapter 6: Esther and Rahab

What about Purim is worthy of special joy from the people of Israel? And are there any circumstances in the Bible which seem to say that lying is an acceptable strategy? We will discuss the answers to these questions and more.

For more information, contact Monique Reynolds 336-382-8733.

### Women’s Afternoon Circle | Jane Allen



**Tuesday, March 5 | 1 p.m. | Library**

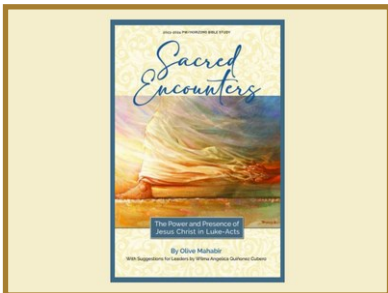
*Healed Without Scars* by David G. Evans.  
Chapter 1-2 pages 7-37: The Wounds and Scars of Life and Created to be Whole.

People from all walks of life carry "hurt" from the past, whether it be disappointment, fear, rejection, abandonment, failure, never being enough etc. Are you in the midst of life's storms? Through Evans, we'll work on healing our heart, renewing our joy, and developing personal wholeness. The solution is

in "God's Touch".

For more information, contact Jane Allen, Leader, 907-538-3223.

### Women’s Evening Circle | Judy Hamouda



**Monday, March 18 | 4 p.m. | Fireside Rm**

*Sacred Encounters* by Olive Mahabir; we will study a heartwarming story found in Acts 8:26-40.

In this passage, we read about an Ethiopian eunuch who is riding along in his chariot reading the prophet Isaiah but failing to understand its meaning. Meanwhile, Philip the evangelist is led by the Holy Spirit to go to Jerusalem and to then approach this man full of questions. After Philip explains the Good News of Jesus Christ, the Ethiopian eunuch is immediately won over by this Good

News, and he asked to be baptized by Philip at the first sight of water. How was your life changed by someone sharing the Good News with you? How can you change someone else’s life through evangelism?

If you ever have questions about Evening Circle or think you might like to join us, please feel free to call Judy Hamouda at (480) 215-0827.

## Christian Education

### Lunch & Lecture | Maria Berry



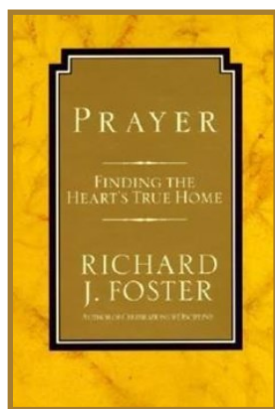
**Lunch & Lecture** will continue into 2024. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by the lectures, and then discussion.

Refer to *The Weekly* for the topic of the week.

#### Upcoming 2024 Dates:

- March 23
- April 13 & 27
- May 11 & 25

### Library Footnotes | Barbara Oakeson



Our church Library has some very good books about prayer which reinforce our Sunday morning sermon series launched in 2024. One good example is *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home* by the Quaker theologian and best-selling author Richard Foster. He provides an excellent and comprehensive survey of 21 forms of Christian prayer. He

groups the sections around three movements (inward, upward, and outward) which address three human needs (transformation, intimacy, and ministry). Foster presents the best thinking of various church traditions to help the reader feel drawn to prayer and to a restored and deeper relationship with oneself, God, and others.

Another point to mention that you will enjoy about this book is the diversity of source material that Foster

includes in his teaching. In addition, the great majority of this source material is well annotated in the index section of the book, which includes a bibliographical reference in the notes, a subject index, and a Scripture index as well. Another nice feature is the opening quotes from influential Christians spanning the history of our faith; words of encouragement, inspiration, and challenge. Additionally, each chapter ends in a prayer or benediction relative to the exercise and practice that was previously described.

Another “classic” book by this author also available in the church Library is *Celebration of Discipline*.



