



# In Touch

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church

## Sandi Thompson | Elder of Fellowship & Assimilation



Hi, it's Sandi Thompson for year two of being an Elder of Fellowship and Assimilation. Last year we stuffed paper sacs containing information about our church like pens, booklets about our many activities, and water containers. For year two I would like to get more members

involved. Especially if you are a greeter, you would make an excellent choice. Even if you are a new person, what better way to get to know your fellow members. What I've found to work is being yourself. Explaining what we do and the many ways to get involved are what most people are looking for. Adding gifts filled with information and, of course, a water bottle defining our 50th Anniversary is always appreciated here in the desert.

Please consider or reconsider being on my committee. It requires just being at church when it's your turn to participate. We will have a monthly schedule, so you will know when you are available to participate. It could be by month or by a particular Sunday. You would just have to be there by 8:30 a.m. and after the service at 10:00 a.m. until all possible new people have left. As the pastor announces that new church people fill out the card in the pew in front of you and turn it in to the person at the desk, that could be you. You would make sure Eric has it on his desk in the office by giving the new card to an Elder with a key to the office door.

Please email or call me if interested. *Thank you.*

Sandi Thompson  
Elder of Fellowship & Assimilation

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**FOUNTAIN HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*The Heart of Fountain Hills for 50 Years*

**OUR STAFF**

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

**Eric Williamson**  
office@fhpresby.org

**Linda Lull**  
Treasurer

**Debbie Fisher**  
Director of Music

**Dorothy Parris** Pianist

**Steve Trommer**  
Custodian

**CHURCH SESSION**

**Jack Reynolds**  
Clerk of Session

**Jackie Miles | Outreach**  
**Jeff Rand | Administration**  
**Jim Stewart | Bldg& Grounds**  
Class of 2025

**Phylliss Kern | Finance**  
**Sandi Thompson | Fellowship-Assimilation**  
**Brendan Wagner | Mission**  
Class of 2026

**Jack Morris | Personnel**  
**MaryAnn O'Connor | Worship & Music**  
Class of 2027

**BOARD OF DEACONS**  
**Barbara Hoverland**  
**Matt Jefferson**  
Class of 2025

**Jeannette Simmons**  
Class of 2026

**Susan Titus, Moderator**  
**Jean Linzer**  
**Suzanne Ottoson**  
Class of 2027

13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd,  
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268  
www.fhpresbyterian.info

**Focus on Finance | 2025**

March Income	\$ 49,894	Budget	\$ 38,417
March Expenses	\$ 35,926	Budget	\$ 39,406
YTD Income	\$ 120,903	YTD Budget	\$ 115,251
YTD Expense	\$ 102,390	YTD Budget	\$ 119,716

**Finance Report | Linda Lull, Treasurer**

Our first quarter finances are in good shape. We are ahead of budget in income and have managed to stay below budget in expenses. We haven't had any unusual expenditures to date. We have been preparing for the hot summer months, setting aside reserve funds if the need should arise. We appreciate your keeping up with your pledges and contributions to the missions and ministry of our church.

**FHPC eGiving is Safe and Easy**

FHPC offers church members and supporters a convenient way to express their generosity online through our eGiving portal. To get started, 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 use the Vanco Mobile app to give directly from your phone. For instructions, please refer to the eGiving Help section.

**ARE YOU RECEIVING FHPC ELECTRONIC MAIL?**

FHPC publishes *The Weekly*, Sunday Worship, News Flash-es, and other communications electronically. Subscribe on our website at [www.fhpresbyterian.info](http://www.fhpresbyterian.info) or contact the office at 480-837-1763 or by email at [office@fhpresby.org](mailto:office@fhpresby.org).



**Love God – Love People – Make Disciples**



## Clerk's Corner | Jack Reynolds

At a recent meeting, Session interviewed Hank and Lena Wilson, Directors of Pangea Schoolhouse—an accredited Christian-based micro-school serving 45–50 students in grades K–5. The school operates on a hybrid model, with approximately half the students attending online and 20–25 attending in person on a rotating basis.