#### Lenten Signals

Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Lent helps us STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

We observe Lent because it tells us to STOP and rest awhile — and to stop sinning. Lent tells us to LOOK inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus with healing and love, and to look forward to the hope of the Resurrection. And we observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN — to the voice of God, the words of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

STOP, LOOK and LISTEN! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.



## Happy 50th Anniversary FHPC | Jackie Miles



One of the church goals was to be active in developing the community, so in 1975 the church joined the Chamber of Commerce, and is still a member. Rev. Atchinson was elected President of the church in 1979.

Pastor Glenn's four siblings donated money in 1977 to purchase a piano, in memory of

there father. Today the piano is in the office of church music director Debbie Fisher. The piano was played by Mary Gillespie and sometimes by Ruth Collins. Ralph and Peggy Gunn donated an organ in 1979 that was used in the building on Enterprise Dr. It was moved to the new church building in 1983. Barbara Wyman and Margaret Wade took turns playing the organ. Soon a small choir formed. Mary was director, Barbara was organist, and Dorothy Parris sang in the choir and also accompanied on piano.

The church's present five-acre site was purchased in 1977 from the Town's developer for \$87,000. This was funded by a \$50,000 loan from the General Assembly, a \$24,000 loan the Southwest Synod, and \$13,000 from the congregation.

The church raised \$10,000 in 1979 for a new Allan organ, and Barbara Wyman was the first organist. Later, when Barbara became the choir director, Caryl Bates was the organist.

In 1979 a Building Committee was elected, and that same year an annual outdoor worship service was begun, preceded by a cookout breakfast.

The annual Congregational meeting was a very special occasion and was always well attended. It became an Annual Dinner, and there was enough space to hold it at the old Community Center (now the Community Theater building). Growth continued, so the Annual Congregational Dinner was celebrated in November 1981 in the Catholic Church of the Ascension, with the meal prepared and served by the women from Shepard of the Hills Lutheran Church.

Groundbreaking for the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church building was on Sunday, March 20, 1983 and the sanctuary held its first service on Sunday, December 18. The congregation hosted a community open house on March 18, 1984. Its Dedication Service was March 25, 1984.

In 1986 the congregation approved plans for a Program Center building to house a nursery and classrooms, and called for an Associate Pastor. Steven Frazier served as Associate Pastor. Steven Frazier served as Associate Pastor from 1988 to 1992. Also during this time the church records were computerized.

The program center and the columbarium were dedicated in 1989, the same year the Carillon was installed.

## Upcoming Event | The Sonoran Quintet Concert

The Sonoran Quintet will present a free concert Sunday, March 10, at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary right here in FHPC. The concert is open to all. Free-will donations received are given to the revitalization of the instrumental music programs at Fountain Hills High School and Middle School, under the direction of Jan Gardner.

Members of the Sonoran Quintet are Flutist Dianne Winsor, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and the Boston Conservatory of Music; Oboist Patti Backes, who holds degrees in music education from the New England Conservatory of Music and Connecticut College; Clarinetist Chris "Doc" Stewart, a retired Mayo Clinic ER doctor who also plays saxophone and flute in a variety of musical genres; Bassoonist Marty Haub, a retired math teacher and former conductor of the Chandler Symphony and the Scottsdale Philharmonic; and French horn player Stacey D'Abate who is also a member of the Arizona Winds Band in the West Valley, the Alleluia Orchestra at Scottsdale Bible Church and the Poliziano Orchestra in Tuscany.



## Presby Pickins' Flea Market | Kathy Cole



Presby Pickins' hit a home run in February, marking our most successful event yet. The vibe was electrifying, with a steady flow of shoppers and numerous inquiries about becoming vendors, with two folks signing up on the spot. And get this – we're adding a new food vendor for March, the Lumpia Queen of AZ, bringing delicious Filipino cuisine to our lineup!

Financially, we smashed records. Sales of donated items hit an all-time high of \$1,050, and rentals brought in \$985, pushing our total gross income for the day over \$2,000. Our cumulative earnings since the beginning stands at an impressive \$23,276, with a current balance of \$7,694 after donations and expenses.

Chef Arlene also knocked it out of the park with her yummy breakfast sandwiches, hand pies and brownies. Her goodies are not priced, instead she accepts donations which are quite generous. Learning of her goal to fund a new commercial refrigerator for our kitchen, an extremely kind gentleman contributed a crisp \$100 bill plus two 20's! What a blessing!

Our commitment to giving back remained strong. We invested \$300 in a new ice machine, donated \$250 to the FH Ministerial Association's Good Samaritan Fund, and chipped in \$400 for new table linens for the Deacons. Plus, we hosted the Fountain Hills Drug Coalition high school volunteers who made a splash, adding 15 new names to their mailing list and receiving \$80 in donations, on top of the \$200 PP award. To date, Presby Pickins' has distributed just over \$8,000 to church and community causes.

Our volunteers are the heart and soul of Presby Pickins.' From pricing to setup to cleanup, their dedication and camaraderie make each market day a success. And let's not forget our church family members who generously donate items for sale – their contributions make a real difference.

We kicked it up a notch with DJ Steve spinning tunes to energize the crowd. Pairadocs++, Jim Landau and friends, returned in February playing a mix of country, folk, popular tunes, mostly from the 60's and 70's.

Presby Pickins' isn't just a market; it's a community hub where we come together to have a blast and make a difference.

Buzz over and soak up the good vibes! Our final two markets will be held on March 2nd and April 6th!



### Presby Pickins' Sponsors Dark Sky Festival

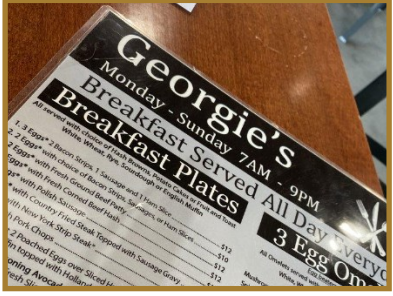
Each month proceeds from our markets sponsors a community cause. For March we are supporting the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Festival to be held on Saturday, March 30th from 4-9 p.m. at the Community Center.

Come on down! No matter your age or areas of interest, you'll find fun activities for everyone!



## Assimilation & Fellowship Ministry

### Out n' About | Nancy Wulfmeier



Hello Ladies! It's time again for our get together for lunch. Please come to Georgie's on the Avenue for a time of relaxing and fellowship, plus great food!

We will meet on Wednesday, March 20th at noon and if the weather is tempting, we may sit outside. Looking

forward to this wonderful afternoon!

Call Nancy for reservations & questions. 480-837-3021

### Ladies' Drop-In L. Katz & M. Berry



**Fun & Fellowship**  
**Every Tuesday | 10 a.m.**  
**Fireside Room**

## Men's Fellowship | Bill Matty



Gentlemen: Our next meeting will be on Saturday, March 9th in the Fireside Room, starting at 8:00 am. Our lovely ladies are having their luncheon that morning in the Fellowship Center, but we'll still be able to cook bacon and bring it to our meeting. I don't want to see grown men cry if we didn't have bacon!! We'll be discussing and planning for Men's Sunday, which will be on Sunday, April 14th. Hope to see you all for some good fellowship.

Blessings to all!

## Women's Fellowship | Mary Holtan & Susan Titus

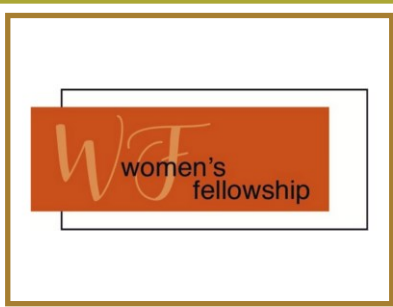


### Living with our Native South-west Desert Wildlife Dwellers

Women's Fellowship luncheon on March 9th at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Our lunch will be catered by an award winning restaurant, Mountain View Kitchen.