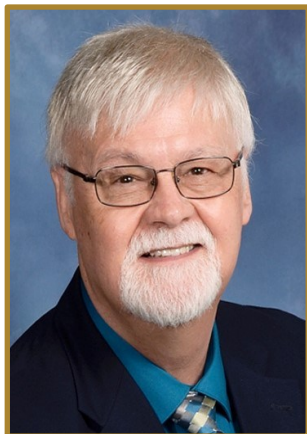
Pangea Schoolhouse has requested to relocate from Joy Church to FHPC, and Session has approved this request. We are pleased to welcome them to our campus beginning in July. They will use the Education Room for in-person classes, following the local school calendar. Classes will be held Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and students will have supervised access to our playground during recess.

Pastor Bob has met with Hank and Lena and is fully supportive of this new use of our campus. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Jack Reynolds—Clerk of Session



## From the Pastor's Pen | Rev. Dr. Bob Simmons



### “THE VALUES THAT SHAPE US”

I will begin a seven-part series of sermons for the spring dealing with those things that we cherish and value that also shape and form us into the person God is calling us to be. The series will begin on Mother's Day and the topic we will investigate that day will be the family.

Plan to join us each Sunday as we learn how God uses these special gifts that God uses to bless us and make us the kind of person we were created to be.

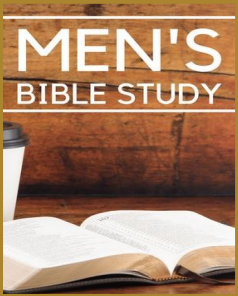
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### SPRING SERMON SERIES

May 11	“The Family”	Ephesians 5:21-6:1-4
May 18	“Prayer”	Luke 11:1-13
May 25	“Scripture”	2 Timothy 3:10-17
June 1	“Friends”	Acts 15:36-40
June 8	“The Church”	Acts 2:42-47 (Pentecost)
June 15	“Worship”	John 4:1-26
June 22	“Work”	Genesis 2:15-18; 3:17-19

## Men's Bible Study

### Don Carillo

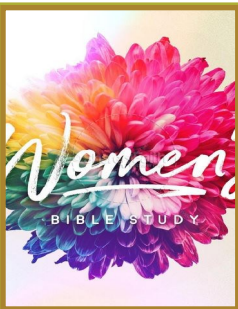


**Men's Bible Study Group** continues weekly every **Monday at 8:30am** in the Fireside Room. We hope to learn and gain a greater understanding of the New Testament and apply it to our daily lives.

If you have any questions, please contact Don Carillo at 480-694-3025 or [carillofamily8@gmail.com](mailto:carillofamily8@gmail.com). We would like to see our small but steady group grow and all are welcome to attend! Thanks, Don

## Women's Bible Study

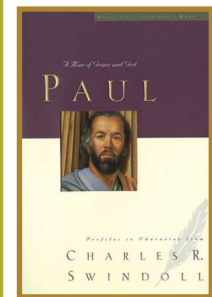
### Jeanette Simmons & Janet Scaggs



**Dig Into The Word!** It is so important to get involved in a ladies bible study; to study God's Word, to connect with other women, and to enjoy fellowship and sharing. We offer several Women's Bible Studies—Morning, Afternoon, and Evening. The evening Women's Bible study will begin a brand new study of the Women of the Old Testament. Each study is a stand-alone study so if you miss one you will not be lost. **We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, May 6 & 20 at 6:00 p.m.** The group meets at 17152 Kensington Place in Fountain Hills.

For more information or any questions, please contact Jeanette Simmons (480-577-3162) or Janet Scaggs.

## Women's Morning Bible Study



Women's Morning Bible Study will meet **Thursday, May 1, at 9:30 AM** in the **Chapel**. Please note this is a different day and meeting place. We will discuss Chapters 15 and 16 of our book **Paul, a Man of Grace and Grit** by Charles Swindoll. For information please call Monique 336-382-8733. See you then!

## Women's Fellowship

### M. Holtan & S. Titus



**—POSTPONED—**

Women's Fellowship that was scheduled for **May 16 has been postponed**. For any questions, you may contact Susan at [SLTitus@gmail.com](mailto:SLTitus@gmail.com).

## Ladies' Drop-In

### L. Katz & M. Berry



**Every Tuesday | 10 a.m.**  
**Fireside Room**

All ladies are invited to *drop-in* for fellowship, games, puzzles, and conversation.