Mary Lee Lehrich will be our fabulous hostess and our speaker is from Arizona Wildlife, Game, and Fish. She will even talk about the wild horses in our valley. This is a free event sponsored by Women's Fellowship.

YOU don't want to miss this fun event!



**Meeting**  
**Friday, March 15 | 9 a.m.**  
**Fireside Room**

## Mission Ministry | Mary Holtan

### Mission Messages

#### “Showing God's Love By Giving and Doing”

**Welcome to Brendan Wagner as the new Elder of Missions.**

**Mission Committee Packs Food at Midwest Food Bank Arizona**



Three members of the Mission Committee plus spouses packed food for the needy at Midwest Food Bank Arizona, a faith based organization that shares the love of Christ by alleviating hunger locally

and throughout the world. Jack and Monique Reynolds, Susan Owens, and George and Mary Holtan participated in the food packing. Spending 2 hours packing nutritious food with many other volunteers from around the area, some from Fountain Hills, was a heartwarming experience. Together we packed over 41,000 bags of food to distribute. Midwest Food Bank Arizona provides food to over 280 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and other nonprofit organizations to those in need in our communities. It also provides relief to victims of natural disasters. MFB packs rice and beans with minerals and vitamins, through a program called Tender Mercies, which ships locally and around the world. Hope Packs, another MFB program provides children with supplemental weekend food. There are now 12 Arizona Food Bank locations. Ten are in the United States and there is one distribution center in North Africa and one distribution in Haiti run by Overture International which is the organization Jack Reynolds founded. FHPC members can help support the mission of Midwest Food Bank Arizona through prayer, volunteering at a food packing event, and/or donating. Over 99 cents of every dollar donated goes to MFB programs and services. There are 800 volunteers for every paid staff member. You can also use your tax credit to feed our hungry neighbors through one of the four programs. Share the love of Christ through this mission work.

### Blanket Project



A BIG Thank YOU to all of our FHPC members and friends that have contributed to the CWS Blanket project so far this year. As of 02/27, we had collected over

\$3100. That is 310 blankets for people in need all over the world. We could not have done it without you!

**Give Love! Give Warmth! Give Blankets!**

### Souper Bowl



Even though the Chiefs won the Super Bowl, the 49ers' won the FHPC Souper Bowl contest with donations of 76 cans of soup in the 49ers' cart and 57 cans of soup in the

Chiefs' cart. The BIG WINNER was Extended Hands. 133 cans of soup were donated to Extended Hands to help feed the needy in Fountain Hills. Thank you to all who participated!

### Food for Kidz

On February 29th, volunteers packed food at the Community Center for an organization called “Food for Kidz” which helps feed children in and around Fountain Hills. The Missions Committee gave \$500 from their monthly budget for the “Food For Kidz” project in Fountain Hills.

### FHPC Mission Committee:

*Brendan Wagner, Terri Schmidt, Susan Titus, Donna Sims, Jack Reynolds, Jane Allen, Martha Carillo, Susan Owens, Mary Holtan*

## Support Our Troops | Donna Sims



The end of January and throughout February has been very busy with the Easter Card Notes for our Church-connected military project. I purchased and made 55 envelopes ready to use and to date 37 notes have been returned and are already separated and ready to be placed into each of the cards. Who knew that Amazon had Easter cards? Not

me. When I went to buy them at 3 different stores, none had any and of course I said, "do you realize that Easter is nearly a month early this year?" Anyway, I am happy to be able to mail the cards to our deployed members on this coming Monday, and the stateside cards will get mailed a couple of weeks later. I want to thank one and all who were willing to take one of the envelopes and write a little note. Please picture the looks and smiles on



the faces of the recipients as they read what we have written to them. Smiles on faces, very important.



I do plan on making a date for the pickup of our donations soon. It had been delayed because I was waiting on a rather large donation to come in, and half of it did, so I am going to make the call

this coming Tuesday to get on their schedule. Our donations have still been on the light side and I do thank everyone who has come forth with very needed items. Remember, it is close to closet cleaning time.

Please note that our Veterans and Troops Ministry is year-round: it never stops. We continue to collect gently used clothing, bedding, socks, shoes, hats, jackets, sweatshirts, long pants, small household items and most of all, toiletries, for the homeless veterans in the Phoenix and surrounding areas. We are always happy to see Church members and friends from our community placing items in our collection box. Thank you again for remembering our Veterans and our Troops.

## Women Veterans

### Women Veterans Back-To-Work Clothes

Please continue to support the Evening Circle's mission project this year by donating any new or

gently-used women's clothing items which could be suitable for women veterans preparing to enter the work force.

You may even like to check Goodwill to see if there are items that would be nice to purchase for this purpose. As these items are collected in the Narthex, they will be taken over to Donna Sims to make sure they get where they need to go.

## Devereux Easter Baskets 2024



It's a "go"!

We're in our 14th year of filling 50+ baskets with candies, Wow item, & fun stuff. Their residents, ages 10-17,

are medically and/or behaviorally challenged and they love our FHPC BASKETS!

Sign ups are Sundays MAR 3, 10, & 17. Baskets / donations are due by Sunday MAR 24.

Easter Sunday is MAR 31st. Fill a basket?

Donate \$25 per basket? We need you! Thanks, Women's Fellowship for years of believing in kids & baskets!

## Music Ministry | Deb Fisher

In case you are wondering who the woman at the organ is, it is my beautiful mother, Dorraine Aggen.



Dorraine Aggen

She comes to us after Christmas each year, and has for the past 28 years, from Idaho. She is the organist in her home church there, and has played organ for us for the last 10 years, or so. She originally hails from South Dakota, then after marrying my Father, they raised 5 children while my Father had a full military career living in England, Germany, Texas, Idaho, and South Dakota.

She played trombone several years with us, in church, in the Community Band, and has added so much fun to our music ministry by singing in the choir and playing several Piano/Organ pieces with Dorothy. She has played for Vesper Services for the last 13 years, and is a complete delight to work with. We are all so

proud of her, as a family who adores her and looks forward to spending time with her. She loves her time with all of the fabulous people of AZ, and our great church. She has so many kids, grandkids and great-grand kids that love it when she returns to Idaho, though we miss her when she goes. All of you who return to your other homes through the summer months are missed. We have all become so close as we journey through our lives together worshipping, singing, playing and praying. Let this Lenten journey reflect the intensity of Christ's life as He lived, taught, and died on a cross, crucified for the truth He brings to us each and every day.

Let us know the depth and meaning of Easter every day, and share our grateful praise to God.

*"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:"*

1 Peter 3:18 Debbie Fisher  
Director of Music Ministries

## Meet Our Musicians | Mary Mack



Mary Mack

My introduction to music came at a very early age. I remember singing as young as age 4. My mom was a voice student at Julliard School of Music, so I imagine my vocal ability came from her and God.

As a family, my mom, my sisters and I, sang together, performing at church and for parties at my maternal grand-

mother's home. Our 'signature' songs were "Lift Thine Eyes" and "When you Wish Upon a Star". My grandparents lived right across the street from the Supreme Court building in Washington D.C. They held parties when we visited. In attendance were friends and neighbors who lived in their apartment building. There were, at times, senators in attendance.

While in high school, I attended the Eastman School of Music, studying the oboe. My dream was to become a concert oboist. However, while studying the oboe at the University of Hartford Hartt School of Music, my oboe was stolen. I changed my major to voice.

I became a paid cantor for St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Avon, Connecticut. I sang 4 masses every weekend, along with weddings and funerals. My dad was a United Methodist Minister. He was amused that his daughter was serving the Catholic church.

While living in Fort Worth, Texas, I performed with the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Chorus as well as the Dallas Symphony Chorus.

Here in Arizona, I sang with the First United Methodist Church of Mesa. I moved to Fountain Hills in December 2020. I have been singing with the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church since 2021.