## Lunch & Lecture

### Maria Berry



"Jesus & the End Times  
by RC Sproul"

**Next Meetings | Saturday**  
**May 10 & 24 | 12:00 p.m.**  
**Fireside Room**  
Maria Berry 602-799-9982



## Men's Fellowship

### Bill Matty



**Gentlemen:**  
Mark your calendars for our next **Men's Fellowship meeting on Saturday, May 10.** This will be

our last meeting before the summer break, and we're going to meet at **Phil's Filling Station starting at 8:30 am** for a free breakfast!! We'll be discussing plans for our **church picnic on Saturday, Oct. 25.** Hope to see you there for some good fellowship.  
Bill Matty | 815-282-6024  
bmatty67@gmail.com

## Out n' About

### Joyce Leo & Bonnie Matty



Out and About will be having their May luncheon at **noon on Wednesday, May 21st.** We will be gathering at **Blossom Kitchen at 14835 E Shea Blvd** in Fountain Hills.

Joyce Leo | 803-522-2889 or  
Bonnie Matty | 815-260-5031 to RSVP.

## Easter Baskets of Love | A Recap

Thanks to the incredible generosity and spirit of our FHPC community, this year's Easter Basket Outreach was once again a joyful success!

Women's Fellowship answered the call to support the youth—boys and girls ages 8–17—at the Devereux Residential Advanced Behavioral Health Home & School in Scottsdale, continuing a tradition of neighborly love that's now over a decade strong.

Nineteen dedicated ladies gathered at the home of Jane Allen to assemble **40 beautiful Easter baskets**, filled with treats and encouragement. In



total, **52 baskets** were lovingly prepared and delivered, ensuring that every child at Devereux

received something special for Easter.

We are proud to be the **sole provider** of Easter

baskets for these youth, many of whom face difficult and displaced circumstances. The smiles and gratitude shared each year are a powerful reminder of how our church family's outreach truly makes a difference.

**A heartfelt thank you** to everyone who signed up, donated, shopped, and assembled—whether behind the scenes or hands-on. You helped make this year's Easter celebration one to remember!

*With gratitude,*

*Women's Fellowship & Jane Allen, Coordinator*

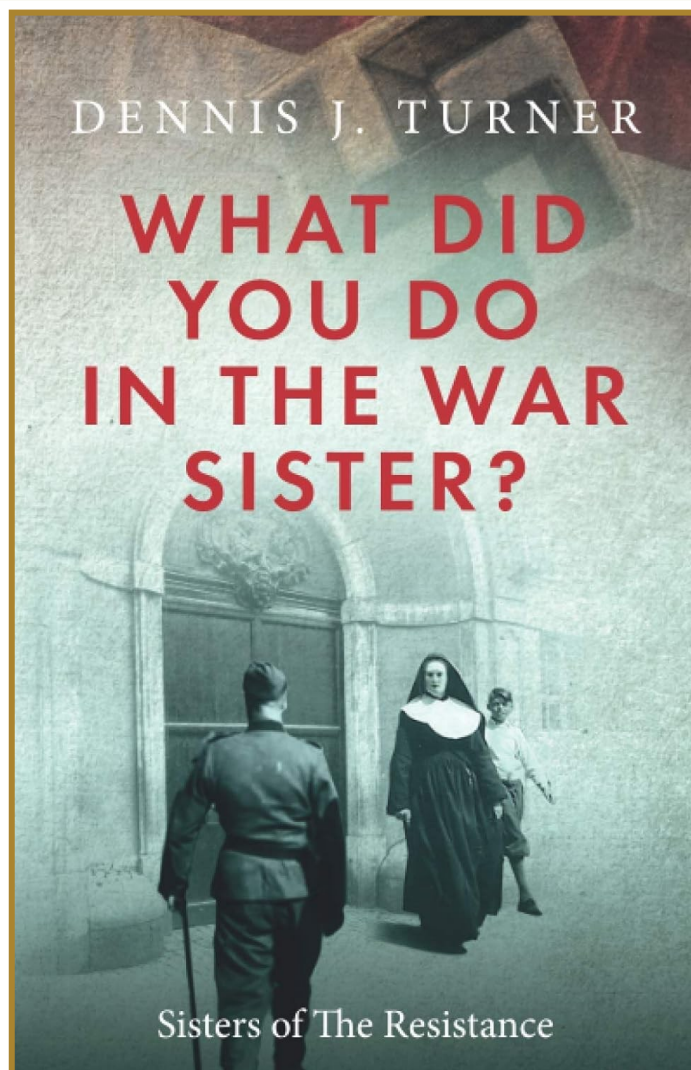


**Library Footnotes | Donna Yordy****May Book Review****What Did You Do in the War, Sister?***by Denis Turner*

In 2016, the author met a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who mentioned she'd recently discovered a cache of letters that hadn't been seen for 70 years. These letters and documents had been written by Sisters of Notre Dame during the Nazi occupation of Belgium and told the story of how brave and faithful these women were, working to defeat the Nazis. These documents were used by the author as the foundation for the book *What Did You Do in the War, Sister?*