## 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???

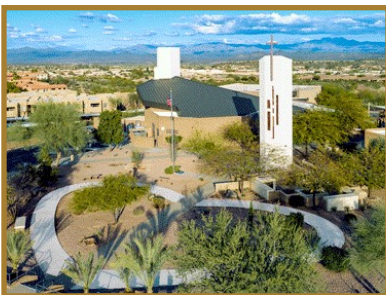
Whatever you can give will be gratefully accepted... We can help you with the pledge form – call today!

### Foundation Trustees

Jean Ipema, Secretary, 480-652-0188 Bill Matty, 815-282-6024  
 Matt Jefferson, Chair, 480-837-6001 Roy Nickel, 480-688-8392  
 Mary Holtan, 612-382-8824 Susan Titus, 608-332-1265  
 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

## Biblical Garden & Columbarium



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](http://www.fhpresbyterian.info/biblical-garden) or pick up a brochure in the office.

Effective March 1, 2024, the trustees unanimously agreed to increase the subscription fee for a Columbarium niche and nameplate to \$1,250.00 due to rising cost.

## Covenant Partnership

### Are You a Partner in FHPC?

Many of us are familiar with the concept of "Covenant 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 Affiliate Partner, you affirm your active involvement in the life of FHPC. This status allows you to participate 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.



## March 2024 | FHPC Upcoming Meetings & Events

Check *The Weekly* or the online calendar for changes to date, time or location. Contact Johannah at

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00am – 3:00pm Presby Pickins' Flea Market  1:00pm – 8:00pm Youth Theater (FC)
<b>3</b> 8:00am – 8:40am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) <b>9:00am – 10:00am Communion Sunday Service (S)</b> 10:15am – 11:15am Sunday Bible Study (FR)	<b>4</b> 8:30am – 9:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am – 10:30am Library Meeting (L) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Bell Practice (S)  4:00pm – 6:30pm Youth Theater (FC)	<b>5</b> 8:00am – 9:30am FH Ministerial Assoc Meeting 10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies Drop In (FR) 1:00pm – 2:30pm Women's Afternoon Circle (L) 2:30pm – 3:30pm Pastor's Visit to FVV	<b>6</b> 4:15pm – 5:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) 5:30pm – 6:30pm Vespers Service (S)	<b>7</b> 4:30pm – 5:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA)	<b>8</b> 9:00am – 10:30am Hilltop Hospitality Meeting (FC) 12:00pm – 5:00 pm Women's Luncheon Set-up (FC)	<b>9</b> 8:00am – 10:30am Men's Fellowship (Fireside Rm) 11:00am – 2:00pm Women's Fellowship Luncheon (FC)
<b>10</b> 8:00am – 8:40am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) <b>9:00am – 10:00am Worship (S)</b> 10:15am – 11:15am Sunday Bible Study (FR) 2:00pm Sonoran Quintet Concert (SA)	<b>11</b> 8:30am – 9:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am – 10:30am Library Meeting (L) 10:30am – 11:30am <u>Deacon's</u> Meeting (FR) 3:30pm – 4:30pm Mission Ministry Mtg (CR) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Bell Practice (S)	<b>12</b> 9:30am Columbarium Mtg (L) 10:00am Ladies Drop In (FR) 4:30pm Staff Meeting (CR)	<b>13</b> 9:30am – 10:30am FHPC Foundation Mtg (FR) 11:00am – 12pm Communications Meeting (CR) 3:00pm – 4:00pm Finance Mtg (L) 4:15pm – 5:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) 5:30pm – 6:30pm Vespers Service (S)	<b>14</b> 9:30am – 10:30am Women's Bible Study (FR) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA)	<b>15</b> 9:00am – 10:30am Women's Fellowship Mtg (FR)	<b>16</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Celebration of Life for Jane Haynes (S/FC)
<b>17</b> 8:00am – 8:40am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) <b>9:00am – 10:00am Worship (S)</b> 10:15am – 11:15am Sunday Bible Study (FR)	<b>18</b> 8:30am – 9:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am – 10:30am Library Meeting (L) 4:00pm – 6:30pm Women's Evening Circle (FR) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Bell Practice (S) 4:30pm – 6:00pm Session Meeting (AC) 5:00pm – 8:00pm Community Chorus Rehearsal (S)  4:00pm – 6:30pm Youth Theater (FC)	<b>19</b> 8:15am – 5:00pm LIFT UP (FH Community Center Ballroom) 10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies Drop In (FR)	<b>20</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Out 'n About (Georgie's) 4:15pm – 5:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER) 5:30pm – 6:30pm Vespers Service (S)	<b>21</b> 9:00am – 10:00am FHPC Foundation Board Meeting (FR) 10:00am – 11:30am Worship & Music Ministry Mtg (Fireside) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 12:00pm – 2:30pm Lunch & Lecture (FR) 1:00pm – 3:00pm Celebration of Life for Sunniva Graves (S/FC)
<b>24</b> 8:00am – 8:40am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) <b>9:00am – 10:00am Palm Sunday Worship Service (S)</b> 10:15am – 11:15am Sunday Bible Study (FR)	<b>25</b> 8:30am – 9:30am Men's Bible Study (FR) 9:30am – 10:30am Library Meeting (L) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Bell Practice (S) 6:30pm – 7:30pm Christian Formation Mtg (CR)  4:00pm – 6:30pm Youth Theater (FC)	<b>26</b> 10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies Drop In (FR) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Staff Meeting (CR)	<b>27</b> 4:15pm – 5:15pm Childrens Music & Movement (ER)	<b>28</b> 4:30pm – 5:30pm Celebration Singers Rehearsal (S) 5:30pm – 6:30pm Meager Meal (FC) 6:30pm – 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service (S)	<b>29</b> 12:00pm Good Friday Service (S)  9:00am – 3:00pm Youth Theater (FC)	<b>30</b>   12:30am – 6:00pm Youth Theater (FC)
<b>31</b> 8:00am – 8:40am Celebration Singers Rehearsal (SA) <b>9:00am – 10:00am Easter Sunday Service (S)</b> 10:15am – 11:15am Sunday Bible Study (FR)						

## March 2024 | Special Dates

- ◆ World Day of Prayer, March 1, 2024
- ◆ Daylight saving time begins, March 10, 2024
- ◆ First day of spring, March 19, 2024
- ◆ Holy Week, March 24-31, 2024
- ◆ Palm/Passion Sunday, March 24, 2024
- ◆ Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024
- ◆ Good Friday, March 29, 2024
- ◆ Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

## In Memoriam | 2023

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

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

## Birthdays | March

7–March *De Amend*  
 7–March *Kathy Cole*  
 9–March *Paula Meeuwenberg*  
 11–March *Jay Moyer*  
 12–March *Mike Pizzuto*  
 20–March *Judy Hamouda*  
 22–March *Len Modder*  
 24–March *Helen Quigley*  
 26–March *Phil Katz*  
 29–March *Donna Lyons*  
 29–March *Terri Schmidt*  
 31–March *Dallas Amend*  
 31–March *Matt Jefferson*

## 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.

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 calling the office or filling out a prayer request online.

## Chancel Flowers

Honor or memorialize someone dear or celebrate a special occasion or event by making a \$35 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.



## Invitation For Friendliness | Ilene Berg



### Being a Welcoming Church

Wearing a name tag connects your name with your face and makes you seem more approachable and friendlier.

Please make a point to sport your name tag on Sundays, If you have misplaced it, please request a new one.



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

Visit us on our website at  
[www.presbyterianinfo.info](http://www.presbyterianinfo.info)

## Social Media | Live Streaming

### Facebook Page:

[www.facebook.com/fhpresbyterianchurch/](http://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](http://www.youtube.com/@fhpresbyterianchurch)



View Sunday worship here under “Live.” Subscribe to our Channel to receive notifications of upcoming LIVE services.

**SUBSCRIBE**

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