The book is a fictional memoir based on actual historical events. It gives us a new perspective on World War Two and the role Catholic Sisters played in the Belgian Resistance movement. During the war, these faithful Catholic Sisters helped the resistance by running contraband, hiding Jews, spying for the Allies, and performing small acts of sabotage. As you read the story, you will discover that the nuns outsmarted the Nazis—and there will also be times when the story brings a smile to your face.

The author had never written a book, and he also didn't believe in the existence of God. He was concerned about writing a story about an order of sisters whose belief is in God.



Interestingly, the author had attended a Catholic grade school, high school, and college, where he earned a minor degree in Theology. Writing this book made the author realize he had received a good education and helped him see the positive side of organized religion and appreciate the contributions the nuns made to the war effort.

When you read this book, please also read the Author's Reflections at the end.

Happy Reading.

*I hope you enjoy reading this book.*

-Donna Yordy



## Support Our Troops | Donna Sims



With very happy feelings, I can report that all of our Church connected military should be receiving their Easter cards any day now. They were mailed last week with a total of 48 handwritten notes in each card. I want to thank each and every one of you who were willing to write these

notes. You just have to close your eyes for a moment and picture the smiles on the faces of each recipient as they read these notes. Thanks to one and all again.

I am still waiting to hear of a pick-up date for the donations which have come in to date. There is a real variety of items and for that I know many of our homeless veterans will be happy. With the warm and hot months upon us, I again ask for warm weather wear of t-shirts, cargo pants, socks, hats, and toiletries, I am always happy when I can make a call for a pick-up because I know how important it is to our veterans to receive these items.

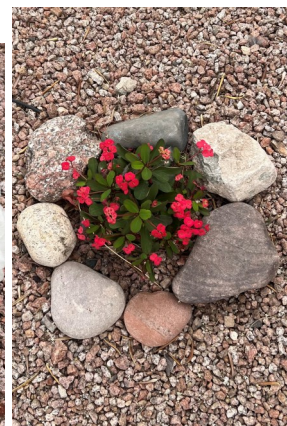
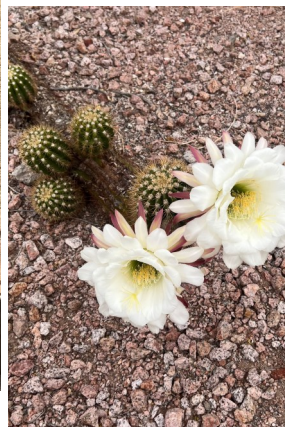


Again, I kindly ask everyone to please remember that our Veterans and Troops Ministry is year-round, it never stops. We are always happy to see Church members and friends from our community placing items in our collection box, located in the Narthex on the East side, in the basket out front as you enter the Church and in the Church office. Thanks again for all who bring donations to help make our military ministry a great success.

Donna Sims,  
Mission Committee

## Landscape of Grace | George Holtan

God's beauty surrounds us in the plants and landscape of our church. As Brad Chapman said so well: ***"The landscape is living art. It constantly evolves as we live in it and experience it."***





## Mission Messages | Mary Holtan



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

#### **Mission Committee Sponsored Activities in April:**

#### **Boys and Girls' Club:**

Donations from the wonderful Sonoran Quintet Concert held at FHPC in March went to the Boys and Girls Club

for scholarships. Presby Pickins' and Men's Fellowship will match the donations of \$500 as well as the Mission Committee to support the Boys and Girls Club. They received a total of 5,003.38 for scholarships for children in need of their services while parents work.

#### **Code Red:**

Code Red water drive will start in May. Terri Schmitt will be in charge. This is an extremely important mission with the heat in Arizona. FHPC will once again serve as the town-wide donation center for the Code Red Summer Heat Relief. The Mission Committee will collect 24-pack bottled water or money to buy water. If you give a check, write “Code Red” on the memo. Drop your check or cash in the offering box or bring it to the church office. Give generously!

#### **Veterans:**

Donna Sims will start collecting summer clothes for Veterans in May. Missions will order short sleeve white t-shirts, socks, etc. on Amazon for the veterans. Place your items in the Veteran Cart on Sundays or bring them to the church office.

## Women's Fellowship | Merriment Tea

The Women's Fellowship Tea was a wonderful success! Our theme this year was “Celebrating Special Women in Our Lives.” Over 60 women attended, many dressed in their finest high tea attire—complete with elegant hats and fascinators.

Mary Lee Lehrich did a fantastic job as both the chair of the event and our emcee—wearing both hats beautifully! Arlene Stewert served as our talented chef, delighting us with a delicious menu of tea sandwiches, scones, salad, and a variety of decadent desserts.

We were grateful to Debbie Olson and Mary Lee Lehrich for bringing their beautiful teacups and teapots, which added a special touch to our tables.

We were inspired by heartfelt stories shared by Christine Colley, Dorothy Parris, and Mary Lee Lehrich, each honoring the special women in their lives. Debbie Fisher also blessed us with her beautiful music, adding to



the warm and celebratory atmosphere.

And of course, we enjoyed many cups of our favorite tea, accompanied by great conversation and connection.



This year's mission donation from the Tea was given to Maggie's Place, an organization that supports homeless women through pregnancy, childbirth, and the first year of their child's life. Ellen Lord from Maggie's Place gave an inspirational talk about the services they provide and accepted a \$1,000 donation from Women's Fellowship. This gift was made possible through generous support from the Presby Pickins, FHPC Memorial Fund, and ticket sales. A heartfelt thank you to all of our donors!

We would like to thank the following people for making this tea possible:

Mary Lee Lehrich, Arlene Stewert, Christine Colley, Dorothy Parris, Debbie Fisher, Ellen Lord, Jeannette Simmons, Debbie Olson, Joyce Leo, Nan Sommers, Judy Humouda, Barbara Hoverland, Maria Berry, Jane Allen, and Presby Pickins (Kathy Cole and Shawn Uphoff).



## Music Ministry | Debbie Fisher



### Goodbye for now, good friends!

It's time for some of you to return to your summer homes, and to your families and friends. You're returning to your other church families, participating in wonderful gatherings with people who have missed you while you were away. There are graduations and special events

in our lives that move us forward into our summertime happenings.

Around here, we shift a bit—but stay pretty much the same. We return to Wednesday classes, and though our music continues with a more individualized style of presentation, it is still so very enjoyable. We hear individuals who, when singing together in our choir, blend their voices as we all work toward creating a fuller mix of harmonious and heartfelt tones of praise. It's truly wonderful—both individualized and in group form.

The Lenten/Easter season was truly a beautiful and full experience. I know that both the musicians and the congregation were expressive in their appreciation of the journey. Sunday worship, Lenten Vespers, the Seder/Passover Meal (joined by other Believers from

the town), and Good Friday Worship all led us to Easter Service.

Our Christian education is so valuable—bringing reflection, exposure, and clarification with historical facts, connecting Old Testament Scripture with New Testament Scripture—revealing all that Christ's Resurrection meant then and what it means today, for every one of us.

There was a beautiful meal the Sunday following Easter that brought us all together in fellowship and joy—something Christians truly enjoy. We are a blessed Church and a blessed town. Let us be a fruitful congregation. We look forward to every day when we can be together and unite in our love for Christ.

Have a wonderful summer, travelers, and see you when you return!

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**"I love You, Lord, my Strength.**

**The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;**

**My God is my rock, in Whom I take refuge,  
My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."**

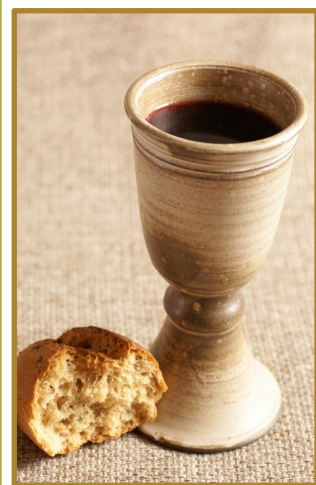
— *Psalm 18:1–2*

**In Christ's Peace,**

Debbie Fisher

Director of Music Ministries

## Extended Communion



Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church is offering **Extended Communion** at the homes of interested congregants following the regular Communion service on the first Sunday of each month.

If you are unable to get to church and would like to receive Communion at home, simply call the church office at (480) 837-1763 and ask to be added to the Extended Communion list.

***Please call no later than the Monday prior to the first Sunday of the month.***

A Deacon will call you a couple of days prior to the service to confirm that you still want to receive Communion on that Sunday, and an Elder, Deacon, or both will visit you following the regular 9 a.m. service to serve Communion.

—*The FHPC Board of Deacons*

## Sharing Our Gifts



At FHPC, we are continually inspired by the ways our congregation shares their God-given gifts—our talents, time, and treasure—to advance God's work and spread His love. As 1 Peter 4:10 reminds us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." Every act of generosity, no matter the size, enriches our church community and demonstrates our shared commitment to making a meaningful difference.

We want to hear your stories about how you or others are sharing these gifts. Whether it's through volunteering, supporting church initiatives, or making an impact in the community, your experiences can inspire and uplift others. Please email your stories to [office@fhpresby.org](mailto:office@fhpresby.org) to be featured in our upcoming In Touch newsletter.

### Celebrate with Flowers: Honor, Memorialize, and Cherish

Honor your loved ones or celebrate special occasions by dedicating flowers in the Sanctuary. Each week, beautiful arrangements are created and available for a fee of \$35, which can be taken home after Sunday Worship.

When you dedicate flowers to honor or memorialize someone, or to celebrate a significant event, your dedication will be announced during the Welcome portion of the service and included in The Weekly. To order flowers, simply sign up in the book located in the narthex or call the church office.

The \$35 fee covers the cost of flowers, which are thoughtfully purchased and arranged by our dedicated volunteers—no commercial florist could provide such generous support. You are welcome to take the flowers home after the service, allowing you to cherish these special moments.



## May Birthdays

1-May	Phyliss Kern
1-May	Bill Matty
2-May	Mike Owens
3-May	Claire Cartmell
3-May	James Lindau
3-May	Glenn Olinger
10-May	Bob Lull
16-May	James Stewart
17-May	Matt Botsford
17-May	Beverly Watters
19-May	Michael Stanton
20-May	Linda Covault
22-May	Gail Botsford
27-May	Sue Anderson
30-May	Christine Young

## 2025 Necrology

### With Heartfelt Sympathy

*Evelyn Hronek*

## 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

**Matt Jefferson, Chairman**  
**Linda Lull, Treasurer**

**Mary Holtan**  
**Bill Matty**

**Roy Nickel**  
**Susan Titus**

**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 our Biblical Garden, located at the very heart of our campus. Before embarking on your tour, explore the fascinating variety of plants featured in the Garden.

Learn about their significance and historical context online at [www.fhpresbyterian.info/biblical-garden](http://www.fhpresbyterian.info/biblical-garden) or pick up a brochure in the office for more information.

## 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.





The public is invited to an art exhibit and sale on Saturday, May 17, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Fellowship Hall at the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church. Elder, and graphic artist, Jack Morris Jr. is chairing the event.

“We want to acknowledge the local artists in Fountain Hills,” said Morris. “This includes the talented members of our congregation, artists from the Artists’ Gallery on the Ave. of the Fountains, and members of the Fountain Hills Art League.”

The exhibit will include paintings, drawings, sculptures, glass works, quilting, writing, and live music performed by FHPC music director Debbie Fisher.

Since the artists will be present at the event, guests will have a chance to converse with them, ask questions about their works, and make desired purchases.

MAY 2025 ARTIST SHOWING & GALLERY

# ART

## SALE & EXHIBITION

SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISTS  
JACK MORRIS  
NANCY GRAHLMANN  
SUSAN HARDING  
AND MANY MORE

# SAT

MAY 17  
2025

## 9AM TO 2PM

CONTACT JACK MORRIS  
TO RSVP ASAP.  
**480-816-9940**





AT FOUNTAIN HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

13001 N. FOUNTAIN HILLS BLVD, FOUNTAIN HILLS, AZ 85268

## Social Media | Live Streaming

### Facebook Page:

[www.facebook.com/fhpresbyterianchurch/](https://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 News-feed.



### YouTube Channel:

[www.youtube.com/@fhpresbyterianchurch](https://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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